

Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Session No. : 10**

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB001

Question Serial No.

2547

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Would the Administration inform this Committee the kind of public education and promotion activities the Government organised for the equal rights for people of different sexual orientations last year? What were the manpower and expenditure involved? What are the estimated manpower and expenditure for public education and promotion activities for people of different sexual orientations in 2013-14? Additionally, in what manner will the public education and promotion activities be carried out?

On the other hand, the Equal Opportunity (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme (the Scheme) launched by the Government in 1998 attracted much criticism on its clumsy application and examination procedures and numerous restrictions. As a result, the Scheme failed to maximise its effectiveness. Would the Administration consider streamlining the procedures and relaxing the restrictions so that more organisations could make full use of the Scheme?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Chi-chuen

Reply:

The Government's work on promotion of equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations in 2012-13 includes organising various publicity and promotion programmes (such as Announcement in the Public Interest on radio, and advertisement on different media), sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme (the Funding Scheme) and maintaining a hotline for enquiries and complaints. The above work is undertaken by the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit (GISOU) and other subject officers in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau. The original and revised estimates (including the staff cost of the GISOU) for 2012-13 are \$1.84 million and \$2.74 million respectively.

2. The Government's work on promotion of equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations in 2013-14 includes organising various publicity and promotion programmes (such as Announcement in the Public Interest on television and radio, and advertisement at train stations and bus stations, on the internet and via other media), sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Funding Scheme, promoting the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation in public and private sector organisations, pursuing study on measures adopted by overseas jurisdictions, maintaining a hotline for enquiries and complaints, and exchanging views with sexual minority groups to better understand the specific

problems they encounter with a view to mapping out targetted measures to tackle such problems. The above work will be undertaken throughout the financial year by the GISOU and other subject officers in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau. The estimate for the above activities (including the staff cost of the GISOU) is \$2.99 million.

3. The application and assessment procedures as well as rules and conditions of the Funding Scheme are under regular review. Suitable refinements will be made in the light of, inter alia, public feedback received.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB002

Question Serial No.

2552

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: As shown in the indicators under this programme, the estimated financial provision for the Equal Opportunities Commission in 2013-14 is \$94.2 million, which is only 1% higher than that of 2012-13. The Government claimed that it would conduct publicity activities and studies on promoting non-discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation. Would the Government please advise this Committee on whether the Equal Opportunities Commission has sufficient provision to conduct the various activities for promoting non-discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation? If so, what are the manpower and expenditure for the various initiatives for promoting non-discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Chi-chuen

Reply:

The Government's work on promotion of equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations in 2013-14 includes organising various publicity and promotion programmes (such as Announcement in the Public Interest on television and radio, and advertisement at train stations and bus stations, on the internet and via other media), sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, promoting the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation in public and private sector organisations, pursuing study on measures adopted by overseas jurisdictions, maintaining a hotline for enquiries and complaints, and exchanging views with sexual minority groups to better understand the specific problems they encounter with a view to mapping out targeted measures to tackle such problems. The above work will be undertaken throughout the financial year by the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit (GISOU) and other subject officers in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau. The estimate for the above activities (including the staff cost of the GISOU) is \$2.99 million.

2. In 2013-14, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) has no plan to allocate funding to conduct publicity activities and studies on promoting non-discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation because the issue is not directly within the EOC's ambit.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB003

Question Serial No.

0030

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In 2013-14, will resources be set aside by the Administration to conduct policy research, public consultation and law drafting for introducing legislation on freedom of information in Hong Kong? If it will, what are the work plan, timetable and estimated expenditure for such work? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Ombudsman is conducting a direct investigation into the access to information regime in Hong Kong. Furthermore, the Law Reform Commission will establish a sub-committee to study the matter. The Administration will render full co-operation in connection with the above investigation and study and, taking account of the findings and recommendations, consider whether and how the prevailing access to information regime may be improved further. These efforts will be absorbed by existing resources in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB004

Question Serial No.

0031

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In the past 5 years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13), had the Administration deployed resources to conduct social events, exchange programmes, study missions or meetings with offices set up by the Central People's Government (CPG) in Hong Kong? If yes, what are the dates of such activities, the offices involved, as well as the nature, participants, content of and total expenditure for the activities? In 2013-14, has the Administration set aside resources for conducting social events or exchange programmes with CPG offices in Hong Kong? If yes, what are the specific plan and estimated expenditure for the events/programmes?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) maintains necessary working relationships with the offices set up by the Central People's Government in the HKSAR, with a view to ensuring mutual understanding and effective exchanges between the two. We did not keep a separate account to capture related expenditure.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB005

Question Serial No.

0050

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: What is the total estimated provision for the salary, allowances and benefits of the Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

For budgetary purposes, the provision for the salary in respect of the position of Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (USCMA) in 2013-14 is \$2.54 million. Like other Politically Appointed Officials, USCMA is entitled to other fringe benefits such as paid vacation leave and medical and dental care. However, we do not have expenditure breakdown on these benefits.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB006

Question Serial No.

1708

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Secretary for Security

Question: Under this programme, it is stated that the Administration would provide practical assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland. In this connection, will the Administration:

- (1) set out in table form the number of assistance cases received by the Mainland Offices in the past year (2012), the nature of these cases, the number of cases resolved and being followed up?
- (2) set out in table form the number of visits made by officials of the Mainland Offices to Hong Kong residents imprisoned by the Mainland authorities without going through legal proceedings in the past year?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

In 2012, the Immigration Divisions of the Beijing Office (BJO) and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Guangdong (Guangdong ETO) received 362 requests for assistance from Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland. The breakdown is set out below. The nature and complexity of the cases varies greatly. Further breakdown on the basis of whether the cases have been resolved is not available.

Category	Number of Requests Received	
	2012	
	BJO	Guangdong ETO
Requests for assistance relating to immigration and personal safety matters (e.g. loss of travel documents or monies, persons involved in accidents, injured or in other incidents)	174	188
Total:	362	

2. The Immigration Divisions of BJO and Guangdong ETO will provide practical assistance to Hong Kong residents detained in the Mainland upon request. Officers of the above offices do not have the rights and powers of visiting the detainees in the Mainland under the relevant Mainland

laws and regulations. The practical assistance they may provide to the assistance seekers includes providing information on relevant Mainland laws, regulations and procedures; advising on their right to appoint legal representatives; providing contact details of local law societies; and reflecting their views and requests to the relevant Mainland authorities.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB007

Question Serial No.

2856

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: It is stated in the programme that provision for this financial year will be \$14.1 million (14.8%) higher than that for last year. According to the analysis of financial and staffing provision, the increase of 14.8% will be spent mainly on conducting reviews and consultations relating to constitutional development, conducting a survey to collect information related to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland and creating posts. In this connection, would the Government advise on the following:

- a. What will be covered by such reviews and consultations on constitutional development? Please provide the details.
- b. In what manner will the Government conduct the survey to collect information related to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland? Which type of information in particular will the Government collect? What will such information cover? What are the purposes to collect such information? How much will the Government spend on this survey?
- c. It is mentioned in the analysis of staffing provision that there will be a net increase of 9 posts this year. Please give details about the staff changes.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply:

As mentioned by the Chief Executive in his 2013 Policy Address, the Government would launch a comprehensive consultation on the electoral methods for the Chief Executive election in 2017 and the Legislative Council election in 2016 and initiate the constitutional procedures at an appropriate juncture. In this regard, we will make preparation in 2013-14 for the public consultation on the two electoral methods for 2016 and 2017. For budgetary purposes, we have set aside about \$7.3 million (excluding staff cost) under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" and plan to create six time-limited posts for the public consultation exercise when it is launched.

2. The Policy Address also announced that the Government would step up efforts in gathering data related to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland. In 2013-14, we have set aside \$3 million under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" for this purpose. We will work with

the Census and Statistics Department to conduct a thematic household survey in Hong Kong to collect aggregate data of Hong Kong residents who are frequent travelers between Hong Kong and the Mainland, such as their profile, geographic distribution, and purposes of stay in the Mainland. With the data available from the survey, the Beijing Office, and the three Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu respectively will reach out to more Hong Kong residents and groups in the Mainland to understand their service needs. One Directorate officer at D2 rank has been assigned to, among other things, oversee the conduct of the survey.

3. 10 new posts will be created, to be offset by the deletion of one post under Programme (2) “Constitutional and Mainland Affairs” in 2013-14. Details of the new posts are as follows –

- (a) six time-limited posts, including one Administrative Officer, one Senior Executive Officer, one Executive Officer II and three Assistant Clerical Officer, to be created when public consultation on the two electoral methods for 2016 and 2017 is launched;
- (b) one Executive Officer I post for supporting work on promotion of the Basic Law;
- (c) one Supplies Supervisor I post for strengthening administrative support for the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau;
- (d) one Assistant Clerical Officer post for strengthening housekeeping work of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices; and
- (e) one time-limited Assistant Clerical Officer post for strengthening clerical support for “homeland relationship”.

The above creation of 10 new posts will be offset by the deletion of one time-limited Executive Officer II post in 2013-14 which was created for liaison with the Mainland and promotion of the Basic Law. Therefore, there will be a net creation of nine posts in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB008

Question Serial No.

2868

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: It is stated that the Government's provision for this programme in the 2013-14 financial year is \$2 million higher than the revised estimate for last year (i.e. increased by 24.7%). In the Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision under this Head, it is stated that the 24.7% increase is due to the full-year provision required for filling the positions of Under Secretary and Political Assistant this year. Would the Government please advise on the following:

- a. As the monthly salary of Political Assistant has been adjusted downward to \$100,000 since the current-term government took office, the expenditure for employing Political Assistant should be lower, unless the Government will employ more Political Assistants. Therefore, does the increase in expenditure mean that the Government is considering increasing the number of Political Assistants? If so, how many more will be employed? Which bureaux will the additional Political Assistants work in? If not, please give a detailed account of the expenditure for filling the position of Political Assistant.
- b. On the other hand, with regard to the filling of the position of Under Secretary, what are the current monthly salaries for the Under Secretary of each bureau? It is stated in the programme that the increase in the estimated provision is due to the full-year provision required for filling the position. Why would filling the position of Under Secretary require a substantial increase in the estimated provision? Is the Government considering recruiting additional manpower this year to cope with future work? Please give a detailed account of this.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply:

In the 2012-13 financial year, in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau the position of Under Secretary was not filled from July to December 2012, and the position of Political Assistant was not filled from April to September 2012. Therefore, the revised estimate for 2012-13 does not reflect the full-year provision for the salary of these two positions.

2. The annual salary of a Director of Bureau is \$3.38 million. The salary for Under Secretaries is pitched at 65% - 75% of that for Directors of Bureau. The salary for Political Assistants is pitched at 35% - 55% of that for Directors of Bureau. For budgetary purposes, in the 2013-14 estimates of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau, the provision for the salary of the

Under Secretary is \$2.54 million, and the provision for the salary of the Political Assistant is \$1.18 million.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB009

Question Serial No.

