

**The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
of the People's Republic of China**

The Chief Executive's 2018 Policy Address

Policy Agenda

Contents

Page

Chapter 1

Introduction

1

Chapter 2

Reinforcing Our Strengths, Enhancing Governance

5

Preamble

5

Policy Initiatives

7

Prevention of Bribery Ordinance

7

Political Reform

7

Judicial Independence

7

Executive-Legislative Relationship

8

District Administration

8

Public Elections

9

Restructuring the Government

10

Government Information

11

e-Government

11

Civil Servants

12

Promoting the Constitution and the Basic Law

12

National Anthem Legislation

13

Improving the Legal System and Enhancing the Legal
Infrastructure

13

Law Reform Proposals

14

Human Rights

15

Legal Aid and Legal Advice Services

16

Security	16
Strengthening Anti-corruption Efforts	18
Emergency Support	19

Chapter 3

Diversified Economy, Better Jobs 20

Preamble 20

Policy Initiatives 24

Finance	24
Monetary Stability	24
Financial Safety	24
Finance Serving the Economy	26
International Financial Centre	26
Offshore Renminbi Business Hub, International Asset Management Centre	27
Fostering Development of the Financial Services Industry	28
Financial Innovation	29
Transportation Services and Logistics	30
Tourism, Hotel, Retail and Catering Industries	33
Professional Services	35
International Legal and Dispute Resolution Services Centre in the Asia-Pacific Region	36
Construction Industry	40
Uplifting Performance of Public Works Projects	40
Promoting Hong Kong Construction 2.0	41
Adopting Innovative Construction Method	42
Innovation and Technology	43

Re-industrialisation	48
Testing and Certification	49
Creative Industries	50
Intellectual Property	51
Broadcasting and Telecommunications	52
Agriculture and Fisheries Industry	53
Improving Regulatory Infrastructure	54
The New Role of Government in Promoting Economic Development	55
New Direction for Taxation	55
Supporting Economic Development	55
Promoting Mainland and External Affairs	55
Human Resources	60
Training of Talent	60
Extending Working Life	60
Enhancing Employment Support for Elderly People and Others	61
Supporting Working Parents in Fulfilling Work and Family Commitments	61
Attracting Overseas Talent	63

Chapter 4

Professional-led Quality Education 64

Preamble 64

Policy Initiatives 66

Comprehensive Review Led by Professionals 66

New Style through Active Listening 69

Kindergarten Education 69

Primary and Secondary Education	70
Home-school Co-operation and Parent Education	77
Post-secondary Education	78
Supporting Students with Different Needs	79
Vocational Education	81
Qualifications Framework	82
Continuing Education	82

Chapter 5

Home Ownership, Liveable City 83

Preamble 83

Policy Initiatives 88

Developing Land Resources	88
Seeking Consensus	88
Updating Development Strategy	88
Urban Renewal	89
Short to Medium-term Measures	90
Medium and Long-term Measures	96
Lantau Tomorrow Vision	99
Accelerating Land Resources for Development of Liveable City	99
Developments to be led by Transport Infrastructure	100
Creating Business Environment to Promote Economic Development	101
Committed to Conserving Lantau	102
Entertainment and Sustainable Leisure Activities	103
Setting Up a Dedicated Co-ordination Office	104
Housing Policy	104

New Initiatives in Housing	104
Long Term Housing Strategy	105
Effective Use of Public Housing Resources	105
Increasing Supply of Subsidised Housing	106
Improving Quality of Living in Public Rental Housing	108
Building Maintenance and Urban Renewal	108
Enhancing Building Safety	110
Transport	111
Strategic Studies on Railways and Major Roads	111
Developing Railways	111
Implementing Recommended Measures under the Public Transport Strategy Study	112
Improving Road Traffic	113
Monitoring MTR Corporation Limited	115
Ancillary Facilities for Public Transport and Fare	116
Marine Safety	118
Improving Pedestrian Environment	119
Enhancing External Transport Links	121
Environmental Protection	122
Improving Air Quality	122
Enhancing Waste Management	125
Green Construction and Green Economy	129
Devoting Resources to Nature and Countryside Conservation	129
Climate Change	130
External Lighting	134
Beautifying Victoria Harbour	134
Urban Forestry	135

Sports Development	136
Testing Centre and Transport Hub for Competition Horses	139
Arts and Culture	139
Supporting Arts Groups	139
West Kowloon Cultural District	140
Opening Up Arts Space and Providing Facilities	141
Promoting Arts and Cultural Programmes and Grooming Art Talent	142
Cultural Exchange	142
Heritage and History	142
Heritage Conservation	142
Intangible Cultural Heritage	143
Civic Affairs and Clean Society	143
Food Safety and Healthy Eating	144
Drinking Water Safety	145
Municipal Services	146
Live Poultry Trade	147
Safe and Quality Living Environment	147
Veterinary Surgeons Board	149
Animal Welfare	149

Chapter 6

Building a Caring, Inclusive Society, Improving People's Livelihood 151

Preamble 151

Policy Initiatives 155

Poverty Alleviation, Elderly Care and Support for the Disadvantaged	155
--	-----

Commission on Poverty	155
Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund	155
Poverty Alleviation	155
Helping Low-income Families	156
Enhancing Upward Mobility	156
Supporting the Disadvantaged and Caring for the Young	156
Supporting Families	157
Supporting Families to Meet Child Care Needs	159
Enhancing Services for Persons with Disabilities and Persons with Mental Illness	160
Elderly Care	167
Service Quality of Residential Care Homes	169
Creating an Age-friendly Community	170
Social Security	171
Social Welfare Planning and Administration	171
Facilitation for Non-governmental Organisations and Social Enterprises	172
Lump Sum Grant	172
Family Council	173
Women	173
Commission on Children	174
Strengthening Support for Ethnic Minorities	174
Enhancing Primary Healthcare Services and Disease Prevention/Control	178
Positioning and Long-term Development of Chinese Medicine	181
Strengthening Healthcare Services	183

Ensuring Long-term Sustainability of Healthcare System	187
Safeguarding Public Health and Upholding Health Services Standard	190
Retirement Protection and Labour Issues	193
Retirement Protection	193
Labour	194
Occupational Safety and Health	196
Religion	197
District Economy	198

Chapter 7

Connecting with Young People to Build Our Future Together 199

Preamble 199

Policy Initiatives 202

Abbreviations 207

Chapter 1

Policy Agenda

Introduction

During the past year, in keeping with the new philosophy of governance stated by the Chief Executive in her first Policy Address and based on the principles of “Innovative, Interactive and Collaborative”, the current-term Government is striving to rebuild mutual trust with different sectors and has implemented a series of people-oriented measures to build a better and more harmonious Hong Kong.

In the second Policy Agenda of the current-term Government, we have set out 244 new initiatives and 470 on-going initiatives. Apart from allocating resources for improving people’s livelihood, we will continue to perform the Government’s roles as “facilitator” and “promoter”. On the one hand, we will reinforce and enhance the advantages of traditional industries such as finance, transportation, logistics, tourism and professional services. On the other hand, we will promote innovation and technology so as to inject new impetus into the economy. With the commissioning of the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link on 22 September 2018, Hong Kong has been connected to our country’s highly efficient and accessible transport network and brought closer to other cities in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Greater Bay Area). We will seize this opportunity to identify

breakthroughs in the development of our local economy, livelihood and youths.

On enhancing governance, we recognise that many major issues require the holistic steer of the senior leadership in the Government in formulating forward-looking and inter-departmental strategies. As such, we have established the Chief Executive's Council of Advisers on Innovation and Strategic Development and the Steering Committee on Innovation and Technology, both chaired by the Chief Executive, for promoting development of the economy and innovation and technology in Hong Kong. To build an inclusive society and cater for the needs of various community groups, the Youth Development Commission and the Commission on Children, both led by the Chief Secretary for Administration, were set up in the first half of 2018. Meanwhile, the Commission for the Planning of Human Resources and the Steering Committee on Ethnic Minorities Affairs, also chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, have initiated their work. The Financial Leaders Forum with the Financial Secretary at the helm has also commenced studies on different issues on financial development.

Furthermore, the current-term Government has re-organised the Innovation and Technology Bureau and the Efficiency Unit, and reallocated the legal aid policy portfolio to the purview of the Chief Secretary for Administration's Office. The newly set up Policy Innovation and Co-ordination Office (PICO) is also playing an active role in assisting the Chief Executive in driving policy innovation and co-ordinating various cross-bureau policy research and projects.

As for economic development, we will leverage our advantages under "one country, two systems" and, with the staunch support of the Central Government, actively participate in the Belt and Road Initiative and the development of the Greater Bay Area. We have also been driving the further diversification of our economy, and provided

additional funding for the development of innovation and technology and other sectors.

For the livelihood area, land and housing issues remain the toughest and most complicated challenge facing the current-term Government. Since the launch of various measures to rebuild the home ownership ladder for Hong Kong people in the last Policy Address, the Chief Executive announced six new initiatives in housing policy in June this year. All these, together with the strategies to increase land supply set out in this Policy Agenda, fully display the current-term Government's grasp of people's urgent needs, and its decisive and courageous style of governance.

Nurturing our younger generation is an important task of the current-term Government. Apart from injecting resources into education and training of talent, we have also rolled out a host of initiatives to support young people in respect of education, career pursuit and home ownership, and encourage their participation in politics, public policy discussion and debate. These initiatives include providing more internship and exchange opportunities on the Mainland and overseas for young people, providing space and support for them to start businesses. We have also provided young people with opportunities to participate in public administration. Both the Pilot Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth and recruitment of young people to work in PICO have achieved good results, allowing young people to inject innovative new thoughts into the governance of Hong Kong.

Our efforts over the past year have made a good start for us, but we still face a number of challenges, such as the impact of the trade friction between China and the United States on Hong Kong, ageing population, environmental pollution, growing demand for medical services and transport infrastructure. With the shortage of land supply being the biggest constraint on Hong Kong's future development, the

Government must make bold decisions and further deepen various policy measures with the best overall interests of Hong Kong as the paramount concern, so as to improve people's livelihood.

We hope to join hands with all sectors of the community to overcome difficulties and demonstrate our can-do spirit, thereby building Hong Kong as a liveable city full of hope and happiness.

Chapter 2

Reinforcing Our Strengths, Enhancing Governance

Preamble

Hong Kong has been rated the world's freest economy and one of the most competitive economies for many years. Apart from practising a simple, low tax regime, we also maintain a favourable business environment. 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 high respect for human rights and liberty. We are committed to relentlessly reinforcing these advantages to strengthen public confidence in the integrity and good governance of the Government.

Judicial independence is the cornerstone of Hong Kong's success. We will continue to provide all necessary support for the Judiciary, including addressing the Judiciary's long-term accommodation needs in respect of courts and offices, and supporting its proposals to extend the statutory retirement ages for Judges and Judicial Officers with a view to maintaining sufficient judicial manpower and ensuring an effective, efficient and equitable administration of justice in Hong Kong. The rule of law is vital for safeguarding rights and freedoms. It is also instrumental in promoting Hong Kong's development as an international financial and business centre. We will further refine our legal system and related infrastructure to ensure that the rule of law and justice will continue to be upheld.

Respecting the constitutional role of the Legislative Council in exercising checks and balances and monitoring the Government, we spare no effort in enhancing the relationship between the executive and the legislature. In planning and implementing government policies and programmes, we will engage the public in a timely manner, including working closely with the Legislative Council and District Councils (DCs), so as to meet the sentiments and needs of the public. We will also strive to enhance communication with all parties, promote rational discussion and restore mutual trust in the community so as to create a favourable atmosphere conducive to addressing deep-rooted social issues.

The Government will continue to implement the concept of “resolving district issues at the local level and capitalising on local opportunities” in strengthening district administration. We will give stronger support to DCs for playing their enhanced roles in resolving district issues, participating in the management of certain district facilities, and implementing District Minor Works Programme and community involvement activities.

A professional and efficient civil service is vital to the implementation of the new style of governance and the new roles of the current-term Government. In the face of diverse public aspirations, the civil service will continue to strive for excellence and adhere to the “people-oriented” principle in order to provide quality services to the public. The Government, as an employer, fully understands the work pressure on civil servants and will provide necessary manpower support and training.

Law and order is the cornerstone of a stable society. Our disciplined services are firmly committed to maintaining Hong Kong as one of the safest cities in the world. We also provide reliable emergency rescue services to protect the lives and properties of the public.

Policy Initiatives

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)

Political Reform

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

Judicial Independence

- Amend the relevant legislation to implement the Judiciary's proposals to extend the retirement ages for Judges and Judicial Officers to help attract the best legal talent and retain experienced serving Judges and Judicial Officers. (CSO) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Fully support and accommodate the resource requirements of the Judiciary. The Government continues to work with the Judiciary on the planned construction of a new High Court at the new Central harbourfront, as well as a new District Court 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 in respect of courts and offices at the High Court and District Court levels. (CSO/DEVB)

Executive-Legislative Relationship

- Proactively improve the executive-legislative relationship by maintaining the Chief Executive's monthly attendance at the Legislative Council meetings to answer Members' questions; and strengthening interaction and communication between politically appointed officials and Legislative Council Members of all political groups. (All bureaux)
- Continue to work closely with the Legislative Council in the formulation of government policies and programmes. (All bureaux)
- Continue to draw up the Government's legislative programme and monitor its progress. (CSO)

District Administration

- Propose to enhance the remuneration package for District Council (DC) members starting from the new DC term in 2020 to keep abreast of the times. (HAB) ([New Initiative](#))
- In order to have a better grasp on district affairs and public opinion, each Secretary of Department and Director of Bureau will visit all 18 districts within two years of their assumption of office to meet with people in the local communities and understand district needs. (HAB)
- Continue to facilitate communication between DCs and the Government through participation of relevant Heads of Departments in DC meetings and in government policy briefings for DC members. (HAB)
- Continue to work with the 18 DCs in implementing signature projects. (HAB)

- Progressively increase the provisions for the District Minor Works Programme to \$400 million per annum over the current term of DCs. The increased resources will cover the capital expenditures as well as recurrent expenditures for the management and maintenance of the completed facilities. (HAB)
- Co-ordinate with relevant departments through the Steering Committee on District Administration to follow up on the progress of measures for improving public cleanliness. (HAB)
- Continue to provide an annual funding of \$63 million for the 18 districts to implement the District-led Actions Scheme. The 18 District Offices, in collaboration with DCs, local communities and related government departments, are forging ahead with some 40 projects for improving environmental hygiene and addressing community needs under the scheme. (HAB)

Public Elections

- Review the arrangements for voter registration, as well as polling arrangements and counting procedures in public elections, including studying advance polling, electronic counting, streamlining of counting procedures, and eligibility of voter registration for permanent residents residing outside Hong Kong. (CMAB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Introduce legislative amendments into the Legislative Council to make necessary amendments to the detailed arrangements for the 2020 Legislative Council Election. (CMAB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

-
- Work closely with the Electoral Affairs Commission to make practical arrangements to ensure that the 2019 District Council (DC) Election will be conducted in a fair, open and honest manner in accordance with the relevant legislation. (CMAB) ([New Initiative](#))
 - Follow up with legislative amendments in light of the Electoral Affairs Commission's recommendations on the boundaries of DC constituency areas for the 2019 DC ordinary election. (CMAB) ([New Initiative](#))
 - Facilitate the Legislative Council's scrutiny of the Electoral Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2018, which was submitted by the Government in July 2018, with a view to implementing the proposals to improve the objection mechanism and raise the penalties for the offence of making false statements in voter registration as recommended in the Consultation Report on Enhancement of Voter Registration System published in January 2016. (CMAB)

Restructuring the Government

- Consider, after carefully listening to the views of different sectors, if the Government's structure should be adjusted to enhance administrative efficiency and to meet the demands on the Government's roles in light of new circumstances and the new economy. (All bureaux)

Government Information

- Hold a positive attitude towards the enactment of an archives law. The Government will actively follow up on this after receiving the report to be compiled by the Law Reform Commission following extensive consultation. It is expected that the public consultation will commence before end-2018. At the present stage, the Government will continue to enhance the records management work, including formulating a more comprehensive training plan for bureaux/departments, providing more professional training programmes to staff of the Government Records Service, reviewing the implementation progress of electronic recordkeeping systems, etc. (CSO)
- Increase the transparency of government information and data and implement more comprehensive measures to open up more government data, including publication of annual open data plans by bureaux/departments by end-2018. (All bureaux)

e-Government

- Enhance the Government's overall cyber security capabilities through the following measures: updating the Government's information security policies and practices; developing a strong information security culture; promoting awareness of the cyber threats of emerging technologies such as Internet of Things among the Government, the industry and the general public; and facilitating the sharing of information on cyber threats within the Government and with professional organisations. (ITB)
- Construct a government data centre complex to meet the demands of bureaux and departments for long-term information technology development and data centre services. (ITB)

Civil Servants

- Conduct a grade structure review for all disciplined services to ensure that their grade structure and remuneration are effective in attracting and retaining talents. (CSB) (New Initiative)
- Extend the maternity leave for all female employees of the Government to 14 weeks. (CSB) (New Initiative)
- Enhance the provision of medical and dental benefits to civil service eligible persons, including exploring an appropriate arrangement to provide defined Chinese medicine services as part of the benefits and setting up the sixth Families Clinic. (CSB) (New Initiative)
- Relax the award arrangements under the Long and Meritorious Service Travel Award Scheme to allow awardees to flexibly nominate a travelling companion. (CSB) (New Initiative)
- Expedite the departmental quarters construction projects for six disciplined forces. (SB)
- Plan for the setting up of a brand new civil service college on a site zoned for “Government, Institution and Community” use in Kwun Tong to enhance training for civil servants. (CSB)

Promoting the Constitution and the Basic Law

- Actively promote the Constitution and the Basic Law through the working groups under the Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee and relevant bureaux to enable the public to have a more comprehensive and accurate understanding of the Constitution, the Basic Law, and the “one country, two systems” principle. (CMAB)

National Anthem Legislation

- Enact local legislation to implement the Law of the People's Republic of China on the National Anthem. (CMAB) ([New Initiative](#))

Improving the Legal System and Enhancing the Legal Infrastructure

- Prepare for publication on the website of the Department of Justice (DoJ) a combined DoJ English-Chinese Glossary of Legal Terms and a combined DoJ Chinese-English Glossary of Legal Terms, each consisting of glossaries compiled by the five legal divisions of the DoJ. (DoJ) ([New Initiative](#))
- Actively consider expanding the existing Understudy Arrangement for less-experienced barristers to act as junior counsel in prosecution cases, and to promulgate a similar programme for less-experienced barristers to undertake suitable civil work, so as to provide more opportunities for them to gain precious experience and skills in case handling. (DoJ) ([New Initiative](#))
- Enhance the quality and effectiveness of criminal prosecution work, including the provision of training programmes and better use of resources, thereby raising the professionalism (including the standard of advocacy) of our prosecutors. (DoJ)
- Promote co-operation and exchanges among prosecutors at international and regional levels through active participation in international and regional prosecuting organisations. (DoJ)

Law Reform Proposals

- Continue to press ahead with the implementation or study of the Law Reform Commission (LRC)'s recommendations in its reports on various legal topics, including enduring powers of attorney with regard to personal care, class actions, criteria for service as jurors and double jeopardy. (DoJ)
- Render assistance to the Legislative Council in the scrutiny of the Evidence (Amendment) Bill 2018 for early implementation of the LRC's recommendations in the report on Hearsay in Criminal Proceedings. (DoJ)
- Assist the Inter-departmental Working Group on Gender Recognition, chaired by the Secretary for Justice, in undertaking a detailed study on possible legislation and administrative measures to deal with various aspects of gender recognition in light of the observations made in the judgment of the Court of Final Appeal in the W Case (FACV 4/2012), and in completing a public consultation on the first part of the study on gender recognition issues by collating and analysing the public responses (a total of over 17 500 submissions were received during the consultation period starting on 23 June 2017 and ending on 31 December 2017). Upon completion of the first part of the study, the working group will report on the results of the public consultation. (DoJ)

Human Rights

- The Government, on the basis of safeguarding the current institution of heterosexual and monogamous marriage, is committed to promoting equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientation and transgender persons, with a view to fostering in the community the culture and values of inclusiveness, mutual respect and non-discrimination. Efforts will include following up on the strategies and measures listed below:
 - providing training resources for personnel in specific fields to enhance their knowledge of and sensitivity towards sexual minorities. The training resources for medical and health care professionals are expected to be launched in 2018;
 - drawing up a charter on non-discrimination of sexual minorities covering various domains for voluntary adoption by service providers with a view to enhancing acceptance towards sexual minorities;
 - enhancing public education and publicity to promote the message of anti-discrimination, including introducing to the employers the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation;
 - reviewing and reinforcing the relevant support services, subsidising the 24-hour hotline for supporting sexual minorities operated by the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals; and

-
- conducting further study on the experience of other jurisdictions in implementing anti-discrimination measures, with a view to providing society with more information to consider whether there should be legislation to protect people of different sexual orientation and transgender persons from discrimination. (CMAB)
 - Submit the legislative amendment proposals for implementing eight prioritised recommendations under the Discrimination Law Review as proposed by the Equal Opportunities Commission in the form of a composite bill to the Legislative Council by end-2018. (CMAB)
 - Continue to promote children’s rights through the Children’s Rights Education Funding Scheme, the Children’s Rights Forum, etc. (CMAB)

Legal Aid and Legal Advice Services

- Enhance free legal advice services by implementing a series of measures, including an increase in duty lawyer fees and opening of an additional office for the Legal Advice Scheme for Unrepresented Litigants on Civil Procedures. (CSO) ([New Initiative](#))
- Strive to enhance legal aid services to benefit more people who cannot afford private legal fees. (CSO)

Security

- Launch a territory-wide smart identity card replacement exercise to upgrade identity card security features and enhance efficiency of boundary-crossing. (SB) ([New Initiative](#))

- Take forward the “Action Plan to Tackle Trafficking in Persons and to Enhance Protection of Foreign Domestic Helpers in Hong Kong”, strengthening efforts in victim identification, investigation, enforcement, prosecution, victim protection and support, prevention and partnership with different stakeholders. (SB/LWB) (New Initiative)
- Continue with the comprehensive review of the strategy of handling non-refoulement claims: sustaining efforts in combating the smuggling of non-ethnic Chinese illegal immigrants to Hong Kong and implementing other pre-arrival control measures; expediting the screening of claims and appeals, as well as the removal of rejected claimants; studying detention measures; stepping up enforcement targeting unlawful employment and other criminal offences; and introducing a bill to amend the Immigration Ordinance to improve the screening procedures for non-refoulement claims and related matters. (SB)
- Continue with the anti-drug efforts through a five-pronged strategy of preventive education and publicity, treatment and rehabilitation, legislation and enforcement, external co-operation and research. (SB)
- Provide rehabilitation programmes which match the needs of persons in custody to help them rehabilitate and re-integrate into the community. (SB)
- Seek short-term and long-term solutions to improve ageing penal facilities. (SB)

Strengthening Anti-corruption Efforts

- Further step up efforts of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) in collaborating with and assisting the anti-corruption agencies of the Belt and Road countries, particularly the Association of Southeast Asian Nations member states, to build up anti-corruption capacity and continue with the existing arrangement of providing training to graft fighters of other countries upon request, thereby fulfilling Hong Kong's obligations under the United Nations Convention Against Corruption. The ICAC will also strengthen co-operation with counterparts in the Greater Bay Area in fighting against corruption. Such efforts will benefit Hong Kong's different sectors and enterprises in venturing into business in these countries and places, further expand the ICAC's global anti-corruption network and demonstrate to the international community Hong Kong's unwavering commitment to the combat against corruption. (ICAC)
- Continue to enhance integrity training, which includes the production of a new web learning package, for government officers and public officials to heighten their vigilance on corruption pitfalls and the offence of misconduct in public office. (ICAC)
- Continue to promote Hong Kong's corruption-free environment and integrity system as our competitive advantage to the international community through wider engagement of international anti-corruption ranking institutions in the ICAC's exchange and visit programmes, and through the enhanced international publicity efforts on the International Perspective online platform of the ICAC's corporate website. (ICAC)

- Launch the Support Clean Elections Programme comprising a series of education and publicity activities, and assist the authorities concerned in the review of electoral legislation and guidelines so as to uphold integrity and fairness in the 2019 Rural Representative Election and District Council Election. (ICAC)

Emergency Support

- Introduce new elements into the public education on fire prevention and the ambulance service to enhance public awareness of emergency preparedness and strengthen the self-help capability and survival skills of the public in case of emergencies. (SB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

Chapter 3

Diversified Economy, Better Jobs

Preamble

In the face of intensifying competition from global and neighbouring economies, the rise of protectionism and trade friction between China and the United States, Hong Kong is facing increasing challenges. We must strive for innovation to develop a high value-added and diversified economy, as well as capitalise on the opportunities presented by the national Belt and Road (B&R) Initiative and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Greater Bay Area) development for generating new impetus for the growth of those industries where we enjoy advantages.

The B&R Initiative is giving us a long-term promise of transnational and intercontinental connectivity and will add new impetus to our economy. In the coming year, the Government will continue to contribute to the Initiative across all areas of its wide-ranging connectivity, from policy co-ordination, financial integration, unimpeded trade and facilities connectivity to people-to-people bond. We will follow up on the 26 collaboration measures under the Arrangement which we entered into with the National Development and Reform Commission to advance Hong Kong's full participation and contribution to the B&R Initiative. We will, through continuous collaboration with the Mainland authorities as well as our partners in B&R related countries and regions, consolidate our unique advantages as both a key link and the best collaboration platform for the B&R development.

For Hong Kong, the importance of the development of the Greater Bay Area is far-reaching and transcends economic benefits. On 15 August this year, the Chief Executive attended the first plenary meeting of the leading group for the development of the Greater Bay Area as a member in Beijing. The meeting was led and convened by the Vice Premier of the State Council, Mr HAN Zheng, to discuss and plan for priority areas of work for the next stage of the Greater Bay Area's development. The leading group serves as a top-tier mechanism to co-ordinate and advance the development of the Greater Bay Area. Looking ahead, we will make good use of the Chief Executive's membership of the leading group and continue to leverage on Hong Kong's strengths to serve the needs of the country and grasp the economic, social and livelihood opportunities brought by the development of the Greater Bay Area to Hong Kong.

Regarding financial development, we will actively strengthen the protection of our monetary and financial systems and enhance our risk management and fund raising capacity. We will further modernise the regulatory framework, encourage enterprises to enrich their financial products and businesses, and strike an appropriate balance between market development and the protection of account holders, customers and investors.

The maritime industry is a major driving force and bedrock for supporting the development of Hong Kong's trade and logistics industries. With the continuous development of the B&R Initiative and the Greater Bay Area, we will seek to entrench Hong Kong's status as a high value-added maritime services centre and an important transshipment hub of the Asia-Pacific region. We will continue to serve as the best springboard for Mainland maritime companies seeking to "go global", and to provide facilitation for international maritime organisations to set up presence in Hong Kong and tap the Mainland market. We will implement tax relief proposals to promote

marine insurance in Hong Kong, and have started exploring the feasibility of introducing tax measures to foster ship leasing business.

To reinforce Hong Kong's status as an international and regional aviation hub, we will continue to augment the passenger and cargo handling capacity of the Hong Kong International Airport. Measures include actively assisting the Airport Authority Hong Kong in implementing the Three-Runway System, upgrading the airport infrastructure, and developing intermodal facilities. The Government will also continue to actively study and implement various measures for optimising the management of Pearl River Delta airspace.

Innovation and technology is crucial to promoting economic development, raising the competitiveness of the city and the quality of living of its people. We will seize the opportunities arising from the development of the Greater Bay Area and turn Hong Kong into an international innovation and technology hub; press ahead at full steam with initiatives in the eight major areas set by the Chief Executive for promoting innovation and technology; and promote smart city development to enhance city management. We will continue to provide strong infrastructure and policy support. We will also strategically attract top innovation and technology institutions to set up operations in Hong Kong, thereby creating more quality job opportunities.

