

**Replies to initial written questions
raised by Legislative Council Members
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2023-24**

Home Affairs Department

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Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2889)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (-) Not Specified
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

The estimated provision under the Subhead is \$564,658,000 more than the revised estimate for 2022-23, mainly due to a net increase of 20 posts in 2023-24, the new provision for setting up District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams), the increased provision for honoraria and end-of-term gratuity payment to District Council (DC) members and general departmental expenses. Please provide a breakdown on:

- (a) the estimated expenditure for setting up Care Teams;
- (b) the total expenditure for honoraria and end-of-term gratuity payment to DC members mentioned above.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

- (a) As announced in the 2022 Policy Address, District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) will be set up in the 18 districts to consolidate community resources and forces to support the Government's district work and strengthen district networks. Care Teams will organise caring activities such as visiting the needy and assist in handling incidents and emergencies. Besides, Care Teams can help the Government disseminate information to the public and relay public views to the Government. The Government will provide some of the resources required by Care Teams with an estimated expenditure of about \$226 million for 2023-24. Regarding manpower, the Home Affairs Department is carrying out the work relating to Care Teams using existing resources for 2022-23, and a total of 25 time-limited civil service posts will be created in 2023-24 and 2024-25, incurring an annual expenditure of about \$22 million.
- (b) The estimated expenditure for honoraria for members of committees for 2023-24 is \$314 million, which includes honorarium, Operating Expenses Reimbursement, Miscellaneous Expenses Allowance, Medical Allowance, end-of-term gratuity for Chairmen, Vice Chairmen and members of District Councils (DCs), and Entertainment Expenses Reimbursement for DC Chairmen.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0486)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Community Building
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

With regard to the administration of the Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership (ESR) Programme, how many organisations participated in the programme in the past 3 years? How many projects are in operation? How many projects have ceased operation? What are the reasons for the cessation of operation? Has any assessment been conducted on the effectiveness of the ESR Programme over the past 3 years, and what was the expenditure so incurred for the past 3 years?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)

Reply:

Between 2020 and 2022, funding approval has been granted to a total of 28 eligible organisations under the Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership (ESR) Programme for the establishment and operation of 30 social enterprise (SE) projects, involving a total grant of about \$64 million. All these projects are either in operation or in preparation for operation, and none of them have ceased operation.

The ESR Programme aims at providing seed grants for eligible organisations to set up and expand SEs, with a view to creating job opportunities for the socially disadvantaged or providing products and services meeting their specific needs. The above 30 SE projects are expected to provide over 500 employment opportunities, of which more than 80% are for the socially disadvantaged. According to the results of questionnaires conducted by the Home Affairs Department for the operating SEs funded by the ESR Programme, about 80% of the employees considered that working at SEs enabled them to acquire more skills and strengthened their confidence for future employment.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1407)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Community Building
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2023-24 under Programme (2), it is mentioned that the Department will “continue to implement the Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership (ESR) Programme by providing funds for the setting up and scaling up of social enterprises with a view to enhancing the self-reliance of the socially disadvantaged and facilitating their integration into the community”. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Each project of the ESR Programme will be funded for up to 3 years at a maximum amount of \$3 million. Phase 34 Application of the ESR Programme closed in February this year. Please list the beneficiary social enterprises under the ESR Programme, their number of employees and the amount of funding involved;
- (b) What are the numbers of social enterprises which (i) are in operation; (ii) have ceased operation; and (iii) are in the form of prototype for development among the approved applications since the commencement of the ESR Programme?
- (c) Will new support services or information be provided for the applicants in 2023-24? If yes, what are the details? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hok-fung (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

- (a) Phase 34 Application of the Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership (ESR) Programme closed on 28 February 2023. As the assessment is underway, the results of this round of application are not yet available.
- (b) Funding approval has been granted to a total of 263 projects under the ESR Programme since its launch in 2006. The funding period is 3 years, after which the Home Affairs Department (HAD) will continue to monitor their operation for another 3 years. Of the 263 approved projects, 246 commenced operation and remained in operation during the 3-year funding period, whereas 50 ceased operation during the ensuing 3-year monitoring period. As at February 2023, 17 approved projects are in preparation for operation.

- (c) HAD has been providing the latest information on the ESR Programme for potential applicants on the dedicated website of the programme. Besides, at least 2 briefing sessions on the programme's objectives and points to note when applying for the programme are organised for applicant organisations every year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1408)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Community Building
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

As stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2023-24 under Programme (2), the Department will “establish two committees on district affairs with certain seats for young people to nominate themselves as members”. In this connection, please advise on the following:

- (a) What are the work nature and functions of the committees mentioned above? How much manpower is expected to be involved in supporting the work of these committees?
- (b) How many seats will be made available to self-nominated young people? What are the selection criteria for the young members of these committees? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hok-fung (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)

Reply:

To encourage aspiring youth to actively participate in district affairs, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) plans to establish the District Youth Community Building Committee in 18 districts in the second quarter of 2023 to advise on selected district works or other projects, and re-structure the existing District Youth Programme Committee and District Civic Education Committee into a District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee with more focused planning on district youth development and civic education activities.

Each committee consists of 20 to 30 members with one-third of the seats opened up for young people to nominate themselves as members. Following the principle of meritocracy, HAD aims to recruit young people who have strong commitment to serve the community; good understanding of district and youth affairs; and good analytical and communication skills to join the two committees. The work and expenditure arising from the committees will be absorbed within the existing resources of HAD.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1409)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Community Building
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

As announced in the Policy Address last year, District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) will be set up in the 18 districts, starting with the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts as pilot districts. It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2023-24 under Programme (2) that the Government will set up Care Teams in other districts in phases with reference to the experience in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts. Would the Government advise on the following:

- (a) What are the schedule for setting up Care Teams in the 18 districts and the estimated expenditure involved?
- (b) What are the selection criteria for suitable Care Teams? What is the estimated manpower involved in the selection?
- (c) What is the manpower involved in taking stock of the experience in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hok-fung (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

As announced in the 2022 Policy Address, District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) will be set up in the 18 districts to consolidate community resources and forces to support the Government's district work and strengthen district networks. The Government will first set up Care Teams in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts, and the Care Teams in the remaining 16 districts were open for application from 13 March 2023. The Government will provide some of the resources required by Care Teams with an estimated expenditure of about \$226 million for 2023-24.

The selection of Care Teams is carried out in two stages: (I) organisation selection; and (II) proposal assessment. Each stage will be handled by a two-tier structure comprising the Territory-wide Assessment and Steering Group on Care Teams chaired by the Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs, and the District Assessment and Coordinating Panels on Care Teams chaired by District Officers of the 18 districts. To ensure that the work of Care Teams is in support of and in line with the Government's leadership, policies and work at the district level, applicant organisations are required to have a certain level of district network and

service experience, cross-district mobilisation capability, and the ability to seek and consolidate community resources. Suitable organisations selected in Stage 1 will proceed to Stage 2 – proposal assessment, during which their service proposals for setting up sub-district Care Teams will be considered. District Offices will prepare service outlines for individual districts based on local circumstances, specifying the mandatory service requirements and key performance indicators. Organisations that have passed Stage 1 of the selection process should submit service proposals based on the service outlines.

Regarding manpower, the Home Affairs Department is carrying out the work relating to Care Teams using existing resources for 2022-23, and a total of 25 time-limited civil service posts will be created in 2023-24 and 2024-25, incurring an annual expenditure of about \$22 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB126

(Question Serial No. 2613)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Community Building
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Regarding the Building Management Professional Advisory Service Scheme (BMPASS) and Resident Liaison Ambassador Scheme (RLA Scheme), which provide support services for “three-nil” buildings, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) the number of “three-nil” buildings in Hong Kong, with a breakdown by the 18 districts;
- (b) the numbers of buildings and flats benefited and the details of the services provided under the BMPASS since its implementation, with a breakdown by year and by the 18 districts; and the number of owners’ corporations formed with the assistance of the BMPASS;
- (c) the number of Resident Liaison Ambassadors recruited under the RLA Scheme since its implementation, with a breakdown by year and by the 18 districts;
- (d) the manpower and expenditure involved in the implementation of the 2 schemes, and the percentage of such expenditure in the total expenditure of the Department in the past 5 years, with a breakdown by year and by the 18 districts;
- (e) whether the Government has reviewed the effectiveness of the 2 schemes since their implementation, and whether the Government has any plan to introduce and use new technologies or services to provide more targeted support for “three-nil” buildings. If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Kapui, Judy (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

- (a) According to the information obtained by the Home Affairs Department (HAD), as at December 2022, there were 2 943 “three-nil” buildings (i.e. buildings which do not have owners’ corporations (OCs) or any form of residents’ organisations and do not engage property management companies (PMCs), but excluding those that are under single ownership and can be self-managed) in the territory. The breakdown by district is set out at **Annex A**.
- (b) To enhance the support for owners of “three-nil” buildings, and buildings where the management committee of the OC concerned was defunct, HAD implemented 3 phases of the Building Management Professional Advisory Service Scheme (BMPASS)

between 2011 and 2020 to commission PMCs to provide owners of old buildings in need, in particular those of “three-nil” buildings, with a range of free professional advisory and follow-up services on building management, including facilitating the formation or re-activation of OCs, assisting OCs in applying for funding under various loan and subsidy schemes for maintenance works, and following up on building/window inspections, maintenance works and tendering.

The PMCs commissioned in the 3 phases of the BMPASS reached out to about 3 800 buildings (involving 58 000 units), encompassing all eligible “three-nil” buildings under the scheme, and assisted in the formation/re-activation of 540 OCs. The key results are summarised as follows:

	Phase 1 November 2011 to March 2014	Phase 2 April 2014 to March 2017	Phase 3 April 2017 to December 2020
No. of OCs formed/re-activated#	157	194	189
No. of buildings provided with assistance in applying for maintenance loan/subsidy	88	98	182
No. of buildings provided with assistance in engaging consultants/contractors for maintenance works	68	73	102
No. of buildings provided with assistance in procuring third party risks insurance	N.A.##	130	150
No. of Resident Liaison Ambassadors (RLAs) recruited	N.A.##	1 255	1 434

The breakdown by district is set out at **Annex B**.

The PMCs commissioned are responsible for assisting OCs in procuring third party risks insurance and recruiting RLAs starting from Phase 2 of the BMPASS.

- (c) To enhance the support for owners and residents, HAD has been implementing the Resident Liaison Ambassador Scheme (RLA Scheme) since 2011 to recruit owners or residents of “three-nil” buildings aged 30 years or above as RLAs. The scheme seeks to establish a resident liaison network, facilitate residents’ discussion and handling of daily building management matters, and assist government departments in liaising with residents and promoting the message of effective building management. As at December 2022, about 1 650 RLAs were living in “three-nil” buildings. The breakdown by district is set out at **Annex C**.
- (d) The number of Liaison Officers engaged in building management related duties (including various building management support services such as the BMPASS and the RLA Scheme) in HAD Headquarters and the 18 District Building Management Liaison Teams (DBMLTs) increased from 138 in 2018-19 to 145 in 2022-23. Phase 3 of the BMPASS was launched in April 2017 and completed in December 2020, involving an expenditure of \$64 million. The RLA Scheme is mainly implemented through the

DBMLTs and other support services for “three-nil” buildings (such as the BMPASS). A breakdown of the expenditure involved is not available.

- (e) HAD will review the support for owners of “three-nil” buildings from time to time to promote good building management, and encourage and assist owners to form OCs for proper management of their private properties.

Regarding the BMPASS, it was well received by owners of target buildings and relevant members of the community, who considered that the scheme had helped owners of old buildings improve building management, living environment and building safety. HAD has therefore decided to regularise the BMPASS. With reference to the recommendation of the Legislative Council’s Public Accounts Committee, HAD has implemented a pilot scheme under the regularised BMPASS to invite local organisations/non-governmental organisations with experience in building management or related fields to reach out to owners of “three-nil” buildings and to encourage and assist them in forming OCs. The pilot scheme was first launched in Sham Shui Po and Tsuen Wan in June 2022, and will be progressively extended to cover other districts with a relatively large number of “three-nil” buildings. As at the end of 2022, 8 and 3 OCs were set up in Sham Shui Po and Tsuen Wan respectively with the assistance provided under the pilot scheme.

In addition, HAD and District Offices have been providing old buildings in need, including “three-nil” buildings, with cleaning service for their common parts through various channels such as the District-led Actions Scheme having regard to the actual circumstances, so as to demonstrate the benefits brought by good building management. We will also step up efforts in recruiting RLAs and provide them with information on building management, in order to promote the message of effective building management and enable them to assist government departments in liaising with residents. Our long-term objective is to help owners of these buildings form OCs for proper management of their own properties.

**Number of “three-nil” buildings by district #
(as at December 2022)**

District	Number of “three-nil” buildings*
Central & Western	393
Eastern	73
Southern	68
Wan Chai	193
Kowloon City	341
Kwun Tong	20
Yau Tsim Mong	386
Sham Shui Po	393
Wong Tai Sin	49
Islands	12
Sai Kung	115
Tai Po	234
Tsuen Wan	67
Yuen Long	235
Sha Tin	3
Tuen Mun	36
North	315
Kwai Tsing	10
Total	2 943

Figures are based on the information obtained by staff of the Home Affairs Department through day-to-day liaison.

* Excluding “three-nil” buildings that are under single ownership and can be self-managed.

Annex B to Reply Serial No. HYAB126

Number of owners' corporations (OCs) formed/re-activated with the assistance provided under the Building Management Professional Advisory Service Scheme (as at December 2020)

District	No. of OCs formed/re-activated
Central & Western	56
Eastern	14
Southern	11
Wan Chai	46
Kowloon City	103
Kwun Tong	5
Yau Tsim Mong	119
Sham Shui Po	94
Wong Tai Sin	13
Islands ^{Note}	0
Sai Kung ^{Note}	0
Tai Po	29
Tsuen Wan	14
Yuen Long	12
Sha Tin	1
Tuen Mun	7
North	12
Kwai Tsing	4
Total	540

^{Note} There was no eligible “three-nil” building in the Islands and Sai Kung Districts.

Annex C to Reply Serial No. HYAB126

**Number of Resident Liaison Ambassadors (RLAs)
(as at December 2022)**

District	No. of RLAs recruited
Central & Western	139
Eastern	17
Southern	30
Wan Chai	90
Kowloon City	102
Kwun Tong	25
Yau Tsim Mong	420
Sham Shui Po	459
Wong Tai Sin	53
Islands ^{Note}	0
Sai Kung ^{Note}	0
Tai Po	123
Tsuen Wan	73
Yuen Long	25
Sha Tin	2
Tuen Mun	1
North	87
Kwai Tsing	11
Total:	1 657

Note There was no RLA in the Islands and Sai Kung Districts.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2130)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Local Environmental Improvements
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Minor Works in Rural Areas

Regarding the funding for Rural Public Works (RPW) projects and the backlog of projects, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The backlog of RPW projects has been criticised from time to time. Objectively speaking, many projects have to wait for several years before completion. Is there any proposal to review or improve the situation? Has any performance indicator been set?
- (b) Many roads in rural areas are not covered by the RPW programme. Is there any plan to increase the funding for the RPW programme and extend its coverage?
- (c) Many villages are still unsuccessful in their applications for constructing village offices. With regard to their construction, can an additional means of application or an indicator be provided to facilitate their early implementation?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Yuet-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

- (a) Since the introduction of the Rural Public Works (RPW) programme in 1999, over 2 600 works projects were completed as at the end of January 2023. Basically, there is no backlog in project delivery, as works projects for which funding has been approved are carried out in accordance with their respective implementation schedule. Through the RPW programme, the living environment and infrastructure in rural areas have improved significantly. The Home Affairs Department (HAD) will continue to closely monitor the implementation of works projects under the RPW programme in collaboration with other government departments, with a view to facilitating early project implementation and completion for further enhancement of the rural environment.
- (b) Works projects under the RPW programme mainly aim at upgrading the infrastructure and improving the living environment of the rural community and most of them are of a smaller scale. On 22 January 2021, the Finance Committee of the Legislative

Council approved the increase of the financial ceiling of the delegated authority from \$30 million to \$50 million per project for 21 block allocation subheads, including Subhead 7014CX - Rural Public Works Programme, under the Capital Works Reserve Fund. Hence, works projects with a project estimate not exceeding \$50 million can be included in the RPW programme. District Offices will continue to implement various minor works projects beneficial to the rural community based on local needs.