2869

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in this year under this Programme that (the Bureau will) make preparation for public consultation on the arrangements for implementing universal suffrage for the Chief Executive election in 2017. Would the Government advise on when the consultation exercise will commence? What is the resource input for preparing the consultation exercise? What are the items included in the preparatory work? Please give details.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply:

As mentioned by the Chief Executive in his 2013 Policy Address, the Government will launch a comprehensive consultation on the electoral methods for the Chief Executive election in 2017 and the Legislative Council election in 2016 and initiate the constitutional procedures at an appropriate juncture. In this regard, we will make preparation in 2013-14 for the public consultation on the two electoral methods for 2016 and 2017. For budgetary purposes, we have set aside about \$7.3 million (excluding staff cost) and plan to create six time-limited posts for the public consultation exercise when it is launched.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB010

Question Serial No.

1854

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
(4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau is prepared to increase the staff establishment by creating 16 non-directorate posts in 2013-14. Which areas of work will holders of these posts be responsible for?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher

Reply:

17 non-directorate new posts will be created, to be offset by the deletion of one non-directorate post in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau in 2013-14. The areas of work in respect of these new posts are as follows -

- (a) six time-limited posts, including one Administrative Officer, one Senior Executive Officer, one Executive Officer II and three Assistant Clerical Officer, to be created when public consultation on the two electoral methods for 2016 and 2017 is launched;
- (b) one Executive Officer I post for supporting work on promotion of the Basic Law;
- (c) one Supplies Supervisor I post for strengthening administrative support for the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau;
- (d) one Assistant Clerical Officer post for strengthening housekeeping work of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices;
- (e) one time-limited Assistant Clerical Officer post for strengthening clerical support for "homeland relationship"; and
- (f) seven posts, including one Principal Immigration Officer, one Chief Immigration Officer, two Immigration Officer and three Trade Officer/Senior Executive Officer, in the Mainland Offices for implementing the policy initiatives on "homeland relationship".

The above creation of 17 new posts will be offset by the deletion of one time-limited Executive Officer II post in 2013-14 which was created for liaison with the Mainland and promotion of the Basic Law. Therefore, there will be a net creation of 16 non-directorate posts in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB011

Question Serial No.

1855

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Expenditure of Mainland and Taiwan Offices for the coming year is 15.2% higher than that of last year. Would the Administration advise on whether there is any change in expenditure on promotional work in Taiwan and promotional initiatives when compared with last year? What is the Government's plan to enhance exchanges with Taiwan? Please provide detailed promotional programmes for the coming year. Does the Administration have any plan to further relax the visa arrangement for Taiwan travellers visiting Hong Kong to save staff cost?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher

Reply:

The estimated expenditure for the promotion of Hong Kong in Taiwan in 2013-14 is broadly similar to that in 2012-13.

2. In 2013-14, the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) in Taiwan will continue to -

- (a) establish and maintain contacts with various sectors, cities and municipalities, and relevant authorities in Taiwan to foster closer economic, cultural and other co-operation and exchanges between Hong Kong and Taiwan;
- (b) facilitate Hong Kong businesses in tapping business opportunities in Taiwan while encouraging Taiwanese businesses to invest in Hong Kong;
- (c) organise and support promotional and cultural events to publicise Hong Kong in Taiwan; and
- (d) assist the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Cooperation and Promotion Council (ECCPC) in organising meetings and activities to further enhance exchanges with Taiwan.

3. In particular, HKETCO is planning for the following major promotion and exchange activities in Taiwan in 2013-14 -

- (a) co-organising a gourmet art exhibition with the Hong Kong Tourism Board in Taiwan in April 2013 to promote Hong Kong as a popular tourist destination; and the "Hong

Kong Week 2013" with the Cultural Cooperation Committee under the ECCPC in the fourth quarter of 2013 to showcase Hong Kong's unique arts and culture;

- (b) co-operating with various media organisations in Taiwan to promote the positive image of Hong Kong;
- (c) organising investment promotion and other economic and trade-related seminars in various cities in Taiwan to encourage Taiwanese investments in Hong Kong, and to exchange views on topics of mutual interest; and
- (d) participating in cultural events and trade fairs organised by local authorities in Taiwan.

4. The HKSAR Government from time to time reviews the policy on entry requirements, and make adjustments in the light of factors such as reciprocity; immigration control and security considerations; and the circumstances of individual country or territory; etc.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB012

Question Serial No.

1856

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Secretary for Security

Question: Please set out in table form changes in the different categories of requests for assistance from Hong Kong residents in the Mainland received by the 4 Mainland Offices of the HKSAR Government in the past 3 years (i.e. 2010 to 2012). Of these requests, how many require long-term follow up action? Please provide details. In view of the increasing interaction between Hong Kong and the Mainland, how will the 4 Mainland Offices enhance the dissemination of information on Hong Kong's latest policies to the Mainland compatriots to minimise unnecessary misunderstandings between the two sides?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher

Reply:

Information on the number of requests for assistance received by the Beijing Office and the three Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu respectively (Mainland Offices) in 2010, 2011 and 2012 is set out below. The nature and complexity of the cases varies greatly. Further breakdown on the basis of the lead time required to take follow up action is not available.

Category	Number of Requests Received		
	2010	2011	2012
Requests for assistance relating to immigration and personal safety matters	357	501	362
Other assistance cases	221	196	207
Total:	578	697	569

2. The 2013 Policy Address announced a series of initiatives to enhance the functions of the Mainland Offices including, inter alia, enhancing communication and publicity targeted at different sectors in the Mainland to strengthen “homeland relationship”. In 2013-14, the Mainland Offices will step up efforts in this regard through revamping their websites, organising exhibitions, and cultural performances, etc., with a view to disseminating information on Hong Kong’s latest developments and policies, promoting the strengths of Hong Kong and fostering mutual understanding and respect between Hong Kong and the Mainland.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB013

Question Serial No.

1887

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: The Mainland and Taiwan Offices will undertake 154 new projects on investment promotion, please list out the specific promotion projects for the Mainland and Taiwan respectively. Of these projects, how many are related to promotion of financial services?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher

Reply:

In 2013, Invest Hong Kong (InvestHK), with the support of the Investment Promotion Units of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices, aims to generate 154 new investment projects, with the potential to become completed investment projects, for the Mainland and Taiwan markets. Of these, we anticipate that some 134 new projects are from the Mainland and 20 from Taiwan, and in line with the trend of completed projects from the Mainland and Taiwan companies in recent years, we expect that around 20% of the 154 new investment projects are related to the financial services sector. In 2013-14, InvestHK will continue to proactively reach out and assist Mainland and Taiwan companies to set up or expand their business in Hong Kong, and will focus its promotion efforts in sectors such as financial services, creative industries, as well as industrial and logistics services.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB014

Question Serial No.

2358

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14 that (the Equal Opportunities Commission will) advocate education for all to ensure equal opportunities for ethnic minority students in Hong Kong. Please advise on the amount of subvention granted to the specific programme and the number of students who will be benefitted from the programme.

Asked by: Hon. CHIANG Lai-wan

Reply:

In July 2011, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) published its Report on the Working Group for Ethnic Minorities (the Report). The EOC has since taken a number of follow-up actions, including continuing communication with the Education Bureau on the educational needs of ethnic minority students with a view to working out a practical plan and improvement measures to address the key recommendations in the Report; understanding stakeholders' needs; and advocating policy change by the Government.

2. In 2013-14, enhancing equal rights to quality education for the ethnic minority students will continue to be one of the work priorities of the EOC. These efforts are an integral part of EOC's work, and hence no separate breakdown is available.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB015

Question Serial No.

0417

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

- Question:
- a. What were the efforts made by the HKSAR's Mainland Offices and Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) in Taiwan in the past 5 years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13) in promoting Hong Kong's cultural and arts industries? Have these offices assisted local cultural and arts organisations in liaising with related organisations or bodies in the Mainland and Taiwan to tap into the cultural and arts markets in the Mainland and Taiwan? Please give details.
 - b. Have the HKSAR's Mainland and Taiwan Offices mapped out any plan for facilitating local cultural and arts industries to expand into the Mainland and Taiwan in future?

Asked by: Hon. CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher

Reply:

Over the past five years, the Mainland Offices (namely the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu), as well as the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) since it commenced operation in December 2011, have taken continuous efforts to enhance arts and cultural exchanges between Hong Kong and the Mainland/Taiwan, with a view to promoting Hong Kong's arts and culture industries. The initiatives include organising, co-organising or supporting the launching of film festivals, dance festivals/performances, concerts, arts exhibitions, photo exhibitions, seminars etc. showcasing Hong Kong's unique arts and culture. Recent examples include the "Hong Kong – City of Arts Events" exhibition held in Beijing in February 2013; film festival "Memories of Image: Hong Kong Cinema and Hong Kong in Her Cinema" held in Beijing in September - October 2012; "The Hong Kong Week 2012–Culture & Creativity@Taipei" held in Taipei in November - December 2012; invitation to the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra to perform in the "Chengdu Contemporary Music Festival 2012" in Chengdu in October 2012, and the "2012 Hubei - Wuhan Hong Kong Week" featuring Hong Kong's creative industry (including the film and comics industries) held in Hubei in April-May 2012.

2. During the preparation stage of the above activities, the Mainland Offices and HKETCO have provided assistance to the involved Hong Kong arts and culture organisations in liaising with the local authorities and bodies as necessary, and in promoting the events as appropriate. The Mainland Offices and HKETCO will continue with their efforts in promoting the various attractions of Hong Kong's unique arts and culture in the Mainland and Taiwan.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB016

Question Serial No.

2968

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
(4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: What is the expenditure incurred on duty visits outside Hong Kong conducted in the name of the Bureau over the past 5 years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)? Please provide relevant information in the table below.

Date of duty visits	Reasons for the duty visits	No. of officers joining the duty visits	Hotel accommodation and expenditure (\$)	Flight class and price (\$)	Total expenditure (\$)

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

From 2008-09 to 2012-13, the relevant information on duty visits outside Hong Kong conducted in the name of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau is provided below –

Date of duty visits (Number of visits)	Reasons for the duty visits	No. of officers joining the duty visits	Hotel accommodation expenditure (\$) (A)	Flight ticket expenditure (\$) (B)	Total expenditure (\$) ^{Notes} (A)+(B)
2008-09 (28)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● participation of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) in the Expo 2010 Shanghai China (Expo 2010) ● promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland ● taking forward the work of the Government of the HKSAR for the reconstruction projects in the earthquake-stricken areas of 	1-10 officers per duty visit	234,430	538,290	772,720

Date of duty visits (Number of visits)	Reasons for the duty visits	No. of officers joining the duty visits	Hotel accommodation expenditure (\$) (A)	Flight ticket expenditure (\$) (B)	Total expenditure (\$) ^{Notes} (A)+(B)
	<p>Sichuan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan ● participating in international conferences and United Nations hearings concerning equal opportunities and human rights ● experience sharing on issues related to electoral arrangements ● enhancing liaison and communication with overseas governments 				
2009-10 (62)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● participation of the HKSAR in Expo 2010 ● promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland ● enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan ● participating in international conferences and United Nations hearings concerning equal opportunities and human rights ● enhancing liaison and communication with overseas governments 	1-9 officers per duty visit	383,860	757,780	1,141,640
2010-11 (82)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● participation of the HKSAR in Expo 2010 ● promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland ● enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Taiwan ● participating in international conferences and United Nations hearings concerning equal opportunities and human rights ● enhancing liaison and communication with overseas governments 	1-13 officers per duty visit	942,310	515,920	1,458,230
2011-12 (58)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland ● enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan 	1-11 officers per duty visit	187,290	667,700	854,990

Date of duty visits (Number of visits)	Reasons for the duty visits	No. of officers joining the duty visits	Hotel accommodation expenditure (\$) (A)	Flight ticket expenditure (\$) (B)	Total expenditure (\$) ^{Notes} (A)+(B)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● enhancing liaison and communication with overseas governments 				
2012-13 (33)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland ● enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan ● participating in international conferences and United Nations hearings concerning equal opportunities and human rights ● experience sharing on issues related to electoral arrangements ● enhancing liaison and communication with overseas governments 	1-12 officers per duty visit	161,120	709,830	870,950

Notes:

(1) The above expenditure excludes the following –

(a) overseas subsistence allowance provided to participating officials for self-arrangement of accommodation; and

(b) the expenditure which was sponsored by the hosting government for certain duty visits.

