

**Replies to initial written questions
raised by Finance Committee Members
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2024-25**

Home Affairs Department

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HYAB094	00332	CHAN Hok-fung	63	(2) Community Building
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HYAB111	01148	LEE Wai-king, Starry	63	(1) District Governance
HYAB112	02178	LEUNG Man-kwong	63	(3) Local Environmental Improvements

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
HYAB113	02655	LI Sai-wing, Stanley	63	(1) District Governance (2) Community Building
HYAB114	01702	LUK Hon-man, Benson	63	(2) Community Building
HYAB115	00804	MA Fung-kwok	63	(2) Community Building
HYAB116	00094	NG Wing-ka, Jimmy	63	(2) Community Building
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HYAB118	01893	TAN Sunny	63	(2) Community Building
HYAB119	02020	TAN Yueheng	63	(2) Community Building
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HYAB121	01189	TIEN Puk-sun, Michael	63	(2) Community Building
HYAB122	00501	TSE Wai-chuen, Tony	63	(2) Community Building
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HYAB152	03346	TIK Chi-yuen	63	(2) Community Building
HYAB153	03347	TIK Chi-yuen	63	(2) Community Building
HYAB154	03348	TIK Chi-yuen	63	(2) Community Building
HYAB155	03349	TIK Chi-yuen	63	(2) Community Building
HYAB156	03350	TIK Chi-yuen	63	(2) Community Building
HYAB157	03828	WONG Chun-sek, Edmund	63	(2) Community Building

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB090

(Question Serial No. 3012)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Community Building

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 16% more than the revised estimate for 2023-24, mainly due to the launch of the Clansmen Culture Promotion Scheme, the setting up of additional support service centres for ethnic minorities (EM centres) and Ethnic Minority Care Teams (EM Care Teams), and the organisation of activities to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) in 2024-25. Please provide a breakdown on:

- (a) the number of promotional activities under the 3-year Clansmen Culture Promotion Scheme and the estimated expenditure involved;
- (b) the estimated expenditure for setting up 2 additional EM centres and 1 EM Care Team in each EM centre;
- (c) the estimated expenditure for organising activities to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Founding of the PRC.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

- (a) As announced by the Chief Executive in the 2023 Policy Address, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) launched the Clansmen Culture Promotion Scheme (the Scheme) in the first quarter of 2024. The Scheme, which will run for a period of 3 years with a total funding of \$30 million earmarked for application by clansmen associations to organise activities promoting hometown culture, aims to deepen the public's understanding of and sense of belonging to their hometowns, thereby fostering the spirit of loving the motherland, Hong Kong and their hometowns. Any locally registered clansmen associations which have all along been committed to promoting hometown culture and fostering exchanges between Hong Kong and hometowns in order to promote the spirit of loving the motherland, Hong Kong and hometowns, and with experience in organising relevant activities are eligible to apply for the Scheme.

- (b) Starting from 2024-25, HAD will implement the following measures to further facilitate the integration of ethnic minorities into the community: (1) setting up 2 additional support service centres for ethnic minorities (EM centres), 1 in Kowloon Central and 1 in New Territories East, thus increasing the total number of EM centres to 10; and (2) inviting each of the 10 EM centres (including the 2 additional centres mentioned above) in the territory to set up 1 Ethnic Minority Care Team. The estimated expenditure on the 2 measures mentioned above is \$26.92 million for 2024-25.
- (c) To celebrate the significant occasion of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC), apart from the key programmes such as the annual large-scale National Day reception, flag-raising ceremony, variety show and fireworks display, all bureaux and their departments will also plan an array of celebration activities rich in content and diversity under their respective work areas. In addition, the 18 District Offices of HAD will organise key National Day celebration events with local characteristics in various districts to share the joy with the public. Bureaux and departments will organise the activities with their existing resources. In 2024-25, the estimated expenditure for HAD on organising key celebration events for the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC is about \$27 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB091

(Question Serial No. 3138)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational Expenses

Programme: (1) District Governance

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

This Programme aims to implement improved governance at the district level with the reformed District Councils (DCs) and strengthened district governance structure so as to enhance governance efficacy where district views are heard and district issues are addressed. Please advise on the following:

- (a) Have the 18 DCs conducted any briefings on the Basic Law Article 23 legislation? If yes, what is the expenditure involved for each DC?
- (b) What was the total expenditure of the 18 DCs in January and February 2024?
- (c) What are the posts to be created and the total expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

- (a) Regarding the Basic Law Article 23 legislation, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) assisted the Security Bureau (SB) in organising 2 district consultation forums on 5 and 6 February 2024 for District Council (DC) members; chairmen and vice-chairmen of District Fight Crime Committees, District Fire Safety Committees and Area Committees; and captains of the District Services and Community Care Teams to brief them on the relevant legislative proposals, so that they may help deliberate with the public in the course of their daily district work and relay public sentiments and views to SB. No additional manpower or expenditure was involved.
- (b) The total actual expenditure on honoraria for members of committees for January and February 2024 is \$94.07 million, which includes honorarium, Operating Expenses Reimbursement, Miscellaneous Expenses Allowance, Medical Allowance, end-of-term gratuity for DC members, and Entertainment Expenses Reimbursement for DC Chairmen that is only applicable to the sixth-term DCs.

- (c) HAD and District Offices will create a total of 19 civil service posts in 2024-25 to cope with additional work arising from the reformed DCs and related matters. The annual expenditure involved is about \$18 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB092

(Question Serial No. 1001)

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 Clansmen Culture Promotion Scheme to be launched by the Government, please advise on the following:

- (a) The scheme is open for application by local clansmen associations to organise activities promoting hometown culture. What are the expected deliverables during the 3-year period of the scheme?
- (b) What types of activities will be funded by the scheme? What are the major differences from those covered by the Community Involvement Programme?
- (c) Will the Government consider providing regular support for the operating funds of local clansmen associations?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

As announced by the Chief Executive in the 2023 Policy Address, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) launched the Clansmen Culture Promotion Scheme (the Scheme) in the first quarter of 2024. The Scheme, which will run for a period of 3 years with a total funding of \$30 million earmarked for application by clansmen associations to organise activities promoting hometown culture, aims to deepen the public's understanding of and sense of belonging to their hometowns, thereby fostering the spirit of loving the motherland, Hong Kong and their hometowns. Any locally registered clansmen associations which have all along been committed to promoting hometown culture and fostering exchanges between Hong Kong and hometowns in order to promote the spirit of loving the motherland, Hong Kong and hometowns, and with experience in organising relevant activities are eligible to apply for the Scheme. Different from the Community Involvement Programme, the Scheme aims to provide dedicated funding for application by clansmen associations to organise activities promoting hometown culture and fostering exchanges between Hong Kong and hometowns. HAD will review the effectiveness of the Scheme in due course.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB093

(Question Serial No. 1002)

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 at the end of 2023, 268 social enterprises were established under the Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership Programme. Please advise on the following:

- (a) How many social enterprises receiving subsidies in the past 3 years are expected to operate on a self-financing basis after the funding period?
- (b) What mechanism is in place to monitor the programme and evaluate its effectiveness? Has the Government conducted any review?
- (c) Will the Government consider organising non-governmental organisation courses on a jointly financing basis with post-secondary institutions in the future?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)

Reply:

- (a) The funding period of the projects under the Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership (ESR) Programme is 3 years, after which the Home Affairs Department (HAD) will continue to monitor their operation for another 3 years. According to the progress reports submitted for the funded projects, around 60% of the projects which have been in operation for more than 3 years can break even.
- (b) and (c) The ESR Programme aims at providing seed grants for eligible organisations to set up and expand social enterprises (SEs), with a view to creating job opportunities for the socially disadvantaged or providing products and services meeting their specific needs. General information about the ESR Programme, including the application guide, is available on the dedicated website of the programme for reference of applicant organisations. The Secretariat to the ESR Programme will also organise briefing sessions to give an overview of the programme and explain the application procedures.

Grantees of the ESR Programme are required to enter into a funding agreement with the Government and submit progress reports (including annual audited accounts) regularly to the Government during the funding period and the monitoring period. The Secretariat will also maintain liaison with the grantees to keep track of the project progress and provide assistance as appropriate. More than 7 600 people have been directly employed by the funded projects so far, and over 80% of them were socially disadvantaged. According to the results of questionnaires conducted by HAD for the operating SE projects 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.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB094

(Question Serial No. 0332)

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 plans to launch the Clansmen Culture Promotion Scheme this year for a period of 3 years for application by local clansmen associations to organise activities promoting hometown culture. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the specific details of the scheme; and will the scheme be developed into a Guangdong or cross-province tourism project in collaboration with local governments in the Mainland? What are the manpower and estimated expenditure involved?
- (b) Will the Government establish a mechanism or a platform to assist and oversee the clansmen associations receiving the funding? If yes, what are the details? What is the estimated manpower involved?
- (c) Have any performance indicators been developed by the Government in order to assess whether the funding scheme has achieved the intended objectives?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hok-fung (LegCo internal reference no.: 11)

Reply:

As announced by the Chief Executive in the 2023 Policy Address, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) launched the Clansmen Culture Promotion Scheme (the Scheme) in the first quarter of 2024. The Scheme, which will run for a period of 3 years with a total funding of \$30 million earmarked for application by clansmen associations to organise activities promoting hometown culture, aims to deepen the public's understanding of and sense of belonging to their hometowns, thereby fostering the spirit of loving the motherland, Hong Kong and their hometowns. Any locally registered clansmen associations which have all along been committed to promoting hometown culture and fostering exchanges between Hong Kong and hometowns in order to promote the spirit of loving the motherland, Hong Kong and hometowns, and with experience in organising relevant activities are eligible to apply for the Scheme. The manpower involved in implementing the Scheme will be absorbed within the existing resources of HAD. Briefing sessions have been organised for

representatives of clansmen associations to introduce to them the details and application arrangements of the Scheme. HAD will also stay connected with the applicant associations and offer them appropriate assistance with their applications. HAD will implement the Scheme in accordance with the relevant funding guidelines and monitoring mechanism. The effectiveness of the Scheme will be reviewed in due course.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB095

(Question Serial No. 0333)

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 2024-25 that the Department will strengthen support services for ethnic minorities, including setting up 2 additional support service centres for ethnic minorities (EM centres), setting up an Ethnic Minority Care Team in each EM centre, regularising the enhanced services provided by EM centres for ethnic minority new arrivals and youths, and the District-based Programmes for Racial Harmony. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Where are the 2 additional EM centres, and when are they expected to commence operation? What are the manpower and estimated expenditure involved?
- (b) What is the estimated number of beneficiaries of the 2 additional EM centres? Will the Government consider setting up more EM centres in the future?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hok-fung (LegCo internal reference no.: 12)

Reply:

- (a) The Home Affairs Department (HAD) has commissioned non-profit-making organisations to run 8 support service centres for ethnic minorities (EM centres) in Wan Chai, Yau Tsim Mong, Sham Shui Po, Kwun Tong, Yuen Long, Tuen Mun, Kwai Tsing and Tung Chung. To enhance support services for ethnic minorities, HAD plans to set up 2 additional EM centres in Kowloon Central (covering Kowloon City and Wong Tai Sin) and New Territories East (covering Sai Kung and Tseung Kwan O), which are expected to commence service in the fourth quarter of 2024. The estimated expenditure for each new centre is capped at about \$11 million per year. HAD has just openly invited eligible non-profit-making organisations to submit service proposals to apply for government funding to establish and operate the 2 new centres. Applicant organisations are required to submit proposals detailing centre facilities, services and activity plans based on their experience and understanding of the needs of ethnic minorities for consideration by HAD.

- (b) The total estimated number of service recipients of the 2 additional EM centres is about 16 000 per year. With the establishment of the 2 new centres, there will be a total of 10 EM centres to provide services for ethnic minorities in the territory, covering the districts where ethnic minorities mainly reside. We will keep in view the needs of ethnic minorities and review how to strengthen the support services from time to time.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB096

(Question Serial No. 0903)

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 3 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.: 30)

Reply:

- (a) According to the information obtained by the Home Affairs Department (HAD), as at December 2023, there were 3 097 “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 in **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 in **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.

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 has

progressively extended to cover 7 other districts with a relatively large number of “three-nil” buildings, including the Central & Western, Eastern, Wan Chai, Kowloon City, Yau Tsim Mong, Tai Po and North Districts. As at December 2023, the pilot scheme reached out to about 580 “three-nil” buildings in 9 districts. With the assistance of the scheme, 70 OCs were formed, 45 OCs procured third party risks insurance and 755 RLAs were recruited. The breakdown by district of the number of OCs formed is set out in **Annex C**.

