

## MESSAGE

We aim to maintain a harmonious community, with broad public participation in the affairs of the community and a strong sense of commitment to its well-being. The District Administration Scheme remains the principal strategic instrument for the achievement of that objective. It operates - and will continue to operate - through our network of District Offices and local organisations that, together, provide a channel for two-way communication between Government and the public at the district level, ensuring that the public's views on Government policies and programmes are taken into account.

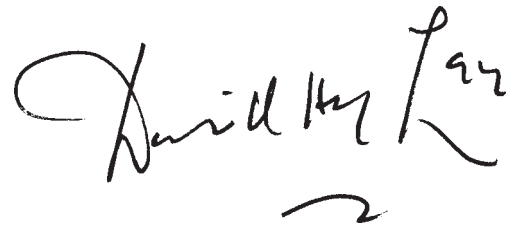
This year, we will continue our programme of regular visits and community involvement projects. Our goals are to promote public understanding of Government policies and to foster closer ties between Government and the community. We also aim to cultivate civic-mindedness and to develop a sense of belonging by encouraging public participation in activities targeted at promoting community welfare, better building management and the fight against crime.

On 1 January 2000, the first District Councils will come into being. This will be an important landmark in the history of the District Administration Scheme. We shall introduce the changes necessary to ensure for the District Councils a wider and more effective role than that of the former District Boards. In particular, we will increase their involvement in monitoring food and environmental hygiene services at the district level and in the promotion of district cultural, recreational and sports activities. We shall also enhance communication between Government and the Councils, to ensure that Government departments are more responsive to public views and that appropriate services are provided to meet district needs.

We remain convinced that the key to the future of our community is the constructive development of our young people. With that in mind, we shall help them to prepare for the challenges of the new millennium and to take an active part in building the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. We are committed to enabling them to develop their full potential and to understand their roles and responsibilities towards themselves and the wider community.

In the coming year, we shall continue to foster positive values among our youth by encouraging community participation and voluntary work, developing leadership training programmes and expanding our international youth exchange programme. We shall encourage every sector of the community – parents, schools, youth groups, voluntary agencies and non-governmental organisations – to join us in these efforts. We shall continue to

promote civic awareness and to foster a stronger sense of belonging to the HKSAR through a range of civic education programmes specifically targeting the young. We shall also seek to enhance their understanding and respect for Chinese culture and heritage through study tours to the Mainland.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David H T Lan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a stylized "L" at the end.

(David H T Lan)  
Secretary for Home Affairs

# COMMUNITY AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Our Policy Objective is to promote community and youth development to nurture civic responsibility and a sense of belonging.

Our targets this year in pursuing this Policy Objective are –

- to achieve a high level of public participation in community affairs
- to promote voter registration and voter turn-out
- to enhance the level of awareness of the public of their civic responsibilities
- to enhance the level of awareness about community and youth services available
- to enhance the sense of belonging amongst the community

## Progress Made

Overall, a successful year in which all the targets we set ourselves in 1998 have either been completed in good time or are proceeding on schedule. Our efforts in promoting voter registration and voter turnout were particularly successful, with a record 2.8 million people registered as electors. We have continued our programme of consulting district advisory bodies, forming Mutual Aid Committees (MACs) and Owners' Corporations (OCs), and such activities as the Community Participation Scheme which encourages community organisations to organise civic education activities at the district level. We have also published a new edition of our handbook for new arrivals. These are just some of the ways in which we have made progress in building and maintaining channels for the public to express their views and to participate in community affairs. Of special importance in this regard is the attention we have given to the development of young people. Our ongoing aim is to help them prepare for the challenges of building the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region as, together, we enter the new millennium.

# KEY RESULT AREAS (KRAs)

To ensure that this Policy Objective can be achieved, we must deliver results in a number of key areas, that is, we must –

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# 1

## Facilitate community development and service provision

The District Administration Scheme provides a channel for the Government to understand the views of the public and identify any shortfall in the provision of services. We assist Government bureaux and departments in consulting the district advisory bodies on territory-wide and district issues. In so doing, we ensure that public views on important issues are taken account of in the policy-making process. We also ensure that improvements are made to the local environment and to the quality of life of people in the district.

We are committed to ensuring that new arrivals in Hong Kong quickly integrate into our community and contribute to our society. We conduct regular surveys to understand their problems and needs, and liaise with bureaux, departments and service providers in the planning and delivery of services to meet their needs.

It is important that our young people are brought up in such a way that they will be able to contribute to and be leaders of the community in future. We would continue to seek the advice of the Commission on Youth on how our young people could take up a more active role in building up the HKSAR and in voluntary work.