(2) The arrangement of hotel accommodation was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations and guidelines.

(3) Proper class of air passages was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations which take into account ranking of their offices, flying time, flight schedule and details.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB017

Question Serial No.

2995

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
(4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Will the Administration advise this Committee on the following -

- (1) What are the respective salary provisions for the Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau for 2013-14?
- (2) In respect of studies on subjects relating to constitutional and Mainland affairs conducted or to be conducted in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14, please list in detail the studies conducted or to be conducted in each year, the expenditure involved, the institutions commissioned, etc.

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

For budgetary purposes, the provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau for 2013-14 are \$3.38 million, \$2.54 million and \$1.18 million respectively.

2. The studies conducted on subjects relating to constitutional and Mainland affairs in 2011-12 and 2012-13 are listed as follows -

Name of study	Objective	Expenditure of each study	Name of institution commissioned
A Study on the Strategy for the Co-operation of Hong Kong/ Guangdong Service Industries under the "Early and Pilot" Measures	To explore the development trend of Hong Kong's service industries in Guangdong and select individual service industries which can be further promoted in Guangdong	RMB120,000	The Institute of Hong Kong, Macao & Special Economic Zone's Economy, Jinan University

Name of study	Objective	Expenditure of each study	Name of institution commissioned
Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) Implementation in Chongqing	To understand the status of CEPA implementation in Chongqing and explore the business opportunities of Chongqing for Hong Kong enterprises	RMB150,000	Chongqing Jiaotong University
Rent Allowance Review for Officers Posted/ Seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan	To review the rent allowance rates and to draw up a revised rent allowance system for officers posted/ seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan	HK\$600,000	CBRE Hong Kong Limited
Consultancy Services for Reviewing the Remuneration Packages for Officials under the Political Appointment System	To conduct research and advise the Independent Commission on Remuneration for Members of the Executive Council and the Legislature, and Officials under the Political Appointment System of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on the remuneration packages for politically-appointed officials serving in the fourth-term HKSAR Government	HK\$1,900,000	Hewitt Associates L.L.C.
CEPA Implementation in Shaanxi	To understand the status of CEPA implementation in Shaanxi and explore the business opportunities of Shaanxi for Hong Kong enterprises	RMB150,000	Xi'an Jiaotong University
Study on the Experience of Overseas Jurisdictions in Implementing Anti-stalking Legislation	To study the experience of overseas jurisdictions in implementing anti-stalking legislation	HK\$850,000	Centre for Comparative and Public Law of the University of Hong Kong
Annual Review of Rent Allowance Rates for Officers Posted/Seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan	To obtain the city-specific rental index for the annual revision of rent allowance for officers posted/seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan	HK\$429,000	Colliers International

There is currently no plan for new studies to be conducted in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB018

Question Serial No.

2996

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14 that (the Bureau will) “make preparation for public consultations on the electoral method for the LegCo election in 2016 and the arrangements for implementing universal suffrage for the CE election in 2017.” Will the Administration advise this Committee on: the progress of the above task and the notional timetable for public consultation. What are the process of and timetable for the whole exercise from consultation to finally enacting legislation to change the electoral arrangements?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

As mentioned by the Chief Executive (CE) in his 2013 Policy Address, the Government will launch a comprehensive consultation on the electoral methods for the CE election in 2017 and the Legislative Council (LegCo) election in 2016 and initiate the constitutional procedures at an appropriate juncture. In this regard, we will make preparation in 2013-14 for the public consultation on the two electoral methods for 2016 and 2017.

2. In accordance with the Basic Law and the Interpretation by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of April 2004, it is necessary to go through a “five-step mechanism” for amending the electoral methods for the CE election and the LegCo election. We will act strictly in accordance with the “five-step mechanism”.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB019

Question Serial No.

1267

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
(4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Regarding the departmental records management work over the past 3 years (as at 2012) -

(a) Please provide information on the number and rank of officers designated to perform such work. If there is no officer designated for such work, please provide information on the number of officers and the hours of work involved in records management duties, and the other duties they have to undertake in addition to records management;

(b) Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been closed pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

(c) Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred to GRS for retention -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

(d) Please list in the table below information on records which have been approved for destruction by GRS -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

Regarding records management work in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) over the past three years (as at 2012), the relevant information is provided below -

(a) In CMAB, a Senior Executive Officer is appointed as the Departmental Records Manager to establish and implement a comprehensive departmental records management programme, assisted by an Executive Officer I, ten Team Co-ordinators and other supporting staff responsible for the day-to-day records management activities. Since the work is performed as part of the daily duties of the above officers, we do not keep daily logs on the number of hours of work involved in records management.

(b) Information on programme and administrative records which were closed pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal in the past three years is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
Programme records	1994 - 2012	126 records in 6.94 linear metres	30 years after policy obsolete/ superseded (subject to approval by GRS)	Some are confidential
Administrative records	Nil			

(c) Information on programme and administrative records which were transferred to GRS for retention in the past three years is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
Programme records	Nil				
Administrative records	1975 - 2001	12 records in 0.61 linear metre	2011 - 2012	Permanent retention in Public Records Office	No

(d) Information on records which were approved for destruction by GRS in the past three years is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
Programme records	2002 - 2006	110 records in 2 linear metres	Not applicable	4 years after action completed	No
Administrative records	1975 - 2009	1 032 records in 44.64 linear metres	Not applicable	2 to 7 years after files being inactive	No

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB020

Question Serial No.

3118

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Regarding the records management work of the Equal Opportunities Commission over the past 3 years (as at 2012):

1. Please provide information on the number and rank of officers designated to perform such work. If there is no officer designated for such work, please provide information on the number of officers and the hours of work involved in records management duties, and the other duties they have to undertake in addition to records management;
2. Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been closed pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal:

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

3. Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred to GRS for retention:

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

4. Please list in the table below information on records which have been approved for destruction by GRS:

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of	Years that the records were	Retention period approved by	Are they confidential documents

		records	transferred to GRS	GRS	

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

According to the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC), its records management work is handled by 12 secretarial staff and 6 clerical staff as part of their duties.

2. The EOC is an independent statutory body established under the Sex Discrimination Ordinance. The EOC administers its own records management independently without any involvement of the Government Records Service (GRS). Accordingly, no records have been transferred to the GRS.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB021

Question Serial No.

3119

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Regarding the records management work of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data over the past 3 years (as at 2012):

1. Please provide information on the number and rank of officers designated to perform such work. If there is no officer designated for such work, please provide information on the number of officers and the hours of work involved in records management duties, and the other duties they have to undertake in addition to records management;
2. Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been closed pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal:

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

3. Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred to GRS for retention:

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

4. Please list in the table below information on records which have been approved for destruction by GRS:

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

According to the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD), its records management work is handled by staff in the Administration Division (comprising 1 Administration Manager, 1 Administrative Executive and 1 Administrative Assistant) as part of their duties.

2. The PCPD is an independent statutory body established under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance. The PCPD administers its own records management independently without any involvement of the Government Records Service (GRS). Accordingly, no records have been transferred to GRS.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB022

Question Serial No.

2873

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

- Question:
1. This year's provision is \$14 million higher than the revised estimate for 2012-13. Please list out the respective number of staff, expenditure and number of new posts involved for conducting the reviews and consultations relating to constitutional development and conducting the survey to collect information related to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland.
 2. Regarding the survey to collect information related to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland, when will it be conducted and which organisation will be responsible? Which areas will be covered in the survey and will it be conducted in phases?
 3. There is a net increase of 9 posts in 2013-14. What are the main duties of these posts?

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

As mentioned by the Chief Executive in his 2013 Policy Address, the Government would launch a comprehensive consultation on the electoral methods for the Chief Executive election in 2017 and the Legislative Council election in 2016 and initiate the constitutional procedures at an appropriate juncture. In this regard, we will make preparation in 2013-14 for the public consultation on the two electoral methods for 2016 and 2017. For budgetary purposes, we have set aside about \$7.3 million (excluding staff cost) under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" and plan to create six time-limited posts for the public consultation exercise when it is launched.

2. The Policy Address also announced that the Government would step up efforts in gathering data related to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland. In 2013-14, we have set aside \$3 million under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" for this purpose. We will work with the Census and Statistics Department to conduct a thematic household survey in Hong Kong to collect aggregate data of Hong Kong residents in the Mainland who are frequent travelers between Hong Kong and the Mainland, such as their profile, geographic distribution, and purposes of stay in the Mainland. With the data available from the survey, the Beijing Office, and the three Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu respectively will reach

out to more Hong Kong residents and groups in the Mainland to understand their service needs. One Directorate officer at D2 rank has been assigned to, among other things, oversee the conduct of the survey.

3 10 new posts will be created, to be offset by the deletion of one post under Programme (2) “Constitutional and Mainland Affairs” in 2013-14. Details of the new posts are as follows –

- (a) six time-limited posts, including one Administrative Officer, one Senior Executive Officer, one Executive Officer II and three Assistant Clerical Officer, to be created when public consultation on the two electoral methods for 2016 and 2017 is launched;
- (b) one Executive Officer I post for supporting work on promotion of the Basic Law;
- (c) one Supplies Supervisor I post for strengthening administrative support for the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau;
- (d) one Assistant Clerical Officer post for strengthening housekeeping work of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices; and
- (e) one time-limited Assistant Clerical Officer post for strengthening clerical support for “homeland relationship”.

The above creation of 10 new posts will be offset by the deletion of one time-limited Executive Officer II post in 2013-14 which was created for liaison with the Mainland and promotion of the Basic Law. Therefore, there will be a net creation of nine posts in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB023

Question Serial No.

2874

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: With regard to the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, please state in detail the progress, number of staff and expenditure involved, and number of new posts needed for the specific projects or activities under the following areas:

- (a) deepening regional co-operation with the Mainland;
- (b) taking forward new priority co-operation areas agreed at the Third Joint Meeting between the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Co-operation and Promotion Council and the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council; and
- (c) public consultations on the electoral method for the Legislative Council election in 2016 and the arrangements for implementing universal suffrage for the Chief Executive election in 2017.

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

On (a), the work of deepening of regional co-operation with the Mainland straddles Programmes (2) and (3) of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB). Under these two Programmes, an estimated financial provision of \$117.17 million (excluding staff cost) is for deepening regional co-operation with the Mainland. As the work involved is an integral part of the duties and functions of the CMAB offices concerned, the manpower provision cannot be singled out and separately quantified. We will deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland, through organising and providing logistic support for co-operation fora (such as conferences and meetings) in Hong Kong; participating in bilateral and multilateral co-operation fora in the Mainland; enhancing liaison and communications with the Central People's Government, the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in the Mainland; and organising events (such as seminars, exhibitions and workshops) to promote Hong Kong's strengths and trade and commercial interests.