- (c) To assist residents of old buildings in enhancing building management, 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 2023, about 2 060 RLAs were living in “three-nil” buildings. The breakdown by district is set out in **Annex D**.
- (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 2023-24. The actual expenditures on Phases 1 to 3 of the BMPASS implemented between 2011 and 2020 were \$48 million, \$58 million and \$64 million respectively. As to the pilot scheme launched in June 2022, which is expected to end on 30 June 2024, the estimated total expenditure is about \$19.3 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 reviews 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, the pilot scheme has received overwhelming support from the community and service users since its implementation in June 2022, who consider that the involvement of organisations with wide district networks in the scheme has helped reach out to the owners of “three-nil” buildings more effectively, thereby increasing the success rate of OC formation. HAD will extend the scheme with reference to the operation mode of the pilot scheme to cover 18 districts across the territory, and invite community organisations/non-governmental organisations with experience in building management or related fields to participate.

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 2023)**

District	Number of “three-nil” buildings*
Central & Western	366
Eastern	66
Southern	68
Wan Chai	195
Kowloon City	333
Kwun Tong	25
Yau Tsim Mong	382
Sham Shui Po	380
Wong Tai Sin	52
Islands	13
Sai Kung	183
Tai Po	281
Tsuen Wan	67
Yuen Long	231
Sha Tin	24
Tuen Mun	102
North	317
Kwai Tsing	12
Total	3 097

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. HYAB096

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. HYAB096

**Breakdown by district of the number of owners' corporations (OCs) formed with the assistance provided under the pilot scheme of the Building Management Professional Advisory Service Scheme
(as at December 2023)**

District	No. of OCs formed
Central & Western	10
Eastern	6
Wan Chai	1
Kowloon City	0
Yau Tsim Mong	17
Sham Shui Po	24
Tai Po	3
Tsuen Wan	4
North	5
Total	70

Annex D to Reply Serial No. HYAB096

**Number of Resident Liaison Ambassadors (RLAs)
(as at December 2023)**

District	No. of RLAs recruited
Central & Western	234
Eastern	29
Southern	51
Wan Chai	135
Kowloon City	113
Kwun Tong	25
Yau Tsim Mong	530
Sham Shui Po	536
Wong Tai Sin	57
Islands ^{Note}	0
Sai Kung ^{Note}	0
Tai Po	130
Tsuen Wan	77
Yuen Long	25
Sha Tin	4
Tuen Mun	5
North	107
Kwai Tsing	9
Total:	2 067

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

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB097

(Question Serial No. 1586)

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

District Councils (DCs) in the New Territories are responsible for the co-ordination and management of minor works in rural areas. Would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Since District Officers have taken up the role of DC Chairmen, governance at the district level is further enhanced. Will the new term of DCs in the New Territories and the District Offices concerned review the efficiency of minor works in the rural areas in their respective districts?
- (b) Further to the above, there are views that it takes 6 months to complete the installation of a letterbox in rural areas. Will the Government consider reviewing whether the time taken for individual minor works projects is reasonable, so as to meet the expectations of the public and the villagers who will benefit?
- (c) Quite a number of villages have not yet had their own village offices. With regard to their construction applications, will the Government consider making available idle government sites to be leased by way of short term tenancies in the villages for application for construction of village offices through inter-departmental co-ordination?
- (d) 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 then replaced by the Rural Public Works (RPW) programme, to which an annual provision of only around \$100 million is allocated. Does the Government have any plans to expand the ambit of the RPW programme so as to achieve the same effectiveness as that of the former programme?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Yuet-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) 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. HAD provides funding for carrying out minor works to upgrade the infrastructure and improve the living environment of the rural community through the RPW programme. The 9 District Offices (DOs) in the New Territories collect views from local organisations and individuals, including District Council members, Rural Committees and villagers, through various channels with a view to identifying minor works projects for the benefit of the local community. As at the end of February 2024, more than 2 700 projects have been completed under the RPW programme. The living environment and infrastructure in rural areas have improved significantly. Generally speaking, it takes time to finalise and implement the projects under the RPW programme, as each of them involves a lot of preparatory work, such as conducting feasibility studies, carrying out design work and consulting relevant stakeholders. HAD and the DOs will continue to work proactively with the relevant departments in closely monitoring the projects, including their progress and works schedules, with a view to implementing and completing the projects at the soonest possible time.
- (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.
- (d) Given that rural planning involves relatively complicated statutory procedures and requires considerable time to address issues like land ownership and land resumption, 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.

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.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB098

(Question Serial No. 1587)

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:

Supporting the Operation of Rural Committees

Rural committees (RCs) are feedback channels and bridges of communication for residents in rural areas, having an extensive presence across the areas and a wide scope of responsibilities. However, the subsidies or support provided to them are insufficient. The development of the Northern Metropolis involves 10 villages in the New Territories. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee whether it will consider providing accountable subsidies to RCs for them to meet water and electricity charges or other operating expenses?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Yuet-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 11)

Reply:

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.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB099

(Question Serial No. 1030)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

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):

- (a) Please provide the amount of funding for each Care Team in a table;
- (b) Please elaborate on the criteria for determining the amount of funding;
- (c) Are there any statistics on the actual income and expenditure for each Care Team?
- (d) Each Care Team is only granted about \$40,000 per month. Will the amount of funding be substantially increased in the future?

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

Reply:

- (a) to (c) The Government provides some of the resources required by the District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams). District Offices specify the service requirements and key performance indicators (KPIs) (e.g. the total number of service targets/service times, the number of caring activities and the types of buildings to be visited) for individual sub-districts based on local needs, and set a funding ceiling for each Care Team for the two-year period of the funding agreement based on local circumstances. Depending on the situation of individual sub-districts, the funding for each Care Team for the two-year period of the funding agreement ranges from about \$0.8 million to \$1.2 million. The Home Affairs Department does not have information on the income and expenditure of each Care Team in the 18 districts.
- (d) Care Teams are set up to consolidate community resources and forces to support district work. Therefore, apart from providing resources directly to Care Teams, the Government also encourages the operating organisations of Care Teams to make use of sponsorship, donations or internal resources to provide services, so as to tap the strengths and resources of all sectors for community building. The

setting up of Care Teams is a new policy initiative of the Government. The operation and resources of Care Teams will be reviewed in due course.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB100

(Question Serial No. 1867)

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), would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the Government's manpower, personal emoluments and operational expenses involved in carrying out the work relating to Care Teams in the past year and the coming year?
- (b) What are the current (i) number of sub-district Care Teams, (ii) number of members and (iii) number of services provided (by type of service) and number of beneficiaries since the setting up of Care Teams by District Council (DC) district?
- (c) What is the specific division of labour between Care Teams, "the three committees" (Area Committees, District Fight Crime Committees and District Fire Safety Committees) and DC members in implementing district services?

Asked by: Hon CHAU Siu-chung (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

- (a) The Government provides some of the resources required by the District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams). The funding for each Care Team for the two-year period of the funding agreement ranges from about \$0.8 million to \$1.2 million, depending on the service proposals submitted and the key performance indicators set for the Care Team concerned. The Government also encourages the operating organisations of Care Teams to make use of sponsorship, donations or internal resources to provide services. The Home Affairs Department (HAD)'s revised estimated expenditure on Care Teams for 2023-24 is about \$96 million and the estimated expenditure for 2024-25 is \$181 million. Regarding manpower, HAD carried out the work relating to Care Teams using the resources available in 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 Government delineates the 18 districts into 452 sub-districts, and one Care Team is set up in each sub-district. The number of sub-district Care Teams in each district is as follows:

District	Number of sub-district Care Teams	District	Number of sub-district Care Teams
Central and Western	15	Islands	10
Eastern	35	Kwai Tsing	31
Southern	17	North	18
Wan Chai	13	Sai Kung	29
Kowloon City	25	Sha Tin	41
Kwun Tong	40	Tai Po	19
Sham Shui Po	25	Tsuen Wan	19
Wong Tai Sin	25	Tuen Mun	31
Yau Tsim Mong	20	Yuen Long	39

There are about 5 000 Care Team members in the 18 districts. Care Teams have visited more than 30 000 elderly households and other households in need, and provided over 7 000 times of basic home/other support services for them since May 2023, when they started to come into operation progressively in various districts. On policy promotion, Care Teams in the 18 districts actively participated in publicising the 2023 District Council (DC) Ordinary Election by organising a total of about 20 publicity activities between November and December 2023, during which promotional leaflets were distributed to members of the public and business operators at markets, shopping centres, restaurants, etc. in various districts to appeal to electors to vote. In addition, Care Teams rendered support services during typhoons in the second half of 2023, which include providing support for the operation of temporary shelters, disseminating typhoon-related information to residents through established communication networks and participating in relief work.

- (c) DCs, Care Teams and “the three committees” discharge their respective duties while complementing each other. DCs focus on understanding and relaying public views, promoting government policies, providing consultation or case referral services, etc. The work of a DC covers the whole district concerned.

Care Teams are service teams that support the Government’s district work, provide caring services for members of the public, and assist in handling incidents and emergencies. They provide district-based services according to the needs of the residents in their sub-districts.

As for “the three committees”, the District Fight Crime Committees and the District Fire Safety Committees mainly advise on crime fighting and fire safety, and assist in the organisation of related activities, while members of Area Committees offer advice to District Officers on issues affecting the areas concerned on the basis of their backgrounds, expertise and knowledge of the areas. Area Committees also organise activities in the area.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB101

(Question Serial No. 0354)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

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

Programme: (1) District Governance; (2) Community Building

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

The Government formulates and develops policies on district governance. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) 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?
- (b) 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, arrivals under various talent admission schemes and non-local students in Hong Kong? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHEN Chung-nin, Rock (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

- (a) 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 maintains close liaison with various sectors of the community, including clansmen associations, and launched the Clansmen Culture Promotion Scheme (the Scheme) in the first quarter of 2024. The Scheme, which will run for a period of 3 years with a total funding of \$30 million earmarked for application by clansmen associations to organise activities promoting hometown culture, aims to deepen the public's understanding of and sense of belonging to their hometowns,

thereby fostering the spirit of loving the motherland, Hong Kong and their hometowns. At the same time, the 18 District Offices will also continue to collaborate with district organisations and clansmen associations from time to time to promote community building.

- (b) 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 reach out to NAs to introduce public services to them; 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; and the Neighbourhood Mutual Help Programme, which provides funding to NGOs for organising various activities to help NAs and ethnic minorities integrate into the community. 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

HYAB102

(Question Serial No. 2520)

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:

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC). In respect of the co-ordination of major celebration activities, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What activities will be organised for celebrating the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC? What is the estimated expenditure involved? Which department is responsible for organising the activities?
- (b) What is the difference between the estimated expenditure on the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC and the expenditure on the 70th anniversary?
- (c) Will the Government consider proposing to the country that another pair of giant pandas be sent to Hong Kong as gifts?
- (d) Will elements of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC be incorporated into tourism and cultural projects?

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

- (a) and (d) To celebrate the significant occasion of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC), all bureaux and departments, led by the Chief Secretary for Administration, will make concerted efforts to plan and take forward the preparatory work for the National Day celebrations on all fronts, with a view to creating a colourful and enthusiastic National Day atmosphere and cultivating people's sense of patriotism at different levels of the community. Apart from the key programmes such as the annual large-scale National Day reception, flag-raising ceremony, variety show and fireworks display, all bureaux and their departments will also plan an array of celebration activities rich in content and diversity under their respective work areas, with a view to enabling more members of the public from different backgrounds and age groups to take part in the

celebration activities and share the joy of the National Day. In addition, the 18 District Offices of the Home Affairs Department (HAD) will organise key National Day celebration events with local characteristics in various districts to share the joy with the public. Apart from fostering patriotic sentiments, the Government will also organise a series of thematic National Day celebration activities to showcase to all visitors from the Mainland and other places the unique advantages and attractions of Hong Kong in terms of the staunch support we receive from the Motherland and our global outlook.

Moreover, bureaux and departments will plan for displays of a wider variety of publicity materials in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC at the venues and buildings under their management, and step up the scale and creativity of their festive decorations at popular and iconic locations, so as to jointly foster an intense festive ambience, promote the spirit of patriotism and mobilise the active participation of all sectors of the community in celebrating the National Day together.

As for estimated expenditure, bureaux and departments will organise the activities with their existing resources. In 2024-25, the estimated expenditure for HAD on organising key celebration events for the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC is about \$27 million.