On creative industries, we will make good use of the \$1 billion injection into the CreateSmart Initiative obtained in this financial year to enhance Hong Kong's status as a creative capital in the region in collaboration with industry bodies. We also plan to inject \$1 billion into the Film Development Fund in the coming year to strengthen support for the film sector in developing a diversified talent pool, enhancing local film production, market expansion and building up local and overseas audiences.

With the advent of the fifth generation mobile service, we will assign the relevant spectrum in the coming year to operators to keep pace with the market and smart city development, thereby reinforcing Hong Kong's position as a telecommunications hub in the region. In addition, we will continue with the legislative review and amendment in relation to broadcasting and telecommunications.

Hong Kong relies on adequate and quality human resources to provide momentum for continued economic development. To tackle the challenges brought by an ageing population, the Government has introduced a series of initiatives to unleash the potential of the local labour force, enhance the quality of local talent and attract non-local talent. The Human Resources Planning Commission, chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, will undertake high-level co-ordination of human resources planning and development.

Policy Initiatives

Finance

Monetary Stability

- Risks and uncertainties in international monetary systems continue to rise. Geopolitical tensions, trade friction between China and the United States (US) and the pace of normalisation of US monetary policy will affect global capital flows. As a small and extremely open economy, a stable and credible monetary system is crucial. The Linked Exchange Rate System or “The Peg” is the cornerstone of Hong Kong’s monetary stability, which underpins the strength of the Hong Kong economy. It continues to be in the best interest of Hong Kong for now and in the foreseeable future. We will continue to do our utmost to safeguard the sound structure of our monetary system and maintain the confidence that Hong Kong and the international community have in our monetary system, thus enhancing the credibility of our monetary policy. (FSTB)

Financial Safety

- Enhance the day-to-day communication among the regulators to ensure timely updating of contingency plans for unforeseen financial events as well as exchange of financial safety analyses and relevant risk prevention measures; and make full use of the existing consultation mechanisms and introduce new channels as necessary to exchange ideas and strategies on financial safety with the industry. (FSTB)

- Facilitate the Legislative Council’s scrutiny of the Financial Reporting Council (Amendment) Bill 2018, which aims to further enhance the independence of the existing regulatory regime for listed entity auditors from the audit profession so as to enhance investor protection and ensure that the regime is benchmarked against international standards and practices. (FSTB)
- Assist the Insurance Authority in preparing for the implementation of a new licensing regime for insurance intermediaries to replace the existing self-regulatory regime. (FSTB)
- Prepare legislation for the implementation of a risk-based capital regime for the insurance industry, which aims to align Hong Kong’s regulatory regime with international standards and make capital requirements more sensitive to the level of risk borne by insurance companies. (FSTB)
- Prepare legislation for the establishment of a policy holders’ protection scheme for protecting policy holders’ interests and stabilising the market in the event of insurer insolvency. (FSTB)
- Prepare legislation for the introduction of a statutory corporate rescue procedure and insolvent trading provisions to provide an option for companies in short-term financial difficulties to initiate the procedure with a view to reviving their business, instead of winding up the company immediately. (FSTB)

Finance Serving the Economy

- Develop Hong Kong into a broader and deeper platform for fund raising to cater for the new economy. Co-operation with the financial sector will be strengthened to enhance the role of the financial market in serving the real economy and to bring regulatory and compliance processes up to international standards while facilitating business. Meanwhile, we will promote diversification of the financial industry and will also explore ways to augment the scope of qualified financial institutions in providing financial services to the Government. (FSTB)

International Financial Centre

- Collaborate with the regulator and professional bodies concerned to assist listed companies in establishing/reviewing their anti-bribery management systems and enhancing the disclosure of their anti-corruption measures. (ICAC) (New Initiative)
- Enhance Hong Kong's position as a major platform of capital raising and financing as well as a financial services hub for Mainland and overseas enterprises by capitalising on the opportunities brought by the development of the Greater Bay Area and the B&R Initiative. (FSTB)
- Continue with the efforts to promote investor education and enhance investor protection amidst the increasing innovation of the financial market and financial products. (FSTB)
- Implement the arrangement for automatic exchange of tax information and measures to tackle base erosion and profit shifting of enterprises to ensure that Hong Kong meets the international standards in relation to tax transparency and tax evasion prevention. (FSTB)

Offshore Renminbi Business Hub, International Asset Management Centre

- Apart from making better use of the existing Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) framework, we will seize the opportunities arising from national strategies and promote Hong Kong as a financial services centre for B&R projects. We will encourage long-term funds to invest in and finance B&R infrastructure projects, promote Hong Kong's insurance and risk management platform to enterprises for cross-boundary business, and enhance regional co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland. (CEDB/FSTB)
- Continue to enhance access to the Mainland market for Hong Kong financial institutions through the existing platform for co-operation between the two places, which includes exploring further relaxation of shareholding restrictions on Hong Kong financial institutions to set up various types of joint venture securities companies and increase in the number of such companies to be set up on the Mainland. (FSTB)
- Reinforce the status of Hong Kong as a global hub for offshore Renminbi (RMB) business: deepen our financial co-operation with the Mainland and mutual financial market access between the two places in order to enrich the variety of RMB-denominated financial products in Hong Kong; and enhance our market infrastructure and financial platforms, with a view to strengthening our RMB business links with overseas markets and promoting Hong Kong's offshore RMB business. (FSTB)

-
- Continue to consolidate our leading role as an asset and wealth management centre in the Asia-Pacific region and promote a more comprehensive development of Hong Kong's fund and asset management industry. Following the commencement of the open-ended fund company regime and the related profits tax exemption arrangement on 30 July 2018, the Government is working on the proposal to introduce a limited partnership regime in Hong Kong. The Government will also continue to promote mutual recognition of funds arrangements. (FSTB)

Fostering Development of the Financial Services Industry

- Kick-off a two-year Ethics Promotion Campaign for the Insurance Industry to strengthen integrity and professional ethics amongst practitioners and entrench a probity culture in the industry, through the production of new training resources and a dedicated online training portal for the industry. (ICAC) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Support the work on the incorporation of the Financial Services Development Council (FSDC) as a company limited by guarantee. Provide the FSDC with the necessary resources to strengthen its capacity in conducting strategic studies, providing advice, fostering market development and nurturing talent, with a view to enhancing Hong Kong's competitiveness in the international financial market. (FSTB)
- Continue to implement the three-year Pilot Programme to Enhance Talent Training for the Insurance Sector and the Asset and Wealth Management Sector through offering internship opportunities to graduates and university students, providing financial subsidies to practitioners to attend training courses and conducting public education. The Government will review the cost-effectiveness of the initiatives and consider which of them warrant continuation, and if so, in what form. (FSTB)

Financial Innovation

- Amend the Insurance Ordinance (Cap. 41) to allow for the formation of special purpose vehicles specifically for issuing insurance-linked securities in Hong Kong. (FSTB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Continue to foster the development of financial technologies (Fintech) in Hong Kong through a five-pronged approach, namely promotion, facilitation, regulation, talent and funding. The Government will also proactively encourage the development of mobile payment channels, including the adoption of a common QR code standard for retail payment. While promoting financial innovation, we will also strive to protect the interest of the investing public. (FSTB)
- To demonstrate the Government's support for sustainable development and determination to combat climate change, and to promote the development of green finance in Hong Kong, the Government plans to launch a Government Green Bond Programme with a borrowing ceiling of \$100 billion, and is currently seeking the Legislative Council's authorisation to take forward the Programme so that the inaugural government green bond can be issued as soon as possible. The sum raised under the Programme will provide funding for the Government's public works projects with environmental benefits. A Green Bond Grant Scheme has also been launched by the Government to subsidise eligible green bond issuers in obtaining certification under the Green Finance Certification Scheme. (FSTB/ENB)

Transportation Services and Logistics

- Explore the feasibility of introducing tax concession measures to attract more ship leasing companies to set up presence and expand business in Hong Kong, thereby providing new impetus for the further development of Hong Kong's maritime industry. (THB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Amend the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) to implement tax relief proposals for promoting the development of marine insurance and underwriting of specialty risks in Hong Kong. (FSTB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Inject \$200 million into the Maritime and Aviation Training Fund to continue its operation and support the introduction of new schemes, so as to benefit more students and in-service practitioners of the maritime and aviation industries. (THB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Further enhance the services of Hong Kong Shipping Registry (HKSR) by setting up Regional Desks in selected Government's overseas and Mainland offices to provide support to shipowners and promote HKSR. (THB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- To consolidate Hong Kong's position as an international maritime centre, the Government will, through the Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board, work with the industry to formulate holistic strategies. These include exploring and implementing trade facilitation measures for the maritime industry, nurturing maritime talent through the Maritime and Aviation Training Fund, organising visits and promotions for better communication and collaboration with the Mainland and overseas economies, actively driving and facilitating the development of our maritime industry and high-value-added maritime services, as well as encouraging renowned overseas and Mainland maritime enterprises to set up presence in Hong Kong. (THB)
- Engage independent professionals to advise on the feasibility of the relaxation of air draft restriction at Tsing Ma Bridge, so as to strike a balance between bridge and navigation safety, and facilitate the access of large container vessels to Hong Kong Port. The target is to complete the relevant study by mid-2019. (THB)
- Progressively implement port enhancement measures to maintain the competitiveness of Hong Kong Port, including the provision of additional terminal yard space and barge berths in phases to increase the container handling capacity of the Kwai Tsing Container Terminals and the better use of back-up land of the terminals. (THB)
- Facilitate the provision of high value-added third-party logistics services in Hong Kong by continuing to work with the departments concerned to identify suitable sites for the development of modern logistics facilities. (THB)

-
- Continue to actively assist the Airport Authority Hong Kong in implementing the Three-Runway System at the Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) and ensure the completion of Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge. Their ancillary facilities will also be fine-tuned. These initiatives will increase Hong Kong's air and land transport throughput, placing us in an advantageous position to embrace the business opportunities in shipping and logistics and to reinforce our status as an aviation hub and maritime centre. (THB)

 - Enhance HKIA's runway capacity before the implementation of the Three-Runway System by:
 - continuing to closely collaborate with the Civil Aviation Administration of China in airspace management with a view to progressively achieving the target capacity of the Three-Runway System of the HKIA; and
 - continuing to study and implement the latest air traffic management technologies so as to marginally enhance the capacity of the existing two runways of the HKIA to meet the imminent air traffic demand. (THB)

 - Foster Hong Kong as an international aviation training hub by:
 - strengthening collaboration with international aviation organisations and institutions in training and capacity building with a view to enhancing civil aviation capacity and safety awareness in the region; and
 - continuing to support the Hong Kong International Aviation Academy in nurturing local and regional talent in the aviation sector. (THB)

Tourism, Hotel, Retail and Catering Industries

- Continue to implement the Development Blueprint for Hong Kong's Tourism Industry by taking forward various tourism initiatives and measures in accordance with four development strategies, namely: to develop a diversified portfolio of visitor source markets for Hong Kong, with a focus on attracting high value-added overnight visitors; to nurture and develop tourism products and initiatives with local and international characteristics (including green tourism, in-depth local tourism, etc.); to develop smart tourism; and to upgrade the service quality of Hong Kong's tourism industry. (CEDB)
- Continue to assist the tourism industry in grasping the opportunities brought by the B&R Initiative and the development of the Greater Bay Area, with measures including launching "multi-destination" tourism products, and supporting the Hong Kong Tourism Board in stepping up its promotion work in target source markets (including countries and regions along the B&R as well as cities in the Greater Bay Area). (CEDB)
- Continue to serve as promoter and facilitator through hosting various types of world-class events and attracting more mega events to be held in Hong Kong, with a view to developing Hong Kong into an events capital of Asia. (CEDB)
- Continue with the work of setting up a new regulatory regime for the travel industry, including providing necessary resources for the establishment and initial operation of the Travel Industry Authority. (CEDB)

-
- Enhance the tourism appeal of Sham Shui Po and Wan Chai Districts and enrich visitors' experience through collaboration with the creative industries in staging creative tourism events that feature fashion parades, public art works, comic characters with local originality, and multimedia creative technology. (CEDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
 - Enhance the appeal of the Hong Kong Wetland Park as an eco-tourism attraction by upgrading its facilities to offer better visitors' experience of the wetland wildlife and habitats. (CEDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
 - Support the strategic repositioning of the Ocean Park to enhance the tourism appeal of the park and attract more high value-added overnight visitors to Hong Kong. (CEDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
 - Reinforce and enhance the status of Wan Chai North as a convention and exhibition hub in Asia by constructing a convention centre above the Exhibition Centre Station of the Shatin to Central Link upon the latter's completion, and redeveloping the sites of the three government towers in Wan Chai North and Kong Wan Fire Station for convention and exhibition, hotel and office uses. (CEDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

Professional Services

- Continue to proactively strive for more liberalisation measures for our professional services when forging trade agreements with the Mainland and overseas governments. At the same time, we will allocate more resources to promote Hong Kong as a platform for providing professional services and a centre for dispute resolution services under the B&R Initiative. Through the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) and the Greater Bay Area development, we seek to enhance co-operation and assist the professional services sector in further opening up the Mainland market. (CEDB/DoJ/FSTB/DEVB/CMAB)
- Continue to discuss with the Mainland mutual recognition of professional qualifications and deepening of co-operation between Hong Kong and Qianhai, Nansha and Hengqin, according to the Agreement on Economic and Technical Co-operation under CEPA signed on 28 June 2017. (DEVB)
- Continue to take forward the Professional Services Advancement Support Scheme to support projects undertaken by trade and industry organisations, professional bodies and research institutes on exchanges, publicity and enhancement of professional standards, so as to assist Hong Kong's professional services sector in tapping business opportunities in external markets (including B&R related countries and regions and cities in the Greater Bay Area). (CEDB)

-
- Making reference to Hong Kong's construction consultant companies participating in the country's foreign aid construction projects in Nepal and Cambodia, we will continue to pursue with the China International Development Cooperation Agency and the Ministry of Commerce for provision of further opportunities for Hong Kong's consultant companies to take part in more and different types of construction projects and expansion of their scope of work by allowing them to perform "full-range" Hong Kong-style services from project planning to completion. (DEVB)

International Legal and Dispute Resolution Services Centre in the Asia-Pacific Region

- With the introduction of the Mediation Mechanism for Investment Disputes in the Investment Agreement made under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA), Hong Kong will provide training for mediators in handling international investment disputes with a view to building up a team of international investment dispute mediators in Asia to support resolution of investment disputes through mediation. (DoJ) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Encourage the development of online dispute resolution, and give policy support to the development of a B&R e-arbitration and e-mediation platform by non-governmental organisations so that Hong Kong will be able to provide efficient and cost-effective online dispute resolution services. In addition, we also give policy support to the development of a smart contract platform for use by enterprises of countries along the B&R in exploiting developments in LawTech to facilitate deal making and dispute resolution. (DoJ) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- Study the desirability and means of establishing a Belt and Road Dispute Resolution Centre, and formulate a set of bespoke B&R dispute resolution rules for the resolution of disputes arising from B&R transactions which will be manifestly international and multilingual, to overcome geographical distances and language barriers that exist between the B&R economies. (DoJ) (New Initiative)
- Actively support legal professionals to enhance co-operation and exchanges with the Mainland and at the regional and international levels. (DoJ) (New Initiative)
- Promote Hong Kong as a regional capacity building centre for international law and dispute resolution through organising and co-organising international conferences and training programmes with international and local bodies. (DoJ) (New Initiative)
- Continue to enhance the overall co-ordination of the Department of Justice's work concerning mediation, arbitration, etc. through the Joint Dispute Resolution Strategy Office, and step up the promotion of Hong Kong's international legal and dispute resolution services as well as its status as a regional capacity building centre so that enterprises on the Mainland and in jurisdictions along the B&R will use such professional services of Hong Kong in their business development. (DoJ)
- In accordance with the Arbitration and Mediation Legislation (Third Party Funding) (Amendment) Ordinance 2017, the Authorized Body will issue a code of practice for third party funding after public consultation. (DoJ)

-
- Provide mediation facilities in the vicinity of the West Kowloon Law Courts Building to encourage the use of mediation by members of the public to resolve suitable Small Claims Tribunal cases and other appropriate types of disputes through a pilot mediation scheme, with a view to promoting more extensive use of mediation to resolve disputes and enhancing public awareness of mediation as a means of dispute resolution. (DoJ)
 - Promote the use of evaluative mediation (in addition to facilitative mediation) for resolving appropriate types of disputes including those concerning intellectual property. (DoJ)
 - Enhance co-operation with the Mainland authorities, local legal profession, and arbitration and mediation institutions in Hong Kong to facilitate the provision of international legal and dispute resolution services on the Mainland by Hong Kong professionals, and strive to consolidate Hong Kong's position and competitiveness as a leading centre for international legal and dispute resolution services in the Asia-Pacific region under the Framework Agreement on Deepening Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Cooperation in the Development of the Greater Bay Area. (DoJ)

- Create favourable environment and infrastructure so as to facilitate international legal and dispute resolution institutions (especially world-class institutions) to provide services or set up offices in Hong Kong. Measures include providing such institutions with space in the West Wing of the former Central Government Offices and the former French Mission Building. So far, 17 reputable local, regional and international institutions have confirmed acceptance of the space offered. Selection and space allocation work will continue, and space in the Legal Hub will be made available to selected institutions starting from around mid-2019. (DoJ)

- Continue to enhance promotion of Hong Kong's international legal and dispute resolution services through participation in meetings of international organisations and co-operation with international organisations such as the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, as well as participation in the work of the Friends of the Chair group on Strengthening Economic and Legal Infrastructure under the Economic Committee of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (including its work plan on online dispute resolution). (DoJ)

- Continue to enhance legal co-operation in civil and commercial matters between Hong Kong and the Mainland, including seeking early introduction of a legislative bill to implement the Arrangement on Reciprocal Recognition and Enforcement of Civil Judgments in Matrimonial and Family Cases by the Courts of the Mainland and of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, early conclusion of an arrangement with the Mainland to broaden the mechanism for reciprocal recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters, and discussing the enhancement of the existing co-operation on service of judicial documents, etc. (DoJ)

Construction Industry

- Seize the opportunities brought by the B&R Initiative and the development of the Greater Bay Area, and continue to promote the strengths of the construction and related professional services sectors (including good knowledge of international construction standards, extensive experience in the areas of design, project management, infrastructure maintenance, etc.) to provide world-class professional services for the development of the cities in the Greater Bay Area, and to co-operate with the Greater Bay Area cities to jointly open up the infrastructure market of the B&R countries. (DEVB)
- Continue to collaborate with the Construction Industry Council and other key stakeholders to monitor the manpower situation in the construction industry and implement measures to maintain a construction workforce of sufficient strength and quality to meet the industry's manpower demand in the future. (DEVB)
- Continue to prepare the Construction Industry Security of Payment Bill and seek consensus of the industry stakeholders on the details. The new legislation aims to enhance the security of payment in construction-related contracts to improve cash flow of the supply chain in the construction industry. (DEVB)

Uplifting Performance of Public Works Projects

- Enhance the project governance capability and implement strategic policy initiatives through expanding the establishment and functions of the Project Cost Management Office. (DEVB)
(New Initiative)

- Establish the Centre of Excellence for Major Project Leaders to equip major project leaders with strategic and innovative minds and world-class leadership skills in the delivery of public works projects. (DEVB) (New Initiative)
- Collaborate with international organisations through exchanging expertise and experience and making reference to practices suitable for application in Hong Kong to enhance project governance. (DEVB) (New Initiative)
- Collaborate with the government bureaux/departments and public bodies concerned to assist public works contractors to enhance their corruption prevention awareness and capabilities, especially in the areas of integrity management system, control systems in site supervision and management of sub-contractors. (ICAC) (New Initiative)
- Continue to assist the Development Bureau and works departments in strengthening their corruption prevention measures for the quality control of major construction materials used in infrastructure projects and enhancing the corruption prevention awareness and capabilities of the practitioners. (ICAC)

Promoting Hong Kong Construction 2.0

- Promote and lead the adoption of “Hong Kong Construction 2.0” advocating “innovation”, “professionalisation” and “revitalisation” in the construction industry to uplift the capacity and sustainability of the industry, thereby improving productivity, quality, safety and environmental performance. (DEVB) (New Initiative)

-
- Implement the \$1 billion Construction Innovation and Technology Fund to encourage wider adoption of innovative technology to transform the construction industry, thus boosting the industry's capacity to meet construction demands. (DEVB) (New Initiative)

Adopting Innovative Construction Method

- Promote in full scale off-site construction not only to enhance the productivity of the industry and cost-effectiveness of projects but also to achieve enhanced site supervision, thereby improving the quality of works and site safety. We will promote and lead the adoption of Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) in the construction industry so that most of the site operations will be completed by the manufacturing mode in off-site yards. We will also encourage wider use of prefabricated steel reinforcing bar products made by large-scale highly automated steel reinforcing bar prefabrication yards in the construction industry. (DEVB) (New Initiative)
- Continue to promote and lead the adoption of MiC in the construction industry. We will take the lead in piloting MiC in more public projects to further enhance the associated monitoring measures, provide funding support for the industry, consider the gross floor area concessions, as well as intend to study the feasibility of setting up local manufacturing facilities, for facilitating adoption of MiC in the construction industry. (DEVB)
- Major government capital works projects will continue to adopt Building Information Modelling technology. The Government will collaborate with the Construction Industry Council to strengthen training for professionals and develop relevant standards so as to promote the use of such technology in private construction projects. (DEVB)

Innovation and Technology

- Establish at the Hong Kong Science Park two research clusters on healthcare technologies and artificial intelligence/robotics technologies. Proactively attract top local, Mainland and overseas universities, research institutions and technology enterprises in the two technology areas to join the clusters and undertake collaborative researches. (ITB) (New Initiative)
- Double the funding for the technology transfer offices of designated universities; funding provided to designated universities under the Technology Start-up Support Scheme for Universities; and funding provided to the State Key Laboratories and Hong Kong branches of Chinese National Engineering Research Centres. (ITB) (New Initiative)
- Organise a “City I&T Grand Challenge” to invite different sectors to provide technology-based solutions to livelihood issues. In addition to prize money, the winning solutions will be tried out in suitable public organisations with a view to implementing and refining the solutions. (ITB) (New Initiative)
- Support the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation to develop research-related infrastructure and facilities to strengthen support for its tenants and incubatees. (ITB) (New Initiative)
- Implement a Technology Talent Admission Scheme to expedite and streamline the procedure for admitting technology talent. (ITB)

-
- Enhance the Cyberport Incubation Programme and the Cyberport Creative Micro Fund, and introduce new schemes such as the Overseas/Mainland Market Development Support Scheme and the Easy Landing Scheme, to support Cyberport's start-ups and tenants. (ITB) (New Initiative)
 - Support Cyberport in promoting the development of e-sports in Hong Kong, including providing a dedicated e-sports competition venue, organising local and regional competitions and major events, launching training programmes and public promotion activities, supporting the industry and nurturing talent. (ITB) (New Initiative)
 - Actively develop the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park in the Lok Ma Chau Loop Area with a view to establishing a key base for co-operation in scientific research with related higher education, cultural and creative as well as other ancillary facilities in the Park, and continue to take forward the relevant infrastructure works. (ITB/DEVB)
 - Proactively participate in building the Greater Bay Area into an international innovation and technology (I&T) hub by leveraging Hong Kong's strengths in areas such as technology research and development and internationalisation. (ITB) (New Initiative)
 - Support the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation on the construction of the InnoCell adjacent to the Science Park to provide residential units and ancillary facilities for tenants and incubatees of the Park. (ITB)
 - Support the 16 State Key Laboratories and six Hong Kong branches of the Chinese National Engineering Research Centres in conducting research and development activities in a diverse range of disciplines. (ITB)

- Promote venture capital funds' investment in local I&T start-ups through the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund. (ITB)
- Cyberport has set up a Smart-Space co-working space of around 20 000 square feet in Tsuen Wan under the Government's Space Sharing Scheme for Youth to provide further support for digital technology start-ups. The Smart-Space is now in operation. (ITB)
- Continue to facilitate trials of autonomous vehicles at appropriate locations. (THB)
- Commence a design and application study for the installation of in-vehicle units for better traffic management, tunnel toll payment, etc. Subject to the findings of the study and discussions with relevant stakeholders, we will explore the feasibility of installing in-vehicle units by owners of different types of vehicles on a voluntary basis. (THB)
- Install a new generation of on-street parking meters which provide parking space vacancy information and accept remote payment through mobile applications. (THB)
- Adopt a pro-innovation government procurement policy to help improve the delivery of public services, thereby facilitating I&T start-ups and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to take part in government procurement, contributing to the development of local I&T. (FSTB/ITB)
- Roll out initiatives in the Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong, including the following key infrastructure projects for smart city development:

-
- continuing to increase the number of free Wi-Fi hotspots through the “Wi-Fi Connected City” programme and other measures to enhance services for the convenience of both locals and visitors;
 - providing an “eID” for all Hong Kong residents free of charge, allowing them to use a single digital identity and authentication to conduct Government and commercial transactions online;
 - implementing a pilot Multi-functional Smart Lamppost scheme by putting up some 400 smart lampposts in four selected districts with high pedestrian flow, including Central/Admiralty, Causeway Bay/Wan Chai, Tsim Sha Tsui and Kwun Tong/Kai Tak Development Area; and
 - reforming the technology for e-Government systems development and building a big data analytics platform to support the adoption of cloud services and new information technology by government bureaux and departments, thereby enhancing operational efficiency and cyber security. (ITB)
- Enhance the GovHK portal by introducing artificial intelligence and chatbot functions to facilitate the search and use of e-Government services, and step up the implementation of e-Government with the application of eID. (ITB) (New Initiative)

- Establish a Smart Government Innovation Lab to co-ordinate and facilitate the promotion of Smart Government, including inviting the industry to submit proposals for information technology application and product suggestions for various public services, as well as arranging trials and technology testing for suitable proposals, thereby allowing government departments to effectively formulate innovative measures to improve public services and create more business opportunities for local start-ups and SMEs. (ITB) (New Initiative)
- Launch a pilot chatbot service at the 1823 call centre to answer public enquiries. (ITB) (New Initiative)
- Allocate an additional \$500 million for the TechConnect (block vote) to further promote the use of technology by government departments with a view to enhancing service quality. (ITB) (New Initiative)
- Continue to promote the adoption of e-commerce by SMEs. (ITB)
- Continue to subsidise, through the Innovation and Technology Fund for Better Living, I&T projects which will bring more convenient, more comfortable and safer living to the public or will address the needs of specific community groups. (ITB)
- Continue to encourage car park operators in Kowloon East to provide real-time parking vacancy information for the convenience of motorists, thereby also helping to reduce traffic. Currently, real-time information of over 65% of the hourly parking spaces in the area is available to the public. (DEVB)

-
- Support the establishment of a Common Spatial Data Infrastructure portal, a geo-platform for the integration, exchange and sharing of geographic spatial data, to tie in with the development of a smart city. (DEVB)
 - Share the knowledge and experiences gained from carrying out the smart city-related proof-of-concept trials in Kowloon East with relevant government departments and stakeholders to facilitate wider application. (DEVB)
 - Continue to collaborate with different research and academic institutions, using Kowloon East as a test bed for studies on smart city-related technology. (DEVB)
 - Collaborate with airlines to promote the use and continuous improvement of “MyFlightWx”, a mobile application developed by the Hong Kong Observatory, which provides electronically latest inflight weather information to flight crew. (CEDB) ([New Initiative](#))

Re-industrialisation

- Set up a \$2 billion Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme to fund manufacturers on a matching basis to set up smart production line in Hong Kong. (ITB) ([New Initiative](#))
- Provide \$2 billion to the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation for developing facilities for advanced manufacturing in the Industrial Estates. (ITB) ([New Initiative](#))