- (c) Under the existing arrangement of the Lands Department, vacant government sites are available for application for short-term tenancy (STT) by non-governmental organisations for community, institutional or other non-profit-making purposes. The respective District Lands Offices (DLOs) are responsible for approving STT applications, including those for constructing village offices. HAD will consider the circumstances and needs of the villages concerned and provide policy support to the relevant DLOs in respect of the STT applications for the construction of village offices.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB128

(Question Serial No. 2131)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Leveraging the strengths of Rural Committees

The rural areas in the New Territories are inconvenient in terms of transport, where there is a generally aged population and a relatively large number of elderly singletons. In the fight against the epidemic, Rural Committees (RCs) assisted the Government in delivering services to rural villages, reflecting that RCs are bridges to rural areas. Would the Government advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) Will the Government establish a mechanism for the provision of services to rural areas, including further enhancing services for these areas through RCs?
- (b) With regard to the activities in rural areas, will the Government consider using the premises of RCs in the New Territories where appropriate? Are there any criteria for consideration?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Yuet-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

The Home Affairs Department and the District Offices in the New Territories have maintained close liaison and various kinds of collaboration with the Heung Yee Kuk, Rural Committees and rural organisations on rural affairs, such as improving rural environmental hygiene, carrying out anti-epidemic work, enhancing livelihood facilities in rural areas and organising activities. We will identify suitable venues when organising activities having regard to their nature and requirements.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2132)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Community Building
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Honoraria and Subventions for Rural Representatives

Rural committees (RCs) and village representatives (VRs) are representatives of public opinion and bridges of communication in rural areas, having an extensive presence across the areas. In particular, they played an active role during the epidemic. However, the honoraria and subventions provided to them are insufficient. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Is there any plan to increase the subventions or provide accountable subsidies for RCs?
- (b) Is there any plan to increase the honoraria for VRs?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Yuet-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

- (a) The Government has been granting monthly subventions to rural committees (RCs) since the 1960s to cover their daily operating expenses, such as electricity and water charges, costs of stationery and so on. Besides, the rates and Government rents of RCs are paid in full by the Government. There are currently 3 levels of RC subventions: \$15,300, \$15,800 and \$16,700 per month, which are set according to factors such as the size of the RC. Adjustments are made by the Government from time to time with reference to changes in the Composite Consumer Price Index.
- (b) Under the mechanism approved by the Legislative Council, the Government adjusts the honorarium for rural representatives (RRs), including Village Representatives and Kaifong Representatives, once every four years after each rural ordinary election (ROE) with reference to the cumulative movement of Consumer Price Index (A) since the last adjustment. The current honorarium for RRs is \$2,680 per quarter. With the conduct of the 2023 ROE in January 2023, the Government will review the relevant honorarium level in accordance with the above mechanism.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2133)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Community Building
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

District Services and Community Care Teams

District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) are being set up in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts on a pilot basis, with one team in each sub-district on the basis of District Council (DC) sub-districts as mentioned in previous documents. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Given the extensive coverage of individual rural areas in the New Territories, such as the Sha Ta constituency in the North District with an area of several thousand hectares, will a Care Team be divided into two in light of these sizeable DC sub-districts to enhance the effectiveness of services?
- (b) When is the application process for the Care Teams in other districts scheduled to commence?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Yuet-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

- (a) As announced in the 2022 Policy Address, District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) will be set up in the 18 districts to consolidate community resources and forces to support the Government's district work and strengthen district networks. Care Teams will organise caring activities such as visiting the needy and assist in handling incidents and emergencies. Besides, Care Teams can help the Government disseminate information to the public and relay public views to the Government.

The Government will set up a Care Team in each sub-district delineated in each of the 18 districts with reference to the District Council Ordinary Election Constituency Boundaries, and provide Care Teams with some of the resources required. District Offices will set the amount of funding for each Care Team based on the circumstances and service needs of each sub-district. Generally speaking, the funding for each Care Team for the 2-year period of the funding agreement ranges from about \$0.8 million to

\$1.2 million. The Government may consider a higher amount of funding having regard to the unique circumstances of the individual sub-districts concerned.

- (b) The Government will first set up Care Teams in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts. The selection of Care Teams in the 2 districts has commenced earlier and the relevant work is underway. The Care Teams in the remaining 16 districts were open for application from 13 March 2023.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2175)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Local Environmental Improvements
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Re-activation of the Rural Planning and Improvement Strategy Minor Works Programme

The Government allocated \$4 billion to implement the Rural Planning and Improvement Strategy Minor Works Programme in the 1990s with good results, but the programme was later replaced by the Rural Public Works programme, to which an annual provision of around \$100 million only is allocated. The demand far exceeds the supply and the rights of resumption of land are not granted. Would the Government inform this Committee of the possibility of re-activating the former programme to tie in with the series of promotion plans for rural areas such as the sustainable development of Lantau and the revitalisation of Lai Chi Wo?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Yuet-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

To upgrade the infrastructure and improve the living environment in rural areas, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) launched the Rural Public Works (RPW) programme in 1999. Given that statutory procedures regarding land titles and land resumption are relatively complicated and considerable time is required to address the issues concerned, projects involving land resumption are not included in the RPW programme. This will enable HAD to improve the rural environment in a more timely and flexible manner. Projects involving land resumption are undertaken by other works departments.

As at the end of January 2023, more than 2 600 projects have been completed under the RPW programme since its inception at a total cost of over \$2.9 billion. Through the RPW programme, the living environment and infrastructure in rural areas have improved significantly. HAD will continue to closely monitor the implementation of works projects under the RPW programme in collaboration with other government departments, with a view to facilitating early project implementation and completion for further enhancement of the rural environment.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB132

(Question Serial No. 2221)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Community Building
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

It is learnt that there are quite a number of “three-nil” buildings (i.e. buildings which do not have owners’ corporations (OCs) or residents’ organisations, and do not engage property management companies) in Hong Kong. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The current number of “three-nil” buildings in the territory, and a breakdown by District Council district in tabular form;
- (b) The information listed below regarding the Building Management Professional Advisory Service Scheme (the Scheme) since its launch:
 - (i) the number of “three-nil” buildings to which the Scheme has reached out;
 - (ii) the number of cases in which OCs were successfully formed or re-activated with the assistance of the Scheme;
 - (iii) the number of cases in which OCs’ applications for subsidy and loan schemes for maintenance works were successful with the assistance of the Scheme, and the amount involved; and
 - (iv) the number of training courses on building management provided to office-bearers of OCs, property owners and Resident Liaison Ambassadors, and the number of participants and details of the courses;
- (c) The Government implemented the first Pilot Scheme on Building Management Professional Advisory Service last year to strengthen the support for property owners of old buildings in the district. Would the Government consider extending the pilot scheme to other districts? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAU Siu-chung (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

- (a) According to the information obtained by the Home Affairs Department (HAD), as at December 2022, there were a total of 2 943 “three-nil” buildings (i.e. buildings which do not have owners’ corporations (OCs) or any form of residents’ organisations and do not engage property management companies (PMCs), but excluding those that are under

single ownership and can be self-managed) in the territory. The breakdown by district is set out at the **Annex**.

- (b) To enhance the support for owners of “three-nil” buildings, and buildings where the management committee of the OC concerned was defunct, HAD implemented 3 phases of the Building Management Professional Advisory Service Scheme (BMPASS) between 2011 and 2020 to commission PMCs to provide owners of old buildings in need, in particular those of “three-nil” buildings, with a range of free professional advisory and follow-up services on building management, including facilitating the formation or re-activation of OCs, assisting OCs in applying for funding under various loan and subsidy schemes for maintenance works, and following up on building/window inspections, maintenance works and tendering. The 3 phases of the BMPASS reached out to a total of about 3 800 “three-nil” buildings, facilitated the formation/re-activation of 540 OCs, and assisted 368 buildings in applying for loan/subsidy for maintenance. HAD does not keep statistics on the amount involved in the applications for loan/subsidy, or statistics on training courses on building management.
- (c) The BMPASS was well received by owners of target buildings and relevant members of the community, who considered that the scheme had helped owners of old buildings improve building management, living environment and building safety. HAD has therefore decided to regularise the BMPASS. With reference to the recommendation of the Legislative Council’s Public Accounts Committee, HAD has implemented a pilot scheme under the regularised BMPASS to invite local organisations/non-governmental organisations with experience in building management or related fields to reach out to owners of “three-nil” buildings and to encourage and assist them in forming OCs. The pilot scheme was first launched in Sham Shui Po and Tsuen Wan in June 2022, and will be progressively extended to cover other districts with a relatively large number of “three-nil” buildings.

**Number of “three-nil” buildings by district #
(as at December 2022)**

District	Number of “three-nil” buildings*
Central & Western	393
Eastern	73
Southern	68
Wan Chai	193
Kowloon City	341
Kwun Tong	20
Yau Tsim Mong	386
Sham Shui Po	393
Wong Tai Sin	49
Islands	12
Sai Kung	115
Tai Po	234
Tsuen Wan	67
Yuen Long	235
Sha Tin	3
Tuen Mun	36
North	315
Kwai Tsing	10
Total	2 943

Figures are based on the information obtained by staff of the Home Affairs Department through day-to-day liaison.

* Excluding “three-nil” buildings that are under single ownership and can be self-managed.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB133

(Question Serial No. 2222)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Community Building
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

The Government launched the Anti-epidemic Support Scheme for Environmental Hygiene and Security Staff in Property Management Sector (ASPM) under the sixth round of the Anti-epidemic Fund last year, providing each eligible frontline property management (PM) worker performing duties relating to security or environmental hygiene a monthly allowance of \$2,000. Please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Regarding the ASPM:
- (i) the number of applications received;
 - (ii) the number of approved applications and the amount of funding involved;
 - (iii) the number of PM workers performing environmental hygiene or security duties benefited from the scheme;
 - (iv) the types of property (namely private residential, composite, industrial, commercial and others) in the approved applications, with a breakdown by District Council district in a tabular format;
 - (v) the number of rejected applications, its percentage in the total number of applications and the reasons for rejection;
- (b) Regarding the ASPM, how many enquiries and complaints have been received by the Government? Please provide a breakdown of the figures by subject matter.

Asked by: Hon CHAU Siu-chung (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

The Home Affairs Department (HAD) launched the Anti-epidemic Support Scheme for Environmental Hygiene and Security Staff in Property Management Sector (ASPM) under the sixth round of the Anti-epidemic Fund to provide financial relief to frontline property management (PM) workers performing duties relating to security or environmental hygiene in private residential, composite (i.e. commercial cum residential), industrial and commercial buildings (including shopping malls) (collectively called “eligible building blocks”). The ASPM allowance disbursed under the Anti-epidemic Fund does not form part of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates on the General Revenue Account. HAD commissioned the Property Management Services Authority (PMSA) to implement the ASPM.

Applications under the ASPM were mainly submitted by PM companies (PMCs), deed of mutual covenant managers or owners' corporations (OCs)/owners' organisations (collectively called "eligible applicant organisations"). Taking into account the views of some Legislative Council Members and the PM sector, frontline PM workers serving eligible building blocks which did not have OCs or any form of residents' organisations, and did not engage PMCs (commonly known as "three-nil" buildings) could submit applications on an individual basis.

- (a) The application period for the ASPM closed on 30 June 2022. A total of 12 167 eligible applications were received and all approved by PMSA, involving funding of about \$1,763 million and benefiting 188 794 frontline PM workers. The types of eligible building blocks in the approved cases broken down by District Council (DC) district are tabulated below:

DC district \ Type of property	Private residential	Composite (i.e. commercial cum residential)	Commercial (including shopping malls)	Industrial	Total number of cases
Central & Western	768	359	577	11	1 715
Eastern	330	280	144	82	836
Southern	373	89	53	47	562
Wan Chai	613	316	392	4	1 325
Kowloon City	639	254	55	50	998
Kwun Tong	134	77	176	271	658
Sham Shui Po	322	369	89	112	892
Wong Tai Sin	78	55	44	55	232
Yau Tsim Mong	444	653	620	57	1 774
Islands	63	13	47	7	130
Kwai Tsing	79	78	66	220	443
North	93	44	29	63	229
Sai Kung	195	32	52	25	304
Sha Tin	207	54	88	83	432
Tai Po	147	68	22	58	295
Tsuen Wan	128	106	59	116	409
Tuen Mun	169	88	42	79	378
Yuen Long	281	156	63	55	555
Total	5 063	3 091	2 618	1 395	12 167

In addition, PMSA assisted in processing about 6 000 ineligible, incomplete or duplicated applications, including applications mistakenly made by frontline PM workers not serving in “three-nil” buildings on an individual basis, or applications involving properties that are not eligible building blocks under the ASPM (such as government properties, construction sites, stand-alone medical or social welfare facilities). PMSA rendered assistance to those applicants as appropriate in submitting applications via eligible applicant organisations, or referring their cases to the bureaux/departments implementing other suitable support schemes. With regard to the cases in which frontline PM workers encountered difficulties in applications, HAD and PMSA had been liaising and co-ordinating with eligible applicant organisations of those buildings during the implementation of the ASPM, so as to assist those in need as far as possible in applying for the subsidy.

- (b) PMSA received 21 552 enquiries during the implementation of the ASPM, including requests for assistance from those who reported to have difficulties in application and enquiries on the eligibility, application procedures, approval status, etc. PMSA does not have a breakdown of the enquiries.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2480)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Community Building
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention that the Government will strengthen the support for private buildings and implement a pilot scheme under the regularised Building Management Professional Advisory Service Scheme. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) the expenditure and staffing required for the scheme in the past year;
- (b) information on the community organisations and non-governmental organisations commissioned under the scheme, including their names and the amount of funding granted in the past year, and the “three-nil” buildings receiving their services; and
- (c) whether the Government will consider extending the scheme to the whole territory so that more “three-nil” buildings will receive support.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 41)

Reply:

- (a) & (b) There were 145 Liaison Officers engaged in building management related duties, including various building management support services such as the Building Management Professional Advisory Service Scheme (BMPASS), in 2022-23 in the Home Affairs Department (HAD) Headquarters and the 18 District Building Management Liaison Teams.

To enhance the support for owners of “three-nil” buildings, and buildings where the management committee of the owners’ corporation (OC) concerned was defunct, HAD implemented 3 phases of the BMPASS between 2011 and 2020 to commission property management companies to provide owners of old buildings in need, in particular those of “three-nil” buildings, with a range of free professional advisory and follow-up services on building management, including facilitating the formation or re-activation of OCs, assisting OCs in applying for funding under various loan and subsidy schemes for maintenance works, and following up on building/window inspections, maintenance works and tendering. A total of 540 OCs were formed/re-activated with the assistance provided in the 3 phases of the BMPASS.

