

# Approve public expenditure

## The Budget

The Financial Secretary introduces into the Legislative Council, usually in February each year, the Appropriation Bill and the Government's Estimates of Expenditure for the scrutiny of the Legislative Council. The Financial Secretary's speech on moving the Second Reading of the Appropriation Bill is generally known as the Budget Speech. The financial proposals need the examination and approval by the Legislative Council before they can be implemented.



**Know more**

An Appropriation Bill is a bill which contains the estimated financial requirements for expenditure on all the services of the Government for the current or succeeding financial year, which runs from 1 April of that year to 31 March of the following year.



## Other financial proposals

During a financial year, the Financial Secretary may propose to the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council changes to the approved Estimates of Expenditure. These proposals are considered at the regular meetings of the Finance Committee or, if they are related to public works or establishment matters, considered initially by the relevant subcommittees of the Finance Committee before submission to the Finance Committee for its approval.