- (b) In 2019, the National Day celebration events co-ordinated by HAD include large-scale National Day reception and flag-raising ceremony. Other activities were called off as a result of the social unrest. The expenditure on the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC should not be directly compared with that on the 70th anniversary.
- (c) According to the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau, the Government understands the affection of the general public for giant pandas and will make relevant considerations at an appropriate juncture.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB103

(Question Serial No. 2529)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

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

Programme: (1) District Governance

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Regarding the implementation of community building projects, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the details, numbers, types and expenditures of the community building projects in the districts of Sham Shui Po and Yau Tsim Mong for which funding was approved in the past 3 years?
- (b) What are the details, types and estimated expenditures of the community building projects in the districts of Sham Shui Po and Yau Tsim Mong in the estimates for 2024-25?
- (c) Some members of the local community pointed out that the Hoi Ting Road Joint User Complex project had been under discussion for quite some time but had not yet been finalised. What are the latest planning and implementation progress, estimated expenditure and commencement date of the project?

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) Regarding the funding approved in the past 3 years, there is 1 community building project of a relatively large scale carried out in Yau Tsim Mong District and led by the Home Affairs Department (HAD), namely the construction of a standard community hall in the commercial development at Sai Yee Street, Mong Kok. The estimated project cost is \$84 million in money-of-the-day prices. Funding approval was given by the Finance Committee (FC) of the Legislative Council (LegCo) in December 2022. In addition, HAD has been implementing minor works projects under the District Minor Works programme in the 18 districts, including Sham Shui Po and Yau Tsim Mong, to improve local facilities, living environment and hygienic conditions in the territory.

- (c) The Hoi Ting Road Joint User Complex (the Complex) is a project led by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD). As advised by LCSD, in accordance with the “single site, multiple use” principle, which aims to better utilise land resources, the Complex will accommodate different government facilities. LCSD has been working closely with various stakeholders in the project planning stage. The Yau Tsim Mong District Council was consulted in March 2019, July 2020 and September 2022 respectively and supported the proposed project scope and planning concept. LCSD will continue to take forward the project in accordance with the established public works procedures. Currently, the relevant works department is handling matters related to the works tender. The estimated expenditure and implementation schedule of the project have yet to be finalised. Project details will be submitted when the relevant LegCo Panel and the Public Works Subcommittee are consulted and funding approval from the FC is sought.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB104

(Question Serial No. 1978)

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 establishment of the District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams), please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the expenditure and manpower involved in operating Care Teams so far? Please provide the specific information for each district in a table.
- (b) What resources are provided by the Home Affairs Department? What performance indicators are set for assessment?

Asked by: Hon FOK Kai-kong, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

The Government provides some of the resources required by the District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams). The funding for each Care Team for the two-year period of the funding agreement ranges from about \$0.8 million to \$1.2 million, depending on the service proposals submitted and the key performance indicators (KPIs) set for the Care Team concerned. The Government also encourages the operating organisations of Care Teams to make use of sponsorship, donations or internal resources to provide services. The Home Affairs Department (HAD)'s revised estimated expenditure on Care Teams for 2023-24 is about \$96 million and the estimated expenditure for 2024-25 is \$181 million. Regarding manpower, HAD carried out the work relating to Care Teams using the resources available in 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.

Care Teams are required to provide services in accordance with the approved service proposals and the relevant KPIs (e.g. the total number of service targets/service times and the number of caring activities), submit regular work and financial reports, and arrange for independent certified public accountants to audit their accounts to ensure that all income and expenditure items meet the requirements specified in the funding agreements and relevant guidelines/codes. District Offices regularly monitor the work of Care Teams, including arranging for staff and members of the District Assessment and Coordinating Panels on Care

Teams to attend the activities organised by Care Teams, so as to evaluate the effectiveness of their services and review their progress of achieving the KPIs.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB105

(Question Serial No. 2007)

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 2024-25 that a three-year Clansmen Culture Promotion Scheme will be launched. Please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the specific estimated financial provision and the resources involved? What is the estimated number of beneficiary organisations?
- (b) How will the effectiveness of the activities organised under the scheme be evaluated? Are there any plans to incorporate some of the activities into the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Culture and Arts Festival to be held in Hong Kong this year?

Asked by: Hon FOK Kai-kong, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

As announced by the Chief Executive in the 2023 Policy Address, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) launched the Clansmen Culture Promotion Scheme (the Scheme) in the first quarter of 2024. The Scheme, which will run for a period of 3 years with a total funding of \$30 million earmarked for application by clansmen associations to organise activities promoting hometown culture, aims to deepen the public's understanding of and sense of belonging to their hometowns, thereby fostering the spirit of loving the motherland, Hong Kong and their hometowns. Any locally registered clansmen associations which have all along been committed to promoting hometown culture and fostering exchanges between Hong Kong and hometowns in order to promote the spirit of loving the motherland, Hong Kong and hometowns, and with experience in organising relevant activities are eligible to apply for the Scheme. Clansmen associations applying for the subsidy may, having regard to their needs, explore collaboration with other event organisers in organising the activities. HAD will review the effectiveness of the Scheme in due course.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB106

(Question Serial No. 0830)

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:

Building management requires professional knowledge. Owners' corporations (OCs) generally engage professional property management companies (PMCs) to undertake daily management of their buildings. However, there are news reports on poor building management from time to time. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the Government's plans to publicise and promote building management knowledge among property owners? What is the public expenditure involved in these plans?
- (b) What is the Government's policy on handling property owners' complaints against PMCs and OCs? If the complaints are substantiated, what follow-up actions will the Government take?
- (c) What is the Government's estimated expenditure on improving building management for 2024-25?

Asked by: Hon LAM San-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 2)

Reply:

- (a) To publicise and promote the knowledge of building management to property owners, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) Headquarters and the 18 District Offices (DOs) organise various kinds of educational and publicity programmes regularly, such as providing structured training courses on building management for owners' corporations (OCs) and owners; organising thematic workshops or seminars for them on the need for OCs to comply with the relevant requirements of the Building Management Ordinance (Cap 344) (BMO) in their daily operation and procurement; inviting representatives of government departments to brief them on the orders/notices/directions issued by the relevant departments and the suitable subsidy schemes available to them; and producing handy publicity materials with commonly used information on building management for owners' reference. The actual expenditure on educational and publicity programmes

for 2022-23 was about \$4.7 million, and the revised estimated expenditure for 2023-24 is about \$4.9 million.

- (b) Private buildings are the property of owners and it is owners' responsibility to manage their buildings properly. The Government's policy on private building management is to encourage and assist owners to form suitable organisations, such as OCs, through multi-pronged measures, and provide appropriate support to assist them in discharging their building management responsibilities. Generally speaking, upon receiving a complaint about building management, the DO concerned will first approach the management committee of the OC or the property management company (PMC) (if any) for details of the case. If the provisions of the BMO are applicable, the DO will request the OC to handle the case properly in accordance with the relevant provisions. If the complaint concerns criminal sanctions under the BMO, HAD will conduct investigation and, if necessary, refer the case to the Department of Justice for consideration of prosecution. The DO will also recommend relevant building management support services (such as legal advisory and mediation services) to OCs or owners to help them solve the issues.
- (c) To strengthen the support for OCs and owners of private buildings, HAD has introduced a number of support services to enhance their capability in dealing with daily building management issues and foster a culture of building care. These support services cover various areas, including assistance to "three-nil" buildings (i.e. buildings which do not have OCs or any form of residents' organisations and do not engage PMCs, but excluding those that are under single ownership and can be self-managed), legal and other advisory services, dispute resolution, education and publicity. The estimated expenditure on the above support services for 2024-25 is about \$30 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB107

(Question Serial No. 2581)

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:

Co-ordinating major celebration activities is one of the tasks under this Programme, and 1 October 2024 is the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC). In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Please provide a breakdown by District Council district of the information on the activities to be co-ordinated or organised by the Government to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC this year in respect of the following areas: (i) the number of activities; (ii) the details of activities; (iii) the names of organisers or co-organisers; (iv) the estimated manpower; and (v) the estimated expenditure.
- (b) Given the strong festive atmosphere in the New Territories, will the Government consolidate and make the most of the heritage resources and culture of rural areas, and organise National Day celebrations extensively in the New Territories in collaboration with the Heung Yee Kuk New Territories and the 27 Rural Committees? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

- (a) The 1st October 2024 marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC), which manifests the glorious achievements of our country from standing up, prospering to becoming strong under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, thereby building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects and promoting the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. In order to properly implement the activities and programmes to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of our country, the Chief Executive has instructed the Chief Secretary for Administration (CS) to lead bureaux and departments in making preparations for the National Day celebrations. In this connection, CS gave instructions at the meetings of the Steering Committee on District Governance and the Task Force on District Governance held in January 2024, asking all bureaux and departments to make concerted efforts to plan and take forward the preparatory work for the National Day

celebrations on all fronts, with a view to creating a colourful and enthusiastic National Day atmosphere and cultivating people's sense of patriotism at different levels of the community.

Apart from the key programmes such as the annual large-scale National Day reception, flag-raising ceremony, variety show and fireworks display, all bureaux and their departments will also plan an array of celebration activities rich in content and diversity under their respective work areas, with a view to enabling more members of the public from different backgrounds and age groups to take part in the celebration activities and share the joy of the National Day. In addition, the 18 District Offices (DOs) of the Home Affairs Department (HAD) will organise key National Day celebration events with local characteristics in various districts to share the joy with the public.

As for manpower and expenditure, bureaux and departments will organise the activities with their existing resources. In 2024-25, the estimated expenditure for HAD on organising key celebration events for the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC is about \$27 million. The work will be undertaken by existing staff.

- (b) The National Day is an occasion for celebration by the entire nation. The Government believes that various sectors and organisations of the community will actively respond and show their support in an effort to contribute to celebrating the important festive occasion of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC. Also, the DOs concerned will continue to collaborate with the Heung Yee Kuk and the Rural Committees in organising National Day celebration activities and planning the display of festive decorations at suitable venues.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB108

(Question Serial No. 2546)

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 introduced the hillside burial policy and designated about 520 Permitted Burial Grounds (PBGs) for burial of deceased indigenous villagers of the New Territories in 1983. Since 2016, a pilot scheme on the management of PBGs (the Scheme) in individual PBGs has been implemented, under which appropriate improvement measures have been taken according to the actual circumstances of each PBG. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) the current number of PBGs in each of the 18 districts;
- (b) the number of Burial Certificates issued in the past 5 years, with a breakdown by year and by the 18 districts;
- (c) the total number of Burial Certificates issued since they were first issued in 1983;
- (d) the details of the Scheme, including the numbers of proactive inspections conducted by the Government, complaints about burials outside PBGs received, cases requiring follow-up actions, and removal operations of burials outside PBGs in each of the past 5 years; and
- (e) the staffing establishment, expenditure on emoluments and total expenditure of the Scheme in each of the past 5 years?

Asked by: Hon LEE Tsz-king, Dominic (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

The hillside burial policy is jointly implemented by a number of departments, including the Home Affairs Department (HAD), the Lands Department, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and the Water Supplies Department, within their respective purview. Since the introduction of the policy in 1983, the Government has designated a total of about 520 Permitted Burial Grounds

(PBGs) in the 9 districts in the New Territories and issued a total of about 41 000 Burial Certificates so far.

The number of PBGs in the 9 districts in the New Territories and the number of Burial Certificates issued in the past 5 years are provided in the table below:

District (Number of PBGs)	Number of Burial Certificates				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Islands (72)	98	79	79	94	116
Sai Kung (64)	153	87	66	323	199
Tai Po (111)	141	148	258	573	476
Tsuen Wan (7)	56	50	35	92	79
Yuen Long (84)	209	328	200	299	400
Sha Tin (53)	66	71	65	54	71
Tuen Mun (27)	41	48	89	71	61
North (107)	152	158	120	149	140
Kwai Tsing (1)	5	7	18	38	133
Total	921	976	930	1 693	1 675

The Government has been implementing a pilot scheme on the management of PBGs in designated PBGs since 2016. Taking into account the actual circumstances of individual PBGs, the Government has introduced appropriate improvement measures, including conducting record surveys of existing graves, erecting boundary markers for PBGs, imposing restrictions on the size of burial sites and demarcating available spaces in PBGs for new applications for burial sites, so as to facilitate applicants for Burial Certificates to ensure the burial locations identified are within PBGs. The pilot scheme has so far been extended to cover a total of 15 PBGs, which are located across the 9 administrative districts in the New Territories.

Having examined the data obtained from the pilot scheme, the relevant departments have commenced joint enforcement actions against illegal burials in the designated PBGs in phases from 2021 onwards, including posting notices on unauthorised graves with an aim to remove unclaimed graves as soon as possible after the expiry of the notice period and rebury the human remains therein at the Sandy Ridge Cemetery. Since then, some of the descendants have applied to the District Offices concerned for Burial Certificates.