To ensure that our civic education programmes are able to meet the changing needs of society, the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education conducts regular opinion surveys on civic education.

### Progress Made

**District Administration:** Over the last 12 months, we have conducted 461 consultations on territory-wide issues and 1 996 consultations on district issues. These exercises have resulted in better co-ordination with district advisory bodies. We also conducted three surveys on the profile and needs of new arrivals and convened two round-table meetings with interested non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to facilitate service provision to new arrivals with a view to their early integration into the community.

**Youth development:** In 1998, we undertook to seek the advice of the Commission on Youth on how our young people could take up a more active role in building up the HKSAR and in voluntary work. Two studies arising from that process are now complete and, in the coming year, we will continue to monitor the changing needs of our young people and the community as a whole. In addition, the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education undertook to conduct regular opinion surveys on civic education. The 1998 survey enabled us to establish a valuable benchmark index that will facilitate data interpretation in future surveys.

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past years. Details are set out below –

Initiative *	Target #	Present Position +
<p>To strengthen co-ordination with district advisory bodies <i>(Home Affairs Bureau (HAB)/Home Affairs Department (HAD))</i></p>	<p>To encourage bureaux and departments to consult the Provisional District Boards as far as possible on territory-wide issues and district issues <i>(1998)</i></p>	<p>As at 30 September 1999, we have, over the past 12 months, conducted 461 consultations on territory-wide issues and 1 996 consultations on district issues. <i>(Action in Progress: On Schedule)</i></p>
<p>To review the Chinese Temples Ordinance to ensure that its provisions meet the changing needs of the community <i>(HAB)</i></p>	<p>By mid-1999, to identify the provisions which should be revised and formulate recommendations accordingly <i>(1998)</i></p>	<p>We have identified provisions requiring revision and we are formulating recommendations. <i>(Action in Progress: On Schedule)</i></p>
<p>To enhance our capacity to review services provided for new arrivals, to encourage non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to implement new initiatives to help new arrivals and to conduct regular surveys on new arrivals to understand their problems and needs <i>(HAD)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To conduct quarterly surveys on new arrivals in 1999 to assess the problems and needs of the new arrivals and to facilitate improvements to new arrivals' services</li> <li>● To hold round-table meetings with NGOs twice a year to evaluate the effectiveness and adequacy of existing services provided for new arrivals and to exchange views on how to enhance these services <i>(1998)</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We have conducted surveys in each of the first three quarters of 1999. We expect the fourth to proceed on time.</li> <li>● We have held two round-table meetings in the past 12 months. <i>(Action in Progress: On Schedule)</i></li> </ul>

\* the bracketed information denotes the agency with lead responsibility for the initiative

# the bracketed information denotes the year in which the target was set

+ the bracketed information denotes the status of the target

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To study support systems for young new arrivals <i>(Commission on Youth (CoY))</i>	To complete the study in mid-1999 <i>(1998)</i>	We completed the study in August 1999. <i>(Action Completed)</i>
To study the influence of the media on young people <i>(CoY)</i>	To complete the study in early 1999 <i>(1998)</i>	We completed the study in February 1999. <i>(Action Completed)</i>
To conduct the 1998 opinion survey on civic education <i>(Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education (CPCE))</i>	To complete the survey in end-1998 <i>(1998)</i>	We completed the survey in March 1999. <i>(Action Completed)</i>

## Looking Forward

In the next 12 months, we will assess our performance in respect of this KRA against the following indicator –

Indicator	1999 Target
The extent to which the provision of service needed is facilitated	Where necessary, to carry out surveys/ reviews of the services provided to ensure service needs are identified

We will undertake the following initiatives to deliver results in this area –

Initiative	1999 Target
To conduct the 1999 annual opinion survey on civic awareness <i>(CPCE)</i>	To carry out the survey in end-1999

Initiative	1999 Target
<p>To strengthen the role of the District Councils (DCs) by increasing their involvement in monitoring food and environmental hygiene services at the district level and the promotion of district cultural, recreational and sports activities; and appointing more DC members to advisory bodies relating to people's livelihood</p> <p><i>(HAB)</i></p>	<p>To introduce the changes in 2000</p>
<p>To create a database on the demographic characteristics of new arrivals to facilitate the planning of services for new arrivals</p> <p><i>(HAD/HAB)</i></p>	<p>To establish the database in 2000</p>



## 2

### Create and maintain a community support infrastructure

To foster closer ties between the community and the Government and to encourage public participation in activities promoting community welfare, we maintain an extensive liaison network with local residents and community organisations. We provide and manage community halls and centres, which provide venues for civic education and community building activities.