2. On (b), the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Cooperation and Promotion Council (ECCPC) and the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council (THEC) have agreed four new priority cooperation areas, namely: environmental protection, heritage conservation, co-operation on testing and certification industries and notification of unsafe consumer goods, as well as exchanges between the investment promotion agencies of both sides. CMAB, as the

secretariat to the ECCPC, will coordinate the efforts of relevant bureaux and departments to strengthen co-operation and exchange with Taiwan in these areas, such as lining up experience sharing sessions, mutual visits, forums, etc. The expenditure concerned will be covered by the existing provision for the respective bureaux and departments. On the part of CMAB, as the work involved is an integral part of our duties and functions for supporting the ECCPC and exchanges with Taiwan, the financial and manpower provision cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

3. On (c), as mentioned by the Chief Executive in his 2013 Policy Address, the Government will launch a comprehensive consultation on the electoral methods for the Chief Executive election in 2017 and the Legislative Council election in 2016 and initiate the constitutional procedures at an appropriate juncture. In this regard, we will make preparation in 2013-14 for the public consultation on the two electoral methods for 2016 and 2017. For budgetary purposes, we have set aside about \$7.3 million (excluding staff cost) and plan to create six time-limited posts for the public consultation exercise when it is launched.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB024

Question Serial No.

2875

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

- Question:
1. Regarding the figures on media interviews/briefings given, how many of them are media interviews and briefings given exclusively for the Mainland media?
 2. Regarding the recent problems brought about by interaction between Hong Kong and Mainland residents as well as the economic and trade flows between Hong Kong and the Mainland, have proactive steps been taken to accept Mainland media interviews or to conduct briefings in the Mainland to correctly explain the true concerns of Hong Kong residents to Mainland and resolve any misunderstanding and conflict between the two sides? If so, what are the number and the expenditure involved? If not, with deeper misunderstanding between residents of the two sides, how can the Bureau effectively fulfill its duty of promoting Hong Kong's strengths to the Mainland?
 3. With reference to the actual number of visitors assisted in the past 2 years and the estimated number of visitors to be assisted in 2013, how many were Mainland, Macao and Taiwan residents?
 4. Regarding the visitors actually assisted and visitors to be assisted, please list out the matters that required assistance by category.

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

In 2011 and 2012, 386 and 367 media interviews/briefings were conducted by the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu (Mainland Offices). The Mainland Offices do not maintain separate statistics on media interviews/briefings given exclusively for the Mainland media.

2. In 2013-14, we have set aside an estimated additional provision of \$24.06 million under Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" to enhance the functions of the Mainland Offices. With this provision, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and its Mainland Offices will take forward work to strengthen "homeland relationship" and better assist Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the Mainland, including setting up a new Immigration Division in the Chengdu ETO; strengthening liaison with Hong Kong people and groups in the Mainland so as to provide them with information and assistance as far as possible; conducting researches on national policies and disseminating related findings to facilitate Hong Kong residents and enterprises to seize the

development opportunities; and enhancing communication and publicity targeted at different sectors in the Mainland. Specifically, the Mainland Offices will step up communication and publicity efforts through revamping their websites, giving more media briefings or interviews, organising more exhibitions and cultural performances, etc., with a view to promoting the strengths of Hong Kong and fostering mutual understanding and respect between Hong Kong and the Mainland.

3. “Number of visitors assisted” is one of the indicators of key performance measures under Programme (3). The assistance rendered by the Mainland Offices and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) in Taiwan mainly covers the following:

- (a) assistance to Mainland officials and Taiwan VIPs in visiting Hong Kong, including advice on itinerary, control point facilitation and liaison with local authorities or organisations as appropriate; and
- (b) assistance to Hong Kong Government officials, Hong Kong organisations etc. in visiting the Mainland and Taiwan, including advice on itinerary, control point facilitation and liaison with local authorities or organisations as appropriate.

4. The figures on “number of visitors assisted” by the Mainland Offices and HKETCO for 2011, 2012 and 2013 are 4 269 (actual), 5 783 (actual) and 5 800 (estimate) respectively. The above offices do not maintain separate statistics by category of origin of the visitors.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB025

Question Serial No.

2876

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

- Question:
1. What were the number of staff and amount of resources allocated for the promotional/training activities by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) over the past two years (i.e. 2011-12 and 2012-13)? What are the number of staff and amount of resources to be allocated in 2013-14?
 2. It is estimated that in 2013-14, the percentage of acceptance of equal opportunities issues in workplace by participants of the above training activities organised by the EOC will be lower than the actual indicator of last year. What are the reasons? Is it related to changes in the amount of resources allocated by the EOC and deployment of staff responsible for the training activities?
 3. Regarding the customer satisfaction survey on whether parties involved in the complaints were satisfied with the service provided by the EOC, why was a new survey model adopted in 2012-13? What are the differences between the new and old models? What are the respective manpower and resources involved?
 4. The EOC will advocate accessibility in built environment and information and communication technology in 2013-14. In respect of the Government's measures to provide barrier-free facilities, such as lifts and ramps, etc. in different locations across the territory, will the EOC express its views and oversee the implementation of these measures proactively to ensure that they best suit the public needs?

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

(1) The promotion/training activities are provided by the Corporate Communications and Training unit of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC). There was a team of 16 members in this Unit in 2011-12, and since 2012-13, the team was expanded to 19 members.

(2) The percentage of participants in the EOC's training activities who indicated acceptance of equal opportunities issues in the workplace was introduced as a performance indicator in 2010. The target for each year has since been set at 90%. In 2011 and 2012, the actual achievement was 97%. For 2013, the EOC continues to set the target at 90% and the manpower and resources for

training will remain the same. The EOC will continue to strive to achieve the highest possible acceptance rate of equal opportunities issues in the workplace.

(3) Upon the recommendation of the Efficiency Unit in 2011, the EOC has employed an external consultant to help devise a new model for the Customer Satisfaction Survey (CSS) and to conduct the revamped CSS. The purpose of the change is to ensure that the CSS is conducted independently and to better gauge the feedback from EOC's service users. The revamped CSS contains more survey items such as those related to the attitude of EOC staff, complaint handling procedures and service accessibility. The expenditure for conducting the CSS in 2012 was \$0.108 million; for 2013, the EOC has set aside \$0.15 million for the CSS.

(4) The EOC will continue to monitor closely the implementation and operation of the Government's measures to provide barrier-free facilities. The EOC will also continue to assist in the training of the access officers and facilities managers of the Government and the LINK Management Limited, and take other measures as necessary with a view to improving the overall accessibility in our society.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB026

Question Serial No.

2878

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

- Question:
1. Of the \$1.7 million increase in provision over the revised estimate for 2012-13, what is the expenditure for the implementation of the new provisions introduced under the Personal Data (Privacy) (Amendment) Ordinance 2012 (PDPAO) and various other required items such as promotional work and educational activities? Please provide details of the relevant expenditure.
 2. With the expected implementation of the new provisions introduced under the PDPAO and the subsequent need to organise various promotional conferences as well as carry out education and publicity work, why is the estimated number of participants in various activities in 2013 even lower than that of last year?

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

The PDPAO was passed by the Legislative Council on 27 June 2012. Commencement of the provisions in the PDPAO was pursued in two phases : majority of the provisions took effect on 1 October 2012 and the remaining provisions relating to direct marketing and legal assistance also commenced on 1 April 2013. An annual recurrent provision of \$8.4 million has been allocated to the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) from 2012-13 onwards to prepare for and implement the new provisions under the PDPAO. Furthermore, an additional annual recurrent provision of \$1.3 million is allocated to the PCPD for this purpose in 2013-14 (after discounting an one-off provision of \$0.5 million for 2012-13, the net increase in provision to the PCPD in 2013-14 is 0.8 million). Of the \$1.7 million increase in provision for Programme (5) over the revised estimate for 2012-13, the \$0.8 million mentioned above is allocated to the PCPD, whereas the other \$0.9 million represents an adjustment in subvention to the Equal Opportunities Commission related to personal emoluments.

2. To tie in with the implementation timetable of the PDPAO, more education and promotion work (mainly targeting at industry players and privacy officers of concerned organisations) needed to be implemented before the respective commencement dates of the PDPAO provisions. Therefore, more education and promotion work was conducted for 2012 than for 2013.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB027

Question Serial No.

1491

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The Administration has pledged to enhance publicity to promote equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations. In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee on the following:

- (1) The Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit (GISOU), which is responsible for the above publicity work, has a staffing complement of only 3 officers. Does the Government have any plan to strengthen the manpower of GISOU this year to assist the Unit in undertaking the increasingly heavy publicity work? If yes, what are the details? If no, what plan does the Government have to cope with the additional publicity work?
- (2) Of the \$20 million provision under the Programme "Rights of the Individual", how much has been set aside for publicity to promote equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations? Is there any increase in provision for publicity work when compared with the provision earmarked for the same purpose last year?
- (3) What is the specific plan for promoting the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation in public and private sectors?

Asked by: Hon. IP LAU Suk-yea, Regina

Reply:

(1) We do not have any plan to increase the number of staff in GISOU. The additional publicity work would be absorbed within existing manpower resources.

(2) The provision for promotion of equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations and transgendered persons (including the staff cost of the GISOU) under Programme (4) in 2013-14 is \$2.99 million. This represents an increase of \$0.25 million (9.1%) over the revised estimate for 2012-13 and \$1.15 million (62.5%) over the original estimate for 2012-13.

(3) We will write to major employers in the public and private sectors to encourage them to adopt and apply the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation (the Code); organise seminars, talks and briefings to introduce the Code; and arrange publicity to promote the Code.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB028

Question Serial No.

1498

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau has set up the Beijing Office and other 3 Economic and Trade Offices in the Mainland. In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee on:

- (1) the 4 offices' estimated total expenditure for "General Departmental Expenses" for 2013-14?
- (2) the 4 offices' estimated total "administration" expenses under "General Departmental Expenses"? How will the provision be allocated to meet the estimated expenditure for various expenditure items, such as subsistence allowance, overseas duty visits etc?

Asked by: Hon. IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina

Reply:

For 2013-14, the estimate on General Departmental Expenses of the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu (Mainland Offices) is \$88.95 million, out of which the estimate on administration expenses is \$11.99 million. The Mainland Offices will flexibly deploy their allocation to meet operational needs for various expenditure items, including subsistence allowance and overseas duty visits.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB029

Question Serial No.

3236

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The average amounts of time taken to settle a simple complaint case and a complicated case have both increased during 2011 and 2012. It is anticipated that more time will be needed for settling such cases in 2013. What are the reasons for the increase? Will more resources and manpower be allocated to shorten the handling time? If yes, what are the plans? If no, why?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

As a result of a series of major privacy intrusions in recent years, particularly the Octopus incident in 2010, there has been increased public awareness of personal data privacy leading to an increase in the number of complaint cases. There was a backlog which reached a peak in 2012. Also, there has been an increase in average time taken to settle a complicated complaint case. The situation is expected to improve in 2013.

2. According to the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD), since 2010, the estimated average time taken to settle a simple complaint case is 44 days. The PCPD will continue to strive to excel and has been successful in doing so through special dedicated efforts in the past years.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB030

Question Serial No.

