Policy Agenda

Introduction

The Government is committed to making Hong Kong a treasured home to our people, where everyone enjoys the opportunity to realise his or her potential and lead a fulfilling life. In the last Policy Address, the Chief Executive set out the Government's role in supporting Hong Kong's economic development in an appropriately proactive way. He also mapped out the directions and initiatives to address the challenges on livelihood issues, including housing and land supply, poverty alleviation, care for the elderly and environmental protection, amongst others.

In the past year, the Government has worked in earnest to take forward various policies and measures to sustain our economic growth and to address many of Hong Kong's deep-seated problems. On a number of important issues, we have achieved significant milestones and laid a solid foundation for the way forward. These include the promulgation of the poverty line in September last year, the public consultation exercise on Long Term Housing Strategy undertaken in September to December 2013, the public engagement exercise on Population Policy which started in last October and the public consultation on constitutional development launched in last December.

This Policy Agenda includes new initiatives announced in the context of this year's Policy Address and on-going initiatives of the Government. The new initiatives are focused on assisting

low-income families, the elderly and the less privileged, instilling hope and vigour into our younger generation and helping them face their life challenges, improving the environment and our quality of living. At the same time, we will enhance our economic development by sharpening our competitive edge and capitalising on our fast developing transport and economic links with the Mainland.

In the coming year, it is important that the community forge a consensus on the Long Term Housing Strategy, the Population Policy, and the methods for selecting the Chief Executive by universal suffrage in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016. These are major subjects that have enormous impact on Hong Kong's future.

The past success of Hong Kong was premised on the resilience of our people. The Government will continue to work hand in hand with every citizen to build a better Hong Kong.