The BMPASS was well received by owners of target buildings and relevant members of the community, who considered that the scheme had helped owners of old buildings improve building management, living environment and building safety. HAD has therefore decided to regularise the BMPASS. With reference to the recommendation of the Legislative Council's Public Accounts Committee, HAD has implemented a pilot scheme under the regularised BMPASS to invite local organisations/non-governmental organisations with experience in building management or related fields to reach out to owners of "three-nil" buildings and to encourage and assist them in forming OCs. The 1-year pilot scheme was first launched in Sham Shui Po (SSP) and Tsuen Wan (TW) in June 2022. The pilot scheme in SSP was undertaken by the Kowloon Federation of Associations Sham Shui Po District Committee and the Sham Shui Po Neighbourhood Cares Association, while that in TW was undertaken by the Association for Tsuen Wan Development. As at December 2022, the 2 organisations for SSP contacted 95 "three-nil" buildings and set up 8 OCs, while the organisation for TW contacted 21 "three-nil" buildings and set up 3 OCs. The total expenditure incurred by the service contracts for the 2 districts is about \$3.1 million.

- (c) The pilot scheme will be progressively extended to cover other districts with a relatively large number of "three-nil" buildings.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3105)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Local Environmental Improvements
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Regarding the implementation of works projects under the District Minor Works (DMW) programme, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the numbers, types and total expenditures of the DMW projects completed in the 18 districts in the past 3 years?
- (b) What are the number, types and total expenditure of the DMW projects in the 3 districts of Sham Shui Po, Yau Tsim Mong and Kowloon City in the estimates for 2023-24?
- (c) What is the average time taken from funding approval by the District Councils to the commissioning of facilities for each of the projects in Kowloon West?

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)

Reply:

- (a) The District Minor Works (DMW) programme aims at providing funds for implementation of minor works projects in districts to improve local facilities, living environment and hygienic conditions. At present, the DMW programme mainly covers various categories of works projects as follows:
 - (i) improvement works at venues of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), including libraries, sports centres, sports grounds and swimming pools;
 - (ii) construction or improvement works for rain shelters, sitting-out areas, pavilions, ball courts and leisure facilities;
 - (iii) construction or improvement works for footpaths and footbridges;
 - (iv) beautification works;
 - (v) greening works, landscape projects, installation of planters;
 - (vi) improvement works for community hall facilities of the Home Affairs Department;
 - (vii) improvement works for access roads or van tracks;
 - (viii) drainage facilities; and
 - (ix) other projects such as those for improving environmental hygiene.

The numbers of completed DMW projects and expenditures in 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 are as follows:

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 (as at the end of January 2023)
Number of projects	369	222	412
Actual expenditure (\$ million)	279.6	274.3	178.1

- (b) A total of 140 projects are planned for implementation in the 3 districts of Sham Shui Po, Yau Tsim Mong and Kowloon City in 2023-24, involving an expenditure of about \$32.8 million. They are mostly improvement works for horticulture facilities, public address systems, toilets and changing rooms in LCSD venues such as parks, sports centres and swimming pools, as well as construction works for rain shelters and benches, etc.
- (c) Depending on the nature and scale of works, the works projects implemented under the DMW programme in Kowloon West take 1 to 82 months to complete after launch.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB136

(Question Serial No. 0742)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2023-24, it is mentioned that the Department will establish two committees on district affairs with certain seats for young people to nominate themselves as members with a view to engaging more young people in public affairs. In this connection, please advise on the following:

- (a) In the past 3 years, how many young people aged 18 to 35 participated in committees on district affairs in the 18 districts (including but not limited to Area Committees, District Fire Safety Committees and District Fight Crime Committees), and what are the percentages of these participants over the total number of committee members? Please provide a breakdown by district and by committee;
- (b) With regard to the 2 committees on district affairs to be established by the Government, what are the details, number of seats and estimated annual expenditure? How many seats are planned to be made available (or the relevant percentage) to young people?
- (c) Has the Government adopted any measures to engage more young people who are new arrivals from the Mainland or ethnic minorities in public affairs apart from local young people? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHOW Man-kong (LegCo internal reference no.: 33)

Reply:

- (a) The numbers and percentages of members aged 18 to 35 on committees on district affairs in the 18 districts in the past 3 years are set out at the Annex.
- (b) The Home Affairs Department (HAD) plans to establish the District Youth Community Building Committee and the District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee in the 18 districts across the territory in the second quarter of 2023. Each committee consists of 20 to 30 members with one-third of the seats opened up for young people to nominate themselves as members. The expenditure of the aforesaid committees will be absorbed within the existing resources of HAD.

- (c) The Government plans to further expand the Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth (MSSY) to engage more young people from different backgrounds and sectors to bring new ideas into policy discussion. Moreover, at the district level, the new District Youth Community Building Committee and the District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee are not targeting local youth only, but also young people newly arrived from the Mainland or of ethnic minority (EM) origin. HAD disseminates information about the MSSY through the 6 support service centres and 2 sub-centres for EMs funded by the department to encourage the participation of EM youth in the scheme.

Numbers and percentages of members aged 18 to 35 on committees on district affairs in the 18 districts

Year	District	Area Committee		District Fight Crime Committee		District Fire Safety Committee		District Youth Programme Committee		Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education	
		Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)	Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)	Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)	Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)	Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)
2019-20	Central and Western	9	13%	1	4%	2	8%	15	50%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Eastern	17	11%	4	13%	3	9%	9	36%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Southern	6	7%	2	9%	5	21%	10	38%	2	11%
	Wan Chai	7	10%	2	7%	0	0%	12	43%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Kowloon City	11	12%	2	7%	3	11%	8	29%	1	4%
	Kwun Tong	13	9%	3	9%	2	6%	7	25%	2	8%
	Sham Shui Po	12	16%	7	18%	5	17%	10	36%	3	12%
	Wong Tai Sin	15	13%	3	9%	4	11%	7	23%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Yau Tsim Mong	21	17%	3	9%	2	6%	8	30%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Islands	2	3%	0	0%	1	4%	7	27%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Kwai Tsing	15	11%	6	17%	2	7%	8	29%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	North	N.A. (see Note 2)		3	12%	3	13%	5	23%	2	8%
	Sai Kung	4	6%	3	13%	1	6%	11	37%	7	21%
	Sha Tin	13	11%	1	3%	7	21%	5	18%	N.A. (see Note 1)	

Year	District	Area Committee		District Fight Crime Committee		District Fire Safety Committee		District Youth Programme Committee		Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education	
		Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)	Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)	Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)	Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)	Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)
2019-20	Tai Po	N.A. (see Note 2)		1	4%	3	16%	8	32%	2	8%
	Tsuen Wan	7	9%	2	9%	0	0%	7	27%	3	11%
	Tuen Mun	10	8%	6	20%	3	12%	11	37%	1	2%
	Yuen Long	9	11%	6	18%	3	13%	9	32%	5	16%
2020-21	Central and Western	11	17%	1	4%	2	8%	14	48%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Eastern	8	7%	3	12%	7	22%	9	36%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Southern	8	11%	2	9%	5	21%	10	38%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Wan Chai	5	8%	0	0%	0	0%	12	43%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Kowloon City	23	19%	4	15%	4	15%	8	29%	1	4%
	Kwun Tong	11	9%	0	0%	2	6%	6	21%	2	8%
	Sham Shui Po	11	18%	5	13%	3	10%	8	29%	2	7%
	Wong Tai Sin	5	5%	1	3%	3	8%	7	23%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Yau Tsim Mong	16	15%	3	9%	6	18%	8	30%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Islands	4	8%	0	0%	1	4%	7	27%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Kwai Tsing	5	5%	6	18%	1	4%	8	29%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	North	N.A. (see Note 2)		2	7%	5	21%	5	23%	2	8%
	Sai Kung	7	10%	1	4%	1	7%	9	35%	6	20%
Sha Tin	15	11%	1	3%	6	18%	5	18%	N.A. (see Note 1)		

Year	District	Area Committee		District Fight Crime Committee		District Fire Safety Committee		District Youth Programme Committee		Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education	
		Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)	Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)	Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)	Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)	Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)
2020-21	Tai Po	N.A. (see Note 2)		1	4%	4	21%	8	32%	2	6%
	Tsuen Wan	5	7%	1	4%	2	9%	7	27%	2	8%
	Tuen Mun	9	10%	6	20%	3	13%	10	37%	1	2%
	Yuen Long	3	5%	2	6%	3	13%	9	32%	4	13%
2021-22	Central and Western	11	17%	1	3%	3	12%	13	43%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Eastern	8	7%	3	10%	0	0%	5	25%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Southern	7	10%	2	8%	6	25%	10	38%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Wan Chai	5	8%	1	3%	0	0%	10	36%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Kowloon City	22	19%	4	11%	3	13%	5	24%	1	4%
	Kwun Tong	10	8%	2	6%	3	10%	7	29%	3	13%
	Sham Shui Po	10	16%	2	5%	5	19%	2	11%	2	7%
	Wong Tai Sin	5	5%	2	6%	3	10%	7	24%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Yau Tsim Mong	15	14%	2	6%	4	13%	9	28%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Islands	4	8%	1	4%	2	8%	7	28%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	Kwai Tsing	4	4%	5	14%	4	14%	5	20%	N.A. (see Note 1)	
	North	4	10%	4	14%	6	21%	6	27%	1	4%
	Sai Kung	6	8%	4	15%	2	9%	9	35%	5	17%
Sha Tin	15	11%	3	10%	6	16%	10	38%	N.A. (see Note 1)		

Year	District	Area Committee		District Fight Crime Committee		District Fire Safety Committee		District Youth Programme Committee		Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education	
		Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)	Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)	Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)	Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)	Total number of young members aged 18 to 35	Percentage of young members aged 18 to 35 over the total number of members (%)
2021-22	Tai Po	4	11%	1	4%	3	14%	5	19%	2	7%
	Tsuen Wan	5	7%	0	0%	2	7%	9	38%	2	7%
	Tuen Mun	8	9%	4	13%	2	8%	7	26%	4	13%
	Yuen Long	2	3%	3	9%	3	12%	5	26%	4	15%

Note 1:

There is no Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education in the district.

Note 2:

Area Committees have been established in the North and Tai Po Districts since 2021-22.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB137

(Question Serial No. 2453)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

As announced in the 2022 Policy Address, the Home Affairs Department will set up District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) in the 18 districts. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the respective expenditures of the Care Teams in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts for 2023-24?
- (b) What are the percentages of full-time staff, part-time staff and volunteers of the Care Teams?
- (c) What is the schedule for setting up Care Teams in the remaining 16 districts?

Asked by: Hon FOK Kai-kong, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)

Reply:

As announced in the 2022 Policy Address, District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) will be set up in the 18 districts to consolidate community resources and forces to support the Government's district work and strengthen district networks. The Government will first set up Care Teams in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts in the first quarter of 2023, and the Care Teams in the remaining 16 districts were open for application from 13 March 2023. The Government will provide some of the resources required by Care Teams with an estimated expenditure of about \$226 million for 2023-24.

The sub-district Care Teams are organisation-based and each team will have about 8 to 12 members, including 1 captain and 1 vice-captain. Depending on the nature and scale of activities, Care Teams may mobilise non-team members, such as other members of the organisation, local residents and volunteers, to participate in the activities according to actual needs. The Government has not set any requirements on full-time staff or the percentages of the categories of people participating in the work of Care Teams.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB138

(Question Serial No. 3082)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (-) Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Regarding the matters on fishermen villages, please advise the Committee of the following:

- (a) The relevant information pertaining to the number of existing fishermen villages, their locations, reasons for building the villages, year of completion, present population, number of buildings therein and their average size, and ownership of the land of such village sites.
- (b) For fishermen villages under different ownership, what are the application procedures when they are to carry out various types of maintenance and improvement of ancillary facilities in the villages? Does the Government currently have any schemes or funds to provide assistance for these maintenance and improvement works?
- (c) In the past 5 years (2018-19 to 2022-23), has the Government provided any support for maintenance works in fishermen villages? What are the expenditure involved and the details?
- (d) Some fishermen have pointed out that some fishermen villages are still faced with inconvenient water and electricity supply, lack of individual toilet facilities and dilapidation despite the Government's effort to assist in their restoration through minor works programmes or other works. Will the Government review the situation in order to render genuinely suitable assistance to them?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 48)

Reply:

- (a) Details about existing fishermen villages based on information available to District Offices (DOs) are at the **Annex**. As details on land ownership, building size, etc. of fishermen villages involve lands matters, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) does not have the information.
- (b) HAD provides funding for carrying out minor works to upgrade the infrastructure and improve the living environment of the rural communities mainly through the Rural Public Works (RPW) programme and the District Minor Works (DMW) programme. DOs would collect views from local organisations and individuals, including Rural

Committees and villagers, through various channels with a view to identifying minor works projects for the benefit of the local community.

- (c) During the period from 2018-19 to 2022-23, HAD carried out a total of 43 minor improvement and maintenance works projects for various fishermen villages in Kwai Tsing, North, Sai Kung, Tai Po and Tsuen Wan districts. The works comprised mainly improvement and maintenance of access roads and storm water drains, involving a total cost of about \$14.76 million.
- (d) Matters such as supply of electricity and potable water, and provision of toilet facilities are outside the ambit of HAD. DOs would refer the requests to relevant departments for consideration and follow-up actions.

Details about fishermen villages

<i>Name of fishermen village</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Reason for establishment</i>	<i>Year of completion</i>	<i>Estimated existing population*</i>
North District				
1. Ap Chau Fishermen's Village	Ap Chau	To improve living conditions	1960	About 20
Yuen Long				
1. Chung Hau Tsuen	Shan Pui, Yuen Long	Established by the donation of Lutheran World Federation/ Department of World Service, Hong Kong Office	1967	About 400
Tai Po				
1. Tap Mun Fishermen's New Village	Tap Mun Island	To improve living conditions	1964	About 50
2. C.A.R.E. Village	Wong Yi Au, Tai Po Road (Yuen Chau Tsai)	To re-house fishermen's families who lost their boats during typhoon and fire	Mid 1960s to 1970s	About 800
3. Sam Mun Tsai Fishermen's New Village	Sam Mun Tsai, Tai Po	To re-house villagers affected by the construction project of Plover Cove Reservoir	1965	About 1 000
4. Luen Yick Fishermen Village	Sam Mun Tsai, Tai Po	To improve living conditions	1975	About 500
Tsuen Wan				
1. Ma Wan Fishermen's New Village	Ma Wan	To re-house villagers from Ma Wan Fishermen's Village affected by the implementation of the project of Ma Wan Park Phase 2	2009	About 250
Sha Tin				
1. Ah Kung Kok Fishermen Village	A Kung Kok, Sha Tin	To re-house villagers affected by the reclamation works for building Sha Tin Race Course and Ma On Shan new town	1984	About 400
2. To Tau Wan Village	Ma On Shan, Sha Tin	To improve living condition	Around 1950	About 140
Kwai Tsing				
1. Tsing Yi Fishermen's New Village	Tsing Yi	Established by the donation of The Co-operative for American Relief Everywhere	1960s	About 240
2. St. Paul's Village	Tsing Yi	Transferred from Caritas to the villagers for the formation of their own co-operative society to take charge of the management	1973	About 150

<i>Name of fishermen village</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Reason for establishment</i>	<i>Year of completion</i>	<i>Estimated existing population*</i>
Sai Kung				
1. Kwun Mun Fishermen Village	Tui Min Hoi, Sai Kung	To re-house villagers affected by the construction of the High Island Reservoir	1978	About 200
2. Man Yee Fishermen Village	Tui Min Hoi, Sai Kung	To re-house villagers affected by the construction of the High Island Reservoir	1984	Less than 1 000
3. Shui Bin Tsuen	Hang Hau, Sai Kung	To improve living conditions	1970s	About 180
4. Tui Min Hoi Fishermen's Village	Tui Min Hoi, Sai Kung	To improve living conditions	1963	About 100
5. St. Peter Village	Tui Min Hoi, Sai Kung	Transferred from Caritas to the villagers for the formation of their own co-operative society to take charge of the management	1964	About 180
6. Ming Shun Village	Tui Min Hoi, Sai Kung	Transferred from Caritas to the villagers for the formation of their own co-operative society to take charge of the management	1976	About 320
7. Tai Ping Village	Po Lo Che, Sai Kung	Transferred from Caritas to the villagers for the formation of their own co-operative society to take charge of the management	Early 1970s	About 700

* The Government has not conducted any surveys on the population in fishermen villages.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB139

(Question Serial No. 2489)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Community Building
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

The Home Affairs Department will first set up District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts in the first quarter of 2023. However, applicant organisations are required to have organised or participated in the organisation of not less than 15 district services/activities in the district concerned in the past 5 years. This requirement makes a number of recently established organisations which are patriotic and love Hong Kong ineligible for application. Moreover, the funding of about \$0.8 million to \$1.2 million for a period of 2 years for each sub-district Care Team is generally considered on the low side by the community, making it hard for organisations to undertake quality community services in the long run, and thereby discouraging them from submitting applications. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Will the Government consider relaxing the requirement for the years of service for applicant organisations of Care Teams?
- (b) Will the amount of funding for Care Teams be reviewed and increased?