We provide Area Committees (ACs) with the necessary support to assist them in dealing with local issues. Our District Offices help to set up and maintain regular liaison with Mutual Aid Committees (MACs) and Owners' Corporations (OCs) to ensure that their concerns and problems are brought to the notice of relevant departments for action.

The Home Affairs Department, through its liaison network and close ties with the rural communities, implements the Rural Public Works (RPW) programme and minor works projects to improve the rural environment.

Through the work of a Co-ordinating Committee on New Arrival Services supported by district co-ordinating committees and overseen by a Steering Committee on New Arrival Services, we co-ordinate the provision of services to help new arrivals in Hong Kong integrate into the community. We also maintain a partnership with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in assisting new arrivals.

### Progress Made

**Community development:** In 1998, we undertook to form at least 270 MACs/OCs by the end of 1999. As at 30 September 1999, we had formed 180 and we are confident of achieving our target by the end of the year. We have made good progress under the Rural Planning Improvement Strategy (RPIS) programme and the annual minor environmental improvement projects and expect to achieve our \$588 million spending target. Our efforts to encourage voter registration were exceptionally successful with a record-breaking 2.8 million registered as electors.

**Youth development:** In 1998, we undertook to redevelop the Chai Wan Community Centre as a centre for youth development by 2003. Work is proceeding on target.

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past years. Details are set out below –

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To encourage the formation of district bodies and building-based residents' organisations <i>(Home Affairs Bureau (HAB))</i>	To form at least 270 new MACs/OCs in 1999 <i>(1998)</i>	As at 30 September 1999, we had formed 180 new MACs and OCs. We expect to form a further 90 before the end of the year. <i>(Action in Progress: On Schedule)</i>
To assist in the 1998-1999 Voter Registration drive <i>(HAB/Home Affairs Department (HAD))</i>	To register as many eligible permanent residents as electors as possible <i>(1998)</i>	A total of 2.8 million people registered as electors. This was the highest total in Hong Kong's electoral history. <i>(Action Completed)</i>
To complete the RPIS (Minor Works) Programme and to implement the annual minor environmental improvement projects so as to upgrade the infrastructure and improve the living environment of the rural community <i>(HAB)</i>	To spend up to \$588 million in 1999-2000 in improving the rural environment <i>(1998)</i>	As at 30 September 1999, we had spent \$142 million and were on target to disburse the balance (\$446 million) by the end of the financial year. <i>(Action in Progress: On Schedule)</i>
To re-develop the Chai Wan Community Centre to provide a central facility for youth development activities which will include facilities for conferences, seminars, workshops, and international exchange programmes <i>(HAB)</i>	To complete the project by 2003 <i>(1998)</i>	As at 30 September 1999, we were proceeding with pre-contract consultancy work. We aim to complete the project in 2003. <i>(Action in Progress: On Schedule)</i>

## Looking Forward

In the next 12 months, we will assess our performance in respect of this KRA against the following indicators –

Indicator	1999 Target
The median utilisation rate of multi-purpose halls in community halls and centres	To achieve 60% utilisation rate
The extent to which public involvement in community affairs is maintained	To carry out programmes including voter registration exercise, election publicity campaigns

We will undertake the following initiatives to deliver results in this area –

Initiative	1999 Target
To encourage NGOs to form community-based district youth organisations (HAB)	To form at least one new district youth council
To assist in the publicity campaigns for the First District Councils Election and the 2000 LegCo Election and the 1999-2000 Voter Registration drive (HAB/HAD)	To register as many eligible permanent residents as possible as electors and to encourage all registered electors to turn out at the elections
To upgrade the infrastructure and improve rural living conditions and environment (HAB/HAD)	To implement minor works projects in 2000-2001 in improving the rural environment under the Rural Public Works Programme
To formulate proposals to further improve the framework of the rural elections (HAB)	To devise a formal framework for rural elections
To establish a forum for local participation in the improvement of rural areas (HAD)	To set up a Steering Committee for Rural Public Works Programme to be chaired by a non-official

# 3

## Build community awareness and responsiveness

The Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education promotes civic awareness among the general public by organising territory-wide projects such as –

- the annual Civic Education Day and annual Civic Education Exhibition
- workshops and competitions
- television and radio programmes
- production of educational materials on a wide range of civic education topics

The Committee also operates a funding scheme to enable non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to organise civic education projects.

We promote the understanding of the Basic Law by sponsoring projects organised by NGOs through the Basic Law Promotion Funding Scheme.