- Implement a five-year Technology Talent Scheme, which comprises a Postdoctoral Hub programme to provide funding support for Innovation and Technology Fund recipients as well as incubatees and innovation and technology tenants of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation/Cyberport to recruit two postdoctoral talent for research and development work, and a Re-industrialisation and Technology Training Programme to subsidise local companies on a 2:1 matching basis for training their staff in advanced technologies, especially those related to Industry 4.0. (ITB)
- The Hong Kong Productivity Council jointly will set up an Invention Centre with the Fraunhofer Institute for Production Technology of Germany in October 2018 to accelerate the adoption of innovative industrial technologies by the industry, thereby promoting the development of smart industry. (ITB)
- Support the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation on the Science Park expansion project and the development of an Advanced Manufacturing Centre and a Data Technology Hub in Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate to promote re-industrialisation. (ITB)
- Commission the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation to conduct a visionary study and a technical feasibility study on the development of an industrial estate near the Liantang/Heung Yuen Wai boundary control point. (ITB)

Testing and Certification

- Support the development of the testing and certification industry and assist the industry in exploring business opportunities through the Hong Kong Council for Testing and Certification under a market-driven approach. (ITB)

Creative Industries

- Make good use of the new \$1 billion injection into the CreateSmart Initiative to further promote the development of creative industries, especially nurturing young talent, developing new markets and enhancing the community's understanding of creativity and design thinking. (CEDB)
- Continue to promote creativity and design thinking as problem-solving capability to the public, schools and enterprises, and within the Government, in collaboration with the Hong Kong Design Centre, Efficiency Office and Civil Service Training and Development Institute; and encourage use of design thinking in the government procurement process to further enhance efficiency and meet the public's needs. (CEDB)
- Actively explore, in collaboration with Hong Kong Design Centre, setting up an event space in Wan Chai to promote and enhance public appreciation of design and design thinking. (CEDB) ([New Initiative](#))
- Continue to implement the Sham Shui Po Design and Fashion Project for nurturing of young designers (including fashion designers) and design start-ups and development of the local economy; and to collaborate with the Hong Kong Tourism Board to organise promotion activities with elements of fashion design in Sham Shui Po to enrich the tourism resources of the district. (CEDB)
- Provide an additional \$1 billion to the Film Development Fund (FDF) for the further development of local film industry by nurturing talent, enhancing local film production, expanding markets and building up local and overseas audiences. (CEDB) ([New Initiative](#))

- Deepen collaboration with the film industry in organising training programmes and enhancing local and overseas internship and exchange programmes, with a view to nurturing talent for different professional segments of the film industry and diversifying the talent pool. (CEDB) (New Initiative)
- Refine the different film production-related and other relevant funding schemes and launch new initiatives under the FDF to strengthen support for the development of the film industry, having regard to market trends, development needs of the film industry and the effectiveness of the existing measures. (CEDB) (New Initiative)
- Report to the Legislative Council on the work relating to the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance as and when appropriate. (CEDB)

Intellectual Property

- Enhance our intellectual property regime to meet Hong Kong's socio-economic needs:
 - pressing ahead with the establishment of an “original grant patent” system to support efforts to develop Hong Kong into a regional innovation and technology hub;
 - continuing the implementation of measures to strengthen Hong Kong's position as an intellectual property trading hub in the Asia-Pacific region;

-
- amending the Trade Marks Ordinance for Hong Kong to implement the international registration system under the Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks, with the aim of enabling businesses to save time and cost in obtaining and managing international trade mark registrations; and
 - amending the Copyright Ordinance to enhance the copyright exceptions to cater for the needs of persons with print disabilities, so as to meet the requirements under the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled. (CEDB)

Broadcasting and Telecommunications

- Invite tenders for the subsidy scheme to extend fibre-based networks to villages in remote areas to enhance the coverage of higher speed fixed broadband network. (CEDB)
- Continue with the review of the Broadcasting Ordinance and the Telecommunications Ordinance, including:
 - introducing legislative amendments to facilitate the development and innovation of the broadcasting industry by implementing relaxation proposals identified in the review; and
 - reviewing the telecommunications regulatory framework to ensure that it dovetails with the latest developments in telecommunications technologies, so as to facilitate the operation of the industry, thereby consolidating Hong Kong's position as a regional telecommunications hub. (CEDB)

- Facilitate the development of the fifth generation (5G) public mobile service by making available radio spectrum in a timely manner and by implementing facilitation measures for opening up suitable government premises and public facilities for mobile network operators to roll out 5G networks. (CEDB) ([New Initiative](#))
- Re-assign the 200 MHz of spectrum in the 900 MHz and 1 800 MHz bands by the hybrid administrative and market-based approach to ensure smooth handover between operators upon expiry of the existing assignments in 2020 to 2021. (CEDB)
- Introduce legislative amendments to strengthen regulation of person-to-person telemarketing calls by establishing a statutory Do-not-call Register. (CEDB) ([New Initiative](#))

Agriculture and Fisheries Industry

- Promote the sustainable development of local fisheries through various measures, including:
 - encouraging the industry to make good use of the \$500 million Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund;
 - continuing our efforts to proactively combat illegal fishing activities including trawling; and
 - designating new fish culture zone(s) and issuing new marine fish culture licences. (FHB) ([New Initiative](#))
- Continue to implement the New Agriculture Policy by adopting a more proactive approach to promote the modernisation and sustainable development of local agriculture. Major measures include:

-
- establishing an Agricultural Park;
 - optimising the \$500 million Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund;
 - conducting the study on designating Agricultural Priority Areas;
 - strengthening support for the sector to help farmers move up the value chain through, inter alia marketing of products and brand building; and
 - promoting agriculture-related leisure and educational activities. (FHB)
- Continue the implementation of the Hong Kong Strategy and Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance, including conducting a study to devise an antimicrobial resistance surveillance plan for local livestock and fish farms, collecting information on antimicrobial use in locally produced food animals, and liaising with the veterinary sector to facilitate the use of the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund and the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund for providing veterinary support services for the livestock and fish farms. (FHB)
 - Continue our efforts to enhance the quality assurance of local agricultural and fisheries products to ensure food safety. (FHB)

Improving Regulatory Infrastructure

- Consider introducing legislation to implement statutory cooling-off period for consumer contracts of certain services and launch a public consultation on the proposals. (CEDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

The New Role of Government in Promoting Economic Development

New Direction for Taxation

- Explore jointly with the relevant Mainland authorities the appropriate measures to reduce the tax burden of teachers and researchers who cross the boundary for work. The purpose is to promote the flow of scientific research talents between the Mainland and Hong Kong, thereby fostering the development of the Greater Bay Area into a global technology and innovation hub. (FSTB) (New Initiative)
- Provide super tax deduction for qualifying expenditure incurred by enterprises on research and development (R&D) in order to incentivise companies to increase investment in technological R&D activities. (ITB)
- Continue to expand Hong Kong's network of Comprehensive Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreements. (FSTB)

Supporting Economic Development

- Invest in infrastructure development to improve people's livelihood, promote economic growth, create employment opportunities and enhance the long-term competitiveness of Hong Kong. (DEVB)

Promoting Mainland and External Affairs

- Actively seek to forge free trade agreements and investment promotion and protection agreements with other economies, including B&R related countries and regions, thereby enhancing the trade, investment and people flow with the economies concerned, and opening up the B&R and other overseas markets for Hong Kong enterprises and professionals. (CEDB)

-
- Continue to engage in policy dialogues and collaboration exchanges with the Mainland authorities, enabling the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to act timely and in concert with them in promoting the B&R Initiative, thereby achieving complementary development with the Mainland and fuller integration into the overall national development. (CEDB)
 - Continue to organise the Belt and Road Summit and other large-scale exhibitions to promote and foster Hong Kong as an international commerce and trading platform for the B&R Initiative. (CEDB)
 - Follow up on the implementation of the measures set out in the “Arrangement between the National Development and Reform Commission and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for Advancing Hong Kong’s Full Participation in and Contribution to the Belt and Road Initiative”, which was signed in December 2017, through the Belt and Road Joint Conference mechanism. (CEDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
 - Support the Hong Kong Trade Development Council in enhancing its Belt and Road Portal into a more comprehensive and current one-stop B&R platform, thereby facilitating enterprises in identifying and capturing business opportunities that best match their needs. (CEDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
 - Promote partnership by introducing collaboration and business matching opportunities to facilitate project interfacing between enterprises in Hong Kong and on the Mainland, and foster participation in B&R projects and development of economic and trade co-operation zones. (CEDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- Enhance the capacity of the Hong Kong professional services sector under the B&R Initiative with a view to better equipping the professional services to capitalise on the opportunities and meet the challenges brought by the Initiative. (CEDB) ([New Initiative](#))
- Strengthen ties with the Mainland and B&R related countries and regions, with priority accorded to Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, through organising trade and professional missions, in particular with young entrepreneurs and start-ups, to these economies, and further reinforce government-to-government links with a view to exploring new collaboration opportunities under the B&R Initiative. (CEDB) ([New Initiative](#))
- Actively carry out preparatory work with a view to establishing the Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Bangkok in early 2019. (CEDB)
- Continue to actively discuss with the countries concerned on the detailed arrangements of the proposals to set up new ETOs in Dubai, Moscow, Mumbai and Seoul respectively, so as to expand the overseas ETO network and further explore new business opportunities. (CEDB)
- Strengthen the promotion of Hong Kong as an ideal platform for “going global” and attracting foreign investment, collaborate more closely with the relevant bureaux as well as overseas and Mainland offices and organisations to identify and attract potential enterprises, including start-ups, to set up or expand their businesses in Hong Kong, and enhance the aftercare services for enterprises which have established operations in Hong Kong. (CEDB)

-
- Set up a high-level Steering Committee for the Development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area chaired by the Chief Executive, with membership comprising all Secretaries of Departments and Directors of Bureaux, to more efficiently steer, co-ordinate and take forward the development of the Greater Bay Area. (CMAB) (New Initiative)
 - Take forward the development of the Greater Bay Area pragmatically; refine, deepen and improve efforts continuously, especially in the development of a global technology and innovation hub; and enhance interconnectivity by fostering the flow of people, goods, capital and information within the Greater Bay Area. Set up a Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Development Office and create the post of Commissioner for the Development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to promote Hong Kong's participation in the Greater Bay Area development. (CMAB)
 - Seek to continuously enrich the content of the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA), with a view to securing better access to the Mainland market for Hong Kong businesses and promoting and facilitating trade and investment between the two places. (CEDB)
 - Work with the Mainland authorities through the CEPA Joint Working Group to assist Hong Kong businesses in using CEPA to tap into the Mainland market. (CEDB)
 - Actively explore with Mainland authorities the extension of the Single E-Lock Scheme to more clearance points in the Greater Bay Area, with a view to enhancing cross-boundary cargo flow and expediting cargo clearance. (CEDB) (New Initiative)

- Deepen regional co-operation through our co-operation mechanisms with the Pan-Pearl River Delta region, the Guangdong, Fujian and Sichuan Provinces, the municipalities of Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen and the Macao Special Administrative Region, and promote regional co-operation with other provinces and municipalities by adopting a pragmatic approach and launching initiatives once they are ready. (CMAB)
- Continue to liaise with the Guangdong Provincial Government as well as the municipal governments of Guangzhou, Zhuhai and Shenzhen under the principle of “one country, two systems” regarding their efforts in promoting the development of Nansha, Hengqin and Qianhai. (CMAB)
- Continue to foster economic, trade and cultural exchanges and co-operation between Hong Kong and Taiwan. (CMAB/CEDB/HAB)
- Enhance legal co-operation with Guangdong Province pursuant to the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation. (DoJ)
- Support wine trading and distribution businesses in Hong Kong, riding on the growing demand across Asia. (CEDB)
- Press ahead with the development of the Trade Single Window, for rolling out in phases as soon as practicable, to provide a one-stop electronic platform for the lodging of import and export trade documents with the Government to expedite cargo clearance and further facilitate trade in Hong Kong. (CEDB)

Human Resources

Training of Talent

- The Human Resources Planning Commission chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration will review the manpower situation and challenges in Hong Kong, as well as co-ordinate and collate human resources-related studies and analyses, with a view to exploring viable strategies to enhance the competitiveness of our human capital. (CSO)

Extending Working Life

- In line with the Government's arrangement of extending the retirement age of civil service new recruits, we encourage other employers, in particular public and subvented organisations, to implement appropriate measures according to their own circumstances to extend the working life of their employees. (All relevant bureaux)
- The Education Bureau has completed the consultation with the stakeholders in September 2018 and will proceed with the amendments to the relevant parts of the Education Ordinance (Cap. 279), Grant Schools Provident Fund Rules (Cap. 279C) and Subsidized Schools Provident Fund Rules (Cap. 279D) for extending the retirement age of new teacher recruits of aided schools to 65. (EDB)

Enhancing Employment Support for Elderly People and Others

- Continue to target those social groups with special needs (including mature persons, new arrivals, ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, persons recovered from work injuries and ex-offenders) in providing training. The Employees Retraining Board will launch various training and support services to cater for their needs and help them rejoin the job market. (LWB)
- Continue to provide employment support for job seekers with higher education, including Hong Kong students educated in tertiary institutions outside Hong Kong as well as persons from overseas with higher academic/professional qualifications who are interested in working in Hong Kong, through the Higher Education Employment Information e-Platform. (LWB)

Supporting Working Parents in Fulfilling Work and Family Commitments

- Continue to make an annual provision of around \$240 million to support needy students to participate in after-school activities, including after-school support on learning, through schools and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). In addition, matching grants are provided through the Partnership Fund for the Disadvantaged to encourage the business sector to work with organisations and schools to implement more after-school learning and support programmes for primary and secondary school students from grassroots families under a dedicated portion of the fund. (EDB/LWB)

-
- Provide in phases about 5 000 additional places of Extended Hours Service at aided child care centres and kindergarten-cum-child care centres in districts with high demand from 2015-16 onwards so that more pre-primary children in need (aged below six) can continue to receive extended hours of service in the same service units that they are attending, thereby alleviating the pressure on their working parents. (LWB)
 - Include child care centres as one of the types of social welfare services under the new phase of the Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses. Besides, the Government will continue to explore the feasibility of providing in the new Government Complex in Tseung Kwan O, on a pilot basis, 100 NGO-operated child care places for staff members working there. (LWB)
 - Enhance the Employees Retraining Board's provision of training and employment services for women, including extending its First-Hire-Then-Train Pilot Programme to cover more industries and launching the Tailor-made Course for Part-timers Pilot Scheme, to cater for the family commitments of middle-aged women and homemakers, so as to help them rejoin the job market. (LWB)
 - Continue with the efforts in promoting family-friendly employment practices through various channels and a wide range of educational and publicity activities to encourage employers to help employees keep a balance between their work and family commitments. (LWB)

Attracting Overseas Talent

- Continue with various talent admission schemes, which are subject to timely reviews, to encourage talent and entrepreneurs to come and stay in Hong Kong for expansion of our talent pool. (SB)
- The Labour and Welfare Bureau has, in co-ordination with relevant bureaux/departments, drawn up a Talent List to attract high-quality talent in a more effective manner to support Hong Kong's development as a high value-added and diversified economy. The Talent List was promulgated in August 2018. (LWB)

Chapter 4

Professional-led Quality Education

Preamble

We firmly believe that talent, in particular young people, are the single most important element underpinning Hong Kong's development, and education is the key to nurturing talent. Government expenditure on education is therefore the most meaningful investment for our future.

Our education policy objective is to nurture future generations to become citizens who are socially responsible and equipped with a sense of national identity, a love for Hong Kong and an international perspective. Through learning, young people will be able to explore their potential, cultivate their interests and enhance their strengths. Well-equipped for the future, they are set to contribute to the community.

In the first year of its inception, the current-term Government introduced a package of measures, which cover education manpower, funding and hardware, to improve the quality of education. The total education expenditure in the current financial year has significantly increased by 28.4% and the Government has also reserved \$3.4 billion recurrent provision for educational use, which fully reflect our long-term commitment in education. Among the eight in-depth reviews proposed in the 2017 Policy Address, two have been completed. The others are also well under way. Following this proactive start, we, together with education experts, will continue to pursue necessary reforms and effective programmes so as to further achieve quality education. During the process, we will continue to engage and listen

to the views of teachers, students and parents, and provide more resources to areas that need additional provisions.

Policy Initiatives

Comprehensive Review Led by Professionals

- To allow time for the Government and the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) to study how to alleviate serious operating deficit resulting from the continuously declining number of candidates and increase in part of the operating cost (such as the provision of special examination arrangements for candidates with special educational needs), and to work out a long-term solution, the Government will provide HKEAA with a non-recurrent funding of \$360 million for a period of four years to enable HKEAA to sustain the administration of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination during the period. (EDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- To nurture the younger generation, we have invited education experts to lead and have set up task forces to review and follow up on the following issues:

- enhancing the professional development of teachers, which includes studying feasible options for establishing a professional ladder for teachers; the ranking arrangement of school management of primary, secondary and special schools; and the timetable for an all-graduate teaching force. The Task Force on Professional Development of Teachers has completed a two-month consultation on its directional recommendations in September 2018. As the implementation of the all-graduate teaching force policy soonest possible gained wide support during the consultation, the Task Force has recommended that the Government should first implement the policy. The Task Force aims to submit its report with specific recommendations on other issues to the Government in early 2019. The Government has adopted the Task Force's suggestion relating to the full implementation of the all-graduate teaching force;
- reviewing the existing curricula, inculcating in students a stronger sense of national identity and an international perspective, providing opportunities for students' all-round development in culture, arts, sports, science, technology, engineering, mathematics, etc., and instigating innovative thinking. The Task Force on Review of School Curriculum set up in November 2017 has identified four pivotal areas, namely catering for learner diversity, multiple pathways, whole-person development and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education, for in-depth deliberation. The task force anticipated that the review would be completed in about two years and a report with directional recommendations will be submitted to the Government by end-2019;

-
- promoting vocational and professional education and training (VPET). The Task Force on Promotion of Vocational and Professional Education and Training was established in April 2018 to review how VPET can be better promoted through life planning education in secondary schools to cater for students' diverse abilities and interests, and how closer business-school collaboration can be fostered through the Business-School Partnership Programme to meet the manpower needs of Hong Kong. The task force is expected to submit its recommendations to the Government in about a year's time;
 - reviewing the role and positioning of self-financing post-secondary institutions. Since its establishment in October 2017, the Task Force on Review of Self-financing Post-secondary Education has looked into the relevant issues and published its consultation document in end-June 2018 to gauge stakeholders' and the public's views on its initial observations. The task force plans to publish its final report and make recommendations to the Government by end-2018;
 - clarifying the Education Bureau's relationship with school sponsoring bodies and schools, forging ahead with school-based management, and removing encumbrances for the education sector to provide more room for studies and exchanges on education policies. The task force set up to study this issue has initially proposed improvement measures for enhancing school-based management, strengthening the administration capabilities of schools and streamlining school administration arrangements to create room for the education sector. Views of stakeholders have also been gauged. It is anticipated that the relevant work will be completed by the first quarter of 2019;

- attaching importance to parent education and strengthening home-school co-operation to discourage the culture of excessive competition so that children can grow up happily and healthily. The task force set up to study this issue has initially proposed directions, strategies and improvement measures for enhancing home-school co-operation and parent education, and gauged the views of stakeholders and members of the public. It is anticipated that the relevant work will be completed by the second quarter of 2019; and
- reviewing the overall research policy and funding strategy for the University Grants Committee funded sector. The Task Force on Review of Research Policy and Funding has completed the review and submitted a report to the Government. The Government has accepted and will follow up on the task force's recommendations as appropriate. (EDB)

New Style through Active Listening

- The first Chief Executive Summit on Quality Education was successfully held in June 2018. We will continue to organise the summit every year and invite stakeholders of the education sector to the Summit to chart the future together. (EDB)

Kindergarten Education

- Adjust the salary-related subsidies for teaching staff under the kindergarten education scheme on a school year basis according to the annual civil service pay adjustment starting from the 2018/19 school year. (EDB)

-
- Extend the two-year tide-over grant (2017/18 to 2018/19 school years) for three more years up to the 2021/22 school year so that kindergartens may retain their long serving teachers with higher salaries within the reference salary range promulgated under the kindergarten education scheme. The Government has started to review the salary arrangements for kindergarten teachers to explore the feasibility of putting in place a salary scale for them. (EDB)
 - The Standing Committee on Language Education and Research is making use of the Language Fund to provide Chinese and English enhancement programmes for kindergarten teachers (including training on skills in teaching Chinese to non-Chinese speaking students) in order to dovetail with the launch of the updated Kindergarten Education Curriculum Guide. (EDB)

Primary and Secondary Education

- Based on the advice of the Task Force on School-based Management Policy, the Government will provide additional resources starting from the 2019/20 school year to strengthen the administrative support for public sector and Direct Subsidy Scheme (DSS) schools. (EDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Provide a new Life-wide Learning Grant, starting from the 2019/20 school year, to support public sector and DSS schools to substantially expand their existing provision of life-wide learning, enabling students to learn in authentic contexts and broaden their horizons. Besides, the provision of enlivened and enriched learning experiences and the opportunities to apply what students have learned will help them develop positive values and attitudes. (EDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- Set up a \$2.5 billion Student Activities Support Fund in place of the existing Hong Kong Jockey Club Life-wide Learning Fund to generate investment income for providing schools with a subsidy to support students with financial needs to participate in out-of-classroom learning activities starting from the 2019/20 school year. (EDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- Based on the recommendations of the Task Force on Professional Development of Teachers, the Government will implement in one go the all-graduate teaching force policy in public sector primary and secondary schools in the 2019/20 school year. Schools may, taking into account their school-based circumstances, achieve full implementation by the 2020/21 school year. Meanwhile, to tie in with the development of whole-day schooling and implementation of the all-graduate teaching force policy in primary schools, the Government will earmark a recurrent allocation of \$500 million to rationalise the salaries for principals and vice-principals and to improve the manpower at the middle management level in primary schools. (EDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- Inject \$800 million into the Gifted Education Fund for generating more investment income to support the development of gifted education in Hong Kong. (EDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- Earmark a provision of \$2 billion and set up a dedicated team to expedite installation of lifts for public sector schools as needed to build barrier-free campuses. (EDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

-
- Upgrade the hardware and software provided for schools, including the provision of air-conditioning in standard teaching facilities (including classrooms and special rooms), student activity centres and assembly halls of public sector schools to create a better learning environment. Starting from the 2018/19 school year, a recurrent Air-conditioning Grant is provided for all public sector schools for the related daily expenses. In addition, depending on the actual situation of individual schools, we will install air-conditioning systems in the related facilities as necessary in phases. DSS schools will also benefit from the initiative. (EDB)
 - Enhance the learning and teaching environment of existing school premises and in this regard, improve the facilities of “matchbox-style school premises” as agreed with the sector. The relevant improvement works were commenced in the 2017 summer break, with five improvement works items drawn up in light of the unique architectural design of these school premises scheduled for completion by the 2019 summer break. In addition, among the 28 public sector primary schools currently operating in “matchbox-style school premises”, six have been allocated with new school premises/vacant school premises for reprovisioning through the school allocation mechanism. (EDB)

- Provide a non-recurrent funding of \$500 million to support suitable projects under the T-excel@hk strategic work plan of the Committee on Professional Development of Teachers and Principals and to implement various measures and the relevant work to enhance the professional development of teachers and principals in the coming 10 years starting from the 2018/19 school year, with an annual disbursement of around \$50 million. Teachers and students of primary and secondary schools, kindergartens and special schools may all benefit from the initiative. The Education Bureau (EDB) has taken forward a range of professional development programmes progressively, such as strengthening teachers' mentorship schemes, creating space for teachers' professional development, promoting professional learning circles, etc. to support the diverse professional development needs of teachers. It will also formulate appropriate professional development programmes in accordance with the recommendations and report to be submitted by the Task Force on Professional Development of Teachers in early 2019. (EDB)
- Implement a three-year paid non-local study leave scheme on a pilot basis for serving secondary school teachers to broaden their professional perspective and keep them abreast of the latest trend in global education development by taking part in professional development activities, such as specific courses or overseas experiential learning attachment programmes. The first batch of three programmes covering three different themes, namely Interdisciplinary Learning & Entrepreneurship Education, Catering for Students with Special Educational Needs and STEM Education, were held in Finland, Australia and the United Kingdom respectively in the 2017/18 school year. (EDB)

-
- Enhance the support for English learning in primary schools through the use of the Language Fund by the Standing Committee on Language Education and Research (SCOLAR) to provide a grant to primary schools for enriching the language environment on campuses and refining the school-based English Language curriculum, catering in particular for the transition from kindergarten to junior primary as well as learner diversity with equal emphasis on more able and less able students. (EDB)
 - The SCOLAR has made use of the Language Fund to provide a vocational English programme for senior secondary students who are interested in pursuing vocational and professional education and training or prepared to join the workforce, so as to enhance their English proficiency and provide opportunities for attaining the relevant recognition that is beneficial to further studies and employment. (EDB)
 - Capitalise on the advantage of Hong Kong as an international city to further co-operate and exchange in the realm of education with countries along the Belt and Road (B&R) to facilitate the understanding of students on the diverse cultures of different ethnic groups, and the development and opportunities of these countries and cities. We will continue to support schools with different measures, including the provision of suitable learning and teaching resources, widening the opportunities for students to learn foreign languages, and encouraging student visits and exchange activities on the Mainland, countries along the B&R and other overseas countries. (EDB)
 - On the premise of stabilising the teaching force and facilitating the sustainable development of schools, the Government will continue to discuss with primary and secondary schools measures to cope with the fluctuation of student-age population. (EDB)

- Continue to facilitate the development of international schools and monitor the supply and demand situation of school places, especially for meeting the demand from non-local families coming to Hong Kong for work or investment, and allocate vacant school premises and greenfield sites for the development of international schools when necessary. (EDB)
- To sustain the promotion of STEM education in primary and secondary schools, we will further enhance teacher professional training, including continuous provision of intensive training programmes on STEM education for school leaders and middle managers in phases. We will also continue to implement support initiatives such as organising STEM learning activities for students and developing the relevant learning and teaching resources for schools. (EDB)
- Support the implementation of Chinese history as an independent compulsory subject at junior secondary level and help schools prepare for implementing the revised junior secondary curricula of Chinese History and History. We will continue to enhance teacher training, provide learning and teaching resources and promote life-wide learning, so as to enrich students' experience, foster their interest in and understanding of Chinese history and culture, as well as broaden their international perspectives. (EDB)

-
- Promotion of the Basic Law is an on-going task of the EDB. Learning elements related to the Basic Law and the concept of “one country, two systems” have long been embedded in the curricula of primary and secondary schools. The major renewed emphases of the Secondary Education Curriculum Guide include “strengthening values education (including moral and civic education and Basic Law education)”. The EDB will continue to encourage schools to strengthen their school-based planning on Basic Law education and continue to provide multiple support, including principal/teacher training, authentic learning and teaching resources, Basic Law online course, diversified learning activities, Mainland exchange programmes, etc., for principals/teachers and students to have a comprehensive understanding of the Basic Law. (EDB)
 - In alignment with the curriculum renewal, we will continue to organise Mainland exchange programmes or subsidise those organised by schools so as to provide primary and secondary students with life-wide learning experience aiming to broaden their horizons, deepen their understanding of the history and culture of our country, as well as to appreciate and inherit the distinctive Chinese culture and national spirit. Having regard to the development strategies of our country, we will enhance the exchange programmes to enable students to gain first-hand experience of our country’s latest development and reflect on the opportunities brought about through visiting B&R related provinces and cities, the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and enterprises in the innovation and technology sector. (EDB)

- In view of the positive feedback from schools, the three-year Pilot Scheme on Promoting Interflows between Sister Schools in Hong Kong and the Mainland is regularised with effect from the 2018/19 school year. Recurrent grant and professional support are provided to public sector and DSS primary and secondary schools as well as special schools that have formed sister schools with their counterparts on the Mainland. (EDB)
- Continue to provide secondary schools with support for implementing life planning education and related guidance services. We will also strengthen the professional development of teachers and mobilise more business organisations to organise career exploration activities for students through district development networks so as to help secondary students better understand the career world and prepare themselves for further studies and employment in future. The consultant commissioned by the EDB is conducting a comprehensive review on life planning education and Business-School Partnership Programme. The EDB will map out the way forward in light of the findings of the review. (EDB)