Asked by: Hon HONG Wen, Wendy (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

As announced in the 2022 Policy Address, District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) will be set up in the 18 districts to consolidate community resources and forces to support the Government's district work and strengthen district networks. Care Teams will organise caring activities such as visiting the needy and assist in handling incidents and emergencies. Besides, Care Teams can help the Government disseminate information to the public and relay public views to the Government.

To ensure that the work of Care Teams is in support of and in line with the Government's leadership, policies and work at the district level, applicant organisations should be patriotic and love Hong Kong; and have a certain level of district network and service experience, cross-district mobilisation capability, and the ability to seek and consolidate community resources. Moreover, to ensure that the organisations forming Care Teams have a certain level of service experience, it is necessary for the Government to set requirements for their

years of establishment. Applicant organisations are therefore required to have been established for 5 years or more.

Regarding resources, the Government will provide some of the resources required by Care Teams. The funding for each Care Team for the 2-year period of the funding agreement ranges from about \$0.8 million to \$1.2 million, and the actual amount depends on the circumstances of individual sub-districts. As the formation of Care Teams seeks to consolidate community resources and forces, the Government also encourages the organisations forming Care Teams to make use of sponsorship, donations or internal resources to provide services in the joint efforts for community building.

With reference to the experience of Care Teams in different districts, the Government will review the criteria for applicant organisations and the resources for Care Teams as necessary.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB140

(Question Serial No. 2107)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

In view of the increasing problems arising from ageing buildings in Hong Kong, and the heavy financial burden of maintenance on the public, the Government may consider providing additional resources to assist the people affected. However, the Budget mentioned nothing about how resources could be provided for building management in a targeted and appropriate manner. Only “educational and publicity” efforts are made in this area, with the estimated number of building management educational and publicity programmes for 2023 reduced by 33 from that of 2022.

- (a) Given buildings are the most important components of urban development in Hong Kong, what are the reasons for the decrease in the number of building management educational and publicity programmes this year? Does it imply that the Government considers that building management in Hong Kong is significantly effective?
- (b) There are numerous problems with “three-nil” buildings, which have affected the cityscape and caused serious potential hazards. As mentioned in the Budget, support services on building management will be provided to owners of “three-nil” buildings next year. What are the estimated provision for and the details of the support services?

Asked by: Hon KONG Yuk-foon, Doreen (LegCo internal reference no.: 12)

Reply:

- (a) The Home Affairs Department (HAD) and its District Building Management Liaison Teams in the 18 districts organise about 400 educational and publicity programmes, such as training courses, seminars and briefings, every year for owners and owners' corporations (OCs), and produce Announcements of Public Interest and building management publications to promote effective building management. The number of programmes increased to 439 and 433 in 2021 and 2022 respectively, mainly because of the need to promote the importance of enhancing environmental hygiene in the common areas of buildings to owners and OCs amid the epidemic. As the epidemic subsides, the number of building management educational and publicity programmes is expected to return to a normal level this year.

- (b) To enhance the support for owners of “three-nil” buildings, and buildings where the management committee of the OC concerned was defunct, HAD implemented 3 phases of the Building Management Professional Advisory Service Scheme (BMPASS) between 2011 and 2020 to commission property management companies to provide owners of old buildings in need, in particular those of “three-nil” buildings, with a range of free professional advisory and follow-up services on building management, including facilitating the formation or re-activation of OCs, assisting OCs in applying for funding under various loan and subsidy schemes for maintenance works, and following up on building/window inspections, maintenance works and tendering. A total of 540 OCs were formed/re-activated with the assistance provided in the 3 phases of the BMPASS.

The BMPASS was well received by owners of target buildings and relevant members of the community, who considered that the scheme had helped owners of old buildings improve building management, living environment and building safety. HAD has therefore decided to regularise the BMPASS. With reference to the recommendation of the Legislative Council’s Public Accounts Committee, HAD has implemented a pilot scheme under the regularised BMPASS to invite local organisations/non-governmental organisations with experience in building management or related fields to reach out to owners of “three-nil” buildings and to encourage and assist them in forming OCs. The pilot scheme was first launched in Sham Shui Po and Tsuen Wan in June 2022, and will be progressively extended to cover other districts with a relatively large number of “three-nil” buildings. The estimated expenditure is about \$12 million.

In addition, HAD and District Offices have been providing old buildings in need, including “three-nil” buildings, with cleaning service for their common parts through various channels such as the District-led Actions Scheme having regard to the actual circumstances, so as to demonstrate the benefits brought by good building management and to call on households to keep good environmental hygiene.

To enhance the support for owners and residents, HAD has been implementing the Resident Liaison Ambassador Scheme since 2011 to recruit owners or residents of “three-nil” buildings aged 30 years or above as Resident Liaison Ambassadors (RLAs). The scheme seeks to establish a resident liaison network, facilitate residents’ discussion and handling of daily building management matters, and assist government departments in liaising with residents and promoting the message of effective building management. As at December 2022, about 1 650 RLAs were living in “three-nil” buildings.

HAD will review the support for owners of “three-nil” buildings from time to time to promote good building management, and encourage and assist owners to form OCs for proper management of their private properties.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB141

(Question Serial No. 0251)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Regarding the setting up of District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) to support the Government's district work and strengthen community network, will the Government inform this Committee of:

- (a) the details of the Care Teams first set up by the Home Affairs Department in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts in the first quarter of 2023, the respective numbers of applications received from local organisations, the selection criteria, and the expenditure and manpower involved; and
- (b) the daily workflow of Care Teams and whether the Government will set key performance indicators for Care Teams. If yes, what are the details? If no, will relevant studies be conducted?

Asked by: Hon LAM Siu-lo, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)

Reply:

As announced in the 2022 Policy Address, District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) will be set up in the 18 districts to consolidate community resources and forces to support the Government's district work and strengthen district networks. Care Teams will organise caring activities such as visiting the needy and assist in handling incidents and emergencies. Besides, Care Teams can help the Government disseminate information to the public and relay public views to the Government.

The selection of Care Teams is carried out in two stages: (I) organisation selection; and (II) proposal assessment. Each stage will be handled by a two-tier structure comprising the Territory-wide Assessment and Steering Group on Care Teams chaired by the Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs, and the District Assessment and Coordinating Panels on Care Teams chaired by District Officers of the 18 districts. To ensure that the work of Care Teams is in support of and in line with the Government's leadership, policies and work at the district level, applicant organisations are required to have a certain level of district network and service experience, cross-district mobilisation capability, and the ability to seek and consolidate community resources. Suitable organisations selected in Stage 1 will proceed

to Stage 2 – proposal assessment, during which their service proposals for setting up sub-district Care Teams will be considered. District Offices (DOs) will prepare service outlines for individual districts based on local circumstances, specifying the mandatory service requirements and key performance indicators. Organisations that have passed Stage 1 of the selection process should submit service proposals based on the service outlines.

The Government will first set up Care Teams in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts. The application for the organisation selection for the Care Teams in the two districts closed on 9 January 2023, with over 20 applications received by each of the DOs. The selection process for Care Teams is underway and the results will be announced upon completion of all the selection process. The Care Teams in the remaining 16 districts were open for application from 13 March 2023.

The Government will provide some of the resources required by Care Teams with an estimated expenditure of about \$226 million for 2023-24. Regarding manpower, the Home Affairs Department is carrying out the work relating to Care Teams using existing resources for 2022-23, and a total of 25 time-limited civil service posts will be created in 2023-24 and 2024-25, incurring an annual expenditure of about \$22 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB142

(Question Serial No. 0252)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Regarding the management of and support for “three-nil” buildings, would the Government inform this Committee of:

- (a) the number of “three-nil” buildings in the territory in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by year and by District Council (DC) district;
- (b) the number of owners’ corporations formed or re-activated with the assistance provided under the Building Management Professional Advisory Service Scheme in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by DC district; and
- (c) whether the Government has any plan to introduce and use new technologies or services in addition to implementing the existing schemes to provide more targeted support for “three-nil” buildings, with a view to improving environmental hygiene and the law and order situation. If yes, what are the details? If no, will relevant study be conducted?

Asked by: Hon LAM Siu-lo, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 11)

Reply:

- (a) According to the information obtained by the Home Affairs Department (HAD), the numbers of “three-nil” buildings (i.e. buildings which do not have owners’ corporations (OCs) or any form of residents’ organisations, and do not engage property management companies (PMCs)) in the territory were 4 921, 3 692 and 2 943 respectively in the past 3 years. The breakdown by district is set out at **Annex A**.
- (b) & (c) To enhance the support for owners of “three-nil” buildings, and buildings where the management committee of the OC concerned was defunct, HAD implemented 3 phases of the Building Management Professional Advisory Service Scheme (BMPASS) between 2011 and 2020 to commission PMCs to provide owners of old buildings in need, in particular those of “three-nil” buildings, with a range of free professional advisory and follow-up services on building management, including facilitating the formation or re-activation of OCs, assisting OCs in applying for funding under various loan and subsidy schemes for maintenance

works, and following up on building/window inspections, maintenance works and tendering. A total of 540 OCs were formed/re-activated with the assistance provided in the 3 phases of the BMPASS. The breakdown by district is set out at **Annex B**.

The BMPASS was well received by owners of target buildings and relevant members of the community, who considered that the scheme had helped owners of old buildings improve building management, living environment and building safety. HAD has therefore decided to regularise the BMPASS. With reference to the recommendation of the Legislative Council's Public Accounts Committee, HAD has implemented a pilot scheme under the regularised BMPASS to invite local organisations/non-governmental organisations with experience in building management or related fields to reach out to owners of "three-nil" buildings and to encourage and assist them in forming OCs. The pilot scheme was first launched in Sham Shui Po and Tsuen Wan in June 2022, and will be progressively extended to cover other districts with a relatively large number of "three-nil" buildings. As at the end of 2022, 8 and 3 OCs were set up in Sham Shui Po and Tsuen Wan respectively with the assistance provided under the pilot scheme.

In addition, HAD and District Offices have been providing old buildings in need, including "three-nil" buildings, with cleaning service for their common parts through various channels such as the District-led Actions Scheme having regard to the actual circumstances, so as to demonstrate the benefits brought by good building management and to call on households to keep good environmental hygiene.

To enhance the support for owners and residents, HAD has been implementing the Resident Liaison Ambassador Scheme since 2011 to recruit owners or residents of "three-nil" buildings aged 30 years or above as Resident Liaison Ambassadors (RLAs). The scheme seeks to establish a resident liaison network, facilitate residents' discussion and handling of daily building management matters, and assist government departments in liaising with residents and promoting the message of effective building management. As at December 2022, about 1 650 RLAs were living in "three-nil" buildings.

HAD will review the support for owners of "three-nil" buildings from time to time to promote good building management, and encourage and assist owners to form OCs for proper management of their private properties.

Annex A to Reply Serial No. HYAB142

Number of “three-nil” buildings by district #

District	Number of “three-nil” buildings		
	2020 (as at December 2020)	2021 (as at December 2021)	2022 (as at December 2022)
Central & Western	721	419	393
Eastern	103	101	73
Southern	255	197	68
Wan Chai	537	363	193
Kowloon City	704	504	341
Kwun Tong	44	22	20
Yau Tsim Mong	710	473	386
Sham Shui Po	608	509	393
Wong Tai Sin	52	50	49
Islands	12	12	12
Sai Kung	142	115	115
Tai Po	208	184	234
Tsuen Wan	122	110	67
Yuen Long	252	241	235
Sha Tin	13	4	3
Tuen Mun	36	34	36
North	367	339	315
Kwai Tsing	35	15	10
Total	4 921	3 692*	2 943*

Figures are based on the information obtained by staff of the Home Affairs Department through day-to-day liaison.

* Excluding “three-nil” buildings that are under single ownership and can be self-managed.

Annex B to Reply Serial No. HYAB142

Number of owners' corporations (OCs) formed/re-activated with the assistance provided under the Building Management Professional Advisory Service Scheme (as at December 2020)

District	No. of OCs formed/re-activated
Central & Western	56
Eastern	14
Southern	11
Wan Chai	46
Kowloon City	103
Kwun Tong	5
Yau Tsim Mong	119
Sham Shui Po	94
Wong Tai Sin	13
Islands ^{Note}	0
Sai Kung ^{Note}	0
Tai Po	29
Tsuen Wan	14
Yuen Long	12
Sha Tin	1
Tuen Mun	7
North	12
Kwai Tsing	4
Total	540

^{Note} There was no eligible "three-nil" building in the Islands and Sai Kung Districts.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB143

(Question Serial No. 0626)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) District Administration

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

In the past 4 financial years (2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022), the numbers of District Council (DC) consultations on territory-wide issues are 402, 337, 67 and 17 respectively. The estimated number of consultations in 2023 is 30. The Government explained that it was due to the COVID-19 epidemic and resignation of DC members. In this connection, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) How many vacant seats are there in the 18 DCs? What is the amount of provision originally earmarked for the remuneration for these vacant seats?
- (b) Did the 18 DCs reduce the staffing and estimated expenditure of the DC Secretariats in response to the decrease in the number of seats occupied?
- (c) Given that Hong Kong is on the road to normality, the operation of DCs should no longer be affected by the epidemic. Is the estimated number of 30 consultations in 2023 sufficient for collecting the views of the public in a comprehensive manner? How does the Government ensure that public policies are effectively implemented at the district level?
- (d) Does the substantial decrease in the number of DC consultations imply that the Government considers there are changes in the functions of DCs?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

- (a) As at 1 March 2023, there are 334 vacant seats in the sixth-term District Councils (DCs), resulting in a decrease of about \$280 million in the estimated expenditure in the 2022-23 financial year.
- (b) As the seats concerned are only left vacant temporarily, the staffing and estimated expenditure of the 18 DC Secretariats have not been reduced.
- (c) & (d) The number of consultations in 2023 is only an estimated figure. The Government will generally seek the advice of DCs on district administration affairs and

community, recreational and cultural activities, environmental improvement projects and transport issues within the districts according to the actual needs. Moreover, consultation with DCs is only one of the means to collect local views. In order to ensure that local views are reflected effectively and public policies are implemented effectively at the district level, bureaux and departments will also consult different district organisations as necessary, such as Area Committees, District Fight Crime Committees and District Fire Safety Committees, etc. so that local needs will be suitably addressed.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB144

(Question Serial No. 0627)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

The Home Affairs Department will provide District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) with some of the resources required and monitor their performance, and will first set up Care Teams in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts in the first quarter of 2023. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What is the estimated expenditure for the Care Teams in the 18 districts?
- (b) Have any additional administration expenses and manpower been earmarked for setting up Care Teams in the 18 districts? If yes, what are the details?
- (c) Have any key performance indicators been set for Care Teams?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 25)

Reply:

As announced in the 2022 Policy Address, District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) will be set up in the 18 districts to consolidate community resources and forces to support the Government's district work and strengthen district networks. Care Teams will organise caring activities such as visiting the needy and assist in handling incidents and emergencies. Besides, Care Teams can help the Government disseminate information to the public and relay public views to the Government. The Government will specify the mandatory service requirements and key performance indicators for individual sub-districts based on local circumstances, and will provide some of the resources required by Care Teams with an estimated expenditure of about \$226 million for 2023-24. Regarding manpower, the Home Affairs Department is carrying out the work relating to Care Teams using existing resources for 2022-23, and a total of 25 time-limited civil service posts will be created in 2023-24 and 2024-25, incurring an annual expenditure of about \$22 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB145

(Question Serial No. 2256)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) District Administration
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

The Home Affairs Department demanded last year the dissolution of over 1 600 Mutual Aid Committees (MACs) in the territory by January this year on the grounds that they are “playing a diminishing role”. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What is the current situation regarding the dissolution of MACs?
- (b) What is the total expenditure on the provision of subsidies to MACs for the past year? What are the future uses of the provision?