0738

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: In his Budget Speech, the Financial Secretary stated that the Government should continue to assist Hong Kong's business and professional services through relevant G2G platforms. Under the National 12th Five-Year Plan, the Mainland would devote greater efforts to develop modern service industries. Will the Administration advise on the specific plan for co-ordinating the relevant work in 2013-14 and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

In the light of the national policy direction of proactively developing the modern services industries, the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) will continue to strive for further opening up of the Mainland market to Hong Kong services industry by progressively broadening and deepening the scope of liberalisation through the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA). As in the past, the Government of HKSAR will, taking into account the needs of the trade, continue to liaise closely with the Mainland and actively explore the possibilities of pursuing more liberalisation beneficial to their long-term development.

2. The CEPA related work is carried out by a number of government agencies. The Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (Commerce, Industry and Tourism Branch) is responsible for the overall policy on CEPA; Trade and Industry Department oversees bilateral discussions on further liberalisation and implementation of liberalisation measures under CEPA; and individual bureaux and departments deal with liberalisation and specific implementation issues in the relevant service sectors.

3. The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has been co-ordinating and promoting the deepening of regional co-operation with the Mainland through existing G2G mechanisms, including those with Guangdong, the Pan-Pearl River Delta Region as well as Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen to open up more business opportunities for various sectors in the Hong Kong, and further contribute to the development of our country.

4. Amongst the above regional co-operation platforms, Hong Kong/Guangdong co-operation is of particular importance given the close trade and economic relationship between the two places.

Chapter 3 of the “Framework Agreement on Guangdong /Hong Kong Co-operation” (Framework Agreement) on modern service industries states clearly that the two sides would “support Hong Kong in developing high-end service industries and encourage Hong Kong modern service industries to enter and expand in Guangdong”. This has been taken forward through implementation of CEPA, including measures for early and pilot implementation in Guangdong, which is co-ordinated by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau.

5. In addition, the development of Qianhai and Nansha, which are designated as Key Co-operation Zones under the Framework Agreement, are expected to provide new opportunities for Hong Kong’s business sector. Qianhai and Nansha have been designated as a “Hong Kong/Guangdong modern service industry innovation and co-operation exemplary zone” and a “new hinterland of productive service-based modern industries” respectively. CMAB co-ordinates the efforts of relevant bureaux of the HKSAR Government to facilitate the Hong Kong business sector, especially the financial services, professional services and other services sectors to capitalise on the business opportunities presented by the development of Qianhai and Nansha to tap into the Mainland market. In this regard, relevant bureaux of the HKSAR Government have been consulting the business sectors under their respective purview from time to time through various channels, including meetings, exchange sessions and inviting written submissions. CMAB facilitates their communication with the relevant authorities so that the policy proposals and suggestions received are consolidated and communicated to the relevant Mainland authorities on a timely basis. All the above work will continue in 2013-14.

6. The resource requirement for CEPA related work is absorbed by relevant bureaux/departments respectively, and CMAB does not have information on the overall actual amount involved.

7. Generally speaking, two divisions out of the three divisions in CMAB are responsible for Mainland affairs (Programme (2) “Constitutional and Mainland Affairs”). In addition, the Beijing Office and the three Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu respectively under Programme (3) “Mainland and Taiwan Offices” play leading and integral role in fostering closer ties with the Mainland at various levels. Under the two said Programmes, an estimated financial provision of \$117.17 million (excluding staff cost) is made. As the G2G co-ordinating work involved is an integral part of the duties and functions of the CMAB officers concerned, the estimated expenditure involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB031

Question Serial No.

0855

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will make preparation for public consultations on electoral method for the Legislative Council (LegCo) election in 2016 and the arrangements for implementing universal suffrage for the Chief Executive (CE) in 2017. What are the specific timetable for the consultation exercises, the manpower involved and the estimated expenditure? Will public consultations for the methods for selecting the CE and electing the LegCo be combined?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

As mentioned by the Chief Executive in his 2013 Policy Address, the Government will launch a comprehensive consultation on the electoral methods for the Chief Executive election in 2017 and the Legislative Council election in 2016 and initiate the constitutional procedures at an appropriate juncture. In this regard, we will make preparation in 2013-14 for the public consultation on the two electoral methods for 2016 and 2017. For budgetary purposes, we have set aside about \$7.3 million (excluding staff cost) and plan to create six time-limited posts for the public consultation exercise when it is launched.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB032

Question Serial No.

1040

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: What are the respective salary provisions for the Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau for 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

For budgetary purposes, the provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau for 2013-14 are \$3.38 million, \$2.54 million and \$1.18 million respectively.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB033

Question Serial No.

1046

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: With regard to one of the matters requiring special attention in 2013-14, i.e. the Bureau will make preparation for public consultations on the electoral method for the Legislative Council election in 2016 and the arrangements for implementing universal suffrage for the Chief Executive election in 2017, please provide information on:

- the estimated financial provision for 2013-14;
- the actual expenditure for the last round of public consultation; and
- a detailed comparison of the last round of public consultation and the estimated financial provision for 2013-14

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

The total expenditure for conducting the public consultation exercise on the 2012 electoral arrangements was about \$9.3 million (excluding staff cost), which included expenditures on printing of consultation documents and reports, organisation of forums and publicity. In addition, six time-limited posts were created to assist in handling tasks relating to the public consultation exercise.

2. As mentioned by the Chief Executive in his 2013 Policy Address, the Government will launch a comprehensive consultation on the electoral methods for the Chief Executive election in 2017 and the Legislative Council election in 2016 and initiate the constitutional procedures at an appropriate juncture. In this regard, we will make preparation in 2013-14 for the public consultation on the two electoral methods for 2016 and 2017. For budgetary purposes, we have set aside about \$7.3 million (excluding staff cost) and plan to create six time-limited posts for the public consultation exercise when it is launched.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB034

Question Serial No.

1048

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Please list out the expenditure items of, organisations responsible for and target groups of the activities for promoting human rights in 2012-13 as well as the estimated provision earmarked for activities for promoting human rights in 2013-14 and the main areas of activities. Are there any officers under the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau responsible for looking into the work and budget of other government departments for the promotion of human rights through channels like school education, community activities and other publicity activities? If yes, what are the ranks of the responsible officers? What is the total expenditure incurred by various government departments on the promotion of human rights in 2012-13?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

The Government's work on promoting human rights spans across a number of policy bureaux, notably the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB), the Education Bureau (EDB), the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) and the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB).

2. The CMAB has been promoting awareness of, respect for and protection of human rights through the allocations to the Programmes "Rights of the Individual" and "Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data". Under these 2 Programmes, the revised estimates of expenditure for 2012-13, and the estimated expenditure for 2013-14 are \$174.7 million and \$177.6 million respectively.

3. The CMAB launched a series of activities for promoting human rights in 2012-13, as set out at the Annex.

4. In 2013-14, the CMAB will continue its work on promoting the rights of the individual in respect of protection for personal data privacy and human rights, promotion of equal opportunities irrespective of gender, family status, race and sexual orientation, and promotion of children's rights. The EOC and the PCPD will continue to carry out their publicity, promotion and education programmes and enforcement work for areas within their statutory framework.

5. The CMAB works closely with other Government bureaux and departments for the promotion of human rights. For example, the EDB has been facilitating the promotion of human rights education in schools, through measures such as embedding related learning elements in the curriculum, organising teacher professional development programmes, and developing learning and teaching resources, while the HAB has been promoting civic education, including human rights and core values, in collaboration with the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education (CPCE), through means such as providing sponsorship to community organisations to organise civic education activities and producing publicity programmes and materials. In tandem, the LWB organises territory-wide public education activities and provides sponsorship to 18 District Councils and community organisations to organise publicity programmes in the community for promoting the spirit and core values enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as well as the message of building a barrier-free and inclusive society.

6. Regarding the expenditure incurred in 2012-13, expenditure related to human rights education constitutes an integral part of the EDB's expenditures, and a separate breakdown of the expenditures for human rights education is not available from the EDB. Under the funding of the HAB, the estimated expenditure of the CPCE in 2012-13 as a whole is about \$20.9 million, while a breakdown by the promotion of specific values or civic concepts is not available. In 2012-13, LWB's expenditure on the aforementioned public education activities was about \$13 million.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

Activities on promoting rights of the individual in 2012-13 under the CMAB

Activities	Responsible organisation	Target
Publication of United Nations Human Rights reports	CMAB	Members of the public
Forums, e.g. Human Rights Forum and Children's Rights Forum	CMAB	Interested non-government organisations mainly, also open to interested members of the public
Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme	Sponsored organisations	Members of the public
Various publicity measures such as Announcement in the public interest (API) and advertisement to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities	CMAB	Members of the public
Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme	Sponsored organisations	Members of the public, in particular children
School Outreach Programme on children's rights project	CMAB and Radio Television Hong Kong	Members of the public, in particular children
API to promote children's rights	CMAB	Members of the public, in particular children
Publication of the child friendly version of the Second Report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child	CMAB	Members of the public, in particular children
Mobile application for promotion of children's rights	CMAB	Members of the public, in particular children
Various publicity measures such as API and advertisement to promote the Code on Access to Information	CMAB	Members of the public
Various publicity measures such as API and advertisement to promote understanding of the new regulatory regime relating to direct marketing under the Personal Data (Privacy) (Amendment) Ordinance 2012 which came into operation on 1 April 2013	CMAB	Members of the public

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB035

Question Serial No.

1049

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: International human rights treaties applicable to Hong Kong include the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

In the past 3 years (as at 2012-13) and in 2013-14, how much have been and will be spent by the Government on publishing promotional booklets on the above human rights treaties to promote human rights? What is the total number of copies of booklets on the text of respective treaties as well as the number of copies of different language versions that have been produced? What is the total number of booklets on the text of Concluding Observations made by respective Committees on human rights treaties on Hong Kong's reports as well as the number of copies of different language versions that have been produced? What is the Government's expenditure on the promotion of various treaties in the Internet? Please provide details on the work of setting out translations of text of various treaties, Concluding Observations and general comments in the Internet.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

Hard copies of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region's (HKSAR) reports (in English and Chinese) under the 7 United Nations (UN) human rights treaties are published in accordance with the reporting cycles of the respective treaties, and are distributed to the Executive Council, the Legislative Council, District Councils and stakeholders through various channels; they are also available to members of the public upon request. For instance, 5 000 bilingual booklets on the text of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women were published in 2010-11. Stock of the text of the other 6 human rights treaties is still available. Hard copies of the Concluding Observations made by the respective UN treaty bodies on the reports of the HKSAR are attached to the papers for discussion at the relevant Legislative Council Panel meetings. To facilitate public access to the HKSAR's reports under these UN human rights treaties, the texts of these treaties, the HKSAR's respective reports, as well as the Concluding Observations by the relevant UN treaty bodies are available in bilingual versions on the websites of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and the Labour and Welfare Bureau. The General

Comments made by the UN treaty bodies are available in different official languages of the UN at those bodies' websites.

2. The expenditure on publishing promotional materials on the human rights treaties concerned in hard copy (including texts of the treaties, the HKSAR's reports and other promotional materials) is about \$259,000, \$111,000 and \$70,000 in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively. In 2013-14, the Administration has earmarked about \$75,000 for publishing such materials.

3. The Government's expenditure on the promotion of various treaties in the Internet for the past 3 years has mostly been absorbed in the expenditure for public education programmes as well as regular maintenance and updates of websites of relevant bureaux. Separate breakdown of the expenditure is not available.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB036

Question Serial No.