We also promote community involvement by encouraging District Boards to make use of the District Board funds to organise similar activities.

To help new arrivals build up knowledge of the community and the services available to them, we publish and regularly update a service handbook. The handbooks are distributed to new arrivals at the Lo Wu checkpoint, our Public Enquiry Services Centres and other Government and NGO outlets.

We organise the territory-wide Summer Youth Programme annually for children and young people aged between 6 and 25. We also encourage NGOs and youth groups to organise exchange programmes in co-operation with similar organisations overseas.

To enhance youth development, the Commission on Youth advises the Government on matters affecting young people and also publishes a Charter for Youth to promote the principles and ideals of youth development.

### Progress Made

**Civic education and youth development:** The civic education and youth development projects that we undertook in 1998 are either complete or proceeding on schedule. And, as pledged, in conjunction with the Commission on Youth, we expanded the International Youth Exchange Programme, enabling more young people to take part this year. This was in keeping with the spirit of the undertaking by the Commission and this Bureau to continue promoting the principles and ideals enshrined in the Charter for Youth. These efforts will continue.

**Community development:** In 1998, we undertook to publish a new edition of our handbook for new arrivals before the end of 1999. We fulfilled that pledge in August.

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past years. Details are set out below –

Initiative	Target	Present Position
<p>To promote the principles and ideals for youth development enshrined in the Charter for Youth <i>(Home Affairs Bureau (HAB))</i></p>	<p>To expand the subscription to the Charter for Youth in 1999-2000 <i>(1998)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● As at September 1999, we managed to have an increase in the number of subscriptions to the Charter for Youth to 2 360.</li> <li>● We will continue to encourage youth organisations and individuals to subscribe to the Charter for Youth through a series of publicity programmes to be launched later this year. These will include a TV-Announcement of Public Interest and a homepage on the Internet.</li> </ul> <p><i>(Action in Progress: On Schedule)</i></p>
<p>To expand the Community Participation Scheme under the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education <i>(HAB)</i></p>	<p>To increase the amount of sponsorship available under the Scheme in 1999-2000 <i>(1998)</i></p>	<p>As at 30 September 1999, we had sponsored some 172 civic education projects at \$4.4 million under the Scheme this year which was an increase from the sponsorship of \$2.78 million available in 1998-1999.</p> <p><i>(Action in Progress: On Schedule)</i></p>
<p>To expand the International Youth Exchange Programme and invite greater involvement by NGOs <i>(HAB)</i></p>	<p>To increase the number of youths joining the Programme in 1999-2000 <i>(1998)</i></p>	<p>We expect that about 100 local and overseas young people – from Hong Kong and overseas – will participate in the Programme in 1999-2000 which is an increase from the number of 23 participants in 1998-1999.</p> <p><i>(Action in Progress: On Schedule)</i></p>

Initiative	Target	Present Position
<p>To strengthen liaison with NGOs and relevant Government departments to organise more volunteer projects and leadership training programmes for young people (HAB)</p>	<p>To enable more NGOs and young people to participate in volunteer projects and leadership training programmes in 1999-2000 (1998)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We launched the Youth Community Service Funding Scheme to assist community organisations and voluntary agencies in organising activities to encourage young people to serve the community through voluntary work. This was a one-off exercise to encourage participation of more NGOs to recruit young people for volunteer services. As at 30 September 1999, we had approved sponsorship totalling \$10 million for 237 projects.</li> <li>● We are now developing detailed plans for a series of leadership training programmes for young people. The purpose is to help them develop their full potential.</li> </ul> <p>(Action in Progress: On Schedule)</p>
<p>To promote the Summer Youth Programme for more young people (HAB)</p>	<p>To provide activities to more than 1.2 million young people in 1999 (1998)</p>	<p>As at 30 September 1999, we had organised activities for more than 1.2 million young people. (Action Completed)</p>
<p>To provide updated information to more new arrivals on services to facilitate their early integration into the community and to promote their sense of civic awareness (HAB)</p>	<p>To produce and distribute a new edition of handbook for new arrivals in 1999 (1998)</p>	<p>We published the new edition in August 1999. As at 30 September, we made available some 160 000 copies for distribution to new arrivals and other interested parties. (Action Completed)</p>
<p>To operate the Basic Law Promotion Funding Scheme to subsidise projects organised by community organisations for their specific target groups (HAB)</p>	<p>To encourage more community organisations to organise projects for promoting the Basic Law in 1999-2000 by funding at least 20 projects (1998)</p>	<p>Over the past 12 months, we have subsidised 64 such projects. (Action in Progress: On Schedule)</p>