Asked by: Hon LEE Tsz-king, Dominic (LegCo internal reference no.: 28)

Reply:

The Mutual Aid Committee (MAC) Scheme was launched in the 1970s to promote neighbourliness and improve residents' living environment, and to provide a communication channel between the Government and residents. Over the past few decades, the neighbourhood network has evolved in tandem with societal development and changes. The modes of building management have also become more professional. The roles and functions of MACs were affected, and the number of MACs dwindled. After careful consideration, the Government terminated the MAC Scheme on 1 January 2023. MACs are no longer exempted from registration under the Societies Ordinance (Cap. 151).

The total estimated expenditure on the provision of subsidies (including the quarterly financial assistance and the one-off winding-up allowance) to MACs is about \$8.7 million for 2022-23. The Home Affairs Department will not earmark any provision for the expenditure with effect from 2023-24.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB146

(Question Serial No. 2257)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) District Administration

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Owners' corporations (OCs) formed under the Building Management Ordinance enable residents to manage the buildings they are living in. However, property owners are in general unfamiliar with the actual operation and obligations of their OCs. A lot of problems and disputes concerning property management thus arise, damaging the harmony of their communities. In this connection, please advise on the following:

- (a) a breakdown by the 18 districts of the staffing and expenditure for assisting in OC-related matters;
- (b) the expenditure for providing the support measures for OCs in the past 5 years;
- (c) a breakdown by the 18 districts of the number of OCs and owners' committees in the territory as at March 2023;
- (d) a breakdown by the 18 districts of the number of OCs formed with the assistance of the Home Affairs Department in the past 5 years; and
- (e) a breakdown by the 18 districts of the number of training courses organised for members of management committees of OCs, and the number of service sessions provided through Free Legal Advice Service on Building Management, Pre-Meeting Advisory Service, Free Mediation Service Scheme for Building Management, Building Management Dispute Resolution Service, Owners' Corporations Advisory Services Scheme, Central Platform on Building Management and Pilot Scheme on Free Outreach Legal Advice Service on Building Management in the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon LEE Tsz-king, Dominic (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)

Reply:

- (a) In addition to a dedicated division in its Headquarters (HQs), the Home Affairs Department (HAD) has also set up a District Building Management Liaison Team (DBMLT) in each of the 18 districts to provide support services for property owners and owners' corporations (OCs). The services provided by DBMLTs include assisting property owners to incorporate under the Building Management Ordinance (Cap. 344), attending owners' meetings to give information and assistance, and organising training courses and workshops. In 2022-23, there were 145 Liaison Officers (LOs) engaged in building management duties in the HAD HQs and the 18 DBMLTs, and the

expenditure involved was about \$98.9 million. The number of LOs in the HAD HQs and districts is as follows:

HQs/District	No. of LOs engaged in building management duties
HAD HQs	18
Central & Western	12
Eastern	8
Southern	3
Wan Chai	10
Kowloon City	14
Kwun Tong	7
Yau Tsim Mong	16
Sham Shui Po	16
Wong Tai Sin	4
Islands	3
Sai Kung	4
Tai Po	3
Tsuen Wan	4
Yuen Long	4
Sha Tin	7
Tuen Mun	4
North	3
Kwai Tsing	5
Total	145

- (b) HAD has been providing support services for owners and residents of private buildings, particularly old buildings, through the Building Management Professional Advisory Service Scheme, Owners' Corporations Advisory Services Scheme, Free Legal Advice Service on Building Management and Free Outreach Legal Advice Service on Building Management to enhance their capability in dealing with daily building management issues and foster a culture of building care. The actual/estimated total expenditure from 2018-19 to 2022-23 is tabulated as follows:

Year	Actual/Estimated total expenditure (\$ million)
2018-19	26.60
2019-20	26.60
2020-21	11.23
2021-22	10.14
2022-23 (Estimate)	30.00

- (c) According to the information obtained by HAD, as at December 2022, there were a total of 10 614 OCs and 742 owners' committees in the territory. The breakdown by district is set out at **Annex A**.
- (d) The number of OCs formed with the assistance of HAD from 2018 to 2022 is as follows:

Year	No. of OCs formed with the assistance of HAD
2018	236
2019	132
2020	83
2021	85
2022	94

- (e) The number of structured training courses on building management organised by HAD for members of management committees of OCs, and the number of service sessions provided through Free Legal Advice Service on Building Management, Pre-Meeting Advisory Service, Free Mediation Service Scheme for Building Management, Building Management Dispute Resolution Service, Owners' Corporations Advisory Services Scheme, Central Platform on Building Management and Pilot Scheme on Free Outreach Legal Advice Service on Building Management from 2018 to 2022 are set out at **Annex B**.

Annex A to Reply Serial No. HYAB146

**Number of owners' corporations (OCs) and owners' committees by district #
(as at December 2022)**

District	No. of OCs	No. of owners' committees
Central & Western	1 537	41
Eastern	681	51
Southern	350	41
Wan Chai	1 229	29
Kowloon City	1 266	60
Kwun Tong	361	21
Yau Tsim Mong	1 880	59
Sham Shui Po	1 120	39
Wong Tai Sin	262	14
Islands	38	44
Sai Kung	145	60
Tai Po	240	34
Tsuen Wan	317	42
Yuen Long	405	66
Sha Tin	215	47
Tuen Mun	213	45
North	121	28
Kwai Tsing	234	21
Total	10 614	742

Figures are based on the information obtained by staff of the Home Affairs Department through day-to-day liaison.

**Figures on building management support services and training courses
(2018 – 2022)**

Item/Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Structured training courses on building management organised for members of management committees of owners' corporations (OCs) (No. of courses)	6	5	5	5	4
Free Legal Advice Service on Building Management (No. of applications received)	160	204	143	207	152
Pre-Meeting Advisory Service (No. of advisory service sessions)	5 634	6 458	5 644	3 802	2 290
Free Mediation Service Scheme for Building Management ^{Note 1} (No. of referrals)	4	2	3	4	2
Building Management Dispute Resolution Service ^{Note 2} (No. of cases served)	15	29	26	30	32
OCs Advisory Services Scheme ^{Note 3} (No. of advisory service sessions)	147	216	177	662	127
Central Platform on Building Management ^{Note 4} (No. of briefings)	4	12	5	12	11
Free Outreach Legal Advice Service on Building Management ^{Note 5} (No. of cases completed)	-	1	11	9	3

Note 1 The scheme was launched in March 2017.

Note 2 The service was launched in April 2018.

Note 3 The scheme was launched in May 2018.

Note 4 The platform was launched in September 2018.

Note 5 The service was launched in September 2019.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB147

(Question Serial No. 1938)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (-) Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Regarding the promotion of community involvement projects at the district level, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) on the two themes of “The President’s Important Speech Delivered on 1 July” and “Embracing the Spirit of the 20th National Congress”, the number of activities held, and the number of participants and the expenditure involved in the past year, with a breakdown by the 18 District Councils;
- (b) whether District Officers have arranged internal training on the two themes of “The President’s Important Speech Delivered on 1 July” and “Embracing the Spirit of the 20th National Congress” for their colleagues. If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) whether the Government has held internal training on the two themes of “The President’s Important Speech Delivered on 1 July” and “Embracing the Spirit of the 20th National Congress” for District Officers in the past year to enable them to have an in-depth understanding of the spirits conveyed and promote the content accurately in the community. If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (d) whether District Officers have plans to organise activities related to understanding national affairs and strengthening the sense of national identity in the coming year. If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Hei, Edward (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)

Reply:

To encourage and promote participation of different sectors of the community, the 18 District Offices (DOs) of the Home Affairs Department (HAD) have held a total of 47 seminars and sharing sessions on “The President’s Important Speech Delivered on 1 July” and 64 seminars and sharing sessions on “Embracing the Spirit of the 20th National Congress”, with around 6 800 and 12 000 participants respectively. The activities were jointly organised by DOs and district groups/organisations, with different guests, experts and scholars invited as speakers. Participants came from different sectors, including community leaders, representatives of community groups and district organisations, young people, students,

representatives of government departments in districts and DO staff. The expenditure spent on organising these activities was absorbed by HAD's operational expenses.

As in previous years, HAD and its 18 DOs will continue to support the Government's policies and proactively organise various activities relating to understanding national affairs, implementation of the principle of "One Country, Two Systems", integration into national development, etc. at the district level. For example, seminars and symposiums will be held to enhance public understanding of the strategies and directions set for national development in the current "two sessions" of the National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference; and Mainland exchange programmes will be organised for young people to strengthen their understanding of national affairs, promote patriotism and keep pace with the development of the country.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB148

(Question Serial No. 2696)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Following the termination of the Mutual Aid Committee (MAC) Scheme late last year, would the Government inform this Committee of the following regarding matters on promotion of district, community and public relations:

- (a) The Government has so far only announced the setting up of District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) in 2 districts on a pilot basis after the dissolution of MACs. How is the progress of setting up Care Teams in the 2 districts? Is there a schedule for setting up Care Teams in other districts?
- (b) Does the Government have any plans to ensure that matters on promotion of district, community and public relations are properly handled after the dissolution of MACs and before the setting up of Care Teams? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Hei, Edward (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

As announced in the 2022 Policy Address, District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) will be set up in the 18 districts to consolidate community resources and forces to support the Government's district work and strengthen district networks. The Government will first set up Care Teams in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts. The Care Teams in the remaining 16 districts were open for application from 13 March 2023.

Meanwhile, the Government will continue to enhance communication at the district level by, for example, strengthening ties with the community through various district organisations, including Area Committees, District Fight Crime Committees and District Fire Safety Committees. These district organisations have been paying close attention to district issues such as living condition and law and order situation, and actively relaying local views to the Government.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB149

(Question Serial No. 1788)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention this year that the Youth Participation Initiative will be launched to allow more young people to join the Government's advisory and statutory bodies through various channels, and 2 committees on district affairs will be established with certain seats for young people to nominate themselves as members to engage more young people in public affairs. Would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the estimated expenditure and staffing for setting up the District Youth Community Building Committee and the District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee?
- (b) How many applications were received in total for the Self-nomination Scheme for District Youth Community Building Committee and District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee? Please provide the figures and ratios of applicants by gender, age group, education level and occupation;
- (c) Will the self-nominated young people selected as members be provided with training for enhancing their understanding of district and youth affairs and developing their capability to participate in public affairs? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (d) Young people applying for the Self-nomination Scheme are willing to contribute to society. As for the unsuccessful applicants, what measures will be taken by the Government to maintain contact with them and engage them to serve society by other means?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Yuk-wai, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 25)

Reply:

- (a) The expenditure and additional workload arising from the District Youth Community Building Committee and the District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee will be absorbed within the existing resources of the Home Affairs Department.

- (b) Around 1 100 applications were received for the Self-nomination Scheme of the above committees, of which 1 049 were valid. The profile of the applicants is as follows:

Sex	Male	689 (65.68%)
	Female	360 (34.32%)
Age Group	16-17	18 (1.72%)
	18-25	324 (30.88%)
	26-35	707 (67.40%)
Educational Attainment	Secondary	50 (4.77%)
	Post-secondary	78 (7.43%)
	University	517 (49.29%)
	Post-graduate or above	404 (38.51%)

Applicants come from various sectors of the community, including professionals and people engaging in district work, and some of them are young people who are still pursuing their studies.

- (c) and (d) The above committees aim to encourage more young people to engage in public affairs and to increase their participation in deliberation of policies with a view to enhancing their civic awareness and sense of belonging to their districts. As for the young people who are unable to join the above committees through the Self-nomination Scheme, we encourage them to join the district youth networks in the 18 districts or participate in various youth activities to be organised by the committees, the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau/Youth Development Commission and District Offices in order to broaden their horizons and serve the community.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB150

(Question Serial No. 1789)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Regarding the work involved in youth development activities of the Home Affairs Department (HAD), would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) How much did HAD spend on organising (i) summer general activities during summer holidays in the 18 districts; (ii) year-round district youth activities in the 18 districts; and (iii) year-round territory-wide/cross-district youth development activities under the Youth Development Programme in the past 3 years, and what is the estimated expenditure this year?
- (b) The membership of the district youth networks established by the 18 District Offices, the number and types of youth activities organised in the past 3 years, and the number of participants and effectiveness of these activities?
- (c) Have any performance indicators been developed for the work of the district youth networks in order to assess whether the work concerned has achieved the intended objectives? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (d) It is mentioned in the Youth Development Blueprint that the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau will create a brand new youth network to serve as a long-term platform for youth engagement. How is the brand new youth network different from the district youth network in terms of positioning? How can the two networks achieve synergy?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Yuk-wai, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)

Reply:

- (a) The actual expenditures on youth development activities for 2020-21 and 2021-22, the revised estimated expenditure for 2022-23 and the estimated expenditure for 2023-24 are tabulated below:

	Summer general activities	Year-round district youth activities	Territory-wide/cross-district youth development activities
Actual expenditure for 2020-21 (\$ million)	2.17	15.50	4.50
Actual expenditure for 2021-22 (\$ million)	11.18	18.09	5.40
Revised estimated expenditure for 2022-23* (\$ million)	30.29		5.35
Estimated expenditure for 2023-24 (\$ million)	11.88	21.78	5.94

* In view of the impact of the fifth wave of the COVID-19 epidemic, the Government decided to adjust the schedule of school summer holidays in 2022 by bringing forward the holidays from July/August to March/April. Under these special circumstances, the summer general activities for 2022-23 could be held all year round and were combined with year-round district youth activities.

- (b) As at 31 December 2022, there were over 12 000 members in the district youth networks (DYNs). In the past 3 years, the 18 District Offices (DOs) have organised more than 760 youth activities in total through DYNs, including sports, culture and arts activities, leadership training camps, workplace visits, work experience activities, as well as Mainland and overseas exchange programmes, which attracted over 125 000 participants.
- (c) The Home Affairs Department keeps reviewing the effectiveness of the activities by collecting feedback from participants, which will serve as reference in planning future activities.
- (d) As stated in the Youth Development Blueprint released by the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau (HYAB) last year, a brand new youth network will be created to bring together past participants of youth development programmes organised, funded or co-ordinated by HYAB, such as Mainland and overseas exchange and internship programmes, Youth Ambassadors Programme and DYNs in the 18 districts. HYAB and/or the Youth Development Commission will be the key co-ordinator(s) of the activities of the brand new youth network. By offering a range of opportunities for community involvement, volunteer work, talent development, participating in large-scale activities organised by the Government and expressing their views on various policies, the activities enable young people to develop their talents and contribute to the community.