Regarding the implementation of the pilot scheme on the management of PBGs in designated PBGs, the relevant departments have been carrying out the work within their respective purview with their existing resources. In the past 5 years, insofar as HAD is concerned, the implementation of the pilot scheme was undertaken by its existing staff and a breakdown of the expenditure involved is not available. A breakdown by year of the implementation details of the pilot scheme is provided in the table below:

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of proactive inspections	15	10	22	16	21
Number of complaints about burials outside PBGs received	0	5	0	7	17
(Number of cases requiring follow-up actions)	(0)	(4)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Total number of illegal graves/urn houses/urns removed	0	0	1	50	36

(Note: The above information only covers the 15 PBGs in which the pilot scheme is implemented.)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB109

(Question Serial No. 2554)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

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

Programme: (1) District Governance; (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 (HAD) has been providing support services for property owners and owners' corporations (OCs). In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) a breakdown by year of the total number of Liaison Officers (LOs) engaged in building management duties in the HAD Headquarters (HQs) and the 18 District Building Management Liaison Teams (DBMLTs), and the actual expenditure or revised estimated expenditure involved in the past 5 years;
- (b) a breakdown by year of the number of LOs in the HAD HQs and the 18 DBMLTs respectively in the past 5 years;
- (c) the details of the support services provided by HAD for owners and residents of private buildings, and the actual expenditure or revised estimated expenditure involved in the past 5 years;
- (d) the current number of OCs and owners' committees in the 18 districts respectively;
- (e) the number of OCs formed with the assistance of HAD in the past 5 years; and
- (f) 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 in Sha Tin District and Tai Po District respectively in the past 5 years?

Asked by: Hon LEE Tsz-king, Dominic (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

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. The total number of Liaison Officers (LOs) engaged in building management duties in the HAD HQs and the 18 districts, and the actual/revised estimated expenditure involved in the past 5 years are as follows:

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 (Revised estimate)
Total number of LOs engaged in building management duties	144	145	145	145	145
Actual/Revised estimated total expenditure (\$ million)	93.1	94.1	98.9	98.9	101.4

- (b) The number of LOs in the HAD HQs and the 18 DBMLTs in the past 5 years is as follows:

HQs/District	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
HAD HQs	17	18	18	18	18
Central & Western	12	12	12	12	12
Eastern	8	8	8	8	8
Southern	3	3	3	3	3
Wan Chai	10	10	10	10	10
Kowloon City	14	14	14	14	14
Kwun Tong	7	7	7	7	7
Sham Shui Po	16	16	16	16	16
Wong Tai Sin	4	4	4	4	4
Yau Tsim Mong	16	16	16	16	16
Islands	3	3	3	3	3
Kwai Tsing	5	5	5	5	5
North	3	3	3	3	3
Sai Kung	4	4	4	4	4
Sha Tin	7	7	7	7	7
Tai Po	3	3	3	3	3
Tsuen Wan	4	4	4	4	4

HQs/District	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Tuen Mun	4	4	4	4	4
Yuen Long	4	4	4	4	4
Total :	144	145	145	145	145

- (c) 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, etc., to enhance their capability in dealing with daily building management issues and foster a culture of building care. The actual/revised estimated total expenditure from 2019-20 to 2023-24 is tabulated as follows:

Year	Actual/Revised estimated total expenditure (\$ million)
2019-20	26.60
2020-21	11.23
2021-22	10.14
2022-23	12.88
2023-24 (Revised estimate)	23.92

Note: The decrease in the expenditure from 2020-21 to 2022-23 was due to the COVID-19 epidemic.

- (d) According to the information obtained by HAD, as at December 2023, there were a total of 10 746 OCs and 754 owners' committees in the territory. The breakdown by district is set out in **Annex A**.
- (e) The number of OCs formed with the assistance of HAD from 2019 to 2023 is as follows:

Year	No. of OCs formed with the assistance of HAD
2019	132
2020	83
2021	85
2022	94
2023	142

- (f) The number of training courses on building management and support service sessions provided by HAD for Sha Tin District and Tai Po District from 2018-19 to 2022-23 is set out in **Annex B**.

Annex A to Reply Serial No. HYAB109

**Number of owners' corporations (OCs) and owners' committees by district #
(as at December 2023)**

District	No. of OCs	No. of owners' committees
Central & Western	1 547	43
Eastern	695	50
Southern	351	39
Wan Chai	1 254	34
Kowloon City	1 283	61
Kwun Tong	354	21
Yau Tsim Mong	1 901	61
Sham Shui Po	1 140	38
Wong Tai Sin	263	14
Islands	38	44
Sai Kung	148	61
Tai Po	240	34
Tsuen Wan	327	38
Yuen Long	409	69
Sha Tin	217	49
Tuen Mun	214	47
North	128	29
Kwai Tsing	237	22
Total	10 746	754

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

Annex B to Reply Serial No. HYAB109

**Number of training courses and support service sessions on building management
for Sha Tin District and Tai Po District from 2018-19 to 2022-23**

Item	District	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Structured training courses on building management organised for members of management committees (MCs) of owners' corporations (OCs) ^{Note} (No. of courses)	Sha Tin	6	5	5	5	4
	Tai Po					
Free Legal Advice Service on Building Management (No. of applications received)	Sha Tin	8	14	6	10	5
	Tai Po	6	5	2	6	2
Pre-Meeting Advisory Service (No. of advisory service sessions)	Sha Tin	141	479	592	122	64
	Tai Po	256	663	930	189	71
Free Mediation Service Scheme for Building Management (No. of agreed referrals)	Sha Tin	0	0	1	0	0
	Tai Po	0	0	0	0	1
Building Management Dispute Resolution Service (No. of cases received)	Sha Tin	1	8	2	5	2
	Tai Po	0	1	0	0	1
OCs Advisory Services Scheme (No. of advisory service sessions)	Sha Tin	2	1	1	3	2
	Tai Po	1	2	5	19	9
Central Platform on Building Management (No. of briefings)	Sha Tin	0	0	0	1	0
	Tai Po	0	0	0	1	1
Free Outreach Legal Advice Service on Building Management (No. of cases received)	Sha Tin	0	0	0	0	0
	Tai Po	0	0	0	0	0

^{Note} Participants of the training courses are members of MCs of OCs in the 18 districts.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB110

(Question Serial No. 1122)

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:

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. The Chief Executive said that he had instructed the Chief Secretary for Administration to lead bureaux and departments in making proper preparations for the activities and programmes to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of our country. What are the details and estimated expenditures of the key National Day celebrations this year?

Asked by: Hon LEE Wai-king, Starry (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

The 1st October 2024 marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC), which manifests the glorious achievements of our country from standing up, prospering to becoming strong under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, thereby building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects and promoting the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. In order to properly implement the activities and programmes to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of our country, the Chief Executive has instructed the Chief Secretary for Administration (CS) to lead bureaux and departments in making preparations for the National Day celebrations. In this connection, CS gave instructions at the meetings of the Steering Committee on District Governance and the Task Force on District Governance held in January 2024, asking all bureaux and departments to make concerted efforts to plan and take forward the preparatory work for the National Day celebrations on all fronts, with a view to creating a colourful and enthusiastic National Day atmosphere and cultivating people's sense of patriotism at different levels of the community.

Apart from the key programmes such as the annual large-scale National Day reception, flag-raising ceremony, variety show and fireworks display, all bureaux and their departments will plan an array of celebration activities rich in content and diversity under their respective work areas, with a view to enabling more members of the public from different backgrounds and age groups to take part in the celebration activities and share the joy of the National Day. In addition, the 18 District Offices of the Home Affairs Department (HAD) will organise key National Day celebration events with local characteristics in various districts to share the joy

with the public. Apart from fostering patriotic sentiments, the Government will also organise a series of thematic National Day celebration activities to showcase to all visitors from the Mainland and other places the unique advantages and attractions of Hong Kong in terms of the staunch support we receive from the Motherland and our global outlook.

Moreover, bureaux and departments will plan for displays of a wider variety of publicity materials in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC at the venues and buildings under their management, and step up the scale and creativity of their festive decorations at popular and iconic locations, so as to jointly foster an intense festive ambience, promote the spirit of patriotism and mobilise the active participation of all sectors of the community in celebrating the National Day together.

As for estimated expenditure, bureaux and departments will organise the activities with their existing resources. In 2024-25, the estimated expenditure for HAD on organising key celebration events for the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC is about \$27 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB111

(Question Serial No. 1148)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

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

Programme: (1) District Governance

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

Please provide the respective numbers of buildings aged 29 years or below, 30-49 years, 50-59 years, 60-69 years and 70 years or above which have owners' corporations and those which do not, broken down by District Council district.

Asked by: Hon LEE Wai-king, Starry (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

According to the information obtained by the Home Affairs Department (HAD), as at December 2023, there were about 19 600 buildings with owners' corporations (OCs) and about 21 200 buildings without OCs in the territory. Of those buildings without OCs, some are private buildings under single ownership and town houses, while some have other forms of management such as owners' committees. The breakdown by district is set out at Annex. HAD does not have a breakdown of the above buildings by year of completion.

Annex to Reply Serial No. HYAB111

**Numbers of buildings with and without owners' corporations (OCs) by district #
(as at December 2023)**

District	Number of buildings with OCs #	Number of buildings without OCs #
Central & Western	1 744	1 424
Eastern	866	529
Southern	926	1 300
Wan Chai	1 426	868
Kowloon City	1 735	836
Kwun Tong	552	335
Yau Tsim Mong	1 789	1 171
Sham Shui Po	1 377	741
Wong Tai Sin	373	126
Islands	326	509
Sai Kung	1 915	861
Tai Po	1 269	2 200
Tsuen Wan	564	382
Yuen Long	1 696	7 406
Sha Tin	1 064	926
Tuen Mun	992	422
North	643	942
Kwai Tsing	386	195
Total	19 643	21 173

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

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB112

(Question Serial No. 2178)

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 estimated provision for the District Minor Works programme, please list the facilities improvement works which are currently underway or planned to commence this year in the Sham Shui Po and Yau Tsim Mong Districts, the expenditures involved and the estimated completion dates:

- (a) community halls of the Home Affairs Department; and
- (b) improvement works at venues of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, including libraries, sports centres, sports grounds and swimming pools.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Man-kwong (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

The District Minor Works (DMW) programme aims at providing funds for implementation of various types of minor works projects in districts to improve local facilities, living environment and hygienic conditions. These projects include improvement works at venues of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and community halls of the Home Affairs Department; construction or improvement works for pavilions, walkway covers, sitting-out areas and footpaths; beautification or greening works, etc.

In 2024-25, a total of 10 improvement projects are planned for implementation at the leisure venues in the 2 districts of Sham Shui Po and Yau Tsim Mong, including sports centres, swimming pools, parks and other leisure grounds, involving a total estimated expenditure of about \$10 million. 3 of the projects are on-going items and the remaining 7 are new items. The improvement works are scheduled to be completed in succession in 2024 and 2025. No DMW projects involving improvement works for community halls are planned for implementation in the above 2 districts in 2024-25.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB113

(Question Serial No. 2655)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

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

Programme: (1) District Governance; (2) Community Building

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

- (a) The Department states that Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2024-25 include continuing to strengthen the support for property owners and residents of private buildings on building management matters. It is common to hear from members of the public in various districts that the core members in charge of some owners' corporations (OCs) in their districts seldom show up or have even emigrated after the implementation of the Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. In this connection, does the Department have any statistics on the number of such OCs?
- (b) On a separate note, does the Department's estimates cover the expenditure required for following up on and monitoring the OCs suspected of failing to perform their duties, or assisting the residents of the districts concerned in handling building management matters?

Asked by: Hon LI Sai-wing, Stanley (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

Private buildings are the property of owners and it is owners' responsibility to manage their buildings properly. The Government's policy on private building management is to encourage and assist owners to form suitable organisations, such as owners' corporations (OCs), through multi-pronged measures, and provide appropriate support to assist them in discharging their building management responsibilities. To strengthen the support for OCs and owners of private buildings, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) has introduced a number of support services to enhance their capability in dealing with daily building management issues and foster a culture of building care. These support services cover various areas, including assistance to "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), legal and other advisory services, dispute resolution, education and publicity. The estimated expenditure on the above support services for 2024-25 is about \$30 million.

Schedule 2 to the Building Management Ordinance (BMO) (Cap. 344) provides that a member of a management committee (MC) shall cease to be a member of the committee if he absents himself from 3 or more consecutive meetings of the MC without the consent of the MC. Schedule 2 to the BMO also empowers an OC to remove a member of an MC from office by resolution. OCs and owners may deal with the failure of an MC member to perform his/her duties due to continuous absence from meetings in accordance with the above provisions. HAD does not have figures on continuous absence of MC members of OCs from meetings.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB114

(Question Serial No. 1702)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Community Building

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs

Question:

According to the analysis of the financial provision under Subhead 000 Operational expenses, the provision for the District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) is reduced from the original amount of \$226 million to the revised amount of \$95.8 million for 2023-24 while the estimate for 2024-25 is only \$180 million, which is lower than the original estimate for 2023-24. In this connection, please advise the Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the reasons for the decrease in the provision for Care Teams?
- (b) In which districts are the Care Teams with reduced provision mostly located? What are the details?
- (c) What were the actual expenditures incurred by Care Teams under Other Charges in the past 2 years?