## Looking Forward

In the next 12 months, we will assess our performance in respect of this KRA against the following indicators –

Indicator	1999 Target
The level of subscription of organisations and individuals to the Charter for Youth	To achieve an increase in the subscription level over the past year
The number of education, publicity and other awareness building measures implemented	To maintain the level of such measures
The number of applications under the Community Participation Scheme	To involve as many organisations and community groups as possible
The level of involvement in voluntary support activities and associations	To achieve a high level of involvement

We will undertake the following initiatives to deliver results in this area –

Initiative	1999 Target
To step up liaison with youth groups, particularly those not receiving government subventions (HAB)	To enable more young people to participate in community-based projects
To organise district-based roving exhibitions on the promotion of the Basic Law in the local community (HAB)	To build up community awareness of the Basic Law in the lead up to the 10 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of the Basic Law in April 2000
To provide more and updated information to new arrivals on services to facilitate their early integration into the community and to promote their sense of civic awareness (HAB)	To produce and distribute in 2000 a new edition of the handbook for new arrivals

# 4

## Nurture the growth of a stronger understanding of our community and culture

With the reunification, the people of Hong Kong have assumed a new identity. It is important that the community should develop a stronger sense of belonging to the HKSAR and its culture and heritage through civic education programmes and community participation projects. We will strengthen our efforts to instil a sense of belonging in the community through civic education.

### Progress Made

In 1998, we undertook to foster a stronger sense of belonging to the HKSAR and an appreciation of the Chinese national culture and heritage. The civic education and youth development programmes that we designed for that purpose are now either complete or proceeding on schedule. These included two educational packages, study tours to the Mainland for young people, and community participation programmes under the theme “Hong Kong, Our Home”.

To achieve results in this area, various initiatives have been undertaken in the past years. Details are set out below –

Initiative	Target	Present Position
To continue to encourage more non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to organise study tours to the Mainland for young people <i>(Home Affairs Bureau (HAB))</i>	To enable more young people to visit the Mainland through projects organised by different NGOs in 1999-2000 <i>(1998 and 1997)</i>	In 1999, we have sponsored 165 study tours, enabling 5 400 young people to visit the Mainland with a view to enhancing their understanding of the history and culture of China. This compares with the 82 study tours involving 4 000 young people in 1998. <i>(Action in Progress: On Schedule)</i>
To promote community participation in activities organised under “Hong Kong, Our Home” <i>(HAB)</i>	To enable community-wide participation in the programmes <i>(1998)</i>	We have invited NGOs, youth groups and the community at large to participate in publicity programmes under the theme “Hong Kong, Our Home”. This will become an ongoing activity in future. <i>(Action in Progress: On Schedule)</i>



Initiative	Target	Present Position
<p>To produce more educational packages to promote “understanding of our nation” and “sense of belonging to our community”</p> <p><i>(HAB)</i></p>	<p>To produce two educational packages for mass distribution each year from 1999 onwards</p> <p><i>(1998)</i></p>	<p>We have produced and distributed two educational packages to over 2 500 kindergartens, schools and voluntary agencies.</p> <p><i>(Action in Progress: On Schedule)</i></p>
<p>To co-organise with the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), Radio Television Hong Kong and community organisations a large scale publicity programme to promote positive values and a stronger sense of belonging to the HKSAR</p> <p><i>(ICAC)</i></p>	<p>To encourage more people to participate in the programmes</p> <p><i>(1998)</i></p>	<p>This was a one-off publicity programme involving over 30 community organisations and 680 000 people. The programme was completed in February 1999.</p> <p><i>(Action Completed)</i></p>
<p>To help promote healthy living messages through the organisation of community involvement events, in support of the campaign on “Healthy Living into the 21<sup>st</sup> century”</p> <p><i>(Health and Welfare Bureau)</i></p>	<p>To encourage the organisation of community involvement events for the campaign in 1999-2000</p> <p><i>(1998)</i></p>	<p>Some 70 events were organised in the course of the campaign.</p> <p><i>(Action in Progress: On Schedule)</i></p>

## Looking Forward

In the next 12 months, we will assess our performance in respect of this KRA against the following indicator –

Indicator	1999 Target
The degree of public understanding of our community and culture, as measured by, for example, opinion surveys	To continue to encourage a high degree of public understanding

We will undertake the following initiative to deliver results in this area –

Initiative	1999 Target
To promote a sense of belonging among young people (HAB)	To organise the Youth Jamboree in December 1999