Home-school Co-operation and Parent Education

- Based on the advice of the Task Force on Home-school Co-operation and Parent Education, the Government will provide more funding to Federations of Parent-Teacher Associations and Parent-Teacher Associations of schools from the 2019/20 school year for organizing more parent education programmes or activities. (EDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

Post-secondary Education

- Follow-up on the recommendations made by the Task Force on Review of Research Policy and Funding, including an injection of \$20 billion into the Research Endowment Fund; implementing a new Research Matching Grant Scheme with a total commitment of \$3 billion for three years; and introducing three new fellowship schemes for outstanding academics. (EDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Launch the eighth round of Matching Grant Scheme with a commitment of up to \$2.5 billion for eligible publicly-funded post-secondary institutions to apply. (EDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- To expedite the development of student hostels for University Grants Committee-funded universities, we have established a \$10.3 billion Hostel Development Fund and will disburse funding to universities by end-2018. We expect that outstanding hostel shortfall can be fully filled within 10 years. (EDB)
- Continue to encourage students from regions along the B&R to enrol in post-secondary programmes in Hong Kong. The Government plans to gradually increase the quota of the Belt and Road Scholarship (covering undergraduate and research postgraduate students). (EDB)
- Based on the advice of the Task Force on Review of Self-financing Post-secondary Education, the Government will expand the coverage of the Study Subsidy Scheme for Designated Professions/Sectors. Starting from the 2019/20 school year, about 2 000 students per cohort will be subsidised to pursue designated full-time locally accredited self-financing sub-degree programmes in selected disciplines. (EDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

Supporting Students with Different Needs

- Improve the support initiatives under the integrated education policy by restructuring the additional resources provided for all public sector ordinary schools under the Learning Support Grant, Intensive Remedial Teaching Programme and Integrated Education Programme, upgrading the rank of Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs) in schools with a greater concentration of students with special educational needs (SEN), extending the Enhanced School-based Educational Psychology Service and enhancing the School-based Speech Therapy Services. (EDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Provide more resources for public sector primary schools from the 2018/19 school year onwards to implement the policy of “one school social worker for each school” according to their school-based circumstances with a view to strengthening school social work and guidance services. (EDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- To support integrated education, the Government has been providing each public sector ordinary primary and secondary school with an additional Assistant Primary School Master/Mistress post or Graduate Master/Mistress post in the teaching establishment to facilitate the assignment of a designated teacher as SENCO in phases over three years from the 2017/18 school year. The rank of SENCOs in schools with concentration of students with SEN will be upgraded starting from the 2019/20 school year. The Government will keep in view the implementation of the SENCO provision, including the teaching load arrangement, etc. (EDB)

-
- Continue to develop in the 2018/19 school year an evidence-based model with strategies and related teaching and learning resources for supporting the learning and development of students with autism having average to high intelligence, based on a support model developed in phases for primary to junior secondary school students with autism. (EDB)
 - Continue to provide additional resources, professional support and teacher training to help primary and secondary schools cater for their students with SEN, and adjust the rates of the Learning Support Grant on an annual basis according to the established mechanism; continue to provide the School-based Educational Psychology Service for all public sector primary and secondary schools, and provide enhanced service for schools with a large number of students with SEN progressively. (EDB)
 - Continue to implement improvement measures in special schools, including the provision of additional teaching staff, allied health staff and resources to enhance support for students in special schools. (EDB)
 - The Department of Health (DH) is preparing for the setting up of a new Child Assessment Centre (CAC) to handle the increasing caseloads. DH expects that, with the completion and full operation of the new CAC, the waiting time for child assessment service will be shortened. As an interim measure before the completion of the new CAC, DH has set up a temporary CAC in Ngau Tau Kok, which commenced service in January 2018. (FHB)
 - Continue to strengthen the support for non-Chinese speaking students (notably ethnic minority students). Please refer to Chapter 6 for details of these measures. (EDB)

Vocational Education

- Provide funding for the Vocational Training Council (VTC) to regularise the Pilot Training and Support Scheme from the 2019/20 school year, to provide 1 200 training places per year in order to encourage more students to receive professional training and join industries with a keen demand for manpower under the "Earn & Learn" model. (EDB) (New Initiative)
- Improve facilities and policy support for vocational education, such as supporting the expansion of VTC campuses. To further enhance the facilities for vocational and professional education and training, the Government is carrying out planning work of a site identified in Cha Kwo Ling, Kowloon East to develop a sizeable VTC campus with state-of-the-art facilities. In addition, the Government supports the VTC in principle to construct an Aviation and Marine Engineering Centre on the site of the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (Tsing Yi). (EDB)
- Explore with the VTC how the future findings of the new round of manpower projection can be applied for enhancing the planning and design of vocational and professional education and training programmes in order to nurture the required manpower for different sectors in a more focused manner. The related projection work commenced in the fourth quarter of 2017. (LWB)
- Continue to provide funding for the VTC in the coming three years to implement the Pilot Subsidy Scheme for Students of Professional Part-time Programmes to provide tuition fee subsidy for a total of 5 600 students admitted to designated professional part-time programmes in the designated disciplines. (EDB)

-
- Support the Construction Industry Council to construct the Hong Kong Institute of Construction at the existing Tai Po Training Ground to train more high-calibre and professional construction practitioners to cope with the increasing use of innovative construction technologies for enhancing productivity, thereby attracting new blood for the continued development of the local construction industry. (DEVB)

Qualifications Framework

- Play an active role in the setting up of the country's Qualifications Framework (QF) and share our experience in the implementation of QF in Hong Kong and provide advice where needed. We will also continue to explore opportunities for co-operation with other countries or places in the development of QF, with a view to enhancing the international image and recognition of Hong Kong QF and supporting mobility of learners and labour. (EDB)

Continuing Education

- Implement a series of enhancement measures for the Continuing Education Fund from April 2019, including raising the subsidy ceiling and expanding the scope of courses so as to encourage the public to pursue continuing learning. (LWB)

Chapter 5

Home Ownership, Liveable City

Preamble

Land is key to Hong Kong's sustainable social and economic development. To tackle the housing problem faced by the general public, we must sustain our efforts to develop land resources. We also need to make available sufficient land for commercial and industrial developments, government and community facilities, infrastructure, open space, etc.

Land use planning and development often take more than a decade to come to fruition. We must take a multi-pronged approach and make sustained efforts to provide land. We will endeavour to continue increasing land supply. The Task Force on Land Supply completed in end-September this year a five-month public engagement exercise and is collating and analysing the public views received with a view to submitting a detailed report to the Government by the end of this year to recommend land supply strategies that are both visionary and sustainable. At the same time, to expedite the process of development approval, we have consulted the industry on the first batch of streamlining proposals. Efforts on this front will continue.

With the completion of various major infrastructure projects, Lantau will become the "Double Gateway" to the world and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Greater Bay Area). In order to capture various competitive advantages and opportunities of Lantau and for the benefits of Hong Kong's future, we are going to launch the "Lantau Tomorrow Vision". The programme covers the development areas at the artificial islands near Kau Yi Chau and Hei Ling Chau

in the Central Waters, North Lantau as well as the coastal areas of Tuen Mun, including the River Trade Terminal and Lung Kwu Tan. It also includes new strategic transport network supporting various development areas. The programme can relieve the shortage of land supply in Hong Kong, improve living quality and add momentum to the economy of Hong Kong as a whole. The programme will also strive to conserve the precious natural and cultural resources of Lantau with an aim to achieving sustainable development.

In accordance with the framework established under the Long Term Housing Strategy, we will continue to project future housing demand, as well as adopt various measures to meet the housing supply targets and enhance the housing ladder for addressing the housing needs of families of different income groups.

We will continue to implement the six new housing initiatives announced by the Chief Executive in June 2018. These initiatives seek to make subsidised sale flats more affordable, increase the supply of subsidised housing units and enhance support for transitional housing supply, as well as encourage more timely supply of first-hand private flats.

On transport, we will continue to encourage the use of public transport services and maintain an efficient multi-modal public transport network, with railway as the backbone, complemented by other services such as buses, public light buses and taxis. We are taking forward the Shatin to Central Link project. Also, we will continue to implement the seven new railway projects under the Railway Development Strategy 2014 in an orderly manner. While further enhancing the overall transport network in the territory, we will also implement the non-means-tested Public Transport Fare Subsidy Scheme on 1 January 2019 to relieve the fare burden of commuters. Commuters can receive the subsidy beginning from February 2019.

To make more efficient use of our limited road space, we will adopt the concept of “Congestion Charging” and the principle of “Efficiency First” and study the hierarchy and level of tolls of all government tolled tunnels and the Tsing Ma and Tsing Sha Control Areas, in order to enable efficient people carriers and vehicles that support economic activities to enjoy lower tolls while vehicle types with low carrying capacity would need to pay higher tolls. We will also propose adjustments of tolls in the three road harbour crossings so as to achieve reasonable re-distribution of cross-harbour traffic. We will also continue to press ahead with the preparatory work on the Electronic Road Pricing Pilot Scheme in Central and its adjacent areas. We will continue to strive to provide car parking spaces, in particular for commercial vehicles. As land in Hong Kong is scarce, we will provide public parking spaces in suitable development projects for government facilities in line with the “Single Site, Multiple Use” principle so as to make full use of the sites. We will also continue to enhance road-based transport services in order to improve service quality and efficiency and alleviate the pressure for fare increases. In addition, we will continue the work in fostering a “pedestrian-friendly” and “bicycle-friendly” environment conducive to making “first mile” and “last mile” connections to public transport services, thereby promoting green commuting and improving roadside air quality.

As regards cross-boundary transport, the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) has been completed and will soon be commissioned after years of hard work. Connecting Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, the HZMB is a landmark infrastructure for the Greater Bay Area and will greatly enhance the flows of people and goods among the three places.

Following the commissioning of the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link on 22 September 2018, Hong Kong has entered into a new era of high-speed rail travel.

The Hong Kong Section is connected to the currently 25 000 kilometres long and ever expanding national high-speed rail network, providing direct train service from the West Kowloon Station to 44 Mainland destinations. The project not only realises the vision of “one-hour living circle” in the Pearl River Delta, but also greatly shortens the rail travelling time between Hong Kong and different regions of the Mainland, thereby bringing convenience to Hong Kong residents for their journeys.

To build a liveable city, apart from the provision of hardware such as housing and transport infrastructure, the Government will strive to boost the development of sports, arts and culture. We will continue to provide diversified and modern sports and recreational facilities and services to promote sports for all. Efforts will be made to nurture a strong sporting culture through encouraging public participation, supporting elite athletes and enhancing Hong Kong’s position as a hub for major sports events. As regards arts and culture, we will promote Chinese and local culture on the one hand and actively attract international arts and cultural activities to Hong Kong on the other. Our vision is to develop Hong Kong into an international cultural metropolis. To this end, we will proactively support the development of the West Kowloon Cultural District, establish Hong Kong’s position as a cultural hub, nurture and support the development of local arts groups and artists, and strengthen our cultural co-operation and exchanges with the Mainland as well as overseas places.

Environmental protection and conservation are closely related to the betterment of the quality of city life. Pursuing the targets and work plans mapped out in five published blueprints, the Government will take forward initiatives on air quality improvement, waste management, biodiversity, energy conservation and climate change. On air quality improvement, apart from the initiatives for reducing emissions from major air pollution sources including motor vehicles,

marine vessels and power plants, the road transport management and planning initiatives mentioned above, such as expanding the railway network and promoting green commuting, can also help reduce the use of vehicles and thus improve roadside air quality. The Government will also further strengthen conservation of the countryside environment, maintain the biodiversity of Hong Kong, and enhance the recreational and educational facilities and services in country parks.

Policy Initiatives

Developing Land Resources

Seeking Consensus

- The Task Force on Land Supply, having completed its five-month public engagement exercise in September 2018, has collected views from different sectors of the community on the 18 land supply options and other land supply-related issues. It targets to submit a detailed recommendation report on enhancing the overall land supply strategy and the relative priorities of different land supply options to the Government by end-2018. (DEVB)

Updating Development Strategy

- Continue with the study on Hong Kong 2030+: Towards a Planning Vision and Strategy Transcending 2030 (Hong Kong 2030+) to examine the strategic planning blueprint for overall spatial planning and for land and infrastructure development of Hong Kong beyond 2030, with a view to planning for a liveable high-density city, embracing new economic challenges and opportunities, and creating capacity for sustainable growth. (DEVB)
- Examine the possible scope and timeframe for further development in the New Territories North with reference to the findings of the Preliminary Feasibility Study on Developing the New Territories North, views received during the public consultation on the New Territories North strategic growth area as well as the technical assessments conducted within the framework of Hong Kong 2030+ and kick start the relevant preparatory work. (DEVB)

- Continue with the Pilot Study on Underground Space Development in Selected Strategic Urban Areas for an in-depth assessment of the various technical considerations and implementation modes of the conceptual schemes for underground space development in Tsim Sha Tsui West, Causeway Bay, Wan Chai, etc., and for subsequent public consultation in due course. (DEVB)

Urban Renewal

- Invite the Urban Renewal Authority (URA) to examine the redevelopment of suitable sites under the Civil Servants' Co-operative Building Society Scheme (CBS), and to utilise part of the resumed land for developing private housing following the URA's established practice for its urban renewal projects, and partly for the development of public housing. (DEVB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Explore co-operation with the Hong Kong Housing Society to build dedicated rehousing estates at suitable sites in urban areas so as to provide non-means tested rehousing units to eligible households affected by government development and URA projects requiring clearance, as well as to provide rehousing option for households affected by redevelopment of CBS sites. (DEVB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

Short to Medium-term Measures

- A steering group has been set up under the Development Bureau to draw up proposals to streamline or improve the existing development control regime. We have consulted the Joint Subcommittee on Streamlining Development Control under the Land and Development Advisory Committee on the first batch of proposals to streamline and standardise the approval of building height and greening/landscape required. Efforts to streamline the approval arrangements proposed in the batch will continue. (DEVB)

- The Buildings Department is spearheading the development of an Electronic Submission Hub (ESH). The ESH will not only allow the industry to submit building plans and applications electronically, but will also enable relevant authorities to process various kinds of plans and applications via the hub, thus facilitating the adoption of new technologies in processing development applications and substantially streamlining the approval process. We hope to accept electronic submission of plans and applications in phases starting from 2021/22. (DEVB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- Pursue more vigorously the “single site, multiple use” model in multi-storey development on government land in order to consolidate and provide more Government, Institution or Community (G/IC) facilities, and make optimal use of limited land resources. Key measures include:
 - the Government Property Agency will steer and take forward multi-storey development projects with cross-bureau facilities to strengthen internal co-ordination in areas such as design, development programme and funding arrangements, with a view to expediting the delivery of these facilities;

- the Planning Department will refine the existing arrangements regarding reservation and utilisation of government sites by tightening up the reservation of government sites by single departments and recommending a higher reference plot ratio where circumstances permit, so as to fully optimise the development potential of these sites; and
 - we will pilot the new arrangement in suitable G/IC projects. Projects identified initially include redevelopment of Tuen Mun Clinic, development of a proposed ambulance depot near Sheung Wan Fire Station and consolidation of facilities on several government sites in Tsuen Wan Town Centre. (DEVB/FSTB) (New Initiative)
- Draw up specific proposals for a “Land Sharing Pilot Scheme” to unleash the development potential of private land. (DEVB) (New Initiative)
 - Review and refine the Pilot Scheme for Arbitration on Land Premium to facilitate agreement between the Government and private land owners on land premium payable for lease modification and land exchange transactions through arbitration. (DEVB)
 - Continue to rezone more than 210 suitable sites with potential for housing development as identified in land use reviews (rezoning of some 140 sites has been completed or is in progress, while rezoning of the remaining 70 sites is to be initiated). We will also appropriately increase the development density of individual residential sites. (DEVB)

Energising Kowloon East

- We are conducting a survey to better understand the profiles and needs of the business establishments in Kowloon East, and the findings are scheduled for release in early 2019. (DEVB)
- We will commence the works project at Hoi Bun Road Park and the adjacent area in 2018 to further improve the waterfront of the Kwun Tong Business Area, and continue to take forward the improvement works of other public open spaces in Kowloon East to cater for the development needs of the area. (DEVB)
- Continue to extend the Energising Kowloon East initiative to San Po Kong, with particular focus on enhancing connectivity, improving the environment, and promoting vibrancy and diversified development. (DEVB)
- Review the land uses of a site at Lai Yip Street near the Kwun Tong harbourfront, which includes studying the possibility of providing space for arts, cultural and creative industries uses. (DEVB)
- Review the future use of the land released upon the relocation of the Ngau Tau Kok Divisional Police Station, which is expected to take place around 2020. (DEVB)
- After the public consultation on the recommendation of further increasing the residential development intensity of the Kai Tak Development Area, we have made amendments to the Kai Tak Outline Zoning Plan in accordance with the Town Planning Ordinance. (DEVB)

- Keep up the efforts to facilitate transformation of Kowloon East into another attractive core business district. At present, Kowloon East has about 2.6 million square metres of commercial/office floor area, with potential to further supply another 4.4 million square metres approximately in future, bringing the total supply in the district to about 7 million square metres. We are taking forward the studies on the Kowloon Bay Action Area and Kwun Tong Action Area. The two action areas can provide about 560 000 square metres of commercial/office floor area. (DEVB)

- Continue with the second stage of the Detailed Feasibility Study for the Environmentally Friendly Linkage System for Kowloon East to explore a feasible scheme and conduct a financial analysis. Upon completion of the study this year, we will examine the findings of the study and draw up a plan for subsequent work. (DEVB)

- Continue to implement the concept of “walkability” in Kowloon East with a view to improving the pedestrian environment and traffic conditions. This includes finalising the detailed design for an additional footbridge near Exit B of MTR Kowloon Bay Station to enhance connectivity with the future East Kowloon Cultural Centre and nearby residential areas. In parallel, we are working on the design for the extension and face-lifting of the pedestrian subway network connecting to MTR Ngau Tau Kok Station, face-lifting of a public transport interchange and improvement of pedestrian facilities to create a comfortable walking environment for pedestrians heading for the business area and the promenade. We will continue to take forward the Back Alley Project to improve the pedestrian network. (DEVB)

-
- To further enhance walkability in Kowloon East, we plan to commence the detailed design for a new footbridge across Kwun Tong Road near Exit A of MTR Kowloon Bay Station, and the footbridge across Wai Yip Street near Siu Yip Street. We will continue to explore the possibility of providing travelators along Lai Yip Street and Sheung Yee Road to cater for the forecast increase in pedestrian flow. (DEVB)
 - Continue to take forward a detailed consultancy study on transforming the King Yip Street nullah into a green and vibrant Tsui Ping River with environmental and landscaping upgrading of the vicinity to achieve synergy. (DEVB)
 - Select a suitable non-profit-making organisation to operate a weekend flea market on the Tourism Node site at the former airport runway tip to bring more vibrancy to the area when the site is pending land disposal, providing opportunities for participation by those who are interested, young people in particular. (DEVB)

Utilising Industrial Buildings

- Reactivate the revitalisation scheme for industrial buildings. The measures include:
 - (i) with reference to the arrangement under the previous revitalisation scheme, accepting owners' applications on a time-limited basis for wholesale conversion of aged industrial buildings with exemption of waiver fees for the change of uses under lease provisions, with a new condition that 10% of the converted floor space would be designated by applicants for specific uses prescribed by Government after the conversion;

- (ii) as a policy direction, allowing the relaxation of the maximum permissible non-domestic plot ratio by up to 20% for redevelopment projects of pre-1987 industrial buildings located in relevant zones in Main Urban Areas and New Towns. Owners may increase the development density of the redevelopment projects subject to the relevant approval obtained from the Town Planning Board;

(The above two measures would also be applicable to existing industrial buildings located in “Industrial” zones, so as to allow owners to convert or redevelop aged industrial buildings for conventional “industrial and/or godown uses” and/or “modern industrial uses”, not just for non-industrial uses which may also be permitted under the relevant Outline Zoning Plans.)

- (iii) in respect of applications for wholesale conversion of industrial buildings in the relevant zones into transitional housing, exercising flexibility in dealing with the planning and building design requirements, as well as exempting applicants from paying waiver fees for this specific use of transitional housing;
- (iv) relaxing the waiver application policy on a time-limited basis to permit more uses of the arts and cultural sectors and creative industries to operate at individual units of existing industrial buildings in an orderly manner, so long as such uses are permitted under the planning regime;

-
- (v) with due regard to public safety, widening the permissible uses of buffer floors to cover telecommunications exchange centres and computer/data processing centres, so as to facilitate conversion of lower floors of industrial buildings into non-industrial uses; and
 - (vi) promulgating a wider definition for “godown” uses under lease provisions of industrial buildings to cover cargo handling and forwarding operation, and recyclable collection centre. (DEVB) (New Initiative)

Utilising Vacant Government Sites

- Launch a \$1 billion funding scheme to support gainful uses of vacant government sites and school premises by non-governmental organisations for short-term non-profit-making community purposes. (DEVB) (New Initiative)

Medium and Long-term Measures

- Formulate policy strategies and implementation measures aiming at accommodating in a more land-efficient manner in future some economic activities currently conducted on brownfield sites, and releasing brownfield sites for housing or other purposes. (DEVB)
- Continue with the implementation of new development areas and new town extensions:
 - pressing ahead with the implementation of the plans for the Kwu Tung North and Fanling North New Development Areas as an extension to the Fanling/Sheung Shui New Town; including making funding application for the first phase of works, initiating statutory land resumption procedures and commencing eligibility screening of the affected households and businesses for ex-gratia allowance/rehousing;

- pressing ahead with the implementation of the plans for the Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area as a regional hub in the North West New Territories to complement the new towns of Tin Shui Wai, Yuen Long and Tuen Mun, providing housing, employment opportunities and civic facilities; and
 - pressing ahead with the development of Yuen Long South as an extension to the Yuen Long New Town to meet housing and other development needs and improve the local rural environment. (DEVB)
- Continue with the planning and engineering study for Tseung Kwan O Area 137, including exploration of residential, commercial and other suitable land uses, as well as the need for the originally reserved uses. (DEVB)
- The investigation study, design and associated site investigation works for relocation of the Diamond Hill Fresh Water and Salt Water Service Reservoirs to caverns will commence by end-2018. Besides, we plan to commence in early 2019 the Stage 1 site preparation and main tunnel construction works for relocating the Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works to caverns. Feasibility studies on relocating the service reservoirs in Tsuen Wan and Yau Tong, Sai Kung Sewage Treatment Works and Sham Tseng Sewage Treatment Works to caverns are underway. We also plan to carry out a feasibility study on relocating the Public Works Central Laboratory in Kowloon Bay to caverns in order to release the existing and adjoining lands of about 0.8 hectares for housing development. (DEVB)

-
- We have promulgated the Cavern Master Plan and the associated technical guidelines, which facilitate identification of suitable cavern sites for development by project proponents. Besides, we will continue with the technical study on underground quarrying for cavern development, and will carry out planning and engineering feasibility studies for strategic cavern areas at Lantau, Tsing Yi or other suitable locations. (DEVB)
 - Review land leases expiring in or before 2025 of sites being used for telephone exchanges or other telecommunications-related facilities and assess the need to retain these sites for their original policy uses; and study whether there is potential for development or alternative uses for sites that do not need to be retained. (CEDB/DEVB) (New Initiative)
 - We will plan for the next stage planning and engineering studies of the about 60 hectares Ma Liu Shui reclamation project, taking into consideration of its technical study findings and the public views on the local traffic capacity and proportion of new public housings. (DEVB)

Other Land Matters

- Continue to examine the implementation of the small house policy and related matters. (DEVB)
- Engage key stakeholders to refine the proposed amendments to the Land Titles Ordinance and actively explore the implementation of the title registration system on new land first. (DEVB)

Lantau Tomorrow Vision

Accelerating Land Resources for Development of Liveable City

- Strive for early commencement of the next stage of work on the development of artificial islands in the Central Waters between Hong Kong Island and Lantau, including further confirmation of the development potential of the Central Waters and conducting planning and design of the first phase of the artificial islands; and press ahead with the near-shore reclamation projects at Sunny Bay and Siu Ho Wan with a view to meeting Hong Kong's medium-to-long term needs. (DEVB) ([New Initiative](#))
- Adopt smart, green and resilient initiatives progressively including smart lampposts, water intelligent network, eco-shoreline design, district cooling system and sustainable urban drainage system on Lantau after their trial in the development of Tung Chung New Town Extension. (DEVB) ([New Initiative](#))
- Develop near carbon-neutral pilot zones on the artificial islands in the Central Waters, and explore measures, such as wider use of renewable energy, energy efficient design and technologies, green transport, higher greening ratio, more advanced recycling and waste management measures, to progress towards the long-term vision of carbon-neutral community. (DEVB) ([New Initiative](#))
- Continue to take forward the topside development at Siu Ho Wan Depot Site, which is estimated to provide no less than 14 000 residential units in the medium to long term and for which the statutory planning procedures are underway. The exact public-private housing ratio is under examination. The Government will follow up with the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) on various details. (DEVB)

Developments to be led by Transport Infrastructure

- Take forward works for the strategic road and railway network to link up the coastal area of Tuen Mun, North Lantau, the artificial islands in the Central Waters and Hong Kong Island North, a highway parallel to the North Lantau Highway and the Lung Mun Road improvement with a view to releasing the development potential of the artificial islands in the Central Waters, reclamation at Lung Kwu Tan, Tuen Mun East and Tuen Mun West as well as driving Hong Kong's long-term housing, economic and social developments. (DEVB) ([New Initiative](#))
- In view of the long-term developments in North West New Territories (NWNT), including the proposed Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area and Yuen Long South development, we need a new strategic route (Route 11) to connect NWNT and the urban areas to cope with the increase in traffic demand. At the same time, we need to improve the external connectivity of Lantau and the airport island. Route 11 will provide a third strategic access to Lantau on top of Tsing Ma Bridge and Tuen Mun-Chek Lap Kok Link, thus enhancing the robustness of the road network connecting to the airport. After funding approval by the Legislative Council in April 2018, the Government commenced a feasibility study on Route 11 to link up North Lantau and Yuen Long. (THB)

Creating Business Environment to Promote Economic Development

- Invite the Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK) to submit a development proposal for the topside development at the Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, together with the Three-runway System, high value-added logistics centre at the South Cargo Precinct, SKYCITY development project, the AsiaWorld-Expo and its future Phase 2, to create a cluster of aviation-related businesses with high economic value and diversified employment opportunities at Lantau. (DEVB/THB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Plan the third Core Business District at the artificial islands in the Central Waters. (DEVB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Press ahead with the implementation of the development of Tung Chung New Town Extension for providing over 800 000 square metres of commercial floor space for office, retail and hotel development and creation of about 40 000 jobs. (DEVB)
- Embark upon a \$5 billion in-situ expansion and redevelopment of the Air Mail Centre at the Hong Kong International Airport so as to capitalise on the huge opportunities driven by the ever booming growth of cross-boundary e-commerce. (CEDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Enhance our air cargo handling capacity by continuing to support the AAHK to further develop the South Cargo Precinct of the airport island to expand transshipment, cross-boundary logistics and delivery services and the handling capacity for high-value temperature-controlled goods in order to capture the opportunities brought by cross-boundary e-commerce. (THB)

-
- Continue to support the AAHK in its SKY CITY development. According to the plan, the first phase of development includes a hotel and a facility combining retail, dining and entertainment (RDE) purposes. The hotel development is planned for completion by 2021. The RDE development is planned for completion the earliest in phases from 2023 to 2027. (THB)
 - Discuss with the AAHK how to better leverage the advantages of the existing AsiaWorld-Expo in hosting convention and exhibition (C&E) events, as well as its Phase 2 expansion plan to further increase the supply of C&E facilities in Hong Kong, so as to strengthen the competitiveness of our C&E industry. (CEDB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
 - Plan to commence as soon as possible the planning and engineering study and design for the approximately 220-hectare reclamation at Lung Kwu Tan, with a view to providing land for industrial and other uses. We will also conduct a holistic regional replanning study for the land use in Tuen Mun West, covering Lung Kwu Tan, the River Trade Terminal and other adjacent areas. (DEVB)