1050

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: On enhancement of liaison and communication with the Central People's Government (CPG), the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in the Mainland, and relevant authorities and organisations in Taiwan, please provide information on:

- the details of such work
- the details of Hong Kong's counterparts in the Mainland (including those at CPG and the provincial/municipal levels) and Taiwan
- the details of co-operation initiatives being implemented and under planning
- the progress of various initiatives
- all co-operation agreements signed and the full text of the agreements

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

The Mainland and Taiwan Offices (namely the Beijing Office, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu, as well as the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan) serve as important bridges between Hong Kong and the Mainland/Taiwan. Their major responsibilities include enhancing liaison and communication with the counterparts in the areas under their coverage; representing and promoting Hong Kong's trade and commercial interests; encouraging and attracting investments to Hong Kong, promoting Hong Kong's many advantages as an investment and business hub in Asia; promoting the strengths of Hong Kong through appropriate channels; providing information and other appropriate support to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland/Taiwan; and providing assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress. To perform its roles and functions, the Beijing Office maintains necessary working relationships with the ministries of the State Council (such as the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office and the Ministry of Commerce). The Mainland and Taiwan Offices also maintain necessary working relationships with the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities (such as the provincial Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Offices and Commerce Departments) in the Mainland, and relevant authorities and organisations in Taiwan under their coverage as appropriate.

2. A number of regional co-operation platforms with the Mainland provinces and municipalities have been established to promote closer exchanges and co-operation in various aspects between the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) and the Mainland. In the past three calendar years from 2010 to 2012, 15 meetings on regional co-operation with the Mainland under these

platforms were convened, and 27 co-operation agreements between the HKSAR Government and the Mainland government authorities were signed on these occasions. The list of co-operation agreements is at Annex. Press releases were issued after these meetings to set out the gist of discussion, including the progress of implementing relevant co-operation initiatives and the plan for further co-operation, etc. The aforementioned press releases and the full text of co-operation agreements are accessible from the website of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau.

3. Hong Kong and Taiwan respectively set up the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Co-operation and Promotion Council (ECCPC) and the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council (THEC) for both sides to enhance co-operation in various policy areas. The two Councils so far have held three joint meetings. Through the ECCPC-THEC platform, both sides signed a memorandum of understanding on banking supervision co-operation and an air services agreement. Press releases were issued to report on the outcomes.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU
Permanent Secretary for
Post Title: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Date: 8 April 2013

**Major co-operation agreements signed between the
Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and
Mainland Provinces and Municipalities
through various co-operation platforms between 2010 and 2012**

Regional Co-operation Platform	Name of Co-operation Agreement
1. Hong Kong / Guangdong Co-operation Joint Conference	<p><u>April 2010</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation <p><u>September 2010</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arrangement on the Implementation of the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation ● Agreement on Joint Promotion of Hong Kong/Guangdong Industry-Academia-Research Co-operation ● Guangdong and Hong Kong Co-operation Arrangement on Search and Rescue at Sea ● Co-operation Agreement between Guangdong and Hong Kong on Quality Agricultural Products <p><u>February 2011</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2011 Work Plan of the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation <p><u>August 2011</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Letter of Intent between Hong Kong and Guangzhou on Co-operation in Pushing Forward the Development of Nansha New Area ● Co-operation Agreement between Hong Kong and Guangdong on Combating Climate Change ● Co-operation Arrangement between Hong Kong and Guangdong on Establishment of a Contingency Notification Mechanism on Critical Disruption of the Guangdong-Hong Kong Cross-Boundary Telecommunications Networks ● Agreement on Guangdong/Hong Kong Co-operation on Intellectual Property (2011-12) <p><u>January 2012</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2012 Work Plan of the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation <p><u>September 2012</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Co-operation agreement between Hong Kong and Guangdong on jointly promoting early realisation of basic liberalisation of trade in services ● Co-operation agreement between Hong Kong and Guangdong on speeding up transformation and upgrading of Hong Kong-funded processing trade enterprises in Guangdong

<p>1. Hong Kong / Guangdong Co-operation Joint Conference</p> <p>(con'd)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The framework agreement on exchanges and co-operation in food safety for Hong Kong/Guangdong ● Long-term co-operation agreement between Guangdong Meteorological Bureau and Hong Kong Observatory in numerical weather prediction technology
<p>2. Hong Kong / Shenzhen Co-operation Meeting</p>	<p><u>December 2010</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Agreement on exchange and co-operation in registration of companies/enterprises ● Agreements on exchange and co-operation in testing and certification between Hong Kong and Shenzhen ● Co-operation agreements on promotion of testing, certification and technological innovation between Hong Kong and Shenzhen <p><u>November 2011</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Co-operation arrangement on legal matters ● Co-operation agreement on jointly taking forward the development of the Lok Ma Chau Loop ● Co-operation agreement on enhancement of safety of imported and exported food ● Long-term co-operation agreement in numerical weather prediction technology
<p>3. Hong Kong / Beijing Economic and Trade Co-operation Conference</p>	<p><u>November 2012</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Agreement on Cultural Exchange and Co-operation ● Framework Agreement on Exchange and Co-operation on Food Safety
<p>4. Hong Kong / Shanghai Economic and Trade Co-operation Conference</p>	<p><u>January 2012</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Agreement on Cultural Exchange and Co-operation ● Agreement on Strengthening Commerce and Trade Co-operation ● Agreement for Civil Service Exchange [Renewal]
	<p>Total number of co-operation agreements: 27</p>

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB037

Question Serial No.

1051

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Has the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (Privacy Commissioner) assessed the funding and manpower requirements for setting up a register of data users? If yes, what are the funding and manpower required? Has the Privacy Commissioner applied to the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs for funding support? Has resources been earmarked in the 2013-14 Estimates for setting up the register of data users? If yes, what is the amount of fund earmarked?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

In 2013-14, \$1.1 million has been included in the provision for the Office of the Privacy Commissioner (PCPD) to study the setting up of a register of data users. Nevertheless, as reported by the Privacy Commissioner at the Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs in January 2013, the European Union data protection system, upon which the Hong Kong model of the Data User Returns Scheme (DURS) is based, is undergoing reform. Hence the PCPD is putting the DURS project on hold pending the development of the said reform.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB038

Question Serial No.

1070

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: On sex discrimination and pregnancy discrimination, will the Administration advise this
Committee on:

- (a) the number of cases relating to sex and pregnancy discrimination received in the
past 3 years (as at 2012-13);
- (b) in what ways were these cases handled;
- (c) the publicity and educational activities that focused on the above discrimination and
the expenditure involved in the past 3 years (as at 2012-13);
- (d) the estimated expenditure on publicity and educational activities in 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

(a) The number of new complaints relating to sex discrimination and pregnancy discrimination
received by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) in the past 3 years is as follows:

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (as at February 2013)
Sex discrimination	29	33	23
Pregnancy discrimination	146	124	82

(b) In respect of sex discrimination and pregnancy discrimination, the EOC investigates
complaints lodged under the Sex Discrimination Ordinance and encourages conciliation between
the parties in dispute. Where conciliation fails, a complainant may apply to the EOC for other
forms of assistance including legal assistance.

(c) The EOC's expenditure on publicity and public education programmes (including manpower
expenditure) is \$17.15 million, \$20.60 million and \$24.31 million in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13
respectively. About 25% of the relevant expenditure is related to the promotion of preventing sex
discrimination and pregnancy discrimination.

(d) The EOC's estimated expenditure on publicity and public education programmes (including manpower expenditure) is \$20.05 million in 2013-14. About 25% of the relevant estimated expenditure is related to the promotion of preventing sex discrimination and pregnancy discrimination.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB039

Question Serial No.

0268

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In what ways will the Bureau use the provision under this programme (including how much manpower and resources will be deployed) to:

- (1) pursue the proposal of setting up a Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Wuhan; and
- (2) continue to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland, targeting in particular at Guangdong, Beijing, Shanghai, the Chengdu-Chongqing Economic Zone, the Economic Zone on the West Coast of the Taiwan Strait and other provinces and regions in the Pan-Pearl River Delta Region?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew

Reply:

In 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) will take forward preparatory work related to the setting up of a Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Wuhan, with a view to establishing the new office in 2014. The preparatory work includes liaison with the Central People's Government and the provincial and municipal governments, identification of possible office premises and assessing the financial and manpower requirements for implementation of the proposal.

2. Generally speaking, two divisions out of the three divisions in CMAB are responsible for Mainland affairs (Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs") and the preparatory work for setting up of the new ETO in Wuhan. In addition, the Beijing Office and the three ETOs in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu respectively (Mainland Offices) under Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" play a leading and integral role in fostering closer ties with the Mainland at various levels. Under the two said Programmes, an estimated financial provision of \$117.17 million (excluding staff cost) is for CMAB and its Mainland Offices to take forward the work in parts (1) and (2) of the question above. As the work involved is an integral part of the duties and functions of the CMAB offices concerned, the manpower provision cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

3. With the above provision, CMAB and its Mainland Offices will take forward work to prepare for the setting up of the new ETO in Wuhan and deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland, including organising and providing logistic support for co-operation fora (such as conferences and meetings) in Hong Kong; participating in bilateral and multilateral co-operation fora in the

Mainland; enhancing liaison and communications with the Central People's Government, the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in the Mainland; and organising events (such as seminars, exhibitions and workshops) to promote Hong Kong's strengths and trade and commercial interests.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB040

Question Serial No.

1077

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Has the Administration conducted a systematic assessment on whether discrimination on the grounds of age, sex and race is apparent in the current local labour market? If yes, what are the findings of the assessment? If no, what are the reasons? What are the expenditures incurred on publicity and education programmes, and enforcement work relating to elimination of such discrimination in the past 3 years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13)? What are the expenditures on such programmes and work for the coming 3 years (2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16)?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply:

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) is tasked to implement the 4 Ordinances on anti-discrimination on grounds of sex, race, disability and family status. The EOC conducted the "Equal Opportunities Awareness Survey 2012" from June to August 2012 to gauge the public's perception of the concept of equal opportunities. According to the survey results released in January 2013, about 6% of the general public surveyed indicated that they have experienced incidents of discrimination, harassment or vilification in the past year on the grounds of sex (22%), race (13%), disability (14%), family status (9%), age (38%) or sexual orientation (1%).

2. The EOC's expenditure (including manpower expenditure) on publicity and public education programmes is \$17.15 million, \$20.60 million and \$24.31 million for 2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13 respectively. The expenditure on enforcement (including undertaking enquiries, complaints investigation, and conciliation and provision of legal services) is \$24.48 million, \$24.80 million and \$27.89 million in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively. About half of these expenditures are related to the elimination of sex and race discrimination. As there was no legislation on age discrimination, the EOC did not incur expenditure on the publicity, education programmes or enforcement work relating to age discrimination in the past three years.

3. For 2013-14, the EOC's estimated expenditure (including manpower expenditure) for publicity and public education programmes is \$20.05 million and that for enforcement work is \$35.74 million. About half of the expenditure relates to the elimination of sex and race discrimination. There are no estimated expenditures for 2014-15 and 2015-16 yet.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB041

Question Serial No.

0143

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Provision for 2013-14 is \$1.7 million higher than the revised estimate for 2012-13
(partly due to increased subvention arising from other requirements). Please give an
account of such "other requirements" and the annual expenditures involved.

Asked by: Hon. LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin

Reply:

The increased subvention arising from "other requirements" is \$0.9 million for adjusting the
subvention to the Equal Opportunities Commission relating to personal emoluments.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB042

Question Serial No.