Asked by: Hon LUK Hon-man, Benson (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) The expenditure for the District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) for 2023-24 was originally estimated at \$226 million on the assumption that the 452 Care Teams in the 18 districts would be launched concurrently in April 2023. Given that the Care Teams in the Southern and Tsuen Wan Districts were first set up in early May 2023, while those in the remaining 16 districts were launched in the third quarter of the same year, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) adjusted the revised estimated expenditures for Care Teams for 2023-24 and the estimated expenditure for 2024-25 to reflect the actual circumstances and the provision required for the phased formation of Care Teams in the 18 districts. The total annual provision of \$226 million to be disbursed to the 452 Care Teams in the 18 districts for the two-year period of the funding agreement will remain unchanged as in the original estimate.

- (c) The Government provides some of the resources required by Care Teams. The funding for each Care Team for the two-year period of the funding agreement ranges from about \$0.8 million to \$1.2 million, depending on the service proposals submitted and the key performance indicators set for the Care Team concerned. The Government also encourages the operating organisations of Care Teams to make use of sponsorship, donations or internal resources to provide services. HAD currently does not have information on the actual expenditure of each Care Team in the 18 districts.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB115

(Question Serial No. 0804)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

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 the item of Subventions that a provision of \$5.7 million is earmarked for “Subventions to district sports and arts associations” in 2023-24. In this connection, please advise on the following:

- (a) the eligibility criteria for organisations/associations applying for the subventions and the scope of the programme; and
- (b) the number of sports and arts programmes funded in 2023-24, and the organisations funded.

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

District sports associations (DSAs) and district arts associations (DAAs) play an important role in promoting recreational, sports, arts and culture development in the community. Through their district networks, these associations have unique advantages in promoting district-based cultural, recreational and sports activities and encouraging active participation of members of the public in the community. In order to support the day-to-day operation of these associations and encourage them to organise more district activities, the Home Affairs Department has implemented the Community Sports Subvention Scheme and the Community Arts Subvention Scheme, under which an annual provision of up to \$150,000 is provided to each DSA and DAA to support their operating expenses and finance their activities. The list of the 21 DSAs and 21 DAAs is at Annex. In 2023-24, the total amounts of subvention for the 2 schemes were \$3 million and \$2.7 million per year respectively.

List of District Sports Associations (DSAs) and District Arts Associations (DAAs)

DSAs	DAAs
1. Central and Western District Recreation and Sports Association	1. Central and Western District Association for Culture and Arts
2. Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association	2. Eastern District Arts Council
3. Southern District Recreation and Sports Association	3. Southern District Arts and Culture Association
4. Wan Chai District Arts, Cultural, Recreational and Sports Association	4. Wan Chai District Arts, Cultural, Recreational and Sports Association
5. Wanchai Sports Federation	5. Kowloon City District Arts and Culture Council
6. Kowloon City District Recreation and Sports Council	6. Kwun Tong District Culture and Recreation Promotion Association
7. Kwun Tong Sports Promotion Association	7. Sham Shui Po Arts Association
8. Sham Shui Po Sports Association	8. Sham Shui Po Council for the Promotion of Cultural and Recreation Services
9. Wong Tai Sin District Recreation and Sports Council	9. Wong Tai Sin District Arts Council
10. Yaumatei and Tsimshatsui Recreation and Sports Association	10. Yau Ma Tei and Tsim Sha Tsui Culture and Arts Association
11. Mong Kok District Cultural, Recreational and Sports Association	11. Hong Kong Islands Cultural and Art Association
12. Islands District Sports Association	12. Kwai Chung and Tsing Yi District Culture and Arts Co-ordinating Association
13. Kwai Tsing District Sports Association	13. North District Arts Advancement Association
14. North District Sports Association	14. Sai Kung Culture and Recreational Advancement Association

DSAs	DAAs
15. Sai Kung District Sports Association	15. Tseung Kwan O Cultural and Recreational Centre
16. Sha Tin Sports Association	16. Sai Kung Cultural Centre
17. Tai Po Sports Association	17. Sha Tin Arts Association
18. The Federation of Tsuen Wan District Sports and Recreation Association	18. Tai Po District Arts Advancement Association
19. Tuen Mun Sports Association	19. Tsuen Wan Culture and Recreation Co-ordinating Association
20. Yuen Long District Sports Association	20. Tuen Mun Arts Promotion Association
21. The New Territories Regional Sports Association	21. Yuen Long District Arts Committee

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB116

(Question Serial No. 0094)

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 Affairs Department will launch the Clansmen Culture Promotion Scheme next year, which is expected to commence in the first quarter of 2024. What are the estimated manpower and expenditure involved in vetting the applications next year? What is the estimated average processing time for each application? A research report pointed out that there were about 600 clansmen associations in Hong Kong as at the end of 2019. The funding earmarked for application by clansmen associations under the scheme is \$30 million. If all of them apply for the scheme, each of them will only be granted \$50,000 on average. This amount may not be enough for organising multiple activities promoting hometown culture. Will the Department increase the funding available for the scheme? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

As announced by the Chief Executive in the 2023 Policy Address, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) launched the Clansmen Culture Promotion Scheme (the Scheme) in the first quarter of 2024. The Scheme, which will run for a period of 3 years with a total funding of \$30 million earmarked for application by clansmen associations to organise activities promoting hometown culture, aims to deepen the public's understanding of and sense of belonging to their hometowns, thereby fostering the spirit of loving the motherland, Hong Kong and their hometowns. Any locally registered clansmen associations which have all along been committed to promoting hometown culture and fostering exchanges between Hong Kong and hometowns in order to promote the spirit of loving the motherland, Hong Kong and hometowns, and with experience in organising relevant activities are eligible to apply for the Scheme. The department normally completes the vetting process within 1 month from the closing date for application if the proposals and information submitted by applicant associations are in order. The manpower involved in implementing the Scheme will be absorbed within the existing resources of HAD. The effectiveness of the Scheme will be reviewed in due course.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB117

(Question Serial No. 0097)

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 Affairs Department will organise activities to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China next year. What are the details of the activities to be organised? What are the major celebration activities for the public to share the joy? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved? Will the Government consider incorporating tourism elements into the celebration activities to attract more Mainland and overseas visitors so as to revitalise Hong Kong's tourism? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

The 1st October 2024 marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC), which manifests the glorious achievements of our country from standing up, prospering to becoming strong under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, thereby building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects and promoting the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. In order to properly implement the activities and programmes to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of our country, the Chief Executive has instructed the Chief Secretary for Administration (CS) to lead bureaux and departments in making preparations for the National Day celebrations. In this connection, CS gave instructions at the meetings of the Steering Committee on District Governance and the Task Force on District Governance held in January 2024, asking all bureaux and departments to make concerted efforts to plan and take forward the preparatory work for the National Day celebrations on all fronts, with a view to creating a colourful and enthusiastic National Day atmosphere and cultivating people's sense of patriotism at different levels of the community.

Apart from the key programmes such as the annual large-scale National Day reception, flag-raising ceremony, variety show and fireworks display, all bureaux and their departments will also plan an array of celebration activities rich in content and diversity under their respective work areas, with a view to enabling more members of the public from different backgrounds and age groups to take part in the celebration activities and share the joy of the

National Day. In addition, the 18 District Offices of the Home Affairs Department (HAD) will organise key National Day celebration events with local characteristics in various districts to share the joy with the public. Apart from fostering patriotic sentiments, the Government will also organise a series of thematic National Day celebration activities to showcase to all visitors from the Mainland and other places the unique advantages and attractions of Hong Kong in terms of the staunch support we receive from the Motherland and our global outlook.

Moreover, bureaux and departments will plan for displays of a wider variety of publicity materials in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC at the venues and buildings under their management, and step up the scale and creativity of their festive decorations at popular and iconic locations, so as to jointly foster an intense festive ambience, promote the spirit of patriotism and mobilise the active participation of all sectors of the community in celebrating the National Day together.

As for expenditure and manpower, bureaux and departments will organise the activities with their existing resources. In 2024-25, the estimated expenditure for HAD on organising key celebration events for the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC is about \$27 million. The work will be undertaken by existing staff.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB118

(Question Serial No. 1893)

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 the Programme that the Home and Affairs Department aims to implement the policy in respect of community building and to promote community involvement activities and public participation in community affairs. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Does the Government have any plans to draw on the experience of implementing the “Know Your Homeland - Clansmen Association Subsidy Scheme” to enhance the effectiveness of the Clansmen Culture Promotion Scheme and encourage clansmen associations to make good use of the subsidies to participate in community affairs? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (b) Does the Government have any plans to, on the basis of its responsibility for liaising with community and district-based organisations, further assist clansmen associations and community organisations in enhancing their internal governance and making good use of their mobilising and organising power and their capacity to take actions so that they will become more reliable and effective partners of the Government in district governance? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) Does the Government have any plans to standardise and institutionalise the management of clansmen associations so as to better promote their participation in community activities and community involvement projects when implementing the policy in respect of community building? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon TAN Sunny (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)

Reply:

- (a) As announced by the Chief Executive in the 2023 Policy Address, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) launched the Clansmen Culture Promotion Scheme (the Scheme) in the first quarter of 2024. The Scheme, which will run for a period of 3 years with a total funding of \$30 million earmarked for application by clansmen associations to organise activities promoting hometown culture, aims to

deepen the public's understanding of and sense of belonging to their hometowns, thereby fostering the spirit of loving the motherland, Hong Kong and their hometowns. Any locally registered clansmen associations which have all along been committed to promoting hometown culture and fostering exchanges between Hong Kong and hometowns in order to promote the spirit of loving the motherland, Hong Kong and hometowns, and with experience in organising relevant activities are eligible to apply for the Scheme.

(b) and (c) HAD and District Offices have been maintaining close liaison and collaboration with clansmen associations and various district organisations to promote their participation in community work and to engage them in building a harmonious society. At present, members of the District Committees of the 18 districts, including the District Fight Crime Committees, the District Fire Safety Committees and the Areas Committees, come from different sectors of the community, many of whom are members of the local community with clansmen association and district organisation backgrounds. HAD also implements the Community Involvement Programme through which eligible organisations, including clansmen associations and district organisations, may apply for funding support to organise projects featuring local characteristics, festive celebrations as well as cultural, artistic and recreational activities to promote district harmony.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB119

(Question Serial No. 2020)

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 the Estimates that the Home Affairs Department will allocate more funding to enhance support services for new arrivals from the Mainland and ethnic minorities. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the major initiatives and activities of the new support services, and the expenditure and manpower involved?
- (b) Are there any new policies or initiatives to strengthen the Government's exchange and co-operation with Mainland arrivals and ethnic minorities and the support provided for them to facilitate their better and faster integration into the community and active participation in community affairs? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon TAN Yueheng (LegCo internal reference no.: 12)

Reply:

Starting from 2024-25, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) will implement the following initiatives to further facilitate the integration of ethnic minorities into the community: (1) setting up 2 additional support service centres for ethnic minorities (EM centres), 1 in Kowloon Central and 1 in New Territories East; (2) inviting each of the 10 EM centres (including the 2 additional centres mentioned above) in the territory to set up 1 Ethnic Minority Care Team; (3) regularising the services provided by EM centres for ethnic minority new arrivals and youths; and (4) regularising activities held at the district level to facilitate communication and exchange between ethnic minorities and local communities. The estimated annual expenditure on the above measures is \$44.15 million for 2024-25. HAD will implement the above measures with existing manpower.

To help new arrivals from the Mainland (NAs) integrate into the community, HAD provides a number of key services, including the District-based Integration Programme, under which a range of activities are organised to help NAs enhance their understanding of the community and establish mutual help networks; the Ambassador Scheme, under which persons with

similar backgrounds and experience to those of NAs are appointed as Ambassadors to reach out to NAs to introduce public services; the Expectation Management Programmes implemented in the Mainland, under which activities are organised for Mainland residents applying for settlement in Hong Kong to enable them to have a better understanding of Hong Kong; and the Neighbourhood Mutual Help Programme, under which non-governmental organisations (NGOs) are provided with funding to organise various activities to facilitate the integration of NAs and ethnic minorities into the local community. 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. HAD will continue to monitor the service needs of NAs and consider rolling out new policy initiatives in a timely manner to facilitate their integration into the community.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB120

(Question Serial No. 2021)

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 set up the District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) in the 18 districts in 2023 with a view to supporting the Government's district work and strengthening community network. According to the Estimates, the Government will significantly increase the provision for expenditure on Care Teams this year. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) How many Care Teams are there in the 18 districts and how is their work progress?
- (b) What are the expenditure and manpower involved in implementing Care Teams in 2023-24?
- (c) What are the details of the additional resources to be allocated to support the development of Care Teams in 2024-25?
- (d) Are there any key performance indicators (KPIs) for Care Teams? Will the Government determine the amount of funding based on achievement of the KPIs?