Committed to Conserving Lantau

- Earmark resources to set up a \$1 billion Lantau Conservation Fund to promote conservation together with the community and pursue local improvement works for Lantau. (DEVB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- Strengthen education to promote public awareness of the conservation of Lantau, and taking forward various appropriate countryside conservation initiatives in selected pilot areas on Lantau, such as Tai O, Shui Hau and Pui O, to support the efforts in developing and conserving Lantau. The Environment and Conservation Fund has approved funding for environmental education and community projects on nature conservation in South Lantau. Funding has also been earmarked for 2018-19 for inviting next round of applications. (ENB/DEVB)
- Review the legislation concerned and map out more effective means to control land-filling, dumping of wastes and associated development activities causing environmental damage in areas of high ecological values at Lantau with a view to enhancing protection of the natural beauty of these areas. (DEVB/ENB) ([New Initiative](#))
- Explore enhancing the protection of enclaves in Lantau, including the feasibility of incorporating them into country parks. (ENB) ([New Initiative](#))

Entertainment and Sustainable Leisure Activities

- Press ahead Sunny Bay reclamation for providing land reserve to develop a leisure and entertainment node and other uses. (DEVB) ([New Initiative](#))
- Study, formulate and implement in phases the Lantau Trails and Recreation Plan to improve trail networks, increase supporting facilities, and provide diversified leisure and recreation facilities with low environmental impact. (DEVB) ([New Initiative](#))

-
- Promote green tourism in Lantau by enhancing supporting facilities of hiking trails and setting up visitor centres at hiking hubs such as Ngong Ping. (CEDB) (New Initiative)

Setting Up a Dedicated Co-ordination Office

- Set up a dedicated office to steer, co-ordinate and monitor the planning and implementation of the Lantau Tomorrow Vision. (DEVB) (New Initiative)

Housing Policy

New Initiatives in Housing

- Press ahead with the six new housing initiatives announced by the Chief Executive in June 2018:
 - based on the new pricing policy announced by the Chief Executive, the Hong Kong Housing Authority has endorsed the revision of the selling prices of flats and re-opened the application of the Sale of the Home Ownership Scheme Flats 2018; (THB)
 - at the Government’s invitation, the Urban Renewal Authority has agreed to assign its non-joint venture project at Ma Tau Wai Road as a “Starter Homes” (SH) pilot project. The Ma Tau Wai Road project will provide 450 SH units which can be offered for pre-sale in December 2018 the soonest; (THB)
 - nine private housing sites have been reallocated for public housing; (THB/DEVB)
 - setting up a task force to facilitate the implementation of short-term community initiatives to increase the supply of transitional housing; (THB)

- the Government plans to introduce an Amendment Bill into the Legislative Council during the 2018-19 legislative session to amend the Rating Ordinance for imposing “Special Rates” on vacant first-hand private residential units; and (THB)
- the Government has amended the Lands Department Consent Scheme to improve sales practices by requiring developers to offer for sale no less than 20% of the total number of residential units subject to the relevant pre-sale consent at each turn of sale, regardless of the sales method. (THB/DEVB)
(New Initiative)

Long Term Housing Strategy

- Continue to implement the Long Term Housing Strategy, including annually updating the long-term housing demand projection and deriving a rolling ten-year housing supply target accordingly. (THB)

Effective Use of Public Housing Resources

- Launch the following initiatives to make better use of public housing resources:
 - after taking into account the operational experience of the Letting Scheme for Subsidised Sale Developments with Premium Unpaid of the Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS), the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA) will allow owners of HKHA’s subsidised sale flats to sublet part of their flats to families in need;

-
- accepting HKHS’s proposal to launch a pilot “trading down” scheme where eligible owners aged 60 or above can sell their larger flat and then buy a smaller subsidised sale flat in the Secondary Market without payment of premium; and
 - HKHA will introduce a new concessionary measure for under-occupied public rental housing households whereby under-occupied households with all members aged 70 or above are allowed to pay no rent for life upon transfer to smaller new or renovated flats. (THB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

Increasing Supply of Subsidised Housing

- Take forward housing construction programmes to achieve the public housing (including public rental housing (PRH) units and subsidised sale flats (SSFs)) supply target, which will be updated annually under the Long Term Housing Strategy. For SSFs, the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA) put up about 4 400 Home Ownership Scheme (HOS) flats for pre-sale in March 2018. These flats are expected to be completed between 2018 and 2020. In response to the revised SSF pricing policy announced by the Chief Executive in June 2018, the Subsidised Housing Committee of the HKHA endorsed in July 2018 the revised selling prices and sales arrangements for these flats under the new price setting mechanism, as well as the revised resale restrictions on HOS flats. HKHA has invited additional applications for these HOS flats in October 2018. (THB)

- Take forward the proposed development of public housing at six government sites (including the five sites in Pok Fu Lam South and the redevelopment of Wah Fu Estate), which are expected to provide about 11 900 additional public housing units following the partial lifting of the administrative moratorium on the development of Pok Fu Lam. The site formation and infrastructure works of the five sites in Pok Fu Lam South are scheduled for commencement in 2019. The earliest batch of the reception units for the redevelopment of Wah Fu Estate is expected to be completed in 2025. (THB/DEVB)
- The HKHA has endorsed the regularisation of the White Form Secondary Market Scheme (WSM), allowing White Form buyers to purchase SSFs with premium unpaid in the secondary market. The WSM, with an annual quota of 2 500, was launched in end-March 2018. (THB)
- Ensure the effective and rational use of PRH resources by enhancing enforcement actions and publicity against tenancy abuse and continuing to implement the Well-off Tenants Policies to require PRH households whose income or assets exceed relevant prescribed limits or who own private domestic property in Hong Kong to return their PRH units, in order to focus efforts on allocating PRH resources to people with pressing housing needs. In addition, arrangements will be made for households with living space exceeding the prescribed under-occupation standards to move to other PRH units of more appropriate size, so as to recover larger units for re-allocation. (THB)
- The HKHA has endorsed the regularisation of the Green Form Subsidised Home Ownership Scheme (GSH). The next GSH project will be launched for sale of flats in end-2018. (THB)

-
- Continue to facilitate the Hong Kong Housing Society's implementation of the initiative of allowing owners of SSFs with premium not yet paid to sublet part of their flats in order to help families with housing needs. (THB)

Improving Quality of Living in Public Rental Housing

- Continue to implement the three-year programme launched in 2016 to increase the provision of recreational and associated facilities for the elderly in about 100 public rental housing estates with a higher proportion of elderly residents. The programme is expected to be completed in 2019. The Hong Kong Housing Authority will review the effectiveness of the programme and consider extending the programme to other estates in due course. (THB)

Building Maintenance and Urban Renewal

- Regularise the Pilot Scheme on Advisory Services to Owners' Corporations (OCs) to assist OCs in handling building management matters in accordance with the Building Management Ordinance, relevant Codes of Practice and Administrative Guidelines. (HAB) (New Initiative)
- Launch a Pilot Scheme on Free Outreach Legal Advice Service on Building Management to assist OCs in the conduct of general meetings. (HAB) (New Initiative)

- Continue to implement the Operation Building Bright 2.0 launched in July 2018 to subsidise owner-occupiers for undertaking rehabilitation works in respect of aged buildings in need of repair, and in parallel subsidise eligible owners to strengthen the fire safety measures for old composite buildings for compliance with the requirements of the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance. (DEVB/SB)
- Collaborate with the Urban Renewal Authority (URA) and government departments concerned to assist building owners to build in corruption prevention safeguards in their building maintenance projects subsidised by the Operation Building Bright 2.0 and the Fire Safety Improvement Works Subsidy Scheme, including organising briefings on corruption prevention in building maintenance for OCs, consultants and works contractors concerned. (ICAC) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Review the implementation of the Pilot Building Management Dispute Resolution Service with a view to enhancing support for owners, OCs and residents' organisations. (HAB)
- Amend the Building Management Ordinance to ensure that the ordinance keeps pace with changes, encourage owners to attend OC meetings in person, and improve the traceability of the operation of OCs by enhancing its transparency, accountability and related record keeping, with a view to facilitating owners' discharge of their responsibilities to manage their buildings properly. (HAB)
- Follow up on the implementation of the Property Management Services Ordinance by assisting the Property Management Services Authority in implementing a licensing scheme for regulating property management services. (HAB)

-
- Launch a \$2.5 billion Lift Modernisation Subsidy Scheme to provide building owners in need with subsidies and appropriate professional support so as to encourage them to speed up lift modernisation works. (DEVB) (New Initiative)
 - Continue to enforce the Lifts and Escalators Ordinance and strengthen the audit inspections of the maintenance and examination of lifts and escalators. Meanwhile, we will, through education and publicity, continue to draw the attention of responsible persons on the need to fulfil their obligations under the ordinance and modernise their aged lifts and escalators in a timely manner to enhance their safety and reliability. (DEVB)
 - Work closely with the URA to support its implementation of redevelopment projects under a holistic and district-based approach with a view to enhancing overall planning benefits for the community. Meanwhile, we will support the URA in conducting a district planning study to explore how the efficiency of existing land use and redevelopment potential of Yau Ma Tei and Mong Kok districts can be enhanced, with a view to identifying more effective and efficient ways for urban renewal as well as adopting the practical and feasible modus operandi in other districts. The study is expected to be completed in 2019. (DEVB)

Enhancing Building Safety

- Introduce legislation for enhancing fire safety standards of old industrial buildings. (SB)
- Conduct a consultancy study on the formulation of a set of design standards for seismic-resistant buildings, with a view to further enhancing building safety in Hong Kong. (DEVB)

Transport

Strategic Studies on Railways and Major Roads

- Take forward the Strategic Studies on Railways and Major Roads Beyond 2030 according to the planning directions for Hong Kong beyond 2030, so that the planning of major transport infrastructure can complement the needs arising from the overall long-term land development of Hong Kong. (THB)

Developing Railways

- Enhance accessibility within Hong Kong according to the “centred on public transport with railway as the backbone” principle, by, inter alia, implementing the seven new railway projects under the Railway Development Strategy 2014 in an orderly manner. Having regard to the potential housing supply that may be brought about by railway development, the Government is reviewing the proposals for the Tuen Mun South Extension and Northern Link (and Kwu Tung Station) and will strive to undertake public consultation on these proposals as soon as possible. At the same time, the Government will carry on with the detailed planning for the East Kowloon Line, Tung Chung West Extension (and Tung Chung East Station) and North Island Line, and will take forward detailed planning for Hung Shui Kiu Station and the South Island Line (West). (THB)
- Co-ordinate and oversee the construction of the Shatin to Central Link, with a view to commissioning the Tai Wai to Hung Hom Section and the Hung Hom to Admiralty Section of the Link as early as possible. (THB)

-
- Follow up on the findings and recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry into the diaphragm wall and platform slab construction works at the Hung Hom Station Extension under the Shatin to Central Link Project. (THB)

Implementing Recommended Measures under the Public Transport Strategy Study

- Organise a multi-stakeholder exchange session in end-2018 for different stakeholders in the public transport sector to engage in meaningful discussions to rationalise their roles and to improve Hong Kong's public transport ecosystem. (THB)
- Continue to prepare for the launch of the pilot trials of two new types of franchised bus services, viz. new long-haul bus services providing more spacious seating and all-seater service with better facilities and fewer stops; and mid-sized single-deck buses for short-haul shuttle services in areas in the New Territories with relatively lower population density but with growth potential. We have consulted the district councils concerned on the details of the trial services and expect to introduce these trial services progressively from early 2019. (THB)
- Continue to actively prepare for the introduction of franchised taxis and target to introduce a bill into the Legislative Council in 2018-19 to meet the new demand in the community for personalised and point-to-point public transport services. (THB)

Improving Road Traffic

- Make more efficient use of road space by adopting the concept of “Congestion Charging” and the principle of “Efficiency First” and commencing a study to comprehensively review the hierarchy and level of tolls of all government tolled tunnels and the Tsing Ma and Tsing Sha Control Areas, in order to enable efficient people carriers and vehicles that support economic activities to enjoy lower tolls while vehicle types with low carrying capacity would need to pay higher tolls. (THB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Propose that, with effect from 1 January 2020, the actual tolls payable by private cars, taxis and motorcycles for using Western Harbour Crossing be lowered, while the corresponding tolls of Cross Harbour Tunnel and Eastern Harbour Crossing be increased at the same time, so as to achieve reasonable re-distribution of traffic among the road harbour crossings for alleviating cross-harbour traffic congestion and minimising the impact on non-cross-harbour traffic. (THB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Explore with public transport operators the opening up of real-time operational data for public consumption free of charge. (THB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

-
- Continue our effort to alleviate road traffic congestion by implementing other measures such as striving to make available parking spaces, in particular for commercial vehicles. Since land is scarce in Hong Kong, we will, in line with the “Single Site, Multiple Use” principle, provide public parking spaces in suitable Government, Institution and Community facilities and the basement of public open space projects so as to make full use of the sites. Subject to detailed technical assessments, there should be scope for provision of at least 1 500 public car parking spaces in suitable government facilities over the next five years. The Government will, subject to technical feasibility, strive to increase parking space provision when constructing disciplined service quarters taking fully into account the unique operational requirements of disciplined services. We will also continue to press ahead with the Electronic Road Pricing Pilot Scheme in Central and its adjacent areas with specific options for the Pilot Scheme put forward in the first half of 2019 for consulting stakeholders. (THB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
 - Continue to oversee the construction of the Central-Wan Chai Bypass and the Island Eastern Corridor Link with a view to commissioning the project in late 2018/first quarter of 2019 as scheduled. (THB)
 - Oversee the construction of the Tseung Kwan O-Lam Tin Tunnel (TKO-LTT) with a view to completing it in 2021. The TKO-LTT, together with the Trunk Road T2 under planning and the Central Kowloon Route (CKR) under construction, will form Route 6, which will link West Kowloon with Tseung Kwan O (TKO). (THB)

- Oversee the construction of the CKR with a view to commissioning it in around 2025 to link the Yau Ma Tei Interchange in West Kowloon with Kowloon Bay and the Kai Tak Development in East Kowloon. It will enhance the capacity of major east-west road corridors in Kowloon, thus relieving traffic congestion and meeting future traffic demand. (THB)
- Oversee the construction of the Cross Bay Link, TKO with a view to completing it in 2022 to relieve traffic congestion along Po Yap Road and in the vicinity of TKO Town Centre and to meet future traffic demand. (THB)
- Oversee the widening of Tai Po Road (Sha Tin Section) between Sha Tin Rural Committee Road and Fo Tan Road, Sha Tin with a view to completing it in 2023 to alleviate the traffic congestion at the said road section. (THB)
- Continue to pursue bus route rationalisation vigorously to enhance network efficiency, improve service quality, ease traffic congestion and reduce roadside air pollution. (THB)
- Continue to enhance the service quality and operating environment of taxis through implementation of various initiatives by the Committee on Taxi Service Quality. (THB)

Monitoring MTR Corporation Limited

- With a view to enhancing our monitoring of the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) in tandem with railway development, we require the MTRCL to:
 - deliver new railway projects in a cost-effective manner;
 - provide safe and reliable railway services and endeavour to relieve the congestion at the MTR network during peak hours;

-
- continue to suitably respond to public views on matters related to fares, having regard to the financial viability of the MTRCL as a listed company;
 - renew its railway assets in a timely manner, including continuation of the signalling system replacement works to increase the carrying capacity of the railway; and
 - maintain an overall high standard of corporate governance. (THB)

Ancillary Facilities for Public Transport and Fare

- Propose to waive the tolls of government tunnels as well as Tsing Ma and Tsing Sha Control Areas charged on franchised buses, and to pay the tolls of franchised buses using the Western Harbour Crossing by the Government, so that the relevant franchised bus operators could use such toll savings to relieve fare increase pressure in future, and to explore with the “build-operate-transfer” franchisee of Tai Lam Tunnel (TLT) on same arrangements for franchised buses using TLT. (THB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Enhance vibrancy of Hung Hom harbourfront through preparation for reviving the Central-Hung Hom ferry route and launching pilot “water taxi” service plying between Kai Tak, Hung Hom, Tsim Sha Tsui East, West Kowloon and Central, and through injection of commercial elements into Hung Hom (South) Pier. (THB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Develop a data collection system and mobile application for green minibuses, as well as install relevant devices on green minibuses for providing real-time arrival information of green minibus routes. (THB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- Subsidise franchised bus operators for retrofitting appropriate safety devices on existing buses. (THB) (New Initiative)
- Relax the vehicle length restriction on light buses, in order to facilitate the deployment of vehicles with environmental benefits and barrier-free facilities by the trade. (THB) (New Initiative)
- The Government is discussing with franchised bus operators the proposed updates to the data adopted in the existing Fare Adjustment Arrangement. We expect to conclude the discussion and implement the updates in 2018 upon approval by the Chief Executive-in-Council. (THB)
- In the mid-term review (in the first half of 2019) for the current three-year licence period (2017-20), the Government will review whether the special helping measures would be the most desirable long-term operation model for maintaining the financial viability of ferry services. This review will cover, inter alia, a detailed study on extending the licence duration and the feasibility of providing full subsidy to ferry operators for replacement of vessels. The objective is to ensure service quality, long-term financial sustainability of ferry operation, and a reasonable adjustment of fares. (THB)
- Continue to take forward pilot renovation projects to enhance the design and facilities of suitable covered public transport interchanges and ferry piers with a view to providing passengers with a better waiting environment. (THB)
- Continue to subsidise the installation of seats and bus arrival information display panels at suitable bus stops in phases by franchised bus companies for passengers' convenience. (THB)

-
- Continue to implement the trial scheme on low-floor wheelchair-accessible light bus service and ascertain whether it would be feasible and desirable to use this type of light buses to serve hospital routes. (THB)
 - Continue to provide subsidies to facilitate the replacement of tram tracks at key locations with new technology to provide more comfortable service for passengers and reduce the impact of track replacement works on traffic. (THB)
 - Implement the non-means tested Public Transport Fare Subsidy Scheme on 1 January 2019 to relieve the fare burden of commuters. Commuters can receive the subsidy beginning from February 2019. (THB)

Marine Safety

- Implement the improvement measures regarding the regulatory regime on local passenger-carrying vessels to enhance marine safety. We will continue to follow up the recommendations in the report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Collision of Vessels near Lamma Island on 1 October 2012. (THB)

Improving Pedestrian Environment

- Apart from continuing the implementation of the on-going projects to retrofit barrier-free access facilities under the Universal Accessibility Programme, we will commence a feasibility study in the first half of 2019 on lift retrofitting proposals at the remaining some 120 eligible walkways across various districts with a view to taking forward those feasible items expeditiously so as to benefit the elderly and people in need. The Government will also conduct a review in 2019 to explore whether there is any scope for further expansion of the Universal Accessibility Programme. (THB) ([New Initiative](#))
- Continue with the arrangement of waiving the land premium for lease modification to encourage private landowners to construct footbridges or subways at their own cost. (DEVB)
- Continue to promote Walk in HK with a view to fostering a pedestrian-friendly environment by:
 - relaxing existing standards stipulated in the Transport Planning and Design Manual for adding covers to walkways, and providing covers on certain walkways connecting to public transport facilities progressively;
 - studying and testing out innovative measures in two pilot areas (namely, Central and Sham Shui Po) for a comfortable walking environment;
 - continuing to enhance pedestrian wayfinding system having regard to the experience gained from the pilot system launched in Tsim Sha Tsui;

-
- extending the coverage of the walking route search function under the Transport Department’s integrated mobile application “HKeMobility” to Yau Ma Tei and Mong Kok;
 - continuing to progressively take forward the construction works of hillside escalator links and elevator system projects and elevated walkway projects in different districts;
 - continuing to take forward the Elevated Pedestrian Corridor in Yuen Long Town Connecting with Long Ping Station project to relieve congestion at footpaths and improve the environment for pedestrians in the district;
 - continuing to take forward the proposed footbridge system project in Mong Kok to improve the walking environment; and reviewing the proposed pedestrian environment improvement scheme in Causeway Bay taking into account the latest developments in the area;
 - continuing the study on enhancing pedestrian connectivity between Wan Chai and Sheung Wan; and
 - continuing with the study to review and improve the assessment mechanism for proposed hillside escalator links and elevator system projects. (THB)
- Continue to establish “bicycle-friendly” new towns and new development areas to reduce carbon emissions from vehicles by such measures as continuing to improve existing cycle tracks and cycle parking facilities in new towns in phases. (DEVB/THB)

- Continue to take forward the development of the cycle track network in the New Territories and strive to complete the remaining cycle track section of about 10 kilometres from Sheung Shui to Tuen Mun by 2020. As regards the Tsuen Wan to Tuen Mun cycle track section, we have just commenced the construction of the section from Tsuen Wan to Bayview Garden and will continue with the detailed design of the Tuen Mun to So Kwun Wat section. We will also continue with the alignment review of the remainder of the Tsuen Wan to Tuen Mun section. (DEVB)

Enhancing External Transport Links

- Continue to improve Hong Kong's international connectivity, with measures including the timely implementation of the Three-Runway System. (THB)
- Work with the Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK) to implement initiatives to enhance airport capacity and airport services. Subsequent to the commissioning of the Midfield Concourse, the remaining parts of the midfield expansion project will be completed in phases by 2020. (THB)
- Form new aviation partnership and review air services agreements with our existing partners, with a view to further liberalising our air service regime, thereby supporting the continued growth and development of the local civil aviation industry. Of over 110 Belt and Road (B&R) countries, Hong Kong has signed air services agreements or international air services transit agreements with 45. We will continue with such efforts and seek to discuss air services agreements with other aviation partners along the B&R routes. This will reinforce Hong Kong's position as an international aviation hub. (THB)

-
- Support the AAHK in expanding inter-modal connections to strengthen the links between the Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) and the Pearl River Delta region. The AAHK is actively taking forward the Intermodal Transfer Terminal project with a view to providing air-to-bridge/bridge-to-air bus service that would facilitate the travel of transit passengers between the HKIA and the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge. (THB)
 - Continue to oversee the construction of the Hong Kong section of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (i.e. the Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities and Hong Kong Link Road) and the preparation work for commissioning to dovetail with the commissioning of the Main Bridge within Mainland waters; and continue to oversee the construction of the Tuen Mun-Chek Lap Kok Link for early commissioning. (THB)
 - Continue to oversee the construction of the Liantang/Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point on Hong Kong side and go full steam ahead with the construction of the connecting road and the Passenger Terminal Building, with a view to completing the works in 2019. (DEVB)

Environmental Protection

Improving Air Quality

Green Technology, Emissions Standards and Air Quality Objectives

- Implement new legislation to mandate vessels to use low sulphur fuel within Hong Kong waters from January 2019 onwards. (ENB)
- Formulate a pilot scheme for local ferries to ascertain the viability of green technologies in the local context. (ENB)

- Promote the use of green technologies in new government vessels to reduce emissions. (ENB)
- Review the Seventh Technical Memorandum with a view to further tightening the air pollutant emission caps for power companies from 2024 onwards. (ENB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Review the scope of the Pilot Green Transport Fund with a view to further facilitating the transport sector's wider use of green transport technologies. (ENB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Continue to implement an incentive-cum-regulatory scheme to phase out progressively by end-2019 some 82 000 highly polluting diesel commercial vehicles which only comply with pre-Euro or Euro I to III emission standards to improve roadside air quality. (ENB)
- Prepare for the launch of an incentive-cum-regulatory scheme to progressively phase out some 40 000 Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles by end-2023 for further improving roadside air quality. (ENB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Prepare for the tightening of the emission standards for newly registered motor cycles to Euro IV in 2020. (ENB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Run electric franchised buses on a trial basis. (ENB)
- Continue to enhance the charging network for electric vehicles. (ENB)
- Fully fund a trial to ascertain the technical feasibility of retrofitting Euro IV and Euro V franchised buses with enhanced selective catalytic reduction systems to reduce emission of nitrogen oxides. (ENB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

-
- Submit the outcome of the review of the Air Quality Objectives to the Advisory Council on the Environment, conduct public consultation and brief the Legislative Council. (ENB)
 - To further reduce the emissions of air pollutants from private cars, the Government will continue to encourage the use of new energy vehicles, with the long term vision that newly registered private cars in Hong Kong should all be new energy vehicles. We aim to consider first ceasing the first registration of diesel private cars after consulting stakeholders. (ENB) (New Initiative)

Regional Co-operation

- Continue to collaborate with the Guangdong Provincial Government on various fronts to keep improving regional air quality. (ENB)
- Collaborate with the Guangdong Provincial and Macao SAR Governments to include volatile organic compounds as a regular monitoring parameter in the Pearl River Delta Regional Air Monitoring Network for more in-depth understanding of the causes of ozone pollution to help formulate effective control strategies. (ENB) (New Initiative)
- Conduct a joint study with the Guangdong Provincial Government on post-2020 air pollutant emission reduction targets and concentration levels for Hong Kong and Guangdong, in order to continuously improve regional air quality for the protection of public health. (ENB) (New Initiative)

Enhancing Waste Management

Reducing Waste and Promoting Recycling

- Continue with the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign to promote the “Food Wise” Culture to reduce food waste at source and facilitate food waste recycling, efforts of which include providing appropriate professional support to schools and tertiary institutions for on-site treatment of food waste; and study and formulate new regulatory measures, such as mandatory source separation of food waste starting with the significant food waste generators in the commercial and industrial sectors. (ENB)
- Examine the expansion of the overall capacity on food waste treatment as soon as possible by applying the food waste/sewage sludge anaerobic co-digestion technology at existing and future sewage treatment works, and continue to identify land for developing the remaining phases of Organic Resources Recovery Centres. (ENB) (New Initiative)
- Introduce a pilot scheme to examine the feasibility of implementing government-run food waste collection services in the long run. (ENB) (New Initiative)
- Continue to implement administrative regulatory measures to require waste cooking oils produced by local licensed food premises be recycled through legitimate means, and consider amendments to the Waste Disposal Ordinance to strengthen the regulation of waste cooking oils. (ENB/FHB)

-
- Set up new outreach teams under the Environmental Protection Department, which will educate the public with on-site guidance and hands-on demonstration, and deliver latest and key green messages to the community through regular visits, with a view to strengthening the field support for waste reduction at source and clean recycling, as well as bettering community preparedness for municipal solid waste (MSW) charging. (ENB)
 - Implement MSW charging by introducing the enabling Bill into the Legislative Council in the fourth quarter of 2018 to provide financial incentives to drive behavioural and cultural changes towards sustainable development. (ENB)
 - To complement the implementation of MSW charging, the Government will provide recurrent resources for beefing up various waste reduction and recycling initiatives, with around \$300 million to \$400 million for 2019-20 financial year to start with, which will be further increased from the financial year when the charging is implemented. This annual provision will be commensurate with the gross revenue to be generated from the charging. (ENB) (New Initiative)
 - Press ahead with the introduction of the producer responsibility scheme on plastic beverage containers to create a circular economy, including implementation of a pilot scheme on the application of reverse vending machine to assess its effectiveness in collecting waste plastic beverage containers. (ENB) (New Initiative)
 - Review the operation of the plastic shopping bag charging scheme to enhance its effectiveness on waste reduction. (ENB) (New Initiative)
 - Continue with the development of Community Green Stations in phases across the territory. (ENB)

- Strengthen collaboration with District Councils and district-based stakeholders, reinforce the promotion of waste reduction at source and clean recycling, and promote the Waste Reduction Guidebook for Large Scale Event Organisers to support government bureaux/ departments, quasi-governmental bodies, commercial and industrial sectors, schools, youth groups, community organisations, etc. to continuously improve the environmental performance of their events by practising waste reduction and recovery measures. (ENB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Expand the trial scheme on plastic bottles collection and recycling services by the Government under planning to cover all types of non-commercial and non-industrial waste plastics. (ENB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Enhance the “theme-based schemes” under the Recycling Fund to cover food waste collection, and include the equipment supporting metal and food waste recycling as a subsidised item under the Recycling Fund. (ENB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Install more water dispensers/filling stations in government venues to which members of the public may access, with a view to inculcating a “bring your own bottle” culture and reducing the consumption of plastic bottled water. The initial target is to install 500 water dispensers/filling stations in three years. (ENB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Explore requiring restaurant operators in suitable government venues to, where circumstances permit, avoid using disposable plastic tableware. (ENB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Work with the food and beverage industry to promote and encourage the avoidance of using disposable plastic tableware. (ENB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