DYNs are co-ordinated by the 18 DOs, which will organise a series of continuous youth activities aimed at enhancing the civic awareness of young people, strengthening their sense of belonging to the community and broadening their horizons, as well as identifying a group of young people who actively take part in district affairs and offering them opportunities to serve the community.

The brand new youth network and DYNs will provide diversified development opportunities for young people. The two networks may exchange views and collaborate with each other. HYAB is actively preparing for the establishment of the youth network and will announce the details later this year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB151

(Question Serial No. 2419)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Community Building
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

- (a) A District Services and Community Care Team (Care Team) is planned to be set up in each of the sub-districts, with a total provision of around \$0.8 million to \$1.2 million for the 2-year subsidised period. What are the standards for setting the amount of the provision? Why is the amount considered sufficient? What are the determining factors for setting the key performance indicators for Care Teams?
- (b) The Home Affairs Department has first set up Care Teams in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts in the first quarter of 2023. What are the respective numbers of projects implemented and the total expenditures involved for the 2 districts?
- (c) What are the main service targets of Care Teams? How can the services be extended to cover all strata of the community? Will resources be deployed for training the professionalism and versatility of members of Care Teams?

Asked by: Hon LI Sai-wing, Stanley (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)

Reply:

As announced in the 2022 Policy Address, District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) will be set up in the 18 districts to consolidate community resources and forces to support the Government's district work and strengthen district networks. Care Teams will organise caring activities such as visiting the needy and assist in handling incidents and emergencies. Besides, Care Teams can help the Government disseminate information to the public and relay public views to the Government.

The service targets of Care Teams depend on the needs of individual sub-districts, rather than being confined to specific strata of the community. District Offices will formulate key performance indicators (e.g. the total number of service targets/number of service times, the number of caring activities, and the types of buildings to be visited, etc.) for Care Teams based on the circumstances and service needs of each sub-district. The Government encourages applicant organisations to form Care Teams comprising people with the relevant service experience or professional knowledge to cater for the service needs of sub-districts, and will provide appropriate guidance and training to Care Teams as necessary with existing resources.

Regarding resources, the Government will provide some of the resources required by Care Teams. The funding for each Care Team for the 2-year period of the funding agreement ranges from about \$0.8 million to \$1.2 million, and the actual amount depends on the circumstances of individual sub-districts. As the formation of Care Teams seeks to consolidate community resources and forces, the Government also encourages the organisations forming Care Teams to make use of sponsorship, donations or internal resources to provide services in the joint efforts for community building. With reference to the experience of Care Teams in different districts, the Government will review the resources of Care Teams as necessary.

The Government will first set up Care Teams in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts. The selection process for Care Teams in the 2 districts has commenced earlier and the relevant work is underway. The Care Teams in the remaining 16 districts were open for application from 13 March 2023.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB152

(Question Serial No. 2828)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Community Building
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

- (a) Regarding the social enterprises funded by the Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership (ESR) Programme of the Government in the past 3 years, what is the total number of projects approved? What are the total amount of funding and the amount of supplementary provision for these projects?
- (b) How many projects under the ESR Programme ceased operation in the past 3 years? What are the total amount of funding and the amount of supplementary provision for these projects?

Asked by: Hon LI Sai-wing, Stanley (LegCo internal reference no.: 42)

Reply:

- (a) Between 2020 and 2022, funding approval has been granted to a total of 30 projects under the Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership (ESR) Programme, involving a total grant of about \$64 million.
- (b) The projects under the ESR Programme are funded for 3 years. The Home Affairs Department will continue to monitor their operation for another 3 years immediately after the funding period. Between 2020 and 2022, 5 of the funded projects ceased operation during the monitoring period while the remaining projects were in operation. The total grant for the projects that ceased operation was about \$9.8 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB153

(Question Serial No. 0143)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Community Building
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

As stated in Programme (3), one of the responsibilities of the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau is to oversee the policy on community development work. The Government will first set up District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts in the first quarter of this year, and in the remaining 16 districts in phases. Please provide a breakdown by district of the number of applications received. What are the names of organisations that have passed both the organisation selection stage and the proposal assessment stage, and the manpower and expenditure involved in the selection process? When is the recruitment for the Care Teams in the remaining 16 districts expected to commence? What are the estimated manpower and expenditure involved in the selection process?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 31)

Reply:

As announced in the 2022 Policy Address, District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) will be set up in the 18 districts to consolidate community resources and forces to support the Government's district work and strengthen district networks. Care Teams will organise caring activities such as visiting the needy and assist in handling incidents and emergencies. Besides, Care Teams can help the Government disseminate information to the public and relay public views to the Government. The Government will first set up Care Teams in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts. The application for the organisation selection for the Care Teams in the two districts closed on 9 January 2023, with over 20 applications received by each of the District Offices. The selection process is underway and the results will be announced upon completion of all the selection process. The Care Teams in the remaining 16 districts were open for application from 13 March 2023. Regarding manpower, the Home Affairs Department is carrying out the work relating to Care Teams using existing resources for 2022-23, and a total of 25 time-limited civil service posts will be created in 2023-24 and 2024-25, incurring an annual expenditure of about \$22 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB154

(Question Serial No. 0144)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

As stated in Programme (2), the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau will launch the Youth Participation Initiative next year, under which the District Youth Community Building Committee and the District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee will be established in the 18 districts with certain seats for young people to nominate themselves as members. How many self-nomination applications did the Government receive? How many seats are available for self-nominated young people on the two Committees respectively? Will an increase in the number of seats for self-nominated young people be considered in the future? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 30)

Reply:

The Home Affairs Department (HAD) plans to establish the District Youth Community Building Committee and the District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee in the 18 districts across the territory in the second quarter of 2023. Each committee consists of 20 to 30 members with one-third of the seats opened up for young people to nominate themselves as members. HAD in January 2023 launched the Self-nomination Scheme and received about 1 100 applications. We will review the relevant arrangements with regard to the operation of the Committees.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB155

(Question Serial No. 0147)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) District Administration

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

As stated in Programme (3), one of the responsibilities of the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau (HYAB) is to formulate the District Administration Scheme. As the term of office of the current-term District Councils will expire at the end of this year, HYAB and the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) are conducting a review on district administration so as to put forward suggestions. What are the manpower and expenditure involved in the work? When is the review expected to be completed? How is the work for the review divided between HYAB and CMAB? Would the Government inform this Committee of the initial direction of the review?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

The Home and Youth Affairs Bureau and the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau are conducting a review on district administration so as to put forward suggestions to ensure that future arrangements will be in conformity with the Basic Law, in adherence to the principle of “patriots administering Hong Kong”, and conducive to enhancing governance efficacy at the district level. The review covers functions, composition, method of formation, electoral arrangements, etc. of the future district organisation which is not an organ of political power. As the review is part of the overall duties of the two bureaux, the staff cost for the work is not calculated separately. The Government will strive to complete the review as soon as possible and announce the details at a suitable juncture.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB156

(Question Serial No. 1585)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (-) Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

One of the responsibilities of the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau is to “oversee the policy and resources allocation on community development work”. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) At present, the subventions for district grassroots organisations account for less than 4% of the recurrent subventions. Apart from the formation of District Services and Community Care Teams in the 18 districts, are there any plans to provide additional resources for these organisations, or any specific plans or measures to enhance collaboration with district grassroots organisations and clansmen associations, and to achieve a fairer allocation of resources for social welfare to the district grassroots organisations and clansmen associations which have been providing district services continuously, so that they can provide more suitable services to local residents? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (b) Are there any plans to provide training on the details of application procedures for resources for social welfare, financial management, etc. to increase the chance of district grassroots organisations and clansmen associations obtaining funding? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon SO Cheung-wing (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

The Home Affairs Department (HAD) is committed to enhancing communication between the Government and the public, and has been maintaining close liaison with various sectors of the community, including district grassroots organisations and clansmen associations, to promote community development for building a harmonious society. While providing funding support to district grassroots organisations, clansmen associations and youth groups through various funding schemes for the provision of social services, HAD implements the Community Involvement (CI) Programme for application by eligible organisations, including district grassroots organisations and clansmen associations, for funding support to organise projects featuring local characteristics and popular festive celebrations as well as cultural, artistic and recreational activities to promote district harmony. HAD's provision for the CI Programme is about \$340 million for 2023-24, and about \$88 million has been earmarked for

providing funding support to district grassroots organisations in 2023-24 for providing ethnic minorities and new arrivals from the Mainland with support services to facilitate their integration into the community. HAD has also earmarked \$10 million for providing funding support to clansmen associations in 2023-24 for organising activities to promote clansmen culture under the “Know Your Homeland - Clansmen Association Subsidy Scheme”. In addition, about \$57 million has been earmarked for the 18 District Offices (DOs) to organise/provide funding support to district youth development projects in 2023-24. HAD and DOs will continue to maintain liaison and collaboration with district grassroots organisations and clansmen associations, and provide them with the necessary information about various issues.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB157

(Question Serial No. 1864)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Over the years, many clansmen associations and district organisations that are patriotic and love Hong Kong have taken up a lot of district work of District Councils, particularly during the epidemic, including the distribution of anti-epidemic supplies and provision of a wide range of community services to the public. Clansmen associations also play a bridging role between Hong Kong and the Mainland, promoting not only communication between people of the two places, but also the Hong Kong public's understanding of the country and its development, with a view to furthering their participation in and integration into the national development, and encouraging them to contribute to the country and Hong Kong.

It is stated under this Programme that the aims of community building are to implement the policy in respect of community building and to promote community involvement activities and public participation in community affairs. It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2023-24 that during the year, the Home Affairs Department will continue to provide funding to implement or sponsor community involvement projects at the district level. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) In addition to existing projects such as care teams, will the Government allocate more resources to sponsor the provision of additional community services by clansmen associations and district organisations? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (b) Are there any policies in place to strengthen the Government's exchange and co-operation with clansmen associations and district organisations in Hong Kong, such as jointly organising district activities? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) Are there any policies in place to strengthen the Government's exchange and co-operation with and support for Mainland arrivals such as associations of drifters in Hong Kong? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon TAN Sunny (LegCo internal reference no.: 31)

Reply:

- (a) & (b) Policy bureaux and departments of the Government formulate appropriate policies and introduce funding schemes to support different policy objectives. For example, on promoting community building, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) implements the Community Involvement Programme through which eligible organisations, including non-governmental organisations (NGOs) such as clansmen associations and district organisations, may apply for funding support to organise projects featuring local characteristics and popular festive celebrations as well as cultural, artistic and recreational activities to promote district harmony.

In addition, HAD has been maintaining close liaison with various sectors of the community, including clansmen associations. The 18 District Offices also collaborate with district organisations and clansmen associations from time to time to promote community building. HAD has been providing funding support to clansmen associations for organising activities to promote clansmen culture under the “Know Your Homeland - Clansmen Association Subsidy Scheme” since 2018. To commemorate the 25th anniversary of Hong Kong’s return to the motherland, HAD organised the “Clansmen Culture Exhibition” in July last year to enhance the public’s understanding of and sense of belonging to the nation.

- (c) HAD helps new arrivals from the Mainland (NAs) integrate into the community through district networks and collaborations with NGOs. Key services include the District-based Integration Programme, which organises a range of activities to help NAs enhance their understanding of the community and establishes mutual help networks; the Ambassador Scheme, which arranges for persons with similar background and experience to those of NAs to reach out to NAs to introduce public services to them; and the Expectation Management Programmes in the Mainland, which organise activities for Mainland residents applying for settlement in Hong Kong to have a better understanding of the circumstances in Hong Kong. HAD also conducts quarterly questionnaire surveys on NAs to identify their service needs and uploads the survey reports to HAD’s website for reference of relevant Government departments, NGOs and local organisations; and co-ordinates with relevant Government departments and NGOs to update and publish the Service Handbook for New Arrivals regularly.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**HYAB158****(Question Serial No. 1253)**Head: (63) Home Affairs DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) District AdministrationControlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth AffairsQuestion:

Despite the completion of numerous private housing developments in recent years, most of the meetings for the formation of owners' corporations (OCs) or owners' committees (OComms) were postponed in the past 3 years due to the epidemic. It is expected that more advisory services will be provided by the Home Affairs Department (HAD) for supporting property owners and residents in the formation of OCs and building management in the coming year. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- How many requests for assistance relating to the formation of OCs and building management were received by HAD from property owners of private buildings in the past 5 years?
- How many meetings were required on average for each request for assistance in forming an OC? How long is a meeting on average?
- According to the latest figures, how many buildings in the territory do not have any OC or OComm? What is their percentage in the total number of private buildings in Hong Kong?

Asked by: Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)Reply:

- The numbers of enquiries on the formation of owners' corporations (OCs) or other matters relating to building management received by the Home Affairs Department (HAD) between 2018 and 2022 are as follows:

Subject matter	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Formation of OCs	*	1 099	903	1 163	652
Building management and maintenance	6 658	6 973	7 342	5 540	3 736

* HAD started to compile statistics on enquiries relating to the formation of OCs in 2019.

- (b) The number of meetings required and their duration vary from OC to OC, depending on the actual circumstances of each case such as the participation of owners. HAD does not maintain the relevant statistics.
- (c) According to the information available to HAD, as at December 2022, there were about 41 000 private buildings in the territory, among which about 2 940 (about 7%) were “three-nil” buildings (i.e. buildings which do not have OCs or any form of residents’ organisations and do not engage property management companies, but excluding those that are under single ownership and can be self-managed).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB159

(Question Serial No. 2787)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Regarding the District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) in the 18 districts, please provide the following information:

- (a) What is the staffing of the Care Teams in the 18 districts proposed by the Government?
- (b) Will staff of professional grades such as social workers be included in the staffing of Care Teams? If yes, what is the manning ratio of the professional grades?
- (c) What are the planned performance indicators for Care Teams, such as scope of service, types and nature of service, and number of target beneficiaries?
- (d) What is the total amount of provision for the Care Teams in the 18 districts? Please list out the estimated provision for each of the districts.

Asked by: Hon TIK Chi-yuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

As announced in the 2022 Policy Address, District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) will be set up in the 18 districts to consolidate community resources and forces to support the Government's district work and strengthen district networks. Care Teams are organisation-based and each team will have about 8 to 12 members, including 1 captain and 1 vice-captain. The Government encourages applicant organisations to form Care Teams comprising people with the relevant service experience or professional knowledge to cater for the service needs of sub-districts. Depending on the nature and scale of activities, Care Teams may mobilise non-team members, such as other members of the organisation, local residents and volunteers, to participate in activities according to actual needs.

Care Teams will organise caring activities such as visiting the needy and assist in handling incidents and emergencies. Besides, Care Teams can help the Government disseminate information to the public and relay public views to the Government. Care Teams are district-based and aim to respond to the needs of individual sub-districts. The Government will specify the mandatory service requirements and key performance indicators (for example, the total number of service targets/number of service times, the number of caring activities, and the types of buildings to be visited) for individual sub-districts based on local

circumstances, and will provide some of the resources required by Care Teams with an estimated expenditure of about \$226 million for 2023-24. Depending on the circumstances of individual sub-districts, the funding for each Care Team for the 2-year period of the funding agreement ranges from about \$0.8 million to \$1.2 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**HYAB160****(Question Serial No. 3185)**Head: (63) Home Affairs DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (2) Community BuildingControlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth AffairsQuestion:

Please provide a breakdown by the 8 ethnic minority languages of the staffing for and the figures on interpretation and translation services.