Asked by: Hon TAN Yueheng (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

- (a) The Government delineates the 18 districts into 452 sub-districts, and 1 District Services and Community Care Team (Care Team) is set up in each sub-district. The 452 Care Teams in the 18 districts were fully launched in the third quarter of 2023. Care Teams are service teams that support the Government's district work and strengthen district networks. They organise caring activities such as visiting or reaching out to elderly households and other households in need in the sub-districts, establishing contacts, providing households with basic services and information, and assisting in arranging household services or other support services. Care Teams also assist in handling incidents and emergencies, and help the Government disseminate information to the public.

Care Teams have visited more than 30 000 elderly households and other households in need, and provided over 7 000 times of basic home/other support services for them since they started to come into operation. On policy promotion, Care Teams in the 18 districts actively participated in publicising the 2023 District Council Ordinary Election by organising a total of about 20 publicity activities between November and December 2023, during which promotional leaflets were distributed to members of the public and business operators at markets, shopping centres, restaurants, etc. in various districts to appeal to electors to vote. In addition, Care Teams rendered support services during typhoons in the second half of 2023, which include providing support for the operation of temporary shelters, disseminating typhoon-related information to residents through established communication networks and participating in relief work.

- (b) and (c) The Government provides some of the resources required by Care Teams. The funding for each Care Team for the two-year period of the funding agreement ranges from about \$0.8 million to \$1.2 million, depending on the service proposals submitted and the key performance indicators (KPIs) set for the Care Team concerned. The Government also encourages the operating organisations of Care Teams to make use of sponsorship, donations or internal resources to provide services. The Home Affairs Department (HAD)'s revised estimated expenditure on Care Teams for 2023-24 is about \$96 million and the estimated expenditure for 2024-25 is \$181 million. Regarding manpower, HAD carried out the work relating to Care Teams using the resources available in 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.
- (d) Care Teams are required to provide services in accordance with the approved service proposals and the relevant KPIs (e.g. the total number of service targets/service times and the number of caring activities), and submit regular work and financial reports. The Government will evaluate the effectiveness of their services with reference to the reports and disburse the approved funding by instalment according to the schedule and requirements specified in the funding agreements.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB121

(Question Serial No. 1189)

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:

According to the indicators in Programme (2) Community Building of the Home Affairs Department, the number of community involvement projects at district level in 2024 is estimated to increase by 7.8 times. It is stated in the remarks that the estimated increases in the number of community involvement projects and the corresponding number of participants in 2024 are mainly attributed to the cessation of transfer of fund to the Leisure and Cultural Services Department for organising community involvement projects in 2024. However, the corresponding number of participants in community involvement projects at district level is estimated to increase by 2.8% only. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of how the above-mentioned indicators and estimates are calculated?

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

Reply:

The estimated number of community involvement (CI) projects in 2024 is higher than that in 2023. The increase is mainly attributed to the cessation of transfer of fund to the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) for organising CI projects since 2024. Under the new financial arrangement, the estimated number of CI projects implemented by LCSD will be included in the estimated number of projects under Head 63 — Home Affairs Department. As the number of CI activities implemented by LCSD, such as sports training courses, cultural, arts and recreational activities, is high, there will be a substantial increase in the estimated number of projects in 2024. Regarding the number of participants, the activities organised by LCSD, such as sports training courses, are generally small-scale activities, while the activities organised by District Offices using CI fund, such as major celebratory and signature district events, are usually large-scale ones. Hence, the increase in the estimated number of participants will not be as substantial as that in the estimated number of CI projects in 2024.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**HYAB122****(Question Serial No. 0501)**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:

Regarding the District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) under this Programme, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What is the distribution of the 452 Care Teams in the 18 districts? What is the expenditure on each Care Team for 2023-24?
- (b) The estimated expenditure for 2024-25 is about \$180 million. Will any key performance indicators be set to evaluate the effectiveness of the work of Care Teams? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chuen, Tony (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)Reply:

- (a) The Government delineates the 18 districts into 452 sub-districts, and 1 District Services and Community Care Team (Care Team) is set up in each sub-district. The distribution is as follows:

District	Number of sub-district Care Teams	District	Number of sub-district Care Teams
Central and Western	15	Islands	10
Eastern	35	Kwai Tsing	31
Southern	17	North	18
Wan Chai	13	Sai Kung	29
Kowloon City	25	Sha Tin	41
Kwun Tong	40	Tai Po	19
Sham Shui Po	25	Tsuen Wan	19
Wong Tai Sin	25	Tuen Mun	31
Yau Tsim Mong	20	Yuen Long	39

The Government provides some of the resources required by Care Teams. The funding for each Care Team for the two-year period of the funding agreement ranges from about \$0.8 million to \$1.2 million, depending on the service proposals submitted and the key performance indicators (KPIs) set for the Care Team concerned. The Government also encourages the operating organisations of Care Teams to make use of sponsorship, donations or internal resources to provide services. The Home Affairs Department's revised estimated expenditure on Care Teams for 2023-24 is about \$96 million and the estimated expenditure for 2024-25 is \$181 million.

- (b) Care Teams are service teams that support the Government's district work and strengthen district networks. They organise caring activities such as visiting or reaching out to elderly households and other households in need in the sub-districts, establishing contacts, providing households with basic services and information, and assisting in arranging household services or other support services. Care Teams also assist in handling incidents and emergencies, and help the Government disseminate information to the public.

Care Teams are required to provide services in accordance with the approved service proposals and the relevant KPIs (e.g. the total number of service targets/service times and the number of caring activities), submit regular work and financial reports, and arrange for independent certified public accountants to audit their accounts to ensure that all income and expenditure items meet the requirements specified in the funding agreements and relevant guidelines/codes. District Offices regularly monitor the work of Care Teams, including arranging for staff and members of the District Assessment and Coordinating Panels on Care Teams to attend the activities organised by Care Teams, so as to evaluate the effectiveness of their services and review their progress of achieving the KPIs.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB123

(Question Serial No. 2899)

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 Rural Public Works (RPW) programme, please inform this Committee of the number of RPW projects completed in the past 6 years (2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24) and the number of projects expected to be completed in 2024 by district, types of works and project costs.

Asked by: Hon ZHANG Xinyu, Gary (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

The Rural Public Works (RPW) programme aims at upgrading the infrastructure and improving the living environment of the rural community. The types of works carried out under the programme include construction or improvement of footpaths, vehicular access, drainage facilities, sitting-out areas, rain shelters and pavilions. The number of RPW projects completed between 2018-19 and 2023-24 (as at the end of February 2024), the number of projects expected to be completed in 2024-25, and the expenditures involved are detailed in the Annex.

Table 1: The number of Rural Public Works projects completed between 2018-19 and 2023-24 (as at the end of February 2024) and the number of projects expected to be completed in 2024-25

District	Number of projects completed						Number of projects expected to be completed in 2024-25
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 (as at the end of February 2024)	
Islands	11	5	7	5	12	17	9
Kwai Tsing	4	5	6	3	9	5	4
North	15	12	12	15	25	9	17
Sai Kung	9	6	9	9	10	9	8
Sha Tin	10	14	11	16	4	3	4
Tuen Mun	5	7	13	10	9	7	4
Tai Po	12	9	6	15	7	7	9
Tsuen Wan	4	7	3	6	8	5	6
Yuen Long	15	18	18	20	20	15	7
Total	85	83	85	99	104	77	68

Table 2: The actual expenditure by district between 2018-19 and 2023-24 (as at the end of February 2024) and the estimated expenditure by district for 2024-25

District	Actual expenditure (\$ million)						Estimated expenditure for 2024-25 (\$ million)
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 (as at the end of February 2024)	
Islands	18.945	22.746	22.861	22.785	22.800	22.800	21.500
Kwai Tsing	9.506	8.001	6.808	6.025	8.011	5.667	8.093
North	21.500	21.500	22.002	27.000	28.000	21.206	25.052
Sai Kung	16.846	18.433	17.671	16.535	18.550	16.997	18.550
Sha Tin	6.504	5.650	8.000	9.004	8.501	8.926	9.500
Tuen Mun	12.136	12.211	15.210	16.640	17.539	13.838	17.493
Tai Po	21.166	20.149	19.357	20.500	19.005	19.340	21.000
Tsuen Wan	6.049	6.305	7.800	9.500	9.502	8.953	9.695
Yuen Long	27.305	24.840	27.665	30.021	29.009	26.662	29.117
Total*	139.957	139.836	147.374	158.009	160.918	144.389	160.000

* There is a slight discrepancy between the sum of figures for individual districts and the total owing to rounding.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB124

(Question Serial No. 3102)

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 implementation of work relating to the District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams), please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Has additional manpower been deployed by the District Offices of the 18 districts to carry out various tasks of Care Teams? If yes, what are the manpower and expenditure involved?
- (b) Have any key performance indicators been set for all Care Teams in Hong Kong? How does the Home Affairs Department monitor the performance of Care Teams? Please provide the details.

Asked by: Hon ZHANG Xinyu, Gary (LegCo internal reference no.: 25)

Reply:

- (a) The Home Affairs Department carried out the work relating to the District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) using the resources available in 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) Care Teams are service teams that support the Government's district work and strengthen district networks. They organise caring activities such as visiting or reaching out to elderly households and other households in need in the sub-districts, establishing contacts, providing households with basic services and information, and assisting in arranging household services or other support services. Care Teams also assist in handling incidents and emergencies, and help the Government disseminate information to the public.

Care Teams are required to provide services in accordance with the approved service proposals and the relevant key performance indicators (KPIs) (e.g. the total number of service targets/service times and the number of caring activities), submit regular work and financial reports, and arrange for independent certified public accountants to audit

their accounts to ensure that all income and expenditure items meet the requirements specified in the funding agreements and relevant guidelines/codes. District Offices regularly monitor the work of Care Teams, including arranging for staff and members of the District Assessment and Coordinating Panels on Care Teams to attend the activities organised by Care Teams, so as to evaluate the effectiveness of their services and review their progress of achieving the KPIs.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB145

(Question Serial No. 3846)

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 a breakdown of the expenditures to date for the activities of the Day x Night Vibes @ 18 Districts.
- (b) How does the Government evaluate the effectiveness of the activities? What are the key performance indicators? If so, what are the details of the evaluation?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 65)

Reply:

The series of activities of the Day x Night Vibes @ 18 Districts organised by the District Offices of the Home Affairs Department (HAD) in the first half of this year mainly aim to provide the public with a wide range of cultural and leisure events to showcase local diversity or traditional cultural connotations in various districts, so as to promote a vibrant atmosphere in the community.

The series of activities, which have been rolled out progressively since late January this year, take various forms, ranging from bazaar carnivals, artwork exhibitions and musical performances to sports experiences. The activities have successfully boosted the atmosphere in the community and attracted many members of the public to take photos at the events and enjoy the joyful atmosphere. Feedback from the stall operators has also been generally positive, indicating that there has been a high patronage and the activities have helped promote their business. The themes, scale and duration of the activities vary. Taking individual bazaar carnivals as an example, the bazaar in Kwun Tong recorded 800 000 visitors in 23 days, the one in Wong Tai Sin had 114 000 visitors in 3 days and the one in Yuen Long had 120 000 visitors in 3 days. Stall operators of the bazaars generally expressed satisfaction with their sales, but did not disclose actual profits due to commercial considerations.