2459

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: (a) Please list out the expenditure and staff arrangement of the Beijing Office, other Mainland Offices and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan for promoting cultural exchanges in the past 2 years (i.e. 2011-12 and 2012-13), as well as the percentage of the expenditure against the total expenditure.

(b) In 2013-14, what specific plans do Beijing Office, other Mainland Offices and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office have to promote cultural exchanges. What are the related estimated expenditure and staff arrangement?

Asked by: Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply:

Over the past two years, the Mainland Offices (namely the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu), as well as the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) since it commenced operation in December 2011, have taken continuous efforts to enhance arts and cultural exchanges between Hong Kong and the Mainland/Taiwan, with a view to promoting Hong Kong's arts and culture industries. The initiatives include organising, co-organising or supporting the launching of film festivals, dance festivals/performances, concerts, arts exhibitions, photo exhibitions, seminars etc. showcasing Hong Kong's unique arts and culture. Examples include the "Hong Kong – City of Arts Events" exhibition held in Beijing in February 2013; film festival "Memories of Image: Hong Kong Cinema and Hong Kong in Her Cinema" held in Beijing in September - October 2012; "The Hong Kong Week 2012–Culture & Creativity@Taipei" held in Taipei in November - December 2012; invitation to the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra to perform in the "Chengdu Contemporary Music Festival 2012" in Chengdu in October 2012, and the "2012 Hubei - Wuhan Hong Kong Week" featuring Hong Kong's creative industry (including the film and comics industries) held in Hubei in April-May 2012.

2. In 2013-14, the Mainland Offices and HKETCO will continue with their efforts in promoting cultural exchanges and the various attractions of Hong Kong's unique arts and culture in the Mainland and Taiwan. Examples of the planned activities include organising "Hong Kong Week" with elements showcasing Hong Kong's arts and culture attraction; inviting arts groups from Hong Kong to perform in the Mainland/Taiwan; and photo exhibitions.

3. The Mainland Offices and HKETCO's work on promoting cultural exchanges is an integral part of their roles and functions. The manpower and expenditure involved in such work cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB043

Question Serial No.

3050

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: One of the responsibilities of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau is “to promote public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law”. In this connection, please advise this Committee on the following:

- a. What is the expenditure incurred on the promotion of the Basic Law in 2012-13? What are the target groups of promotional programmes?
- b. How does the Administration evaluate the effectiveness of promotional programmes?
- c. What is the estimated expenditure for promotion of the Basic Law in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply:

In 2012-13, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has set aside \$16 million for organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law, including messages on the importance of the Basic Law to Hong Kong's implementation of the principles of “One Country, Two Systems”, “Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong” and high degree of autonomy. We have been adopting the following three promotional strategies:

- (a) using both traditional electronic media (e.g. TV and radio programmes) and new electronic media (e.g. Internet and smart-phone applications) targeted at the general public as the main promotional channels;
- (b) enhancing public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law in a lively and interactive manner through promotional activities at the district level, such as carnival and roving exhibitions; and
- (c) strengthening co-operation with community organisations in staging promotional activities, such as seminars and competitions, in order to reach a wider audience through their extensive community networks.

2. CMAB evaluates the effectiveness of the promotional activities through different means, such as viewership of TV programmes; listenership of radio programmes; participation rates at events and public feedback.

3. In 2013-14, CMAB will continue to set aside \$16 million for the promotion of the Basic Law.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB044

Question Serial No.

2669

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The Administration plans to expand the electorate base of functional constituencies. In view of this, it will consult electors of the professional functional constituencies, introduce new functional constituencies of professional bodies, conduct voter registration, update the personal particulars recorded in the Final Register and launch related publicity activities. Please provide the details of the plan and funding. Will targets be set and related industries be widely consulted? If not, what is the reason?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

The Government has not taken a position on the electoral method for the Legislative Council election in 2016. The Government will listen carefully to the views of the community during the public consultation on the electoral method for the Legislative Council election in 2016.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB045

Question Serial No.

2682

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The Chief Executive Mr LEUNG Chun-ying has failed to make good his electoral promise of setting up a Technology and Communications Bureau and a Cultural Bureau after taking up office. In respect of the setting up of the Technology and Communications Bureau and the Cultural Bureau, does the Government have any plan in 2013-14 to conduct:

- (a) public consultations; and
- (b) resource and operational assessments (whether the Government will achieve an increase or reduction in expenditure if the two Bureaux are set up, and an estimation of investment returns)?

If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

When he was still the Chief Executive (CE)-elect, the Chief Executive had already proposed to the Legislative Council (LegCo) to re-organise the Government Secretariat, including setting up a Technology and Communications Bureau and a Culture Bureau to better reflect his policy priorities and meet present day needs. The re-organisation plan was however not given the opportunity to be voted for support by the previous term LegCo.

2. As it is uncertain whether a re-submission of the re-organisation proposal would find support without a repetition of protracted discussions, the CE has decided not to re-submit his re-organisation proposal to the LegCo in the near future, so that the Government can focus on other areas of work. The CE has however asked all Secretaries of Departments and Directors of Bureaux to strengthen internal co-ordination and work closely together in formulating and implementing policies that could better address the community's needs.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB046

Question Serial No.

2683

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: With regard to the work of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD), please provide the following information:

- (a) Fill in the information on the work of Investigation Officer (IO) in the following table:

Year	Total number of IO	Number of IO (Permanent staff)	Number of IO (Contract staff)	Average number of cases handled by an IO per year
2009-10				
2010-11				
2011-12				
2012-13				

- (b) Both the number of cases estimated to be handled in 2013 and the number of cases in progress increased when compared with past years. However, it is estimated that the average time taken to settle a simple complaint case will be 5 more days. Would the Administration evaluate the efficiency of PCPD in handling complaint cases and allocate more resources? If yes, please provide details. If no, what is the reason?
- (c) It is the duty of PCPD to strengthen education on the protection of personal data privacy. However, the number of educational activities did not increase for the past 2 years. In the Estimate for 2013-14, the number of major promotional activities decreased by 2 and the number of participants of talks, seminars and workshops were also lower than the past 2 years. What is the reason? What is the number of PCPD staff responsible for the organisation of promotional and educational activities?

- (d) In 2013-14, the Administration will allocate \$63.4 million to PCPD, an increase of 1.3%. Would the Administration explain its criteria on allocation of funds? Has it considered the factors such as major incidents of personal data leakage in recent years, the continuous increase of workload, the need for additional human resources to investigate cases, strengthening of enforcement actions and organisation of public educational and promotional activities?
- (e) In 2013-14, would the Administration consider providing additional resources to PCPD for policy research through other means, e.g. increasing the total amount of annual recurrent allocation to create more permanent posts or raising the ceiling of the reserve fund?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

(a)

Details of officers responsible for complaints handling in the Operations Division of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) are set out below –

Year	Number of officers*	Total number of complaints handled	Average number of complaints handled by each officer
1 April 2009-31 March 2010	13	1 195	92
1 April 2010-31 March 2011	16	1 465	92
1 April 2011-31 March 2012	18	1 883	105
1 April 2012-31 March 2013 (Projected figure up to 31 March 2013)	17	1 578	93

* Average of actual month-end staff strength in the Operations Division. All officers in the PCPD are appointed on contract terms.

(b)

2. According to the PCPD, since 2010, the estimated average time taken to settle a simple complaint case is 44 days. The PCPD will continue to strive to excel and has been successful in doing so through special dedicated efforts in the past years.

(c)

3. The PCPD conducted 16 major promotional activities in 2012. The main reason for the difference between this number and the number for 2013 (14 major promotional activities) is because two one-off promotional activities, i.e. a one-day “Privacy by Design” Conference and a 6-episode television docu-drama series, were conducted in 2012.

4. The PCPD has three managerial staff responsible for conducting promotion and education activities.

(d) – (e)

5. The PCPD has received additional allocation of \$27.2 million over the past 6 years (representing a 75% increase over the provision for 2007-08), notably in 2012-13 when an

additional annual provision of \$8.4 million was allocated. In considering the allocation for the PCPD for 2013-14, the Administration has taken into account all relevant factors, including the operational needs of the PCPD and the Government's financial position. The ceiling of the reserve fund was last revised in 2010 and will be kept under review.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB047

Question Serial No.

1571

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: As set out in paragraph 28 of the 2013 Policy Address, the Chief Executive has proposed setting up an Economic and Trade Office in Wuhan and looking into the feasibility of setting up liaison offices in various other cities. Please advice on:

- (a) the Bureau's estimated expenditure in this respect for 2013-14;
- (b) the respective number and rank of officers responsible for such work;
- (c) the initiatives provided in the specific work plan;
- (d) the progress or timetable of work for 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply:

In 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) will take forward preparatory work related to the setting up of a Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Wuhan, with a view to establishing the new office in 2014. The preparatory work includes liaison with the Central People's Government and the provincial and municipal governments, identification of possible office premises and assessing the financial and manpower requirements for implementation of the proposal. In addition, CMAB will study the feasibility of setting up liaison units in other cities in the Mainland. In pursuing the study, we will take into account the network of the Mainland Offices of the HKSAR Government, the national strategy in achieving co-ordinated regional development as well as the progress and potential of development of different provinces, municipalities and economic zones in the Mainland.

2. One Directorate officer at D2 rank has been assigned to take charge of, among other things, the preparatory work for setting up of the Wuhan ETO and the study on the feasibility of setting up more liaison units.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB048

Question Serial No.

0377

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: What is the specific plan for promoting the Basic Law and organising publicity activities in 2013-14? What is the estimated expenditure for such promotional activities?

What is the specific plan for co-ordinating the HKSAR's input to implement the National 12th Five-Year Plan in 2013-14? What is the estimated expenditure?

In strengthening co-operation with Guangdong Province and taking forward co-operation initiatives agreed at the Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation Joint Conference in 2013-14, what is the specific plan for promoting the development of Qianhai? What is the estimated expenditure?

What is the specific plan for co-ordinating and promoting exchanges with Taiwan in 2013-14? What is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

Basic Law

In 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has set aside \$16 million for organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law. We will continue to adopt the following three promotional strategies:

- (a) using both traditional and new electronic media as the main promotional channels;
- (b) enhancing public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law through promotional activities at the district level; and
- (c) strengthening co-operation with community organisations in staging promotional activities.

National Five-Year Plans

2. The National 12th Five-Year Plan (the Plan) has included a dedicated chapter on the Hong Kong and Macao Special Administrative Regions, highlighting the important functions and positioning of Hong Kong in the national development strategy. In August 2011, the Central

Government further announced more than 30 concrete policies and measures under the Plan (the Supporting Policies and Measures) to support Hong Kong in further developing and deepening co-operation with the Mainland. In 2013-14, CMAB will continue to assist in the following areas relating to the National Five-Year Plans:

- (a) assisting the relevant bureaux and departments in implementing the Supporting Policies and Measures, and monitoring progress;
- (b) liaising with the relevant Mainland authorities;
- (c) taking forward various regional co-operation initiatives, particularly the implementation of the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation;
- (d) offering advice to the Shenzhen Municipal Government (SZMG) and Guangzhou Municipal Government on promoting the development of Qianhai and Nansha; and
- (e) co-ordinating inter-bureau efforts on early preparatory work to complement the National 13th Five-Year Plan.