Asked by: Hon TIK Chi-yuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 72)Reply:

The Home Affairs Department has commissioned the Hong Kong Christian Service to operate the CHEER Centre. Apart from providing support services to facilitate the integration of ethnic minorities (EMs) into the community, the CHEER Centre also provides general interpretation and translation services of English and 8 other EM languages.

The breakdown by the 8 EM languages of the staff establishment of interpreters and the figures on interpretation and translation services provided in 2021-22 are as follows:

EM language	Staff establishment	No. of service provided*
Bahasa Indonesia	4	1 142
Thai	3	888
Tagalog	3	740
Hindi	4	466
Nepali	4	1 981
Punjabi	3	528
Urdu	6	2 579
Vietnamese	3	295
Total	30	8 619

* Usage figures of 2022-23 will only be available in early May 2023 after receipt of the quarterly reports from the centre operator.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB161

(Question Serial No. 3186)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

What is the estimated annual expenditure for each of the support service centres for ethnic minorities (EMs) in the coming 5 financial years? What is the target number of EMs to be served?

Asked by: Hon TIK Chi-yuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 73)

Reply:

The Home Affairs Department (HAD) has commissioned 7 non-governmental organisations to run 8 support service centres for ethnic minorities (EMs) in Wan Chai, Kwun Tong, Yau Tsim Mong, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing, Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Tung Chung to provide various dedicated support services for EMs to facilitate their integration into the community.

The term of the grant agreement entered into between HAD and each centre operator is 2 years. The annual operating grants for the support service centres for EMs and the estimated number of recipients of their services for the current 2022-23 project year and the coming 2023-24 project year are set out in **Annexes A and B** respectively.

Annex A to Reply Serial No. HYAB161

Annual operating grants for support service centres for ethnic minorities (EMs)

Centre	Annual operating grants (\$ million)	
	2022-23 project year	2023-24 project year
HOPE Centre	9.10	9.10**
CHEER Centre*	25.60	25.60**
ONE Centre	9.05	9.05**
YLTH Centre	9.10	9.10**
HOME Centre	7.28	7.28
HOME Sub-centre	3.22	3.22
TOUCH Sub-centre	3.50	3.50
LINK Centre	7.00	7.00
Total	73.85	73.85

* The CHEER Centre also provides interpretation and translation services to facilitate access to public services by EMs.

** Provisional funding subject to revision to cope with variations in staff cost, rental and other expenses upon the start of the new grant period.

**Estimated number of service recipients of support service centres
for ethnic minorities (EMs)**

Centre	Estimated annual number of service recipients	
	2022-23 project year	2023-24 project year
HOPE Centre	6 773	6 773**
CHEER Centre*	17 853	17 853**
ONE Centre	9 352	9 352**
YLTH Centre	9 605	9 605**
HOME Centre	7 705	7 705
HOME Sub-centre	4 256	4 256
TOUCH Sub-centre	2 974	2 974
LINK Centre	10 651	9 883
Total	69 169	68 401

* The CHEER Centre also provides interpretation and translation services to facilitate access to public services by EMs.

** Provisional estimated number of service recipients subject to revision to cope with variations in the actual demand and circumstances upon the start of the new grant period.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB162

(Question Serial No. 3187)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

What were the ethnic minority (EM) population in its service boundary, annual number of users, gross floor area, net operational floor area and net usable floor area of each of the support service centres for EMs in the past 5 years?

Asked by: Hon TIK Chi-yuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 75)

Reply:

The Home Affairs Department (HAD) has commissioned 7 non-governmental organisations to run 8 support service centres for ethnic minorities (EMs) in Wan Chai, Kwun Tong, Yau Tsim Mong, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing, Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Tung Chung to provide various dedicated support services for EMs to facilitate their integration into the community. The support service centres provide services for target users in all districts across the territory. The statistics on population of EMs (excluding foreign domestic helpers) by district based on the 2021 Population Census are set out in **Annex A**.

HAD does not have information on the net operating floor area or net usable floor area of the support service centres for EMs. The gross floor area of the centres and the number of service recipients from 2017-18 project year to 2021-22 project year are set out in **Annex B** and **Annex C** respectively.

Statistics on population of ethnic minorities (excluding foreign domestic helpers) in 2021

(Based on the 2021 Population Census)

District	Indian	Nepalese	Pakistani	Filipino	Thai	Indonesian	Total
Yau Tsim Mong	7 164	12 538	1 184	2 630	572	1 057	25 145
Yuen Long	1 503	8 375	3 253	1 998	555	771	16 455
Islands	5 881	961	1 418	4 229	608	540	13 637
Kowloon City	4 287	506	1 446	2 084	883	297	9 503
Central and Western	3 858	589	291	2 686	417	349	8 190
Kwai Tsing	1 760	458	4 400	355	610	598	8 181
Eastern	2 145	376	1 456	2 314	748	582	7 621
Wan Chai	1 658	1 737	225	2 107	738	625	7 090
Sham Shui Po	950	1 382	2 364	982	653	566	6 897
Kwun Tong	1 379	149	1 831	793	1 347	691	6 190
Sai Kung	2 377	110	958	1 584	534	480	6 043
Tuen Mun	620	916	1 766	1 286	735	537	5 860
Southern	2 220	258	391	765	347	235	4 216
Sha Tin	1 474	32	772	628	751	329	3 986
Tsuen Wan	557	847	716	860	222	337	3 539
Wong Tai Sin	490	289	1 139	325	733	403	3 379
Tai Po	130	15	152	235	601	362	1 495
North	94	2	576	293	293	190	1 448
Total	38 547	29 540	24 338	26 154	11 347	8 949	138 875

Gross floor area of support service centres for ethnic minorities

Centre	Gross floor area (square metre)				
	2017-18 project year	2018-19 project year	2019-20 project year	2020-21 project year	2021-22 project year
HOPE Centre	353	353	353	353	353
CHEER Centre	295	599	599	599	599
SHINE Centre/ ONE Centre*	390	390	390	390	415
YLTH Centre	130	194	194	194	194
HOME Centre	307	307	307	307	307
HOME Sub-centre	149	149	149	149	149
TOUCH Sub-centre	409	409	409	409	290
LINK Centre	390	390	390	390	390
Total	2 423	2 791	2 791	2 791	2 697

* The SHINE Centre ceased operation in August 2021 and was replaced by the ONE Centre.

Annex C to Reply Serial No. HYAB162

Number of service recipients of support service centres for ethnic minorities

Centre	Number of service recipients				
	2017-18 project year	2018-19 project year	2019-20 project year	2020-21 project year	2021-22 project year
HOPE Centre	8 675	6 661	5 192	6 808	6 498
CHEER Centre	16 322	18 261	21 667	25 967	22 791
SHINE Centre/ ONE Centre*	14 312	19 601	14 618	18 378	4 230
YLTH Centre	21 194	19 175	15 429	12 313	16 183
HOME Centre	12 060	12 537	13 522	14 526	13 073
HOME Sub-centre	5 538	5 975	5 961	7 733	6 781
TOUCH Sub-centre	3 564	4 545	4 199	4 456	4 208
LINK Centre	14 429	11 869	9 557	11 170	16 835
Total	96 094	98 624	90 145	101 351	90 599

* The SHINE Centre ceased operation in August 2021 and was replaced by the ONE Centre.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB163

(Question Serial No. 3258)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

- (a) What are the figures on the use of interpretation services provided by the CHEER Centre of the Hong Kong Christian Service (including telephone interpretation service, on-sight interpretation service, on-site (escort) interpretation service, written translation service, proofreading service and simultaneous interpretation service) by government departments (including the Social Welfare Department, Housing Department, Labour Department, Department of Health, Hospital Authority and other government departments) in the past 5 years?
- (b) Of these figures, please give a breakdown by 8 ethnic minority languages of the use of interpretation services by government departments through the CHEER Centre.

Asked by: Hon TIK Chi-yuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 71)

Reply:

- (a) The services for ethnic minorities (EMs) are provided by different bureaux and departments, including the Home Affairs Department (HAD), according to their respective policy purview. The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) is responsible for the overall policy on racial equality and the Race Discrimination Ordinance. The Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality promulgated by CMAB provide guidance for the bureaux and departments concerned to promote racial equality and ensure equal access to public services in the key areas. In this connection, bureaux and departments provide suitable assistance to EM service users according to their specific needs, including interpretation and translation services, to ensure their equal access to public services.

HAD provides support services for EMs to facilitate their integration into the community. Among these services, 7 non-governmental organisations are commissioned to operate 8 support service centres for EMs, providing various dedicated language classes, interest classes, after-school tutorial classes, youth activities, integration programmes, etc. Among them, the CHEER Centre, which is operated by the Hong Kong Christian Service, provides general interpretation and translation

services of English and 8 other EM languages (including Bahasa Indonesia, Hindi, Nepali, Punjabi, Tagalog, Thai, Urdu and Vietnamese) in addition to its basic services. While the interpretation and translation services provided by the CHEER Centre are available to the Government, bureaux and departments may choose other interpretation and translation service providers that meet their specific needs, especially when interpretation and translation services in specialised areas or extensive on-site interpretation services are required. They may also consider taking other suitable measures, such as recruitment of EM service ambassadors and publication of leaflets in EM languages, to facilitate EMs' access to public services.

The use of the CHEER Centre's interpretation and translation services by bureaux and departments in the past 5 years is set out in **Annex A**.

- (b) The use of the CHEER Centre's interpretation and translation services by bureaux and departments with a breakdown by the 8 EM languages is not available. Provision of interpretation and translation services by the CHEER Centre to all users with a breakdown by the 8 EM languages in the past 5 years is set out in **Annex B**.

**Use of the CHEER Centre's interpretation and translation services
by bureaux and departments***

Service	Year	Social Welfare Department	Housing Department	Department of Health	Labour Department	Other bureaux and departments	Total
Telephone Interpretation & Enquiry Service	2017-18	162	24	53	142	121	502
	2018-19	252	27	20	276	161	736
	2019-20	394	47	53	337	99	930
	2020-21	534	54	336	460	380	1 764
	2021-22	666	34	419	593	352	2 064
On-site (Escort) Interpretation Service	2017-18	16	15	727	54	107	919
	2018-19	27	31	855	51	66	1 030
	2019-20	33	18	755	54	166	1 026
	2020-21	31	23	513	25	219	811
	2021-22	28	32	645	53	221	979
WhatsApp and On-Sight Interpretation Service**	2017-18	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	2018-19	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	2019-20	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	2020-21	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	2021-22	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Written Translation Service (including proofreading service)	2017-18	2	4	11	18	8	43
	2018-19	7	2	1	22	22	54
	2019-20	15	1	0	11	12	39
	2020-21	7	2	8	21	102	140
	2021-22	6	3	5	15	78	107
Simultaneous Interpretation Service	2017-18	0	0	0	10	6	16
	2018-19	0	0	0	16	2	18
	2019-20	0	0	0	9	1	10
	2020-21	0	0	0	3	1	4
	2021-22	0	0	0	16	0	16

* Usage figures of 2022-23 will only be available in early May 2023 after receipt of the quarterly reports from the centre operator.

** Ethnic minorities can send documents in English through WhatsApp or bring along such documents to the CHEER Centre for oral translation service provided by interpreters. However, this service is not available to bureaux and departments.

Annex B to Reply Serial No. HYAB163

**Provision of interpretation and translation services
by the CHEER Centre to all users with a breakdown by ethnic minority language***

Service	Year	Bahasa Indonesia	Thai	Tagalog	Hindi	Nepali	Punjabi	Urdu	Vietnamese**	Total
Telephone Interpretation & Enquiry Service	2017-18	179	98	81	226	850	338	708	N.A.	2 480
	2018-19	291	129	168	177	1 175	367	622	N.A.	2 929
	2019-20	488	239	279	151	1 333	208	925	24	3 647
	2020-21	869	1 745	477	309	1 336	236	1 352	53	6 377
	2021-22	820	637	598	280	1 450	333	1 768	124	6 010
On-site (Escort) Interpretation Service	2017-18	46	18	125	41	149	100	574	N.A.	1 053
	2018-19	37	41	43	57	147	109	711	N.A.	1 145
	2019-20	50	29	11	65	193	85	748	7	1 188
	2020-21	73	12	10	32	259	58	490	28	962
	2021-22	87	67	33	42	267	89	554	74	1 213
WhatsApp and On-Sight Interpretation Service***	2017-18	2	5	2	9	21	1	231	N.A.	271
	2018-19	2	19	1	7	39	7	177	N.A.	252
	2019-20	4	16	0	1	39	4	130	0	194
	2020-21	5	219	2	3	56	6	41	1	333
	2021-22	18	57	5	8	111	4	79	3	285
Written Translation Service**** (including proofreading service)	2017-18	29	27	20	40	48	18	53	N.A.	235
	2018-19	34	30	29	35	36	32	41	N.A.	237
	2019-20	51	47	45	65	67	41	85	17	418
	2020-21	107	113	111	142	148	107	180	93	1 001
	2021-22	95	104	93	130	137	101	168	94	922
Simultaneous Interpretation Service****	2017-18	4	10	0	1	13	0	7	N.A.	35
	2018-19	51	18	4	0	59	1	3	N.A.	136
	2019-20	85	9	5	3	15	3	11	0	131
	2020-21	84	7	9	5	6	0	4	0	115
	2021-22	122	23	11	6	16	1	10	0	189

* Usage figures of 2022-23 will only be available in early May 2023 after receipt of the quarterly reports from the centre operator.

** Vietnamese interpretation and translation services were introduced in June 2019.

*** Ethnic minorities can send documents in English through WhatsApp or bring along such documents to the CHEER Centre for oral translation service provided by interpreters. However, this service is not available to bureaux and departments.

**** More than 1 ethnic minority languages may be involved in a request for written translation service and simultaneous interpretation service.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB164

(Question Serial No. 3259)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Please provide the rent, staff remuneration and expenditure on services of each of the support service centres for ethnic minorities in the past 5 years. What are the percentages of these expenditure items against the amount of funding received?

Asked by: Hon TIK Chi-yuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 74)

Reply:

The annual operating grants of the support service centres for ethnic minorities with breakdowns by staff cost, rental cost and other expenses from 2017-18 project year to 2021-22 project year are set out in Annex.