HAD implements the series of activities of the Day x Night Vibes @ 18 Districts with its existing resources and manpower. Hence, a breakdown of the expenditure involved is not available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB146

(Question Serial No. 3878)

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 on the legislative proposal for the release of Tso/Tong land, please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the expenditure and staffing involved; and
- (b) whether there is any roadmap for the work. If yes, what is the current status? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Man-ki, Maggie (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

The Working Group established by the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau together with the Development Bureau, relevant departments and the Heung Yee Kuk is conducting a review on the administration of Tso/Tong in the New Territories, with a view to putting forth recommendations on improving the administration of Tso/Tong and the mechanism for handling Tso/Tong land. The relevant bureaux/departments will, taking into account the review outcome, follow up on the matters in due course. As the review has all along been undertaken by existing manpower and resources, a breakdown of the expenditure and staffing involved is not available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB147

(Question Serial No. 3514)

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 the Estimates that in 2024-25, the Home Affairs Department will organise activities to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC). In this connection, would the Government advise on the following:

- (a) What are the manpower and estimated expenditure involved in organising activities to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC?
- (b) What are the details of the activities?
- (c) What are the estimated number of participants and expected results of the activities?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Wing-kwong (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)

Reply:

The 1st October 2024 marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC), which manifests the glorious achievements of our country from standing up, prospering to becoming strong under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, thereby building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects and promoting the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. In order to properly implement the activities and programmes to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of our country, the Chief Executive has instructed the Chief Secretary for Administration (CS) to lead bureaux and departments in making preparations for the National Day celebrations. In this connection, CS gave instructions at the meetings of the Steering Committee on District Governance and the Task Force on District Governance held in January 2024, asking all bureaux and departments to make concerted efforts to plan and take forward the preparatory work for the National Day celebrations on all fronts, with a view to creating a colourful and enthusiastic National Day atmosphere and cultivating people's sense of patriotism at different levels of the community.

Apart from the key programmes such as the annual large-scale National Day reception, flag-raising ceremony, variety show and fireworks display, all bureaux and their departments

will also plan an array of celebration activities rich in content and diversity under their respective work areas, with a view to enabling more members of the public from different backgrounds and age groups to take part in the celebration activities and share the joy of the National Day. In addition, the 18 District Offices of the Home Affairs Department (HAD) will organise key National Day celebration events with local characteristics in various districts to share the joy with the public. Apart from fostering patriotic sentiments, the Government will also organise a series of thematic National Day celebration activities to showcase to all visitors from the Mainland and other places the unique advantages and attractions of Hong Kong in terms of the staunch support we receive from the Motherland and our global outlook.

Moreover, bureaux and departments will plan for displays of a wider variety of publicity materials in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC at the venues and buildings under their management, and step up the scale and creativity of their festive decorations at popular and iconic locations, so as to jointly foster an intense festive ambience, promote the spirit of patriotism and mobilise the active participation of all sectors of the community in celebrating the National Day together.

As for manpower and expenditure, bureaux and departments will organise the activities with their existing resources. In 2024-25, the estimated expenditure for HAD on organising key celebration events for the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC is about \$27 million. The work will be undertaken by existing staff.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB148

(Question Serial No. 3764)

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) of the Home Affairs Department, the Government has planned to strengthen support services for ethnic minorities, including setting up 2 additional support service centres for ethnic minorities (EM centres), setting up an Ethnic Minority Care Team (EM Care Team) in each EM centre, regularising the enhanced services provided by EM centres for ethnic minority new arrivals and youths, and the District-based Programmes for Racial Harmony. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) How many EM centres funded by the Government are there in Hong Kong at present? Please provide details of their locations, operating organisations and operation periods, the annual funding involved and the number of service recipients.
- (b) Please provide details of the 2 additional EM centres, including their locations and expected dates of establishment.
- (c) How many EM Care Teams are set up in the EM centres funded by the Government in the territory at present? What are the specific areas of work of the EM Care Teams?

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 68)

Reply:

- (a) The Home Affairs Department (HAD) has commissioned non-profit-making organisations to run 8 support service centres for ethnic minorities (EM centres) in Wan Chai, Yau Tsim Mong, Sham Shui Po, Kwun Tong, Yuen Long, Tuen Mun, Kwai Tsing and Tung Chung to provide language classes, interest classes, after-school tutorial classes, youth activities, integration programmes, etc. for ethnic minorities to facilitate their integration into the community. Among these centres, the CHEER Centre in Kwun Tong also provides general interpretation and translation services of English and 8 ethnic minority languages (i.e. Bahasa Indonesia, Hindi, Nepali, Punjabi, Tagalog, Thai, Urdu and Vietnamese) in non-specialised/non-professional areas. The information on the 8 EM centres is set out in the Annex.

- (b) To enhance support services for ethnic minorities, HAD plans to set up 2 additional EM centres in Kowloon Central (covering Kowloon City and Wong Tai Sin) and New Territories East (covering Sai Kung and Tseung Kwan O), which are expected to commence service in the fourth quarter of 2024.
- (c) The service targets of the District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) in the 18 districts include ethnic minorities. However, due to language and culture differences with ethnic minorities, HAD plans to set up 1 Ethnic Minority Care Team (EM Care Team) mainly constituted by ethnic minorities in each of the 8 existing EM centres and the 2 new centres to better serve ethnic minorities. These EM Care Teams are expected to commence service within this year.

Through the networks in the local ethnic minority communities and referrals from Care Teams, EM Care Teams will visit ethnic minority households, establish connections with them, disseminate important government information to them, understand their needs, familiarise them with public/social welfare/healthcare services and those services provided by Care Teams/EM centres, and assist in referring their cases to relevant departments or organisations for arrangement of professional services. In addition, EM Care Teams will collaborate with the District Offices and Care Teams in various districts. Care Teams in the 18 districts may refer cases to EM Care Teams for follow-up when encountering difficulties in serving ethnic minorities. EM Care Teams will also provide assistance for those ethnic minorities affected by accidents, emergencies or disastrous events.

Information on support service centres for ethnic minorities

Centre	Operating organisation	Date of commencement of operation	Operating cost for 2023-24 project year (\$ million)	Estimated number of service recipients in 2023-24 project year
HOPE Centre (Wan Chai)	International Social Service Hong Kong Branch	31 May 2009	9.34	6 877
HOME Centre (Yau Tsim Mong)	New Home Association	11 December 2012	9.43	9 762
HOME Sub-centre (Sham Shui Po)	New Home Association	11 December 2012	5.37	6 313
CHEER Centre (Kwun Tong)	Hong Kong Christian Service	5 September 2009	26.21	18 187
YLTH Centre (Yuen Long)	Yuen Long Town Hall Management Committee Ltd.	28 June 2009	9.46	9 599
ONE Centre (Tuen Mun)	Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service	1 August 2021	9.54	11 248
LINK Centre (Kwai Tsing)	Hong Kong Community Network	30 October 2014	8.77	11 556
TOUCH Sub-centre (Tung Chung)	The Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council	21 December 2012	5.78	4 925

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB149

(Question Serial No. 3485)

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 on 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 (2019-20 to 2023-24), 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.: 56)

Reply:

- (a) Details about existing fishermen villages based on information available to District Offices (DOs) are at Annex. With regard to details on the number and size of buildings, land ownership, etc. of fishermen villages which 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 community mainly through the Rural Public Works programme and the District Minor Works 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 2019-20 to 2023-24 (as at the end of February 2024), HAD carried out a total of 45 minor improvement and maintenance works projects for various fishermen villages in Kwai Tsing, North, Sai Kung, Tai Po and Yuen Long districts. The works comprised mainly improvement and maintenance of access roads and storm water drains, involving a total cost of about \$14.39 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 conditions	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

HYAB150

(Question Serial No. 3636)

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:

The Government launched the Private Street Resumption Programme (the Programme) targeting 166 private streets as early as 1986. However, only 70 streets were resumed and the remaining 96 streets were deleted from the Programme for various reasons when it officially ended in 2020. At present, private streets still create many problems, including illegal occupation, obstruction of access for emergency and rescue services, poor hygiene and disputes over maintenance. For instance, the road surfaces of some private streets damaged during the torrential rain last September were left unrepaired for quite some time. Would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Taking the Eastern and Wan Chai Districts as an example, the then Private Street Resumption Committee had pointed out that 16 out of the 24 private streets deleted from the Programme could not be resumed due to the problem of protruding balconies above the private streets. The Government had considered issuing individual licences to confirm the legality of the overhanging structures of the buildings on those streets, but eventually failed to do so due to the lack of manpower. Did the Government assess the amount of manpower required for resuming a private street with the problem of protruding balconies at that time? If there is sufficient manpower, will resumption operations be re-activated for individual private streets?
- (b) The Programme ended in 2020 and the Government indicated that there was no plan to re-activate the Programme at that time. If it is the wish of the owners of individual private streets that the Government should review afresh the resumption of their streets due to change in circumstances, will the Government conduct new surveys and consultations on the intention of owners regarding the resumption of individual streets, and re-examine the cases with a view to tackling and solving the legal problems leading to the failed attempts to resume the private streets then?
- (c) In recent years, disputes over private streets occur not only in rural villages in the New Territories but also in busy areas of Hung Hom from time to time, leading to the closure of the only or main passageway for some building users who do not have access rights to the private streets concerned, resulting in disputes such as overcharging of access fees

and obstruction of access. Will the Government review the existing policies or laws, or take any action to assist the persons affected and prevent the occurrence of the above situation?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Hei, Edward (LegCo internal reference no.: 155)

Reply:

The Government launched the Private Street Resumption Programme (the Programme) in 1986 to co-ordinate departmental efforts in resuming private streets. The Programme aimed to improve the conditions of private streets with environmental hygiene problems through resumption of the streets under the Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance (Cap. 370) and on the premise that the Government would not be required to pay any compensation for the resumption. The Programme was introduced in 1986 and officially ended in December 2020. Of the 166 private streets included under the Programme, 70 streets were resumed and the remaining 96 streets were deleted from the Programme for various reasons, including the street conditions having improved, or the involvement of compensation claims in the resumption, which was contrary to the policy principle of the Programme.

Private streets are private properties, the management and maintenance of which are land owners' responsibilities. Under normal circumstances, the Government will not be involved in the management of private properties, including private streets. The Government will only consider providing assistance to property owners under very exceptional circumstances and where significant public interest is involved.

Resumption of private streets is not the only way to improve the management and environmental conditions of the streets. The owners are in the best position to manage the private streets to protect their own interests. The departments concerned will continue to co-ordinate their efforts in improving the conditions of the streets as necessary depending on the actual circumstances.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB151

(Question Serial No. 3637)

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 (HAD) set up dedicated help desks in the 18 districts in September 2023 to assist members of the public who experienced financial difficulties due to Typhoon Saola and torrential rain to fill in application forms for 5 emergency relief funds provided by government departments and major charity groups. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) How many applications for the 5 emergency relief funds were received by the dedicated help desks in each district?
- (b) How many applications were approved by the General Chinese Charities Fund (GCCF) and the Special Aid Fund (SAF) among the applications received by the dedicated help desks?
- (c) What was the total amount of relief grants approved by the GCCF and SAF for the applications received by the dedicated help desks?
- (d) Has HAD identified any suspected fraudulent cases which required referral to law enforcement agencies for follow-up actions during this emergency relief operation?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Hei, Edward (LegCo internal reference no.: 156)

Reply:

- (a) The Home Affairs Department (HAD) set up dedicated help desks in the 18 districts on 12 and 13 September 2023 to assist members of the public who experienced financial difficulties due to Typhoon Saola and torrential rain to fill in application forms for the emergency relief funds provided by government departments and specified charity groups. The number of applications received by the help desks in the 18 districts on those 2 days is set out in the Annex.
- (b) and (c) The total number of applications for the General Chinese Charities Fund (GCCF) and the Special Aid Fund (SAF) received by HAD from the dedicated help desks

in the 18 districts and other sources in relation to Typhoon Saola and the subsequent torrential rain is 1 759, of which 1 583 applications were approved, involving a total grant of about \$4.8 million.

- (d) HAD has not identified any suspected fraudulent cases among the applications for the GCCF and SAF.

Annex to Reply Serial No. HYAB151

**Number of applications for the emergency relief funds
received by the dedicated help desks in the 18 districts on 12 and 13 September 2023**

	General Chinese Charities Fund and Special Aid Fund	Emergency Relief Fund				Emergency assistance funds under the 6 major charity groups¹
		Grants for re-accommodation after disaster or severe damage to structure, home equipment or appliances	Rehabilitation grants for loss of crops, livestock or cultured fish, and grants for loss of fishing boats and fishing gear	Grants in respect of death or personal injury	Grants for repair or replacement of working boats and dwelling vessels	
	(Operated by the Home Affairs Department)	(Operated by the Lands Department)	(Operated by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department)	(Operated by the Social Welfare Department)	(Operated by the Marine Department)	
Central & Western	0	1	0	0	0	0
Eastern	6	0	0	0	0	1
Southern	0	0	1	0	0	11
Wan Chai	1	2	0	0	0	3
Kowloon City	3	3	0	0	0	6
Kwun Tong	5	3	1	0	0	0
Sham Shui Po	9	5	1	1	0	18
Wong Tai Sin	2	0	0	0	0	0
Yau Tsim Mong	5	5	0	0	0	5
Islands	5	27	20	0	0	0
Kwai Tsing	0	0	0	0	0	0
North	294	220	172	5	0	152
Sai Kung	10	16	3	0	0	10
Sha Tin	4	13	7	0	0	0
Tai Po	33	92	36	1	0	32
Tsuen Wan	0	9	5	0	0	10
Tuen Mun	5	1	0	0	0	0
Yuen Long	7	149	39	1	0	0
Total	389	546	285	8	0	248

¹ These include Po Leung Kuk Charity Fund for the Disadvantaged, Po Leung Kuk the Wang Family Charity Fund, Yan Chai Emergency Assistance Relief Fund, Pok Oi Hospital Emergency Relief Fund, Yan Oi Tong “Love and Care” Project, Lok Sin Tong Caring Fund and Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Emergency Relief Fund.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB152

(Question Serial No. 3346)

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.: 118)

Reply:

- (a) The use of the CHEER Centre's interpretation and translation services by government bureaux and departments in the past 5 years is set out in **Annex A**.
- (b) Provision of interpretation and translation services by the CHEER Centre to all users with a breakdown by 8 EM languages in the past 5 years is set out in **Annex 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.

