
Chapter 2

Reinforcing Our Strengths, New Style of Governance

Preamble

Hong Kong has been rated the world's freest and most competitive economy for many years. Practising a simple, low tax regime, we do our utmost to maintain a favourable business environment. To further enhance our economic development and long-term competitiveness, we will adopt appropriate tax measures to support targeted industries and steer economic activities.

Hong Kong's international reputation is also built on our core values, including an independent judicial system, adherence to the rule of law, a highly efficient and clean government, pluralism and inclusiveness, freedom of expression and of the press, and a strong respect for human rights and liberty. We are committed to reinforcing these advantages to strengthen public confidence in the integrity and good governance of the Government. We will also strive to enhance communication with all parties, promote rational discussion and restore mutual trust in the community so as to create an enabling atmosphere for addressing deep-rooted social issues.

Judicial independence is the cornerstone of Hong Kong's success. We will continue to provide all necessary support for the Judiciary to ensure the effective, efficient and equitable administration of justice in Hong Kong.

In her Election Manifesto, the Chief Executive introduced the concepts of a new style of governance, new roles for government and a new

fiscal philosophy as the foundation for good governance. In earnest and standing united, the governing team will honour this vision for a more people-oriented governance.

Policy Initiatives

Reinforcing Our Strengths

Prevention of Bribery Ordinance

- Resolve as soon as possible those constitutional and legal issues pertinent to amending the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance to extend the scope of Sections 3 and 8 to cover the Chief Executive. (CSO) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

Political Reform

- Do the best to create a social climate conducive to taking forward political reform. (CMAB)

Archives Law

- Hold a positive attitude towards the enactment of an archives law. The Government will follow up on this after receiving from the Law Reform Commission the report that it will compile following extensive consultation. At the present stage, the Government will continue to enhance the records management work. (CSO) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

Judicial Independence

- Fully support and accommodate the resource requirements of the Judiciary. The Government is working with the Judiciary on the planned construction of a Judicial Complex for the High Court at the new Central Harbourfront, as well as a District Court Complex at Caroline Hill Road to house the District Court, the Family Court and the Lands Tribunal. This aims to address the long-term accommodation needs of courts at the High Court and District Court levels. (CSO/DEVB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

Injecting New Styles

A New Style of Governance

- Implement the “Self-recommendation Pilot Scheme” with youth as the initial target for recruitment, and designate advisory bodies in different policy areas as the first batch of committees for appointment of youth members recommended under the scheme. (HAB) (New Initiative)
- Increase the transparency of government information and data, including opening up more government data for social policy research and public engagement in policy formulation. (All bureaux) (New Initiative)

New Roles for the Government

Public Service Provider

- Provide services that are reliable, professional and cost-effective, making good use of technology and being people-oriented and business-friendly. Based on service users’ experience and needs, we will adopt a people-oriented and collaborative approach to design and improve the delivery of public service. (CSO) (New Initiative)

(Note): The other initiatives on Government’s new roles as Regulator, Facilitator and Promoter, e.g. one-stop services, promoting Mainland and external affairs, are set out in other Chapters.

New Fiscal Philosophy

New Direction for Taxation to Enhance Competitiveness

- Introduce tax concessions where appropriate to promote economic development and enhance Hong Kong's competitiveness in the long run. (FSTB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)