**Annual operating grants of
support service centres for ethnic minorities**

2017-18 project year

Centre	HOPE Centre	CHEER Centre	SHINE Centre	YLTH Centre	HOME Centre	HOME Sub-centre	TOUCH Sub-centre	LINK Centre
Reporting period	31 May 2017 to 30 May 2018	5 September 2017 to 4 September 2018	1 August 2017 to 31 July 2018	28 June 2017 to 27 June 2018	11 December 2017 to 10 December 2018	11 December 2017 to 10 December 2018	21 December 2017 to 20 December 2018	30 October 2017 to 29 October 2018
Staff cost (\$ million)	2.47 (42.3%)	7.49 (77.6%)	4.86 (68.1%)	5.00 (70.2%)	3.55 (63.3%)	1.53 (70.2%)	1.58 (72.4%)	2.99 (54.3%)
Rental cost (\$ million)	1.63 (27.9%)	0.99 (10.3%)	1.15 (16.1%)	0.33 (4.7%)	1.11 (19.8%)	0.22 (10.1%)	0.06 (2.7%)	1.49 (27.0%)
Other expenses (\$ million)	1.74 (29.8%)	1.17 (12.1%)	1.13 (15.8%)	1.79 (25.1%)	0.95 (16.9%)	0.43 (19.7%)	0.54 (24.9%)	1.03 (18.7%)
Total (\$ million)	5.84	9.65	7.14	7.12	5.61	2.18	2.18	5.51

2018-19 project year

Centre	HOPE Centre	CHEER Centre	SHINE Centre	YLTH Centre	HOME Centre	HOME Sub-centre	TOUCH Sub-centre	LINK Centre
Reporting period	31 May 2018 to 30 May 2019	5 September 2018 to 4 September 2019	1 August 2018 to 31 July 2019	28 June 2018 to 27 June 2019	11 December 2018 to 10 December 2019	11 December 2018 to 10 December 2019	21 December 2018 to 20 December 2019	30 October 2018 to 29 October 2019
Staff cost (\$ million)	2.47 (40.9%)	9.91 (65.2%)	5.05 (67.0%)	5.14 (69.3%)	4.49 (65.5%)	2.15 (67.4%)	2.18 (67.3%)	4.06 (61.5%)
Rental cost (\$ million)	1.63 (27.0%)	2.15 (14.2%)	1.15 (15.2%)	0.33 (4.4%)	1.04 (15.2%)	0.22 (6.9%)	0.09 (2.8%)	1.10 (16.7%)
Other expenses (\$ million)	1.94 (32.1%)	3.13 (20.6%)	1.34 (17.8%)	1.95 (26.3%)	1.33 (19.3%)	0.82 (25.7%)	0.97 (29.9%)	1.44 (21.8%)
Total (\$ million)	6.04	15.19	7.54	7.42	6.86	3.19	3.24	6.60

2019-20 project year

Centre	HOPE Centre	CHEER Centre	SHINE Centre	YLTH Centre	HOME Centre	HOME Sub-centre	TOUCH Sub-centre	LINK Centre
Reporting period	31 May 2019 to 30 May 2020	5 September 2019 To 4 September 2020	1 August 2019 to 31 July 2020	28 June 2019 to 27 June 2020	11 December 2019 to 10 December 2020	11 December 2019 to 10 December 2020	21 December 2019 to 20 December 2020	30 October 2019 to 29 October 2020
Staff cost (\$ million)	3.25 (43.3%)	17.23 (72.7%)	6.04 (67.9%)	6.34 (71.6%)	4.85 (67.2%)	2.53 (71.5%)	2.39 (67.5%)	4.39 (61.8%)
Rental cost (\$ million)	1.79 (23.8%)	2.29 (9.7%)	1.52 (17.1%)	0.26 (2.9%)	0.87 (12.1%)	0.17 (4.8%)	0.07 (2.0%)	1.10 (15.5%)
Other expenses (\$ million)	2.47 (32.9%)	4.17 (17.6%)	1.34 (15.0%)	2.26 (25.5%)	1.49 (20.7%)	0.84 (23.7%)	1.08 (30.5%)	1.61 (22.7%)
Total (\$ million)	7.51	23.69	8.90	8.86	7.21	3.54	3.54	7.10

2020-21 project year

Centre	HOPE Centre	CHEER Centre	SHINE Centre	YLTH Centre	HOME Centre	HOME Sub-centre	TOUCH Sub-centre	LINK Centre
Reporting period	31 May 2020 to 30 May 2021	5 September 2020 to 4 September 2021	1 August 2020 to 31 July 2021	28 June 2020 to 27 June 2021	11 December 2020 to 10 December 2021	11 December 2020 to 10 December 2021	21 December 2020 to 20 December 2021	30 October 2020 to 29 October 2021
Staff cost (\$ million)	3.25 (43.3%)	17.23 (72.7%)	6.04 (67.9%)	6.34 (71.6%)	5.26 (67.4%)	2.48 (64.6%)	2.67 (69.5%)	4.50 (58.6%)
Rental cost (\$ million)	1.79 (23.8%)	2.29 (9.7%)	1.52 (17.1%)	0.26 (2.9%)	1.07 (13.7%)	0.50 (13.0%)	0.06 (1.6%)	1.47 (19.2%)
Other expenses (\$ million)	2.47 (32.9%)	4.17 (17.6%)	1.34 (15.0%)	2.26 (25.5%)	1.47 (18.9%)	0.86 (22.4%)	1.11 (28.9%)	1.70 (22.2%)
Total (\$ million)	7.51	23.69	8.90	8.86	7.80	3.84	3.84	7.67

2021-22 project year

Centre	HOPE Centre	CHEER Centre	ONE Centre*	YLTH Centre	HOME Centre	HOME Sub-centre	TOUCH Sub-centre	LINK Centre
Reporting period	31 May 2021 to 30 May 2022	5 September 2021 to 4 September 2022	1 August 2021 to 31 July 2022	28 June 2021 to 27 June 2022	11 December 2021 to 10 December 2022	11 December 2021 to 10 December 2022	21 December 2021 to 20 December 2022	30 October 2021 to 29 October 2022
Staff cost (\$ million)	3.85 (42.3%)	19.56 (76.4%)	6.15 (68.0%)	7.01 (77.0%)	5.26 (67.4%)	2.48 (64.6%)	2.67 (69.5%)	4.50 (58.6%)
Rental cost (\$ million)	1.79 (19.7%)	2.53 (9.9%)	0.81 (9.0%)	0.26 (2.9%)	1.07 (13.7%)	0.50 (13.0%)	0.06 (1.6%)	1.47 (19.2%)
Other expenses (\$ million)	3.46 (38.0%)	3.51 (13.7%)	2.09 (23.0%)	1.83 (20.1%)	1.47 (18.9%)	0.86 (22.4%)	1.11 (28.9%)	1.70 (22.2%)
Total (\$ million)	9.10	25.60	9.05	9.10	7.80	3.84	3.84	7.67

* The SHINE Centre ceased operation in August 2021 and was replaced by the ONE Centre.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB165

(Question Serial No. 0544)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

- (a) Please provide the current number of “three-nil” buildings in the territory, and the Department’s manpower and expenditure involved in handling “three-nil” buildings for 2022-2025;
- (b) Please provide the number of “three-nil” buildings whose owners’ corporations (OCs) or other owners’ organisations were formed with the assistance of the Department in the past 3 years, and the number of buildings that returned to the “three-nil” status after their OCs or owners’ organisations ceased operation during the same period;
- (c) As property management (PM) companies play a significant role in the day-to-day management, cleanliness and hygiene, and maintenance of buildings, the law and order situation of the community, as well as social harmony and stability, will the Government formulate clear policies and take a more proactive approach in supporting the development of the PM sector, which includes assisting the industry in addressing manpower shortage, enhancing the application of technology, and strengthening the co-operation and exchanges between the PM sector in Hong Kong and its counterpart in the Mainland and the Mainland authorities?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chuen, Tony (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

- (a) According to the information obtained by the Home Affairs Department (HAD), as at December 2022, there were a total of 2 943 “three-nil” buildings (i.e. buildings which do not have owners’ corporations (OCs) or any form of residents’ organisations and do not engage property management companies (PMCs), but excluding those that are under single ownership and can be self-managed) in the territory. There are 145 Liaison Officers engaged in building management related duties in HAD Headquarters and the 18 District Building Management Liaison Teams (DBMLTs) in 2022-23, involving an expenditure of \$98.9 million. The manpower and expenditure for the next 2 years are expected to be comparable to those of this year.

- (b) To enhance the support for owners of “three-nil” buildings, and buildings where the management committee (MC) of the OC concerned was defunct, HAD implemented 3 phases of the Building Management Professional Advisory Service Scheme (BMPASS) between 2011 and 2020 to commission PMCs to provide owners of old buildings in need, in particular those of “three-nil” buildings, with a range of free professional advisory and follow-up services on building management, including facilitating the formation or re-activation of OCs; assisting OCs in applying for funding under various subsidy and loan schemes for maintenance works, and following up on building/window inspections, maintenance works and tendering. A total of 540 OCs were formed/re-activated with the assistance provided in the 3 phases of the BMPASS.

The BMPASS was well received by owners of target buildings and relevant members of the community, who considered that the scheme had helped owners of old buildings improve building management, living environment and building safety. HAD has therefore decided to regularise the BMPASS. With reference to the recommendation of the Legislative Council’s Public Accounts Committee, HAD has implemented a pilot scheme under the regularised BMPASS to invite local organisations/non-governmental organisations with experience in building management or related fields to reach out to owners of “three-nil” buildings and to encourage and assist them in forming OCs. The pilot scheme was first launched in Sham Shui Po and Tsuen Wan in June 2022, and will be progressively extended to cover other districts with a relatively large number of “three-nil” buildings. As at the end of 2022, 8 and 3 OCs were set up in Sham Shui Po and Tsuen Wan respectively with the assistance provided under the pilot scheme.

Since 2021, HAD has required DBMLTs to identify OCs whose MCs were defunct when performing their daily liaison duties and maintain the relevant information. According to the information obtained by HAD, 215 and 236 MCs of OCs ceased operation in 2021 and 2022 respectively. HAD does not maintain statistics on buildings turning into “three-nil” buildings when their OCs or owners’ organisations ceased operation.

- (c) HAD is responsible for formulating policies regarding the property management (PM) sector and overseeing the implementation of the Property Management Services Ordinance (Cap. 626) (PMSO). The implementation of the licensing regime under the PMSO and the setting of the minimum qualification requirements for licensed PMCs and PM practitioners (PMPs) can enhance the quality of PM services and professionalism of the PM sector, which strengthen the public recognition of the professional images of the sector and its practitioners. In addition, the PMSO provides for a two-tier licensing regime of PMPs (namely PMP (Tier 1) licence and PMP (Tier 2) licence) to encourage PMPs to pursue professional development in order to move to the upper tier, while allowing PMPs with a lower level of qualifications to have access to the job market in order to attract more talents to join the PM sector.

HAD supports a wider application of technology in the PM sector to improve the efficiency and quality of services and/or to reduce operating costs. As an organisation responsible for regulating the PM sector and enhancing professionalism of the industry, the Property Management Services Authority (PMSA) will strengthen the ties between the PM sector and the technology and innovation sector in a timely manner to help the PM sector get more familiar with and make better use of technology in performing their daily duties.

In 2019, the Central Government promulgated the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to support Hong Kong in better integrating into the overall development of the country. The Notice of Strengthening and Improving the Administration of Residential Properties was jointly issued by 10 authorities including the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development in 2020 to encourage enterprises to raise the standards of PM services and develop the life service industry. As at end-February 2023, PMSA issued more than 330 PMC licences and 11 000 PMP licences. These licence holders are the first batch of PMCs and PMPs in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (the Greater Bay Area) whose professional standards have been objectively accredited and assessed. HAD supports the establishment of cooperation channels between the PM sectors in Hong Kong and in the Mainland to facilitate the exchanges of resources and talents in the Greater Bay Area. HAD and PMSA also exchange views with their counterparts in the Mainland from time to time to promote collaboration and integration of the PM sectors in the Greater Bay Area.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB166

(Question Serial No. 1333)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Services for new arrivals in Hong Kong are mostly provided by non-governmental organisations (NGOs), some of which have applied for government funding. Would the Government inform this Committee of the expenditure on funding the services for new arrivals provided by NGOs in each of the past 3 years?

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok, Kingsley (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

The Home Affairs Department (HAD) facilitates the integration of new arrivals from the Mainland (NAs) into the community through district networks and cooperation with non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The subsidised services provided by NGOs include District-based Integration Programme, which organises familiarisation activities and establishes mutual help networks for NAs; Ambassador Scheme, which arranges for persons with background and experience similar to those of NAs to reach out to NAs to introduce public services to them; and Expectation Management Programmes in the Mainland, which organise programmes for Mainland residents applying for settlement in Hong Kong to have better understanding of the circumstances of Hong Kong.

The actual expenditures of HAD on funding the support services for NAs provided by NGOs for the 2020-21 and 2021-22 financial years were \$6.88 million and \$7.5 million respectively. The estimated expenditure for the 2022-23 financial year is \$8.84 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB188

(Question Serial No. 3475)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Community Building
Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Please provide the following information:

- (a) What are the estimated manpower and expenditure involved in supporting District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) in the 18 districts?
- (b) As the underprivileged groups including the elderly, children and persons with disabilities have a more pressing need for the services of Care Teams, will the Government consider allocating more funding to support the relevant programmes? If yes, what are the estimated manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Yung (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

As announced in the 2022 Policy Address, District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) will be set up in the 18 districts to consolidate community resources and forces to support the Government's district work and strengthen district networks. Care Teams will organise caring activities such as visiting the needy and assist in handling incidents and emergencies. Besides, Care Teams can help the Government disseminate information to the public and relay public views to the Government. The Government will provide some of the resources required by Care Teams with an estimated expenditure of about \$226 million for 2023-24. Regarding manpower, the Home Affairs Department is carrying out the work relating to Care Teams using existing resources for 2022-23, and a total of 25 time-limited civil service posts will be created in 2023-24 and 2024-25, incurring an annual expenditure of about \$22 million.

The Government will first set up Care Teams in the Tsuen Wan and Southern Districts in the first quarter of 2023, and the Care Teams in the remaining 16 districts were open for application from 13 March 2023. The services provided and resources required by Care Teams will be reviewed as necessary in the light of the operational experience of the teams.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB189

(Question Serial No. 3527)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2023-24 under Head 53 that the Government will launch the Youth Participation Initiative and establish 2 committees on district affairs with certain seats for young people to nominate themselves as members. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

What is the estimated expenditure on the implementation of the initiative by District Councils in 2023-24?

Asked by: Hon FOK Kai-kong, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

The Home Affairs Department plans to establish the District Youth Community Building Committee and the District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee in the 18 districts across the territory in the second quarter of 2023. The relevant expenditure for the aforesaid committees will be absorbed within the existing resources of the department.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB190

(Question Serial No. 3544)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

On promoting ethnic minorities' integration into the community, is there any increase in the estimated expenditure for 2023-24 compared with the past 2 years? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon FOK Kai-kong, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

The estimated expenditure of the Home Affairs Department on providing support services for ethnic minorities for the 2023-24 financial year is about \$82.4 million, which is similar to the figures in the past 2 years. The Government will consider whether the estimated expenditure needs to be adjusted with regard to actual needs.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB191

(Question Serial No. 3526)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Mrs Alice CHEUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2023-24 that the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau will “launch the Youth Participation Initiative by expanding youth’s participation in government advisory and statutory bodies through various channels; and establishing two committees on district affairs with certain seats for young people to nominate themselves as members with a view to engaging more young people in public affairs”. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) As regards establishing the District Youth Community Building Committee and the District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee with certain seats for young people to nominate themselves as members, what are the respective memberships and composition of the two committees? How many seats are available to self-nominated young members and what are the percentages of these members on the committees?
- (b) Are there any concrete proposals on setting up a dedicated fund or funding scheme, allocating additional resources, and strengthening collaboration with local organisations and youth groups to take forward the Youth Development Blueprint and enhance their sense of belonging to the country and Hong Kong? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon SO Cheung-wing (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

- (a) The Home Affairs Department (HAD) plans to establish the District Youth Community Building Committee and the District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee in the 18 districts across the territory in the second quarter of 2023. Each committee consists of 20 to 30 members with one-third of the seats opened up for young people to nominate themselves as members.
- (b) The Home and Youth Affairs Bureau (HYAB) has put in place dedicated funds and various funding schemes to subsidise non-governmental organisations, including youth organisations, to launch some youth development projects under the Youth

Development Blueprint, such as Mainland and overseas internship and exchange programmes, and youth entrepreneurship schemes. Moreover, HYAB also provides recurrent subventions to youth uniformed groups in the community to support their provision of informal education and training for young people, which serves to help them foster positive values, strengthen leadership skills and attain whole-person development. At the district level, HAD will continue to organise various types of district youth activities, empowering young people to realise their potentials, pursue their interests, raise their national and civic awareness, and develop a stronger sense of belonging to the community.

- End -