Annex A to Reply Serial No. HYAB152

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

Service	Year	Social Welfare Department	Housing Department	Department of Health	Labour Department	Other bureaux and departments	Total
Telephone Interpretation & Enquiry Service	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
	2022-23	498	10	202	608	192	1 510
On-site Interpretation Service	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
	2022-23	39	37	608	73	312	1 069
WhatsApp and Sight Interpretation Service**	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.
	2022-23	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Written Translation Service (including proofreading service)	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
	2022-23	4	2	5	19	38	68
Simultaneous Interpretation Service	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
	2022-23	0	0	0	20	0	20

* Usage figures of 2023-24 will only be available in early May 2024 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 government bureaux and departments.

Annex B to Reply Serial No. HYAB152

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	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
	2022-23	675	556	652	351	1 196	341	1 406	54	5 231
On-site Interpretation Service	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
	2022-23	86	74	30	60	398	61	512	69	1 290
WhatsApp and Sight Interpretation Service***	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
	2022-23	36	154	210	12	80	46	83	8	629
Written Translation Service**** (including proofreading service)	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
	2022-23	84	90	76	130	157	98	174	75	884
Simultaneous Interpretation Service****	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
	2022-23	249	28	1	12	31	1	24	0	346

* Usage figures of 2023-24 will only be available in early May 2024 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 government bureaux and departments.

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

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**HYAB153****(Question Serial No. 3347)**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.: 119)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 EM languages in non-specialised/non-professional areas.

The breakdown by the 8 EM languages of the staff establishment of interpreters and the figures on interpretation and translation services provided in 2022-23 are as follows:

EM language	Staff establishment	No. of service provided*
Bahasa Indonesia	4	1 130
Thai	3	902
Tagalog	3	969
Hindi	4	565
Nepali	4	1 862
Punjabi	3	547
Urdu	6	2 199
Vietnamese	3	206
Total	30	8 380

* Usage figures of 2023-24 will only be available in early May 2024 after receipt of the quarterly reports from the centre operator.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB154

(Question Serial No. 3348)

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.: 120)

Reply:

The Home Affairs Department (HAD) has commissioned non-governmental organisations to run 8 support service centres for ethnic minorities (EM centres) in Wan Chai, Yau Tsim Mong, Sham Shui Po, Kwun Tong, Yuen Long, Tuen Mun, Kwai Tsing and Tung Chung to provide various 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 EM centres and the estimated number of recipients of their services for the current 2023-24 project year and the coming 2024-25 project year are set out in **Annexes A and B** respectively.

Annex A to Reply Serial No. HYAB154

Grants for support service centres for ethnic minorities (EMs)

Centre	Annual operating cost (\$ million)	
	2023-24 project year	2024-25 project year
HOPE Centre	9.34	10.56
HOME Centre	9.43	10.32**
HOME Sub-centre	5.37	6.26**
CHEER Centre*	26.21	27.06
YLTH Centre	9.46	10.56
ONE Centre	9.54	10.51
LINK Centre	8.77	10.04**
TOUCH Sub-centre	5.78	6.54**
Centre to be opened in Kowloon Central	-	11.00***
Centre to be opened in New Territories East	-	11.00***
Total	83.90	113.85

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

** The current grant period of HOME Centre, HOME Sub-centre, LINK Centre and TOUCH Sub-centre will end in the fourth quarter of 2024. Provisional funding is subject to revision to cope with variations in staff cost, rental and other expenses before the start of the new grant period.

*** The 2 additional centres in Kowloon Central and New Territories East are expected to commence service in the fourth quarter of 2024. The annual grant for each centre is capped at \$11 million.

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

Centre	Estimated annual number of service recipients	
	2023-24 project year	2024-25 project year
HOPE Centre	6 877	7 602
HOME Centre	9 762	10 125**
HOME Sub-centre	6 313	6 676**
CHEER Centre*	18 187	18 704
YLTH Centre	9 599	10 219
ONE Centre	11 248	11 806
LINK Centre	11 556	13 303**
TOUCH Sub-Centre	4 925	5 394**
Centre to be opened in Kowloon Central	-	8 000***
Centre to be opened in New Territories East	-	8 000***
Total	78 467	99 829

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

** The current grant period of HOME Centre, HOME Sub-centre, LINK Centre and TOUCH Sub-centre will end in the fourth quarter of 2024. Provisional estimated number of service recipients is subject to revision to cope with variations in the actual demand and circumstances upon the start of the new grant period.

*** The 2 additional centres in Kowloon Central and New Territories East are expected to commence service in the fourth quarter of 2024. The estimated annual number of service recipients of each centre is about 8 000.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB155

(Question Serial No. 3349)

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.: 121)

Reply:

The annual operating grants of the support service centres for ethnic minorities with breakdowns by staff cost, rental cost and other expenses from 2018-19 project year to 2022-23 project year are set out in the **Annex**.

Annex to Reply Serial No. HYAB155

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

2018-19 project year

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

2019-20 project year

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

2020-21 project year

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

2021-22 project year

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

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

2022-23 project year

Centre	HOPE Centre	HOME Centre	HOME Sub-centre	CHEER Centre	YLTH Centre	ONE Centre	LINK Centre	TOUCH Sub-centre
Reporting period	31 May 2022 to 30 May 2023	11 December 2022 to 10 December 2023	11 December 2022 to 10 December 2023	5 September 2022 to 4 September 2023	28 June 2022 to 27 June 2023	1 August 2022 to 31 July 2023	30 October 2022 to 29 October 2023	21 December 2022 to 20 December 2023
Staff cost (\$ million)	3.85 (42.3%)	4.78 (65.7%)	1.90 (59.0%)	19.56 (76.4%)	7.01 (77.0%)	6.15 (68.0%)	4.66 (66.6%)	2.62 (74.9%)
Rental cost (\$ million)	1.79 (19.7%)	1.19 (16.3%)	0.58 (18.0%)	2.53 (9.9%)	0.26 (2.9%)	0.81 (9.0%)	1.00 (14.3%)	0.05 (1.4%)
Other expenses (\$ million)	3.46 (38.0%)	1.31 (18.0%)	0.74 (23.0%)	3.51 (13.7%)	1.83 (20.1%)	2.09 (23.0%)	1.34 (19.1%)	0.83 (23.7%)
Total (\$ million)	9.10	7.28	3.22	25.60	9.10	9.05	7.00	3.50

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB156

(Question Serial No. 3350)

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.: 122)

Reply:

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

The gross floor area of the EM centres and the number of service recipients from 2018-19 project year to 2022-23 project year are set out in **Annex B** and **Annex C** respectively. HAD does not have information on the net operating floor area or net usable floor area of the EM centres.

**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

Annex B to Reply Serial No. HYAB156

Gross floor area of support service centres for ethnic minorities

Centre	Gross floor area (square metre)				
	2018-19 project year	2019-20 project year	2020-21 project year	2021-22 project year	2022-23 project year
HOPE Centre	353	353	353	353	353
HOME Centre	307	307	307	307	307
HOME Sub-centre	149	149	149	149	149
CHEER Centre	599	599	599	599	599
YLTH Centre	194	194	194	194	194
SHINE Centre/ ONE Centre*	390	390	390	415	415
LINK Centre	390	390	390	390	390
TOUCH Sub-centre	409	409	409	290	290
Total	2 791	2 791	2 791	2 697	2 697

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

Annex C to Reply Serial No. HYAB156

Number of service recipients of support service centres for ethnic minorities

Centre	Number of service recipients				
	2018-19 project year	2019-20 project year	2020-21 project year	2021-22 project year	2022-23 project year
HOPE Centre	6 661	5 192	6 808	6 498	7 383
HOME Centre	12 537	13 522	14 526	13 073	9 298
HOME Sub-centre	5 975	5 961	7 733	6 781	5 681
CHEER Centre	18 261	21 667	25 967	22 791	29 205
YLTH Centre	19 175	15 429	12 313	16 183	18 855
SHINE Centre/ ONE Centre*	19 601	14 618	18 378	4 230	12 065
LINK Centre	11 869	9 557	11 170	16 835	15 259
TOUCH Sub-centre	4 545	4 199	4 456	4 208	4 746
Total	98 624	90 145	101 351	90 599	102 492

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

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HYAB157

(Question Serial No. 3828)

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 details of the activities organised under the Day x Night Vibes @ 18 Districts (the Campaign) in 2023-24, including the number of activities, the names and types of activities, the activity incurring the most expenditure and the amount incurred, the average expenditure on an activity, the activity with the highest attendance and its attendance, the average attendance per activity, and the total expenditure and total attendance of the Campaign.

Has the Government evaluated the effectiveness of the Campaign, including the visitor flow and consumer spending brought about by the Campaign? If yes, what are the evaluation results? If no, what are the reasons? What is the estimated expenditure for the Campaign in 2024-25? Has the Government set any key performance indicators (KPIs), such as the visitor flow and the level of consumer spending, for the Campaign? If yes, what are the KPIs? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon WONG Chun-sek, Edmund (LegCo internal reference no.: 12)

Reply:

The series of activities of the Day x Night Vibes @ 18 Districts organised by the District Offices of the Home Affairs Department (HAD) in the first half of this year mainly aim to provide the public with a wide range of cultural and leisure events to showcase local diversity or traditional cultural connotations in various districts, so as to promote a vibrant atmosphere in the community. The activities have been rolled out progressively since late January this year. More than 20 of them were organised as at the end of March. A breakdown by district is provided in the table below:

District	Name of activity
Central & Western	C&W District Sparkles: Vivid and Vibrant Vibes Through the Day and Night Bazaar
Southern	Ap Lei Chau Hung Shing Culture Festival: Southern District Vibes Bazaar@Hung Shing Festival
Yau Tsim Mong	Yau Ma Tei Festival
	Tsim Sha Tsui Night Vibes
	Yau Tsim Mong Presents - The Year Of The Dragon: Countdown Celebration
Sham Shui Po	Lighting Duet @ Sham Shui Po
	Something Special @ Sham Shui Po
	“Fete des Fleurs” - Marché le Floréal
Wong Tai Sin	Wong Tai Sin New Year Carnival
Kwun Tong	Kwun Tong Night Market in the Year of Dragon
	Kwun Tong District Lunar New Year Lantern Carnival
Tai Po	Lam Tsuen Wishing Night Bazaar
	Wish for You Bazaar
Yuen Long	Yuen Long Vibes Mart
North	Luen Wo Light Market
	Sha Tau Kok Lantern Festival Fun Day
Sha Tin	“Sha Tin Festive Vibes” Lantern Festival Fun Day
Tsuen Wan	Celebrating the Year of Dragon - Tsuen Wan Lantern Festival Bazaar
Islands	Lighting and Decoration cum Light Switching Ceremony
	Islands District Lunar New Year Lantern Carnival
	Islands District Sports Fun Day
	Islands District Music Night

The activities take various forms, ranging from bazaar carnivals, artwork exhibitions and musical performances to sports experiences. They have successfully boosted the atmosphere in the community and attracted many members of the public to take photos at the events and enjoy the joyful atmosphere. Feedback from the stall operators has also been generally positive, indicating that there has been a high patronage and the activities have helped promote their business. The themes, scale and duration of the activities vary. Taking individual bazaar carnivals as an example, the bazaar in Kwun Tong recorded 800 000 visitors in 23 days, the one in Wong Tai Sin had 114 000 visitors in 3 days and the one in Yuen Long had 120 000 visitors in 3 days. Stall operators of the bazaars generally expressed satisfaction with their sales, but did not disclose actual profits due to commercial considerations.

HAD implements the series of activities of the Day x Night Vibes @ 18 Districts with its existing resources and manpower. Hence, a breakdown of the expenditure involved is not available.