-
- Carry out a consultancy study to examine the possible regulatory control on the use of disposable plastic tableware in Hong Kong in the long run, including the scope and means of controls or bans, the applicable substitutes as well as the appropriate legislative framework and control mechanism. (ENB) (New Initiative)
 - Continue to implement and promote the two mandatory producer responsibility schemes on waste electrical and electronic equipment and glass beverage containers. (ENB)
 - Complete the study and assessment on introducing a mandatory producer responsibility scheme for suitable plastic product containers and set out the way forward. (ENB)
 - Adopt Global Positioning System on construction waste collection vehicles under suitable public works contracts to enhance management of construction waste. (ENB)

Waste-to-energy and Other Waste Treatment Facilities

- After receiving funding approval from the Legislative Council for Organic Resources Recovery Centre (ORRC) Phase 2, expedite the commencement of the detailed design and construction works. In parallel, we will continue with the engineering feasibility study and environmental impact assessment for ORRC Phase 3. (ENB)
- Continue with the detailed design and construction works for the Phase 1 Project of the Integrated Waste Management Facilities for commissioning in 2024. (ENB)
- Continue with the study for the planning of future waste management and transfer facilities to meet Hong Kong's needs up to 2041. (ENB)
- Pursue extension of landfills. (ENB)

Green Construction and Green Economy

- Continue with the consultancy study to review the current arrangement under which a development project is only required to register for Building Environment Assessment Method (BEAM) Plus as a prerequisite for application for gross floor area concession for amenity features, with a view to further promoting green buildings in the private market. The consultancy study is expected to be completed in 2019. (DEVB)
- Actively apply green specifications in government procurement as well as cleansing and vehicle hiring service contracts, while seeking to widen the scope of green procurement in public works projects. In parallel, we will continue to encourage the business sectors and the public to adopt green procurement practices. (ENB)

Devoting Resources to Nature and Countryside Conservation

- The Countryside Conservation Office will carry out conservation and revitalisation projects in remote countryside, with Lai Chi Wo and Sha Lo Tung as pilot areas, for the long-term sustainable development of remote countryside areas. (ENB)
- Designate Robin's Nest as a Country Park and carry out management work from conservation, recreation and education perspectives. (ENB)
- Continue to implement the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan as Hong Kong's long-term blueprint for nature conservation and sustainable development. (ENB)

-
- Strengthen the protection of endangered green turtles by expanding the Sham Wan Restricted Area to cover green turtles' breeding ground in the adjacent waters. (ENB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
 - Step up government actions to enhance cleanup of the shorelines across the territory and regional co-operation in protecting the marine environment; and establish a Clean Shoreline Platform to engage organisations and volunteers that advocate for keeping our shorelines clean, with a view to leveraging community efforts in protecting the marine environment. (ENB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
 - Complete the scrutiny of the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources Bill for implementation of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources in Hong Kong, with a view to contributing to the sustainable use of Antarctic marine living resources and regulating the trading of toothfish. (FHB)

Climate Change

Combating Climate Change

- Develop a long-term decarbonisation strategy for Hong Kong up to 2050 by inviting the Council for Sustainable Development to conduct a public engagement exercise with a bottom-up approach and active participation by stakeholders. (ENB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Support and facilitate participation of the private sector, particularly individuals, in the development of renewable energy (RE), including pursuing legislative amendments to exempt individuals who install small RE systems at their residential premises from the requirements of applying for business registration and filing profits tax returns. (ENB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- Suitably relax the restrictions in relation to installation of photovoltaic (PV) systems at the rooftop of New Territories Exempted Houses such that residents may continue to use their roofs for legal purposes while supporting the environmental protection cause. Similarly, we will make appropriate relaxations for other private buildings, in particular the low-rise ones. (ENB/DEVB) ([New Initiative](#))
- Implement a programme to assist schools (except government and profit-making schools) and non-governmental welfare organisations in installing small RE systems. (ENB) ([New Initiative](#))
- Continue to take the lead in developing RE and deploy the earmarked \$1 billion for the Government to install RE facilities in government buildings (including government schools), venues and facilities so as to promote the development of RE, reduce carbon emissions and mitigate the impact of climate change. (ENB)
- Actively pursue major RE projects, including exploring the installation of large-scale floating PV systems at suitable reservoirs and PV panels at landfills. (ENB) ([New Initiative](#))

Energy Conservation

- Make preparations for conducting retro-commissioning progressively in suitable existing major government buildings to identify energy saving opportunities and enhance energy efficiency; and encourage the carrying out of retro-commissioning in private buildings. (ENB) ([New Initiative](#))

-
- Bureaux and departments have started to conduct regular carbon audits on major government buildings and will disclose their carbon emission information, with a view to exploring room for carbon reduction. We will continue to provide support to bureaux and departments through, inter alia, organising carbon audit workshops, setting up a technical support hotline and updating carbon audit tools in a timely manner. (ENB)
 - Consider the provision of district cooling systems in new development areas, including the Tung Chung New Town Extension and Kwu Tung North. (ENB)
 - Continue to achieve the target of reducing electricity consumption by 5% for government buildings in the financial years from 2015-16 to 2019-20 under comparable operating conditions (taking the 2013-14 financial year as the baseline). Funding of not less than \$500 million has been earmarked for this purpose. (ENB)

Treasuring the Water

- We aim at reducing the per capita fresh water consumption by 10% by 2030 at the earliest, using 2016 as the base year. To achieve this, we will continue to take forward a host of measures, which include enhancing collaboration with various stakeholders; implementing the Mandatory Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme through legislative amendments; making wider use of Automatic Meter Reading systems to enhance awareness of water conservation; establishing the Water Intelligent Network; and taking specific measures to deal with the leakage problem at private water mains, including providing necessary technical advice and support to property owners and management agents, rendering assistance to the market in developing expertise, stepping up monitoring and enforcement actions, and exploring imposing charges on property owners who fail to rectify the water loss in their private mains according to the amount of estimated water loss through legislative amendments so as to urge them to expedite the rectification of the water loss. (DEVB)
- Implement asset management and step up leakage control measures for public water mains to ensure reliable supply, with a target to reduce the leakage rate from the current 15% to below 10% on or before 2030. (DEVB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Continue with the review of the Total Water Management Strategy to ensure sustainable use of precious water resources and timely introduction of new initiatives to strengthen our resilience and preparedness against challenges brought about by climate change. (DEVB)

-
- Continue with the tendering exercise for the Tseung Kwan O desalination plant and proceed with the construction of its associated infrastructure; carry out infrastructure works for taking forward the initiative of the use of reclaimed water for non-potable purposes in North East New Territories (including Sheung Shui and Fanling); and conduct public consultation on the supply and use of reclaimed water as well as the associated financial and legal framework. (DEVB)

External Lighting

- Review the effectiveness of the Charter on External Lighting and consider whether legislation should be introduced to control external lighting nuisance. (ENB)

Beautifying Victoria Harbour

- Continue to plan and progressively implement projects for reducing the discharge of pollutants from either side of Victoria Harbour to protect the environment along its coastlines and address near-shore odour problem, thereby making further improvements in the water quality and cleanliness of the Harbour. (ENB)
- Continue to monitor and assess the progress of improvement in the water quality of the Victoria Harbour. (ENB)
- Continue to partner with the Harbourfront Commission in implementing harbourfront enhancement initiatives through the dedicated Harbour Office, including taking forward projects and studies under the \$500 million dedicated funding, and trying out different harbourfront management arrangements to broaden participation to parties outside the Government. (DEVB)

Urban Forestry

- Formulate an urban forestry management strategy and develop proper urban arboricultural practices with a holistic approach. We will continue to develop sustainable urban landscapes and draw up guidelines on urban arboriculture. (DEVB)
- Enhance the planning, design and management of landscape, including the enrichment of vegetation diversity and more diligent vegetation maintenance to improve the outdoor landscape and create quality public space for our community. (DEVB)
- Continue to promote capacity-building for the arboriculture and horticulture industry and assist the Arboriculture and Horticulture Industry Training Advisory Committee in developing a qualification framework. (DEVB)
- Raise public awareness on urban forestry, including lifecycle planning and life expectancy for trees and the concept of “Right Tree, Right Place”. (DEVB)
- Study the application of smart technologies to detect the health and structural conditions of trees more effectively. (DEVB)
- Undertake studies on the stability of stonewall trees to minimise the risks associated with their uprooting failure. (DEVB)
- Continue to collaborate with experts on the diagnosis and prevention of Brown Root Rot disease, and develop a Brown Root Rot Disease Operations Manual. (DEVB)
- Provide more training for property managers and frontline street cleansing staff to enhance their awareness in proper tree care. (DEVB) (New Initiative)

-
- Study the introduction of a registration system for tree management personnel. (DEVB) (New Initiative)

Sports Development

- Propose to conduct a territory-wide longitudinal Physical Fitness Survey for the Community to continuously monitor the physical condition of our citizens and identify high-risk groups for non-communicable diseases. This would facilitate the formulation of measures to facilitate the promotion of sports in the community as well as the prevention and early intervention of diseases. (HAB) (New Initiative)
- Implement the initial phase of measures to enhance the Sports Subvention Scheme by increasing resources for the subvented national sports associations (NSAs) to participate in international competitions and squad training; and increasing subsidy for under-privileged athletes. (HAB) (New Initiative)
- Allocate \$500 million to the Major Sports Events Matching Grant Scheme to enhance the existing matching grant under the “M” Mark System with a view to encouraging more sponsorships from the private, notably the business sector, to support the hosting of more high level major sports events by NSAs. (HAB)
- Implement the Kai Tak Sports Park project, with the contract expected to be awarded by end-2018 and the construction works anticipated to be completed between 2022 and 2023. The aim is to provide world class facilities for the promotion of holistic sports development, and to attract more international sports events and competitions to Hong Kong. (HAB)

- Continue to implement the Five-year Development Programme for Team Sports, with 2022 Asian Games as the target, under which additional resources from the Arts and Sport Development Fund will be provided to both the sports and members of the Hong Kong representative teams to help them enhance their performance gradually, with a view to enabling them to achieve elite sport status under the new Elite Vote Support System for team sports. (HAB)
- Support the Hong Kong Sports Institute in studying the strategy for enhancing the training of elite athletes and the relevant initiatives regarding coach training, sports science, sports medicine, etc. We will also inject \$6 billion into the Elite Athletes Development Fund and provide additional resources, if necessary, for raising the standards of local athletes. (HAB)
- Support the long-term development of football by providing funding for the Hong Kong Football Association for the implementation of its five-year strategic plan. (HAB)
- Implement the following measures based on the recommendations of the consultancy report and comments received in a public consultation on Sport for People with Disabilities in Hong Kong:
 - the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) will encourage more people with disabilities (PWD) to participate in sports by providing a one-stop information platform, enhancing venue support, organising diversified and suitable programmes, strengthening the liaison network with special schools and providing additional subvention for NSAs for athletes with disabilities;

-
- launching outreach recreation and sports services: working with relevant NSAs for athletes with disabilities and organisations for PWD to provide outreach services, including workshop or centre-based sports activities, so as to help PWD develop healthy sporting habits and save on transport time and arrangements for using sports venues;
 - using the 2018 Jakarta Asian Para Games as a pilot run for introducing a full-time athlete system and a Pilot Scheme for Elite Vote Support System for disability sports; and
 - assisting the Hong Kong Paralympic Committee to form into an independent body and providing it with subvention in order for it to support athletes with disabilities in a more focused and systematic manner through, inter alia, handling of matters relating to classification of para-sports, promotion and development of different kinds of para-sports of the Paralympic Games, etc., thus further steering them in the direction of elite sports. (HAB)
- Continue to encourage local universities to undertake applied research relating to sports and to provide necessary funding and support. (HAB)
 - Endeavour to facilitate hosting of mega events and activities, which can attract the general public and tourists, in Kowloon East and co-use of the Kwun Tong Typhoon Shelter water body for water recreation activities. (DEVB)
 - Continue to take forward the Five-Year Plan for Sports and Recreational Facilities to increase and enhance the provision of district facilities, with a view to promoting sports for all. (HAB)

- Develop a new intelligent system for Hong Kong's public sports and recreational services to allow more efficient, convenient and user-friendly booking of the sports and recreational facilities provided by the LCSD, thereby encouraging members of the public to exercise regularly and lead a healthy lifestyle. (HAB)

Testing Centre and Transport Hub for Competition Horses

- Strengthen Hong Kong's testing services for equine diseases, and continue collaboration with the Mainland to ensure smooth operation of the Equine Disease Free Zone in Guangdong in connection with the commissioning of the Hong Kong Jockey Club Conghua Racecourse, with a view to facilitating Hong Kong's development into a testing centre and transport hub for horses for international competitions. (FHB)

Arts and Culture

- Leverage technology to provide innovative services as well as to enhance the quality, cost-effectiveness and customer friendliness of the facilities and services of public libraries to promote city-wide reading culture and support Hong Kong's development as a Smart City. (HAB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Continue to support the training scheme for arts administrators, with a view to grooming more artistic talent and supporting the future development of Hong Kong's arts and culture. (HAB)

Supporting Arts Groups

- Provide funding and other support for the major performing arts groups to stage quality performing arts programmes for the community and display the unique arts and cultural landscape of Hong Kong. (HAB)

-
- Continue to support the Hong Kong Arts Development Council in providing support to small and medium arts groups. (HAB)
 - Continue to implement the Arts Capacity Development Funding Scheme and Art Development Matching Grants Pilot Scheme to encourage different sectors of the community to sponsor local arts and cultural activities. (HAB)
 - Explore ways to further optimise the Arts and Sports Development Fund (Arts Portion), taking into account the views of the arts sector and the Government's past experience, with a view to supporting the further development of local arts and cultural organisations that are relatively well. (HAB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

West Kowloon Cultural District

- Expedite the development of the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) to establish Hong Kong's position as a cultural hub and enrich the cultural life of the public:
 - monitoring and facilitating the planning, development and operation of arts and cultural facilities by the WKCD Authority; and
 - co-ordinating interface issues of the WKCD with the integrated basement, public infrastructure and community facility projects in the vicinity. (HAB)

- Implement the enhanced financial arrangement, and monitor the WKCD Authority's formulation of Build-Operate-Transfer arrangements for the development of the hotel/office/residential portion of the WKCD jointly with the private sector with a view to supporting the sustainable operation of the WKCD and delivering the remaining arts and cultural facilities under an organic growth approach. (HAB)

Opening Up Arts Space and Providing Facilities

- Support the Tai Po District Council and the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC) in converting the premises of a vacant school in Tai Po into an arts centre to provide space for arts development. (HAB)
- Reserve a certain portion of floor area in the future development at a site in Aberdeen to provide space for the HKADC to support arts development. (HAB)
- Plan and build new cultural facilities to meet community needs, including the New Territories East Cultural Centre in Area 11 of Fanling (with pre-construction activities scheduled for completion in the first quarter of 2022); improve and develop cultural facilities including the expansion of the Hong Kong City Hall and renovation of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre on a continuous basis. (HAB)
- The Hong Kong Museum of Art is in active preparation for opening programmes and large-scale exhibitions to tie in with its re-opening in the second half of 2019. (HAB)
- Explore the expansion of the Hong Kong Science Museum and Hong Kong Museum of History to upgrade our museum facilities. (HAB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

Promoting Arts and Cultural Programmes and Grooming Art Talent

- Promote the works of young and talented art practitioners to overseas, Mainland and local communities through:
 - various performing and visual arts programmes organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD); and
 - acquisition and commissioning of local artists' artworks by the LCSD. (HAB)
- The LCSD will revamp the permanent exhibitions of the Hong Kong Science Museum, Hong Kong Museum of History and Hong Kong Heritage Museum on a continuous basis to cater for the development of museum services and for audience building. (HAB)

Cultural Exchange

- Organise Hong Kong Week in some major Mainland cities to showcase the essence of Hong Kong arts. (HAB)
- Support local artists and arts groups to perform and stage exhibitions on the Mainland and overseas, so as to create more opportunities for local artists. (HAB)

Heritage and History

Heritage Conservation

- Undertake the pre-construction activities of the Heritage Conservation and Resource Centre to enhance the institutional capacity and status of our museums in the acquisition, preservation, research and display of collections. (HAB)

- Under the Built Heritage Conservation Fund, continue to work closely with selected non-profit-making organisations to implement the first five batches of projects under the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme, process applications under the Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme, and monitor the approved applications under the funding schemes for public engagement projects and thematic research. (DEVB)
- Continue to organise street carnival activities at the Hollywood Road area under “Heritage Vogue • Hollywood Road”. (DEVB)
- The Urban Renewal Authority, having conserved the buildings in Wing Lee Street, will carry out further study with a view to revitalising the building clusters with special character and urban fabric under the whole Staunton Street/Wing Lee Street Project (H19) so as to promote place making and synergise with nearby revitalisation projects. (DEVB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

Intangible Cultural Heritage

- Expand the capacity of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Office to enhance community engagement in the preservation, research, education, promotion and transmission of intangible cultural heritage, as well as to raise public appreciation of local culture and traditions. (HAB)

Civic Affairs and Clean Society

- Work with the Ping Wo Fund Advisory Committee and relevant stakeholders to implement education and publicity initiatives as well as support services to address gambling problems. (HAB)

-
- Ride on the momentum of the multi-year and cross-sectoral All for Integrity Programme to launch a series of commemorative events for the 45th anniversary of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), including a series of publicity activities and Open Day, as well as the new ICAC Investigators 2019 television drama series. (ICAC)
 - Promote positive values among young kids through the launching of a two-year Reading for Integrity Project comprising production of picture books and organisation of reading club activities, training for educators and a large-scale reading gala targeting at kindergarten students, their parents and teachers. (ICAC) ([New Initiative](#))

Food Safety and Healthy Eating

- Continue to review the export control of powdered formulae and explore long-term measures for safeguarding the stability of the local supply of powdered formulae. (FHB)
- Optimise the information technology systems of the Centre for Food Safety to enhance data collection, analysis, risk assessment and traceability of imported food. (FHB)
- Continue to review and update local food safety standards and regulatory arrangements, including those concerning harmful substances in food, as well as nutrition and health claims for formula products and prepackaged food for infants and young children. (FHB)
- Continue to study the feasibility of reprovisioning and expanding the Food Safety Laboratory of the Government Laboratory to enhance its testing capability and operational efficiency for tests relating to food safety. (FHB)

- Continue to implement a strategic plan for reducing the levels of salt and sugar in food to promote healthy eating. (FHB)

Drinking Water Safety

- Continue to implement measures under the Action Plan for Enhancing Drinking Water Safety in Hong Kong to safeguard drinking water safety. (DEVB)
- Continue to review and explore practicable options with a view to establishing a drinking water safety regulatory regime suitable for Hong Kong. (DEVB)
- Continue with the holistic review on the Waterworks Ordinance and Waterworks Regulations to, inter alia, enhance regulatory control of the plumbing materials and the design, construction, inspection and approval of internal plumbing systems and define clearly the roles and responsibilities of the persons undertaking the work in consultation with the relevant stakeholders. We will conduct public consultation on the legislative amendment proposals and submit the proposals for amending the Waterworks Ordinance and Waterworks Regulations in due course. (DEVB)
- As at end-August 2018, the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA)'s contractors have completed over 85% of the rectification works of replacing water pipes inside domestic flats of the 11 affected public rental housing developments with excess lead in drinking water. The HKHA will continue with the rectification works in order to resolve the problem completely as soon as possible. (THB)

Municipal Services

- Strengthen efforts to keep Hong Kong clean and enhance enforcement actions in a comprehensive manner, and promote public awareness of keeping places clean in pursuit of better environmental hygiene. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Consult the local communities on site selection for public markets in Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung, and identify sites for providing public markets in Tseung Kwan O and Kwu Tung North New Development Area. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Take forward the burial policy by adopting a three-pronged approach:
 - implementing the regulatory regime for private columbaria;
 - expediting the development of public columbaria on shortlisted sites across the territory; and
 - promoting green burial. (FHB)
- Step up promotion of green burial, including increasing the number of Gardens of Remembrance, establishing a central register for green burial, and working with various community sectors to boost its popularity. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Carry out comprehensive refurbishment works for those public toilets of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department with high utilisation rate or located at tourist hotspots. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- Apply innovation and technology to enhance municipal services by introducing automated cleaning machines and technology for trial use at different venues, with a view to assessing their applicability. (FHB) (New Initiative)
- Implement the Market Modernisation Programme, and conduct a comprehensive review of existing public markets and formulate specific measures in a systematic manner to improve the facilities and management, including putting in resources to revitalise existing public markets. (FHB)

Live Poultry Trade

- Facilitate relocation of chicken farms to improve their bio-security measures through amending the relevant legislation, with a view to further enhancing the prevention and control of avian influenza. (FHB) (New Initiative)
- Implement further bio-security improvement measures along the supply chain and enhance public education on avian influenza prevention. (FHB)

Safe and Quality Living Environment

- Continue with the comprehensive investigation on ageing pipelines in phases for timely identification of pipelines at high risk of structural failure; and strive to implement a risk-based programme for rehabilitation of aged stormwater drains and sewers. (DEVB/ENB)

-
- Continue to review and evaluate the revitalisation potential of the major nullahs in Hong Kong with a view to identifying suitable nullahs for revitalisation. The aim is to enhance their ecological value, provide a greener environment, promote water friendliness and improve the community environment for building a liveable city. (DEVB)
 - Continue with the consultancy study for exploring the practicable options for applying the concept of revitalising water bodies to nullahs and river channels when carrying out large-scale drainage improvement works and drainage planning for new development areas. Apart from achieving efficient drainage, the initiative will promote greening, biodiversity, beautification and water friendliness; build sustainable drainage facilities; and provide a better living environment. (DEVB)
 - Further the trial application of low noise road surface to alleviate traffic noise impact and promote sustainable resource management, thereby contributing to a liveable city. (ENB) ([New Initiative](#))
 - Prepare legislation for implementing the Minamata Convention on Mercury, with a view to protecting public's health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions of mercury and mercury compounds. (ENB) ([New Initiative](#))
 - Continue with the design of the improvement works for the Yuen Long Town Centre Nullah to enhance the quality of the local environment and the ecological value of the nullah. (DEVB)
 - Continue with the implementation of the Restored Landfill Revitalisation Funding Scheme for early conversion of the restored landfill sites for recreation, sports, environmental protection and other appropriate community uses. (ENB)

- Continue with the Landslip Prevention and Mitigation Programme to:
 - upgrade and landscape government man-made slopes;
 - mitigate the landslide risk of natural terrain with known hazards; and
 - conduct safety screening studies for private slopes. (DEVB)
- Continue to review the Drainage Master Plans of Lantau and the outlying islands, Tuen Mun, Tsuen Wan, Kwai Tsing, North Hong Kong Island, Repulse Bay and Tai Tam to assess the flood risks in these districts and propose improvement measures. (DEVB)

Veterinary Surgeons Board

- Draw up regulations for the election of members from the veterinary profession to the Veterinary Surgeons Board of Hong Kong in accordance with the new provisions in the Veterinary Surgeons Registration (Amendment) Ordinance 2015, and support the Board in organising and holding the election. (FHB)

Animal Welfare

- Implement the Animal Watchers Scheme to enlist wider public support and participation in the fight against cruelty to animals, and set up a taskforce to co-ordinate and deepen the mutual understanding and partnership among relevant stakeholders. (SB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Amend the responsibility requirement under the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374) for a driver to stop in case of a traffic incident involving injury to a cat or dog. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

-
- Conduct public consultation on amending the legislation related to animal welfare, including introducing a concept of positive duty of care on animal keepers, and exploring raising the penalty level. (FHB)

Chapter 6

Building a Caring, Inclusive Society, Improving People's Livelihood

Preamble

The current-term Government strives to forge a caring and inclusive society whilst developing our economy. To this end, the Government will continue to provide financial support for people and families in need through various measures, including the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme, and the enhanced Working Family Allowance Scheme and Old Age Living Allowance.

The Government will sustain its efforts in poverty alleviation with the support of the Commission on Poverty (CoP) led by the Chief Secretary for Administration. The CoP will continue to review the analytical framework of the poverty line and update the poverty line, implement a number of assistance programmes through the Community Care Fund and promote social innovation through the Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund. A poverty line analysis shows that the poverty rate in 2016 was 14.7%, representing a significant drop of 5.2 percentage points subsequent to policy intervention, with the size of the poor population staying below 1 million for the fourth consecutive year. The poverty situation by and large remained stable.

Ethnic minorities form an integral part of the local community and their population has been growing at a fast pace. However, some ethnic minorities have encountered difficulties in adaptation and social integration owing to language barriers and cultural differences. As the

service needs of ethnic minorities have become more diversified, the Steering Committee on Ethnic Minorities Affairs, chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, will co-ordinate, review and monitor the support for ethnic minorities. We will introduce measures in various aspects, including interpretation service, education, social welfare, employment and social integration to strengthen our support for them.

Children's growth and development is one of the priority policy areas of the current-term Government. We have set up the Commission on Children, led by the Chief Secretary for Administration, in June 2018 with cross-bureau and departmental representation to engage the children concern groups in addressing the issues that children face while growing up. The Commission has started its work in this regard. The Government will also strengthen measures focusing on children's healthy growth and development. Among other things, the Government will launch a pilot scheme in the 2018/19 school year to provide social work services in phases for about 150 000 pre-primary children and their families, and set up five specialised co-parenting support centres to provide support to children of separated/divorced families.

Regarding elderly services, our objective is to enable our senior citizens to live in dignity and to provide the necessary support to promote their sense of belonging, security and worthiness. We will continue to implement the various recommendations as set out in the Elderly Services Programme Plan, including the implementation of a series of new measures to strengthen community care and support services as well as enhance the service quality of residential care homes for the elderly.

Meanwhile, we will continue to strengthen the support for persons or families with special needs, including persons with disabilities, persons with mental illness and ex-mentally ill persons, children with

special needs as well as their parents and carers. We will also render better support for children and victims of domestic violence.

The family is the cornerstone of our society and the key to maintaining social harmony and stability. On policy formulation, we have tasked the Family Council to advise bureaux and departments on the impact of various government policies on families. The Government will continue to collaborate with various sectors in the community to create a family-friendly culture in order to promote and encourage more diversified and flexible family-friendly employment practices.

On the issue of abolishing the arrangement of “offsetting” severance payment and long service payment with employers’ mandatory contributions under the Mandatory Provident Fund System, having carefully considered the views expressed by the business and labour sectors on the Government’s preliminary idea in the past few months, we decided to put forward an enhanced package and increase our financial commitment to address the concerns of both sectors. We will also introduce measures to further strengthen the protection of employees’ occupational safety and health.

In face of an ageing population, increasing prevalence of chronic and lifestyle-related diseases and rising healthcare cost, the Government will formulate long-term healthcare policies and plan on future resources to safeguard the health and well-being of the public. Enhanced efforts and extra resources will be put in place to promote health education, primary care and community care so as to promote public health and reduce the need for in-patient services. Apart from strengthening healthcare manpower, the Government will also advocate cross-sector (engaging the healthcare, social welfare and education sectors) and cross-profession collaboration to consolidate and enhance medical and healthcare services in a comprehensive manner. The practice of Chinese medicine in Hong Kong has a solid

foundation. The Government will leverage on this advantage to actively promote the development of Chinese medicine on different fronts. Amidst the rapid development in medical technology, we will promote medical research and innovation and facilitate their wider clinical application to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of local healthcare services.

Policy Initiatives

Poverty Alleviation, Elderly Care and Support for the Disadvantaged

Commission on Poverty

- With its new composition, structure and functions, the new-term Commission on Poverty will continue to support the implementation of the Government's poverty alleviation strategies through maintaining communication with stakeholders and exploring innovative means to provide assistance for the needy groups. (CSO)

Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund

- Continue to support social entrepreneurs through the engagement of intermediaries, engage partners in formulating and implementing collective impact initiatives, promote the "Creating Shared Value" concept in the business sector, provide rental subsidy to social entrepreneurs and ventures for leasing co-working spaces, explore new funding modes, and sustain public awareness of and support for social innovation. The Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund will engage an intermediary to develop and operate a gerontechnology platform to address the challenges and tap the opportunities brought by an ageing population. (ITB)

Poverty Alleviation

- Continue to closely monitor the implementation of various social security schemes, including the Higher Old Age Living Allowance launched in June 2018. (LWB)

Helping Low-income Families

- Continue to implement the enhanced Working Family Allowance Scheme. Moreover, the Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency will process the individual-based applications for the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy from April 2019 onwards to provide more efficient and convenient service for applicants. (LWB)
- Continue to support individuals and families who have difficulties in coping with their daily food expenditure through extending the short-term food assistance service up to 2020-21. (LWB)

Enhancing Upward Mobility

- Continue to implement projects under the Child Development Fund to promote the long-term development of children from a disadvantaged background, with a view to alleviating inter-generational poverty. (LWB)

Supporting the Disadvantaged and Caring for the Young

- Provide subvention to non-governmental organisations for setting up five cyber youth support teams to reach out to at-risk and hidden youths to provide early intervention and support. (LWB)
- Raise the ceiling of cash assistance under the District Support Scheme for Children and Youth Development to \$2,000 per person per year, and increase the number of annual quotas to 10 000 to better cater for the development needs of deprived children and youths at the district level. (LWB)

Supporting Families

- Set up a policy study group to explore the possibility of integrating and co-ordinating family-related policies under the purview of the Labour and Welfare Bureau, including children, women and elderly policies. (LWB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Launch a three-year pilot scheme in the 2018/19 school year to provide social work services in phases for about 150 000 pre-primary children and their families in more than 700 aided child care centres, kindergartens and kindergarten-cum-child care centres in Hong Kong for early identification of and providing assistance to pre-primary children and their families with welfare needs. (LWB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Explore to provide after school care services for children aged three to six in suitable welfare facilities. (LWB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Regularise the community support programme for residents of new public rental housing estates through the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund to help the new residents and families integrate into the community as soon as possible. (LWB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Set up four small group homes on top of the continued increase in the number of residential child care places in phases so as to enhance support and protection for children and families in need. (LWB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Continue to launch an environment improvement programme for small group homes to meet the needs of children receiving residential care service. (LWB)

-
- Continue to provide about 300 additional aided long full-day child care places in phases for children aged below three. (LWB)
 - Continue to launch a three-year Community Care Fund pilot scheme to relax the income limit for the low-income families under the Fee Waiving Subsidy Scheme for After School Care Programme and provide 2 000 additional full fee-waiving subsidy places, so as to strengthen the support for low-income families. (LWB)
 - Continue to strengthen child protection services and provide support for families with domestic violence problems through the provision of preventive, supportive and specialised services for victims of domestic violence and families in need. These services include rendering outreach service to protect abused children, supporting children who have witnessed or been exposed to domestic violence and victims of domestic violence, helping perpetrators and individuals with the risk of using violence stop their violence, and increasing the number of places and manpower of refuge centres for women. Publicity and public education efforts will also be made to combat domestic violence. (LWB)
 - Provide support services for victims of sexual violence. (LWB)
 - Strengthen support for divorced/separated families with children's interests as the paramount concern, including the set-up of five specialised co-parenting support centres from 2019-20 onwards to co-ordinate and arrange children contact, as well as to strengthen support for children and their divorced/separated parents with parenting needs. (LWB)
 - Set up a medical social service unit at the newly commissioned Hong Kong Children's Hospital. (FHB)

- Set up a dental clinic under the Department of Health in the Hong Kong Children's Hospital to provide services for pre-school children with special oral healthcare needs. (FHB) (New Initiative)
- Continue to strengthen our volunteer network and matching platform for promoting a caring and volunteering culture. (HAB)

Supporting Families to Meet Child Care Needs

- Formulate planning ratio for the provision of child care centre places. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Enhance the existing manning ratios for qualified child care workers serving in day and residential child care centres within the 2019/20 school year so as to improve service quality. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Increase the level of subsidy for child care centre service within the 2019/20 school year so as to alleviate parents' financial burden in paying service fees. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Enhance the service quality of the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project by strengthening the training for home-based child carers and raising their incentive payments within 2019-20. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Re-engineer in phases the existing mutual help child care centres from 2019-20 onwards so as to further meet the child care needs in the community. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Launch a two-year Child Care Training Programme to equip grandparents with contemporary child care knowledge and skills so as to strengthen the support for nuclear families. (LWB) (New Initiative)

-
- Continue to strengthen the promotion of breastfeeding and encourage the implementation of breastfeeding-friendly measures in the community and workplaces, as well as to review and assess the overall effectiveness of implementing the “Hong Kong Code of Marketing of Formula Milk and Related Products, and Food Products for Infants & Young Children” through the Committee on Promotion of Breastfeeding under the Food and Health Bureau, with a view to enhancing sustained breastfeeding and promoting breastfeeding as a norm for infant and young child feeding widely accepted by the general public. (FHB)
 - Step up measures to enhance the provision of babycare facilities and lactation rooms in the community. Such measures include imposing a mandatory requirement for the provision of babycare facilities and lactation rooms in the sale conditions of government land sale sites for new commercial developments comprising office premises and/or retail outlets, eating places, etc.; and mandating the provision of babycare facilities and lactation rooms in certain new government premises. The Food and Health Bureau and the Department of Health are, in collaboration with relevant bureaux and departments, working out detailed requirements and revising relevant guidelines. (FHB)

Enhancing Services for Persons with Disabilities and Persons with Mental Illness

- Enhance support for persons with special needs (especially children) and their parents through:

- converting the Pilot Scheme on On-site Pre-school Rehabilitation Services into a regular government subsidy programme, providing on-site rehabilitation services for children with special needs who are studying in kindergartens or kindergarten-cum-child care centres through interdisciplinary service teams co-ordinated by non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and increasing the number of service places from about 3 000 to 5 000 in October 2018 which will be further increased to 7 000 in October 2019;
- enhancing the professional and support services provided under the On-site Pre-school Rehabilitation Services, including strengthening the establishments of speech therapist and social worker of the inter-disciplinary service teams, and setting up mobile training centres;
- enhancing social work services of Special Child Care Centres and Residential Special Child Care Centre;
- strengthening care and nursing support for children with severe disabilities receiving residential care services;
- implementing a pilot project, through the Lotteries Fund, on the provision of support for children who show signs of special needs and are waiting for assessment in kindergartens or kindergarten-cum-child care centres;
- providing direct psychological treatment on top of consultation service for persons with special needs (especially children) and their parents to help them deal with their family and emotional problems;

-
- providing training subsidy for eligible children on the waiting list of subvented pre-school rehabilitation services so that they can receive self-financing services run by NGOs while waiting for subvented services so as to facilitate their learning and development, and waiving the means test for children on the waiting list for subvented special child care centre service; and
 - strengthening support for parents and relatives/carers of persons with disabilities, including children or young persons with special needs, through setting up new parents/relatives resource centres. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Strengthen community support services for persons with disabilities and their families through:
- setting up five additional District Support Centres for Persons with Disabilities (DSCs) and enhancing rehabilitation training and service of these centres in order to enhance service capacity and quality of DSCs;
 - increasing the number of Support Centres for Persons with Autism from three to five to strengthen support for persons with autism and their parents/carers; and
 - increasing the resources and expanding the scope of home-based care services to serve an additional 1 800 persons with disabilities living in the community and strengthening transport support for home-based care services in order to enhance home-based rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities. (LWB) (New Initiative)

- Strengthen the professional support provided by medical social workers in the hospitals of the Hospital Authority. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Review the training and care needs of ageing service users of Day Activity Centre cum Hostel for Severely Mentally Handicapped Persons and Sheltered Workshop/Integrated Vocational Rehabilitation Services Centre cum Hostel for Moderately Mentally Handicapped Persons so as to explore the need and feasibility of developing a new service mode to better address the service needs of ageing service users. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Explore the need and feasibility of developing a new service mode for sheltered workshops to better address the vocational training needs of service users. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Review the barrier-free access for persons with disabilities in local community/living environment by benchmarking against the accessibility standards and practices in overseas cities; conduct site inspections on the existing level of accessibility and consult stakeholders in order to formulate a strategy for eliminating barriers; and recommend practical measures, including application of information and communication technology, introduction of incentive schemes and launch of thematic training and education programmes, with a view to further enhancing the accessibility of the local community/living environment. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Formulate a new Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan for persons with disabilities. (LWB)
- Promote the spirit and core values enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in collaboration with the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee, the rehabilitation sector and the public at large. (LWB)

-
- Improve rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities by increasing the number of places of pre-school children service, day service and residential service, and places provided under the Bought Place Scheme for Private Residential Care Homes for Persons with Disabilities. (LWB) (New Initiative)
 - Provide home care service for persons with severe disabilities and integrated support service for persons with severe physical disabilities on a territory-wide basis, and provide these service users with one-stop support services (including casework counselling, occupational therapy/physiotherapy, nursing care service and personal care service) co-ordinated and arranged by case managers in accordance with their needs to enable them to continue living in the community and integrate into society. (LWB)
 - Set up a “special needs trust” to provide affordable trust services for parents of children with special needs. (LWB)
 - Set up the Arts Development Fund for Persons with Disabilities to foster arts development for persons with disabilities. (LWB)
 - Enhance support for the operation and development of self-help organisations through providing funding for the Financial Support Scheme for Self-help Organisations for Persons with Disabilities/Chronic Illnesses. (LWB)
 - Continue to provide professional support for hearing impaired persons, visually impaired persons and their families through multi-service centres for hearing impaired persons and rehabilitation and training centres for visually impaired persons. (LWB)

- Expand the target groups of Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness to secondary school students with mental health needs in order to strengthen professional support for them. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Enhance speech therapy services to ageing or service users with severe disabilities so as to assist them in dealing with swallowing problems. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Enhance the primary medical service for ageing service users at residential care homes for persons with disabilities by increasing subvention for the Visiting Medical Practitioner Scheme. (LWB)
- Implement measures to provide assistance and facilitation for persons with disabilities in applying for government jobs to ensure that they have equal opportunity in this respect; and enhance internship programmes within the Government for students with disabilities to strengthen their competitiveness in job seeking. (CSB)
- Enhance vocational rehabilitation support for persons with disabilities through: providing job attachment allowance for trainees of supported employment service and wage subsidy for employers offering job trials to these trainees; and strengthening post-placement follow-up service in vocational rehabilitation service units by extending the follow-up period from 6 months to 12 months. (LWB)
- Promote the employment of persons with disabilities by:

-
- providing job attachment allowance and wage subsidy under the On the Job Training Programme for People with Disabilities and the Sunnyway — On the Job Training Programme for Young People with Disabilities to create job attachment opportunities for persons with disabilities;
 - providing subsidy for employers who hire employees with disabilities to procure assistive devices and/or carry out workplace modifications through the Support Programme for Employees with Disabilities;
 - providing financial incentive for mentors rendering workplace assistance and guidance to employees with disabilities;
 - regularising the psychological and emotional counselling services provided for job seekers with disabilities by the Labour Department;
 - promoting the Talent-Wise Employment Charter and Inclusive Organisations Recognition Scheme to mobilise employers in the public and private sectors to employ more persons with disabilities;
 - continuing to implement the Work Orientation and Placement Scheme to encourage employers to hire and train job seekers with disabilities through the provision of an allowance, thereby enhancing the employment opportunities of job seekers with disabilities; and
 - providing support for businesses funded under the Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprise Project to create more employment opportunities for persons with disabilities. (LWB)

- Enhance transport services for persons with disabilities through improvement to rehasub service, and examine ways to further improve the accessibility of transport services for persons with disabilities. (LWB/THB)
- Provide bus service for the day activity centres cum hostels for severely mentally handicapped persons and community rehabilitation day centres. (LWB)
- Continue to implement the Government Public Transport Fare Concession Scheme for the Elderly and Eligible Persons with Disabilities to enable elderly people aged 65 or above and eligible persons with disabilities to travel on the MTR lines, franchised bus routes, ferry routes and green minibus routes covered by the scheme at a concessionary fare of \$2 per trip, with a view to building a caring and inclusive society by encouraging these people to participate more in community activities. A comprehensive review of the scheme will be conducted in 2018-19. (LWB)

Elderly Care

- Strengthen the community care and support services for the elderly by providing an additional 2 000 service quota under the Enhanced Home and Community Care Services. (LWB) ([New Initiative](#))
- Provide an additional 1 000 vouchers (bringing the total to 7 000) under the Second Phase of the Pilot Scheme on Community Care Service Voucher for the Elderly to support ageing in place for elderly persons with moderate or severe impairment. (LWB) ([New Initiative](#))

-
- Implement a new scheme to set up day care units for the elderly at qualified private and self-financing residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) to increase the supply of day care services. (LWB) (New Initiative)
 - Provide designated residential respite places in private RCHEs participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme to relieve the stress of carers. (LWB) (New Initiative)
 - Continue to organise territory-wide public education activities to enhance public understanding of dementia. (LWB)
 - Reinstate by end-2018 the population-based planning ratios in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines in respect of subsidised residential care services and community care services, district elderly community centres and neighbourhood elderly centres. (LWB) (New Initiative)
 - Promote the research of new technologies that improve the quality of living of the elderly and encourage its application in residence, community and elderly homes. We also plan to launch the \$1 billion Innovation and Technology Fund for Application in Elderly and Rehabilitation Care in December 2018 to subsidise elderly service units to try out and procure/rent technology products. The initiative will also cover rehabilitation service units. (LWB/ITB)
 - Consider the possibility of allowing subsidised units of elderly and rehabilitation services greater flexibility in the importation of care workers. (LWB)

- Continue to implement the Pilot Scheme on Residential Care Service Voucher for the Elderly by adopting “money-following-the-user” approach with a view to offering elderly persons in need of residential care service an additional choice and providing an incentive for RCHEs to improve their services. (LWB)
- Continue to implement the Navigation Scheme for Young Persons in Care Services to encourage more young people to join the care service profession in the welfare sector. (LWB)
- Consider suitable sites and operating mode for setting up integrated elderly services centres on a pilot basis to provide one-stop, multi-disciplinary healthcare and social services for the elderly at the community level. (FHB/LWB)

Service Quality of Residential Care Homes

- Purchase an additional 5 000 EA1 places under the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme in the next five years to increase the supply of subsidised residential care places for the elderly and enhance the overall service quality of private residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs). (LWB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Continue to implement a series of measures to strengthen the monitoring of RCHEs and residential care homes for persons with disabilities (RCHDs) and enhance their service quality on a sustained basis. Measures include:
 - continuing to review the Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Ordinance, the Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) Ordinance and related codes of practice;

-
- launching a five-year scheme to provide full subsidies for home managers, health workers and care workers of all RCHEs and RCHDs in the territory to enrol in Qualifications Framework-based training courses;
 - launching a five-year scheme to provide full subsidies for all private RCHEs to join accreditation schemes;
 - setting up district-based professional teams under a four-year pilot scheme to provide outreach services for residents in private RCHEs and RCHDs, so as to support their social and rehabilitation needs; and
 - conducting a consultancy study to review the existing licensing and regulatory regimes for RCHEs and RCHDs, including exploring the feasibility of formulating performance indicators for quality assurance. (LWB)

Creating an Age-friendly Community

- Establish a web-based learning portal to help the elderly and people in need acquire digital skills in a fun and accessible manner, so that they can benefit from the advancement in digital technology in their daily lives. (ITB)
- Continue to implement the Opportunities for the Elderly Project and the Elder Academy Scheme to encourage elderly persons to actively take part in community affairs and pursue lifelong learning. (LWB)
- Continue to promote the building of age-friendly communities at the district level, including the participation of individual districts in the World Health Organization's "age-friendly community" accreditation scheme. (LWB)

- Continue to provide more fitness facilities for the elderly in government recreation and sports venues to encourage the elderly to participate regularly in health-building activities. (HAB)

Social Security

- Facilitate elderly persons' retirement on the Mainland by:
 - continuing to implement the Guangdong Scheme and the Fujian Scheme to provide monthly Old Age Allowance for eligible elderly persons who choose to reside in Guangdong or Fujian; and
 - expanding the Guangdong Scheme and the Fujian Scheme to provide monthly Old Age Living Allowance (OALA) (including both the Normal OALA and the Higher OALA) for eligible elderly persons who choose to reside in Guangdong or Fujian. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Enhance the employment support for able-bodied Comprehensive Social Security Assistance recipients through joint efforts of departments and agencies to provide more focused employment and retraining services for promoting self-reliance. (LWB) (New Initiative)

Social Welfare Planning and Administration

- Launch a new phase of the Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses for non-governmental organisation (NGOs) to apply for the development or redevelopment of the sites they own, thereby increasing the provision of much-needed welfare facilities. (LWB) (New Initiative)

-
- Support NGOs' development of non-profit making elderly apartments, which will be included in projects aiming at providing much-needed welfare facilities as the core components under the Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses, by charging these organisations nominal premium and nil administrative fee, with a view to encouraging them to maximise the development potential of the sites, and providing suitable and affordable accommodation for elderly persons who are living in sub-standard housing, living in/applying for public rental housing or having special social needs. (LWB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
 - Continue to explore the feasibility of purchase of premises for the operation and provision of elderly and rehabilitation services so as to address the shortage of premises. (LWB)
 - Continue to encourage private developers to provide various welfare facilities, including day child care centres, residential child care centres, day care centres for the elderly and residential care homes for the elderly in their development projects. (LWB/DEVB)

Facilitation for Non-governmental Organisations and Social Enterprises

- Review the leasing arrangements for government properties to facilitate non-governmental organisations and social enterprises to lease and use suitable government properties. (FSTB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

Lump Sum Grant

- Continue to conduct the Review on Enhancement of Lump Sum Grant Subvention System with the social welfare sector through the relevant task force lately established. (LWB)

Family Council

- Work with the Family Council to ensure that family perspectives are duly considered in the policy-making process, and adopt an elaborate Family Impact Assessment checklist for assessing the impact of public policies on families. (HAB)

- Work with the Family Council to:
 - advocate a pro-family environment and further promote family core values of “Love and Care”, “Respect and Responsibility” and “Communication and Harmony” as well as the positive messages and values on family formation to encourage the community to attach importance to family; and
 - foster a culture of loving families. (HAB)

- Introduce family education packages through the Family Council to address the needs of different types of families; and promote family education at the district level in collaboration with relevant bureaux and departments. (HAB)

Women

- Continue to implement gender mainstreaming in major government policies and initiatives across the board, collaborate with the Women's Commission to promote gender mainstreaming and gender awareness in various sectors of society and extend the network of gender focal points. (LWB)

-
- Continue to promote the interests and well-being of women on various fronts through supporting the Women’s Commission and its four working groups which devise and oversee work in four strategic areas, including enabling environment, collaboration and promotion, empowerment and training, and health and support. (LWB)
 - Continue to promote women’s participation in the work of government advisory and statutory bodies. (LWB)

Commission on Children

- The Commission on Children chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration amalgamates the efforts made by relevant bureaux and departments and children concern groups to focus on addressing children’s issues as they grow. To strengthen the protection of children’s interests and welfare, the Government will allocate additional resources for the Commission on Children from 2019-20 onwards. (LWB)

Strengthening Support for Ethnic Minorities

- The Steering Committee on Ethnic Minorities Affairs, under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary for Administration, will co-ordinate, review and monitor the Government’s work on support for ethnic minorities. The Government will implement the following measures to enhance support for ethnic minorities: (CSO)
 - improving the Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality for application to all government bureaux and departments as well as related organisations providing services to ethnic minorities; (CMAB)

- providing support for the Chinese learning of non-Chinese speaking (NCS) students, including:
 - continuing to commission school-based support services for kindergartens, primary and secondary schools; and
 - continuing to provide support measures to primary and secondary schools admitting NCS students to facilitate the implementation of the Chinese Language Curriculum Second Language Learning Framework; (EDB)
- providing tiered subsidies to kindergartens joining the kindergarten education scheme and admitting NCS students to further support these students starting from the 2019/20 school year; (EDB)
- providing additional resources to public sector ordinary schools to enhance support for NCS students with special educational needs, with a view to helping them cope with different learning stages and adapt to the school life; (EDB)
- providing additional funding to secondary schools admitting NCS students to support their learning of Chinese History using the Chinese language. In addition, the Ad Hoc Committee on Supporting Non-Chinese Speaking Students Learning Chinese History and Chinese Culture will provide recommendations on support to tie in with the implementation of the new junior secondary Chinese History curriculum; (EDB)

-
- enhancing manpower support to Labour Department (LD) to launch a pilot programme in conjunction with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to provide employment services for ethnic minority job seekers through a case management approach; (LWB)
 - enhancing retraining support for ethnic minorities, including expanding the dedicated Chinese language courses under the Employees Retraining Board, providing more designated industry-specific training courses and allowing more flexibility in the educational attainment criteria for enrolment in dedicated Chinese language courses; (LWB)
 - submitting legislative amendment proposals to the Legislative Council by end-2018 for implementing eight prioritised recommendations (of which six involve the Race Discrimination Ordinance) under the Discrimination Law Review as proposed by the Equal Opportunities Commission; (CMAB)
 - continuing to engage staff proficient in ethnic minority languages to provide services at selected job centres of the LD on a pilot basis; (LWB)
 - continuing to implement the Employment Services Ambassador Programme for Ethnic Minorities to engage trainees of the Youth Employment and Training Programme who can communicate in ethnic minority languages as Employment Services Ambassadors at job centres, industry-based recruitment centres and job fairs of the LD to provide employment services for ethnic minority job seekers; (LWB)

- introducing an internship programme within the Government for ethnic minority university students on a pilot basis to enable them to gain work experience and strengthen their competitiveness in job seeking; (CSB)
- strengthening welfare support for ethnic minority communities by reaching out to ethnic minorities in need through designated outreaching teams which will be operated by NGOs and comprise ethnic minority staff to assist them in receiving relevant welfare services; (LWB)
- allocating more resources to NGOs to raise the awareness of domestic violence and sexual violence among ethnic minorities through community education programmes and other means, and to encourage victims to seek help; (LWB)
- providing subsidy for special child care centres and early education and training centres to strengthen support for pre-school ethnic minority children with special needs; (LWB)
- setting up specialised ethnic minority units in parents/relatives resource centres for persons with disabilities to step up community support for ethnic minority families; (LWB)
- providing civil servants with induction training on cultural sensitivity or equal opportunities and other job-related training; and (CSB)

-
- enhancing the interpretation services for ethnic minorities to facilitate their access to public services, including introduction of interpretation services in Vietnamese; strengthening the services of support service centres for ethnic minorities, particularly those provided for ethnic minority new arrivals and youths; and organise more district-based activities to encourage interaction and exchange between the ethnic minority and local communities. (HAB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

Enhancing Primary Healthcare Services and Disease Prevention/Control

- Map out a cancer strategy in 2019 to set out the strategic direction for prevention and care services for the period between 2020 and 2025 drawing reference from World Health Organization's recommendations, international practices and local situations. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Encourage Government bureaux/departments to lead by example to actively implement the measures under the "Towards 2025: Strategy and Action Plan to Prevent and Control Non-communicable Diseases in Hong Kong" to reduce the burden posed by non-communicable diseases through promoting healthy diet, physical activity and reducing tobacco and alcohol-related harm. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- On the advice of the Advisory Committee on Mental Health, the Government will commission universities to conduct territory-wide mental health prevalence surveys covering children, adolescents and elderly to gather information on the mental health status of the Hong Kong population for planning the way forward for mental health services. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- Further to the “Joyful@HK” Campaign, which was a three-year, territory-wide mental health promotion and publicity campaign launched by the Department of Health (DH) in 2016, the Government has earmarked a recurrent annual funding of \$50 million to embark on an on-going mental health promotion and public education initiative. The new initiative aims to eliminate stigmatisation towards persons with mental health needs through education, with a view to building a mental-health friendly community. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Introduce free cervical cancer vaccination for school girls of specific age group as a public health strategy for the prevention of cervical cancer in Hong Kong. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- To increase the seasonal influenza vaccination coverage rate, the DH will launch a pilot scheme for providing free outreach seasonal influenza vaccination services at primary schools, increase the subsidy under Vaccination Subsidy Scheme and expand its eligible groups to cover adults between 50 and 64 in 2018-19. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- The Steering Committee on Primary Healthcare Development is developing a blueprint for promoting primary healthcare development. The Government will invest resources accordingly to enhance public health. (FHB)

-
- The Food and Health Bureau is actively preparing for the establishment of a district health centre in Kwai Tsing. According to the recommendation of the Steering Committee on Primary Healthcare Development, the Centre would provide a range of professional services (e.g. nursing service, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and counselling service on the use of medication). We seek to strengthen collaboration between the health and social care sectors and public-private partnership in a district setting, with a view to enhancing public awareness in disease prevention and self-health management, offering greater support for patients with chronic diseases, and relieving the pressure on specialist and hospital services. Our target is for the Centre to commence services around the third quarter of 2019. In light of experience gained, we will develop in phases district health centres for other districts. (FHB)

 - The Colorectal Cancer Screening Pilot Programme has been running smoothly since its launch in September 2016 and has, as planned, identified and/or offered early treatment for people who are more likely to have or already have the disease. The Government started regularisation of the Programme in August 2018 and will extend it in phases to cover individuals aged between 50 and 75. (FHB)

 - The Steering Committee on Prevention and Control of Viral Hepatitis was established in July 2018. To map out strategies to effectively prevent and control viral hepatitis, the committee will formulate an action plan in the coming year to eliminate the threat of viral hepatitis to public health in Hong Kong. The action plan will serve as a blueprint for co-ordinating the work of the Government and other stakeholders in this regard. (FHB)

Positioning and Long-term Development of Chinese Medicine

- Recognise Chinese medicine services as an integral part of the development of the healthcare system in Hong Kong by providing defined Chinese medicine services with government subsidy through:
 - the future Chinese medicine hospital (CMH) offering a combination of in-patient and out-patient services;
 - Chinese medicine out-patient services in 18 Chinese Medicine Centres for Training and Research at district level; and
 - in-patient services with Integrated Chinese-Western Medicine treatment in specific public hospitals. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- A dedicated \$500 million fund has been established and managed by the Chinese Medicine Unit of the Food and Health Bureau (FHB) to promote the development of Chinese medicine. The fund will be used to provide support in areas such as applied research, Chinese medicine specialisation, knowledge exchange and cross-market co-operation, and help local Chinese medicines traders with the production and registration of Chinese proprietary medicines. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- The FHB has set up a dedicated unit to oversee the development of Chinese medicine in Hong Kong, including deciding the positioning of Chinese medicine in the public healthcare system. A dedicated unit, the Chinese Medicine Hospital Project Office, has also been set up under the FHB to oversee the development of the first CMH. (FHB)

-
- To cater for the development of Chinese medicine, we will include information about Chinese medicine in the sharable scope of the Electronic Health Record Sharing System, continue to standardise clinical and medical terminologies of Chinese medicine, and develop the Chinese Medicine Information System On-ramp so as to facilitate the access to and sharing of patients' information by Chinese medicine practitioners who choose to use the system in the future. (FHB)
 - Continue to gauge the views of the trade and relevant stakeholders through the Chinese Medicine Development Committee to help formulate and review the policy relating to the development of the Chinese medicine. Views on the development of the CMH will also be sought. (FHB)
 - On the development of the CMH, the proposed CMH will be constructed by the Government and operated by a non-profit-making organisation. The CMH, offering 400 beds in phases, will provide in-patient and out-patient services. We expect to commence the tendering procedures for selecting an operator in the second half of 2019. (FHB)
 - To provide the healthcare professionals required by the CMH for the provision of integrated Chinese-Western medicine services with Chinese medicine playing a predominant role, we will organise various training courses with universities and other institutes, including relevant courses for registered Chinese medicine practitioners, Chinese medicine pharmacists, medical practitioners, nurses and other healthcare professionals. (FHB)

- The Government Chinese Medicines Testing Institute temporarily set up at the Hong Kong Science Park has commenced operation in phases since March 2017. We will construct a Government Chinese Medicines Testing Institute building, and through the development of internationally-recognised reference standards for Chinese medicines and related products and the transfer of technology, empower the industry to strengthen quality control of their products and develop Hong Kong into an international hub for scientific research on Chinese medicines testing and quality control. (FHB)
- Continue to compile Hong Kong Chinese Materia Medica Standards for Chinese materia medica commonly used in Hong Kong and actively conduct the pilot study to set standards for Chinese medicines decoction pieces under the Hong Kong Chinese Materia Medica Standards Project. (FHB)

Strengthening Healthcare Services

- Expand the Community Care Fund Elderly Dental Assistance Programme to cover all elderly persons receiving the Old Age Living Allowance, and refine the service scope of the programme in early 2019. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Strengthen mental health services to provide more appropriate support to persons with mental health needs by:
 - extending the Student Mental Health Support Scheme to cover more schools in the 2018/19 school year with clinical psychologists' support introduced and service elements of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Community Support Project (CAMcom) integrated to facilitate early identification of students with mental health needs and enhance the multi-disciplinary support services to students in the school setting;

-
- further strengthening the multi-disciplinary teams for Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Service of the Hospital Authority (HA) and enhancing the nursing support with a view to increasing the capacity of specialist outpatient clinics and providing more personalised and timely multi-disciplinary support services;
 - strengthening the manpower of Child Assessment Service under the Department of Health (DH) with a view to handling cases pending assessment in a more timely manner;
 - extending the multi-disciplinary service model to the common mental disorder clinic in HA's Hong Kong East Cluster within 2019-20 with a view to providing more personalised intervention service to target patients; and
 - extending the Dementia Community Support Scheme to the 41 District Elderly Community Centres in the territory within 2019-20 to provide cross-sectoral and multi-disciplinary support services for elderly persons with mild or moderate dementia and their carers in the community through a medical-social collaboration model. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Improve the means test mechanism of the Samaritan Fund and Community Care Fund Medical Assistance Programme with a view to providing more suitable and timely support to patients in need. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Increase the number of public hospital beds and operating theatre sessions, and enhance the endoscopic and diagnostic radiological services, so as to enhance the service capacity for addressing the ever rising healthcare needs. (FHB)

- Increase the quota for general out-patient and the attendances in specialist out-patient clinics, enhance the Accident & Emergency services and improve the waiting time for out-patient and emergency services. (FHB)
- Widen the scope of the HA Drug Formulary to improve the drug treatment for patients in public hospitals. (FHB)
- Strengthen the services for chronic diseases through, for example, enhancing the capacity of cancer and diabetic services, and increasing the service quota of haemodialysis for renal service. (FHB)
- The HA will enhance the collaboration among healthcare professionals to deliver more comprehensive healthcare services by:
 - employing all locally trained medical graduates and providing them with necessary specialist training;
 - expanding the coverage of clinical pharmacy services to improve clinical care for patients and alleviate workload of doctors;
 - launching a pilot programme on drug refill services for selected high-risk patients living in elderly homes with a view to improving patient services, enhancing medication safety and reducing excessive drug storage, providing elderly homes with IT and pharmacy support a barcode summary of dispensed medication to facilitate their creation of drug profiles for medication management, and exploring with stakeholders longer term options for enhancing pharmacy services for elderly persons living in elderly homes; and

-
- enhancing the services of nurse clinics so as to facilitate patients' early access to treatment and continuity of care. (FHB)
 - Progressively enhance the HA's management and treatment of life-threatening diseases. The 24-hour intravenous thrombolytic therapy for stroke patients will be rolled out to all hospital clusters in 2019-20, and the 24-hour emergency percutaneous coronary intervention service will be rolled out to the Hong Kong West, Hong Kong East and Kowloon East clusters. The HA will also enhance its cardiac catheterisation laboratory and cardiac care unit services. (FHB)
 - As the Pilot Study of Newborn Screening for Inborn Errors of Metabolism, which has been implemented since October 2015, has proven effective, the DH and the HA have regularised the screening service in four public hospitals and will extend the screening service to all public hospitals with maternity wards in phases. Kwong Wah Hospital will provide the Inborn Errors of Metabolism screening service in late 2019. (FHB)
 - Continue to promote the Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme, which subsidises elderly persons aged 65 or above to use private primary care services. At the same time, the Government is reviewing the effectiveness of the scheme with a view to ensuring that the scheme will enhance the provision of primary care services for the elderly, including preventive care. (FHB)
 - Strengthen support for elderly patients with fragility fractures by increasing the HA's operating theatre sessions in designated hospitals, and enhance physiotherapy service for elderly patients. (FHB)

- Continue to strengthen medical-social collaboration through the joint efforts of the HA and the Social Welfare Department with a view to providing a full range of transitional care services and the required assistance for those elderly patients discharged from public hospitals, enabling them to age at home after the transitional period. (FHB)
- Expedite the delivery of the 10-year Hospital Development Plan, for which a provision of \$200 billion has been set aside. (FHB)
- Continue to utilise the one-off grant of \$13 billion allocated to the HA in 2014 to carry out minor works projects to improve facilities in public hospitals and clinics. (FHB)

Ensuring Long-term Sustainability of Healthcare System

- Commence the planning of the second 10-year Hospital Development Plan with a view to meeting the long-term demand for public healthcare services. (FHB) (New Initiative)
- Upgrade and improve the healthcare teaching facilities of the University of Hong Kong, the Chinese University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University to meet the long-term healthcare manpower demand. (FHB) (New Initiative)
- Improve clinic facilities in the Department of Health (DH). The department will carry out refurbishment and improvement works for clinics under its charge in phases starting from 2019-20. (FHB) (New Initiative)

-
- Having regard to the preliminary recommendations of the Steering Committee on Genomic Medicine, the Government will conduct a large-scale genome sequencing project in Hong Kong, in order to enhance the clinical application of genomic medicine, and promote innovative scientific research on genomic medicine to cater for future medical development in Hong Kong through the establishment of genome data of local population, genome sequencing infrastructure and talent pool. Our initial plan is to sequence about 20 000 genomes under the Hong Kong Genome Project. The Food and Health Bureau will form an expert group comprising experts from the clinical, academic and research sectors to advise the Government on the project details. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

 - Lay the foundation for healthcare manpower planning. Measures include:
 - increasing the number of University Grants Committee (UGC)-funded first-year-first-degree places in healthcare-related disciplines by over 150 from about 1 780 to about 1 930, and providing for the first time UGC-funded taught postgraduate places in dentistry and increasing taught postgraduate places in clinical psychology in the 2019/20-2021/22 UGC triennium;
 - subsidising 1 320 students (covering 1 160 places in nursing, 50 places in physiotherapy, 50 places in occupational therapy, 45 places in medical laboratory science and 15 places in radiography) to pursue self-financing bachelor degree programmes in healthcare disciplines under the Study Subsidy Scheme for Designated Professions/Sectors in the 2019/20 school year, representing an increase of 460 places compared with that of the 2018/19 school year;

- promoting and encouraging qualified non-locally trained doctors to practise in Hong Kong by the Food and Health Bureau, Hospital Authority (HA) and DH, with the support of overseas Economic and Trade Offices, and proactively recruiting qualified non-locally trained doctors through limited registration by the HA and the DH in order to alleviate the imminent manpower shortage in the public healthcare system;
 - putting in place a structured mechanism in the HA to ensure that there is sufficient training relief, protected time and minimum training hours available for healthcare professionals, in particular frontline healthcare professionals;
 - planning for medical specialist training with the HA and the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine with regard to the needs to balance operational service needs and manpower situation as well as facilitate specialty and long-term service development; and
 - without affecting the employment and career prospects of locally-trained doctors, proactively rehiring retired healthcare professionals and providing more flexibility in hiring part-time healthcare professionals to serve in public hospitals by the HA in order to meet short-term service needs. (FHB) ([New Initiative](#))
- Set up a big data analytics platform in the HA to facilitate the identification of useful information that helps develop healthcare policies, enhance clinical and healthcare services, improve healthcare quality and safety, and promote innovation in healthcare services. (FHB)

-
- The DH will re-engineer the resources for information technology development, staffing structure and operation workflow; comprehensively increase the application of information and communications technology; and strengthen the development of public health data. The DH will also put in place a comprehensive clinical information management system and other related systems so as to enhance its capability of meeting various public health challenges and deliver higher quality services to the public. (FHB)
 - Fully implement and promote the Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme as well as provide tax deduction to encourage the public to purchase Certified Plans so that they may choose to use private healthcare services when needed, thereby alleviating the long-term pressure on public healthcare system. (FHB)

Safeguarding Public Health and Upholding Health Services Standard

- Set up a full-fledged Office for Regulation of Private Healthcare Facilities in the Department of Health to undertake the statutory enforcement work upon passage and commencement of the Private Healthcare Facilities Bill, with a view to ensuring patient safety and protecting consumer rights. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- Invite the regulatory bodies of healthcare professions to submit proposals on how to make continuing professional education and/or development a mandatory requirement in order to upkeep the professional competency of healthcare professionals; invite the Dental Council of Hong Kong to review the Dentists Registration Ordinance so that the regulatory framework of dental profession can keep pace with time; invite the Nursing Council of Hong Kong to study and implement voluntary registration scheme for advanced nursing practice and pave the way for setting up a statutory registration system; improve the arrangements for clinical supervision and specialty training by the Hospital Authority (HA); and invite the Supplementary Medical Professions Council to review the regulation and development of allied health professions and submit proposals to the Government. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Complete the review of the Pilot Accredited Registers Scheme for Healthcare Professions, and commence the study on how to formulate a statutory registration regime for relevant accredited professions. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Examine proposals to improve the handling of abortus in a holistic manner, including provision of facilities. (FHB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Introduce as soon as possible the Bill to the Legislative Council for “pre-market control” and “post-market control” of medical devices for better protection of public health. (FHB)
- Consider formulating a more robust policy and legislative framework to facilitate end-of-life care planning and the provision of palliative care outside hospital settings. (FHB)
- Study the extension of statutory no-smoking areas at public transport facilities. (FHB)

-
- Formulate legislative proposals for a ban on the import, manufacture, sale, distribution and advertising of electronic cigarettes and other new smoking products. (FHB) ([New Initiative](#))
 - Formulate legislative proposals for the regulation of advanced therapy products to safeguard public health. A clear regulatory framework would also facilitate the development of innovative medical products. (FHB)
 - Strengthen collaboration with relevant organisations to promote organ donation and encourage the public to register their wish at the Centralised Organ Donation Register. The HA will launch the pilot Paired Kidney Donation Programme in Q4 of 2018. (FHB)

Retirement Protection and Labour Issues

Retirement Protection

- On the issue of abolishing the arrangement of “offsetting” severance payment (SP) and long service payment (LSP) with employers’ mandatory contributions under the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) System, having carefully considered the views of the business and labour sectors, we decided to put forward an enhanced package and increase our financial commitment. The Government will assist employers in setting up designated saving accounts (DSAs) under their own name to prepare in advance for their potential SP or LSP expenses in future. Employers will contribute 1% of their employees’ monthly relevant income to their DSAs until reaching 15% of the annual relevant income of all their employees. The Government will also provide employers with a two-tier subsidy under which the period of the second-tier subsidy will be substantially extended from the originally proposed 12 years to 25 years. The Government’s total financial commitment is estimated to increase from \$17.2 billion under the preliminary idea to \$29.3 billion. We believe that this package should go a long way in helping enterprises to adapt to the policy change, particularly the micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and establishments which are more prone to large-scale retrenchments. (LWB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- The Government and the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority have completed the preliminary scoping of the eMPF, a centralised electronic platform which will enhance the administrative efficiency of MPF schemes, thereby providing more room for fee reduction. We will continue our work on this front with a view to launching the electronic platform as soon as possible. (FSTB)

Labour

- Strengthen the protection of rights and benefits of employees injured at work by:
 - strengthening the rehabilitation services for employees injured at work;
 - enhancing the Claims Support Services to help resolve disputes relating to employees' compensation;
 - implementing a new screening process for the follow-up procedures for sick leave relating to work injury to speed up case processing; and
 - strengthening the enforcement of the Employees' Compensation Ordinance. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Enhance the protection of non-skilled employees engaged by government service contractors in respect of their employment terms and conditions as well as labour benefits through implementing improvement measures. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Consider and follow up on the recommendation report submitted by the Minimum Wage Commission on the review of the Statutory Minimum Wage rate. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Secure support for the early passage of the Employment (Amendment) Bill 2018 which was introduced into the Legislative Council on 20 June 2018 so as to implement the proposal for increasing statutory paternity leave from the existing three days to five days. (LWB)

- The Government has completed the review of the statutory maternity leave (ML) and proposes to extend statutory ML from the current 10 weeks to 14 weeks. For the ML pay in relation to the additional four weeks, the current rate of ML pay (i.e. four-fifths of the employee's average daily wages) should apply and be subject to a cap of \$36,822 (i.e. the four weeks ML pay of employees with monthly wage of \$50,000). The cost for this extra ML pay will be funded by the Government by way of reimbursement to the employer. The Labour Department (LD) will report the outcome of the review to the Labour Advisory Board and seek its views on the proposal within this year. (LWB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Strengthen LD's work in processing and disseminating job vacancy information so as to more effectively assist job seekers to find jobs and employers to recruit workers. (LWB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)
- Continue to promote the employment of elderly persons by enhancing the employment support services for elderly job seekers. We will continue to organise various publicity activities to raise public awareness of the part played by elderly persons in the potential labour force and encourage employers to adopt friendly employment practices for the elderly. (LWB)
- Continue to provide on-the-job training allowance of up to \$4,000 per month for employers for a period of 6 to 12 months under the Employment Programme for the Elderly and Middle-aged, so as to give employers additional financial incentive to engage elderly job seekers aged 60 or above who have left the workforce or are unemployed in full-time or part-time jobs and provide them with on-the-job training. (LWB)

-
- Enhance the awareness of workers imported under the Supplementary Labour Scheme about their employment rights and step up enforcement actions to protect their rights. (LWB) (New Initiative)
 - LD will continue to enhance the protection of labour rights of foreign domestic helpers (FDHs) and step up enforcement and prosecution against unscrupulous employment agencies, with a view to maintaining Hong Kong as an attractive workplace for FDHs. (LWB) (New Initiative)
 - Allow the importation of labour on an appropriate, limited and targeted basis to relieve the manpower shortage of individual sectors on the premise of according employment priority to local workers. (LWB)

Occupational Safety and Health

- Further safeguard construction workers' occupational safety and health through new initiatives like conducting more in-depth surprise inspections and enhancing participation in site safety management committee meetings of public works projects. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Further reduce employees' health risks associated with standing at work through issuing new guidelines, promotional visits and inspections. (LWB) (New Initiative)
- Develop an online platform through which employees can use mobile electronic devices to report unsafe working conditions to the Labour Department (LD) for prompt follow-up actions. (LWB) (New Initiative)

- Formulate appropriate strategies and measures in light of the risk situation of different industries and work procedures to safeguard the occupational safety and health of people at work through strengthening inspection and enforcement, publicity and promotion, as well as education and training. (LWB)
- Increase the penalties in the existing occupational safety and health legislation with a view to strengthening the deterrent effect, thus further safeguarding the occupational safety of workers. (LWB)
- Step up promotion of the existing complaint channels to encourage employees to lodge complaints about unsafe working conditions, so that the LD can conduct more targeted inspections. (LWB)
- Continue to collaborate with trade associations, workers' unions, professional bodies, related organisations and other government departments to explore and promote measures to enhance work-at-height safety to further protect the safety of workers working at height. (LWB)
- Continue to launch large-scale promotional programmes to raise the occupational safety and health standard of the construction industry, food and beverage services sector, etc. and the occupational safety and health awareness of relevant stakeholders. (LWB)

Religion

- Continue to liaise with various religious organisations and, having regard to their needs, play a co-ordinating role in local religious affairs. (HAB)

District Economy

- Keep supporting the continuous development of social enterprises through various means including the provision of start-up funds and strengthening support platforms to promote cross-sector collaboration and build up the capacity of social enterprises. (HAB)
- Continue to implement the pier improvement programme to enhance the structural and facility standard of a number of public piers in remote areas in order to respond to public requests and improve the accessibility of some remote scenic spots and natural heritages. We are carrying out site investigation works and technical studies for about 10 public piers in the New Territories and outlying islands under the first phase of the programme and will proceed early and progressively with relevant detailed design work, with a view to commencing construction works in 2019. (DEVB)

Chapter 7

Connecting with Young People to Build Our Future Together

Preamble

Young people are our future. The Government strives to address young people's concern about education, career pursuit and home ownership, and encourage their participation in politics as well as public policy discussion and debate. In so doing, the younger generation will see hope and opportunities for upward mobility. We also seek to nurture the younger generation, help them establish a positive approach to life and develop a commitment to society, a sense of national identity, a love for Hong Kong and an international perspective.

Over the past year, the Government has introduced various policy measures to achieve the above goal. The Youth Development Commission (YDC), chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration and established since April 2018, serves to enhance policy co-ordination within the Government and promote cross-bureau and inter-departmental collaboration. YDC has agreed to focus on three broad directions in its future work, namely facilitate young people's selection of suitable study pathways, assist in their career development and upward mobility, as well as strengthen communication channels with young people and encourage their active participation in public affairs. The Government has reserved \$1 billion to support the work of YDC and, of this, \$500 million will first be allocated to implement a series of measures in relation to the three directions.

On facilitating young people's career development and promoting their upward mobility, the Government will make an injection into the Youth Development Fund and invite YDC to devise a new scheme to further assist young people in starting businesses, including starting businesses in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Greater Bay Area). Besides, through cross-bureau and cross-sectoral collaboration, the Government will invite YDC to explore the introduction of a new scheme to subsidise non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to implement sustainable youth development projects.

In addition, through a series of internship and exchange programmes, the Government helps young people broaden their horizons, accumulate work experience, strengthen interpersonal network and understand their aspirations for further studies and career development. At present, there are over 70 000 young people participating in such programmes on average each year. Drawing upon past successful experience, the Government will continue to implement and enhance various programmes, including expanding the Scheme on Corporate Summer Internship on the Mainland and Overseas, with a view to providing quality exchange and internship opportunities for our young people.

The Government will support YDC to tighten cross-bureau and cross-sectoral co-operation in promoting youth life planning work so as to help young people better understand their aspirations before further studies or employment and explore diversified pathways.

YDC will launch territory-wide youth engagement activities and organise the Youth Summit so that the Government and YDC members can gauge young people's pulse, understand their thoughts and adopt their proposals. The Government will also provide different channels for young people to participate in public policy deliberation, including

offering them non-civil service contract posts in the Policy Innovation and Co-ordination Office. The Government will continue with the Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth to recruit more young people with aspiration and capability into various government advisory committees so as to enhance young people's participation in public policy discussions. At the same time, YDC will be rolling out the YDC Youth Ambassadors Scheme to identify and nurture, in a systematic manner, more young talents who are committed to and passionate about serving the community.

Policy Initiatives

- The Government has set aside \$1 billion to support the work of Youth Development Commission (YDC), \$500 million of which will first be allocated to implement the following new initiatives:
 - through injection into the Youth Development Fund (YDF), explore the setting up of a new scheme to subsidise Hong Kong non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to provide Hong Kong young people starting their businesses in Hong Kong and other cities of the Greater Bay Area with more relevant start-up support and incubation services, including helping them settle in entrepreneurial bases;
 - reviewing the funding criteria applicable to the second round of applications for the Entrepreneurship Matching Fund under YDF, with a view to further assisting young people to meet their capital needs at the initial business start-up stage;
 - exploring the introduction of a brand new theme-based funding scheme for NGOs to organise projects on a longer-term basis which complement the Government's youth development work;
 - through enhancing cross-bureau collaboration, increasing subsidies to NGOs, strengthening support to schools, and encouraging participation by the business sector, further promote youth life planning work with multilateral efforts to guide young people's transition from schools to the labour market; and

- organising territory-wide youth engagement activities and strengthening communication with young people through different channels and means for the Government and YDC members to gauge young people's pulse, understand their thoughts and adopt their proposals. The Government's politically appointed team will also participate in these activities. (CSO/HAB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- In collaboration with an NGO, roll out a pilot scheme to encourage Hong Kong young people to utilise entrepreneurship bases in the Greater Bay Area. (CSO/HAB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- In view of the positive experience in 2018, the Commission on Poverty will continue to implement the "Be a Government Official for a Day" programme in 2019 with an extended scale to cover more senior officials to enable more secondary students to gain hands-on experience of the officials' work and directly interact with them. (CSO) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

- Increase the annual recurrent subvention for 13 subvented uniformed groups and non-governmental organisations involved in youth development (such as the Scout Association, the Hong Kong Red Cross and the Agency for Volunteer Service) by a total of \$10 million, in order to provide extra support to enhance and sustain their youth development work. (HAB) [\(New Initiative\)](#)

-
- The YDC will roll out the YDC Youth Ambassadors Scheme to identify and nurture, in a systematic manner, more young talent who are committed to and passionate about serving the community. The scheme will cover, inter alia, training activities to prepare Youth Ambassadors to participate in large-scale activities and international exchanges, as well as training at prominent non-local higher education institutions to broaden their horizons. (CSO/HAB) (New Initiative)
 - Develop a new uniform group named Rehabilitation Pioneer Leaders to foster among young leaders stronger law-abiding awareness and civic responsibilities through diversified activities and training. (SB) (New Initiative)
 - Launch a multi-media Youth-for-Youth co-creation project to reinforce the core value of integrity among young people by engaging their participation in creative production for promoting positive messages and their positive engagement and interaction on various media platforms, especially social media. (ICAC) (New Initiative)
 - Strengthen co-operation with major enterprises in Hong Kong, based on the successful experience of the pilot scheme in 2018, to expand the Scheme on Corporate Summer Internship on the Mainland and Overseas to provide young people with more internship opportunities on the Mainland (including the Greater Bay Area), Belt and Road related countries and around the world. (HAB) (New Initiative)
 - The first YDC summit, to be chaired by the Chief Executive, will be held in 2019 to examine the outcome of the YDC's work together with stakeholders and listen to the views of young people. (CSO/HAB)

- Continue to create a favourable environment for young people to participate in advisory committees of different bureaux by, amongst other measures, regularising the Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth under which young people aged between 18 and 35 with a commitment to serve the community are recruited regularly. The target is to increase, within the current-term Government, the overall ratio of youth members aged between 18 and 35 to 15%. (HAB)
- Continue to implement the Space Sharing Scheme for Youth to support start-ups in emerging industries, young people starting their businesses, as well as arts and cultural development. (HAB)
- As the one-stop portal for disseminating youth development related information, the Youth Portal (Youth.gov.hk) will continue to improve its information dissemination through various internet platforms (including social media), and increase the breadth and depth of its content, particularly in entrepreneurship and career pursuit. The portal will also step up its work on user engagement, user experience improvement as well as marketing and brand building so that young people can access the information more effectively. (ITB)
- Continue to enhance various funding schemes to support local NGOs to provide young people with internship and exchange opportunities on the Mainland and overseas. (HAB)

-
- Continue to collaborate with the United Nations Volunteers, Palace Museum, Wolong National Nature Reserve, Chinese Academy of Sciences and Dunhuang Research Academy to provide unique and intensive internship opportunities for young people to enhance their understanding of the relevant disciplines and professional fields as well as the country's and the world's developments in different areas. (HAB)
 - Continue to enhance the promotion of the Working Holiday Scheme between Hong Kong and other economies, and establishing Working Holiday Scheme with suitable economies so that more of our young people can enrich their global exposure. (LWB)
 - Continue to encourage young people to participate in voluntary services by, inter alia, continuous implementation of the Guangdong-Hong Kong Youth Volunteer Service Programme and the Service Corps programme. (HAB)
 - Work with different stakeholders, including uniformed groups and other NGOs involved in youth development, to provide young people with appropriate non-formal education and training. We will also make use of the Youth Square and the Civic Education Resource Centre to enhance youth development and promote civic education outside school. (HAB)
 - Continue to strengthen youth training in respect of leadership, discipline and team building through the Cadet Corps of Auxiliary Medical Service and the Cadet Corps of Civil Aid Service. (SB)
 - Continue to implement the Youth Hostel Scheme and maintain close liaison with interested NGOs. (HAB)

Abbreviations

5G	fifth generation
AAHK	Airport Authority Hong Kong
BEAM	Building Environment Assessment Method
B&R	Belt and Road
C&E	convention and exhibition
CAC	Child Assessment Centre
CAMcom	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Community Support Project
CBS	Civil Servants' Co-operative Building Society Scheme
CEDB	Commerce and Economic Development Bureau
CEPA	Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement
CKR	Central Kowloon Route
CMAB	Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau
CMH	Chinese medicine hospital
CoP	Commission on Poverty
CSB	Civil Service Bureau
CSO	Chief Secretary for Administration's Office

DC	District Council
DEVB	Development Bureau
DH	Department of Health
DoJ	Department of Justice
DSA	designated saving accounts
DSC	District Support Centre for Persons with Disabilities
DSS	Direct Subsidy Scheme
EDB	Education Bureau
ENB	Environment Bureau
ESH	Electronic Submission Hub
ETO	Economic and Trade Office
FDF	Film Development Fund
FDH	foreign domestic helper
FHB	Food and Health Bureau
Fintech	financial technologies
FSDC	Financial Services Development Council
FSTB	Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau
G/IC	Government, Institution or Community
Greater Bay Area	Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

GSH	Green Form Subsidised Home Ownership Scheme
HA	Hospital Authority
HAB	Home Affairs Bureau
HKADC	Hong Kong Arts Development Council
HKEAA	Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority
HKHA	Hong Kong Housing Authority
HKHS	Hong Kong Housing Society
HKIA	Hong Kong International Airport
HKSR	Hong Kong Shipping Registry
HOS	Home Ownership Scheme
HZMB	Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge
I&T	innovation and technology
ICAC	Independent Commission Against Corruption
ITB	Innovation and Technology Bureau
LCSD	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
LD	Labour Department
LRC	Law Reform Commission
LSP	long service payment
LWB	Labour and Welfare Bureau

MiC	Modular Integrated Construction
ML	maternity leave
MPF	Mandatory Provident Fund
MSW	municipal solid waste
MTRCL	MTR Corporation Limited
NCS	non-Chinese speaking
NGO	non-governmental organisation
NWNT	North West New Territories
NSA	national sports association
OALA	Old Age Living Allowance
OC	Owners' Corporation
ORRC	Organic Resources Recovery Centre
PICO	Policy Innovation and Co-ordination Office
PRH	public rental housing
PV	photovoltaic
PWD	people with disabilities
QF	Qualifications Framework
R&D	research and development
RCHD	residential care home for persons with disabilities

RCHE	residential care home for the elderly
RDE	retail, dining and entertainment
RE	renewable energy
RMB	Renminbi
SB	Security Bureau
SCOLAR	Standing Committee on Language Education and Research
SEN	special educational needs
SENCO	Special Educational Needs Coordinator
SH	Starter Homes
SME	small and medium-sized enterprise
SP	serverance payment
SSF	subsidised sale flat
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
THB	Transport and Housing Bureau
TLT	Tai Lam Tunnel
TKO	Tseung Kwan O
TKO-LTT	Tsueng Kwan O-Lam Tin Tunnel
UGC	University Grants Committee

US	the United States
URA	Urban Renewal Authority
VPET	vocational and professional education and training
VTC	Vocational Training Council
WKCD	West Kowloon Cultural District
WSM	White Form Secondary Market Scheme
YDC	Youth Development Commission
YDF	Youth Development Fund