Qianhai Development

3. According to the consensus reached between the governments of HKSAR and Shenzhen, the SZMG takes a leading role and is responsible for the development and management of Qianhai, while the HKSAR Government plays an advisory role by providing comments on development planning as well as the study and formulation of related policies. Relevant bureaux of the HKSAR Government have been consulting the business sectors under their respective purview from time to time through various channels, including meetings, exchange sessions and inviting written submissions. CMAB facilitates their communication with the Shenzhen authorities so that the policy proposals and suggestions received are consolidated and communicated to the relevant Mainland authorities in a timely manner. CMAB has also been actively complementing the publicity and promotional work of the Shenzhen authorities to introduce to Hong Kong enterprises, professional sectors and service suppliers the content and business opportunities brought about by the Overall Development Plan on Hong Kong/Shenzhen Co-operation on Modern Service Industries in Qianhai and the related supporting policies. In addition, CMAB also liaises with relevant bureaux to organise meetings for the Shenzhen authorities to brief Hong Kong trade associations and professional bodies on the latest development in Qianhai and obtain feedback from them directly. All the above work will continue in 2013-14.

4. Generally speaking, two divisions out of the three divisions in CMAB are responsible for Mainland affairs (Programme (2) “Constitutional and Mainland Affairs”). In addition, the Beijing Office and the three Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu respectively under Programme (3) “Mainland and Taiwan Offices” play leading and integral role in fostering closer ties with the Mainland at various levels. Under the two said Programmes, an estimated financial provision of \$117.17 million (excluding staff cost) is made. As the work relating to the National Five-Year Plan and Qianhai Development is an integral part of the duties and functions of the CMAB officers concerned, the estimated expenditure involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

Exchanges with Taiwan

5. In 2013-14, we will continue to strengthen our exchanges and co-operation with Taiwan by:

- (a) proactively liaising with the Taiwan side through the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Co-operation and Promotion Council (ECCPC) and the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council (THEC) platform, to take forward the various priority areas of co-operation, including health and food safety, insurance supervision, environmental protection, heritage conservation, and further strengthening economic co-operation between the two places;
- (b) assisting the ECCPC in organising activities to further enhance exchanges with Taiwan, including a joint meeting with the THEC, and economic and cultural forums to foster Hong Kong-Taiwan co-operation;
- (c) sponsoring non-governmental bodies in organising activities which promote Hong Kong-Taiwan exchanges;
- (d) facilitating Taiwan visitors from different sectors to understand the latest developments of Hong Kong and the implementation of “One Country, Two Systems”;
- (e) liaising with Taiwan organisations in Hong Kong; and
- (f) advising and assisting other bureaux and departments on economic, trade, cultural and other exchanges with Taiwan.

6. This Bureau has earmarked about \$12 million under this Programme in 2013-14 for the activities of the ECCPC and exchanges with Taiwan.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB049

Question Serial No.

0378

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau has earmarked an estimated provision of \$203.3 million for the Mainland and Taiwan Offices for 2013-14, which is \$26.8 million higher than the revised estimate of \$176.5 million for 2012-13. However, the Chief Executive Mr C Y Leung has earlier proposed in this year's Policy Address a series of initiatives to strengthen economic and trade co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland, including setting up an Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Wuhan, setting up a new Immigration Division in the Chengdu ETO, and strengthening "homeland relationship" and enhancing communication and publicity targeted at all sectors in the Mainland.

In this regard, is the increase in estimated provision able to meet the operational need for taking forward the above three initiatives? What are the expenditure requirements for taking forward the initiatives? What are the specific work plan and main performance targets for the coming year? Will the Administration consider setting up an ETO in Fujian?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

In 2013-14, we have set aside about \$24.06 million as additional provision for Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" to further enhance the functions of the Beijing Office and the three Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu respectively (Mainland Offices). With this additional provision, the Mainland Offices will take forward work to strengthen "homeland relationship" and better assist Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the Mainland, including setting up a new Immigration Division in Chengdu ETO; strengthening liaison with Hong Kong people and groups in the Mainland to provide them with information and assistance as far as possible; conducting researches on national policies and disseminating related findings to facilitate Hong Kong residents and enterprises to seize the development opportunities; and enhancing communication and publicity (such as revamping websites, exhibitions, and cultural performances, etc.) targeted at different sectors in the Mainland, with a view to promoting the strengths of Hong Kong and fostering mutual understanding and respect between Hong Kong and the Mainland.

2. As regards setting up of the Wuhan ETO, in 2013-14, we will take forward the preparatory work with a view to establishing the new office in 2014. The preparatory work includes liaison with the Central People's Government and the provincial and municipal governments, identification of possible office premises and assessing the financial and manpower requirements for implementation of the proposal. One Directorate officer at D2 rank has been assigned to take charge of, among other things, the preparatory work for setting up of the Wuhan ETO.

3. The HKSAR Government attaches great importance to our relations with the Fujian Province, especially on economic and trade co-operation. To leverage the developments of the Fujian Province and the Economic Zone on the West Coast of the Taiwan Strait, the Fujian Liaison Unit has already been established in Fuzhou, Fujian under the Guangdong ETO in 2012.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB050

Question Serial No.

1898

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will pursue the proposal of setting up a Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Wuhan. Will the Administration advise on the details of the related work and the date on which the office is expected to come into operation, as well as provide a breakdown on the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

In 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will take forward preparatory work related to the setting up of a Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Wuhan, with a view to establishing the new office in 2014. The preparatory work includes liaison with the Central People's Government and the provincial and municipal governments, identification of possible office premises and assessing the financial and manpower requirements for implementation of the proposal. One Directorate officer at D2 rank has been assigned to take charge of, among other things, the preparatory work for setting up of the Wuhan ETO.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB051

Question Serial No.

1899

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will make preparation for public consultations on the electoral method for the Legislative Council election in 2016 and the arrangements for implementing universal suffrage for the Chief Executive election in 2017. Will the Administration advise on the detailed preparatory work and when it will commence and complete, as well as provide a breakdown on the estimated expenditure for such work?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

As mentioned by the Chief Executive in his 2013 Policy Address, the Government will launch a comprehensive consultation on the electoral methods for the Chief Executive election in 2017 and the Legislative Council election in 2016 and initiate the constitutional procedures at an appropriate juncture. In this regard, we will make preparation in 2013-14 for the public consultation on the two electoral methods for 2016 and 2017. For budgetary purposes, we have set aside about \$7.3 million (excluding staff cost) and plan to create six time-limited posts for the public consultation exercise when it is launched.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB052

Question Serial No.

3040

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Given that the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau plans to continue to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland in 2013-14, will the Administration advise the relevant details and the breakdown of the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

Generally speaking, two divisions out of the three divisions in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) are responsible for Mainland affairs (Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs"). In addition, the Beijing Office and the three Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu respectively (Mainland Offices) under Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" play a leading and integral role in fostering closer ties with the Mainland at various levels. Under the two said Programmes, an estimated financial provision of \$117.17 million (excluding staff cost) is for the CMAB and its Mainland Offices to take forward the work to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland. As the work involved is an integral part of the duties and functions of the CMAB offices concerned, the manpower provision cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

2. With the above provision, CMAB and its Mainland Offices will deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland, including organising and providing logistic support for co-operation fora (such as conferences and meetings) in Hong Kong; participating in bilateral and multilateral co-operation fora in the Mainland; enhancing liaison and communications with the Central People's Government, the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in the Mainland; and organising events (such as seminars, exhibitions and workshops) to promote Hong Kong's strengths and trade and commercial interests.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB053

Question Serial No.

3202

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In 2013-14, the Government's Mainland and Taiwan Offices will promote the strengths of Hong Kong in the Mainland and Taiwan. In this connection, will the Administration provide details of the specific plan and advise on the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

The Mainland and Taiwan Offices (namely the Beijing Office, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu, as well as the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan) serve as important bridges between Hong Kong and the Mainland/Taiwan. Their major responsibilities include enhancing liaison and communication with the counterparts in the areas under their coverage; representing and promoting Hong Kong's trade and commercial interests; encouraging and attracting investments to Hong Kong and promoting Hong Kong's many advantages as an investment and business hub in Asia; and promoting the strengths of Hong Kong through appropriate channels. The above work complements each other in showcasing the positive image and attractions of Hong Kong in the Mainland and Taiwan.

2. In 2013-14, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices will continue to adopt a multi-pronged approach in promoting Hong Kong through appropriate channels, including attending meetings and calling on the Mainland/Taiwan counterparts; organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops; organising/participating in public relations, cultural exchange functions and events; giving public speeches, media interviews and briefings; and issuing circulars, newsletters and press releases.

3. The Mainland and Taiwan Offices' work on promoting Hong Kong is an integral part of their roles and functions. The estimated expenditure involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB054

Question Serial No.

3203

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Provision for this programme in 2013–14 is higher than the revised estimate for 2012–13. One of the reasons for the increased provision is to conduct a survey to collect information related to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland. In this connection, will the Administration please provide information on the purpose, scope, format, time, location and the expenditure of the survey?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

The 2013 Policy Address announced that the Government would step up efforts in gathering data related to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland. In 2013-14, we have set aside \$3 million under Programme (2) “Constitutional and Mainland Affairs” for this purpose. We will work with the Census and Statistics Department to conduct a thematic household survey in Hong Kong to collect aggregate data of Hong Kong residents who are frequent travelers between Hong Kong and the Mainland, such as their profile, geographic distribution, and purposes of stay in the Mainland. With the data available from the survey, the Beijing Office, and the three Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu respectively (Mainland Offices) will reach out to more Hong Kong residents and groups in the Mainland to understand their service needs.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB055

Question Serial No.

2317

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will make preparation for public consultations on the electoral method for the Legislative Council election in 2016 and the arrangements for implementing universal suffrage for the Chief Executive election in 2017. What are the specific efforts in respect of the preparatory work, the funding and manpower requirements and timetable for taking forward various efforts?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chuen, Tony

Reply:

As mentioned by the Chief Executive in his 2013 Policy Address, the Government will launch a comprehensive consultation on the electoral methods for the Chief Executive election in 2017 and the Legislative Council election in 2016 and initiate the constitutional procedures at an appropriate juncture. In this regard, we will make preparation in 2013-14 for the public consultation on the two electoral methods for 2016 and 2017. For budgetary purposes, we have set aside about \$7.3 million (excluding staff cost) and plan to create six time-limited posts for the public consultation exercise when it is launched.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB056

Question Serial No.

1419

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention this year (2013-14) under this Programme that the Bureau will pursue the proposal of setting up a Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Wuhan. What are the preparatory work for setting up the office and the present progress of such work? Will the Government please provide details, including the preparatory work, the manpower and funding required.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

In 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will take forward preparatory work related to the setting up of a Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Wuhan, with a view to establishing the new office in 2014. The preparatory work includes liaison with the Central People's Government (CPG) and the provincial and municipal governments, identification of possible office premises and assessing the financial and manpower requirements for implementation of the proposal. One Directorate officer at D2 rank has been assigned to take charge of, among other things, the preparatory work for setting up of the Wuhan ETO. We have started the preparatory work and have established liaison with the CPG and the relevant provincial and municipal governments.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB057

Question Serial No.

1420

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in this year (2013-14) under this Programme that the Bureau will review the number of seats and electoral arrangements for the District Council (DC) election in 2015. On the number of seats for the DCs, will the Bureau redelineate the constituencies to tie in with population growth in various districts and alter the number of elected seats in the light of district population? If it will, what is the expenditure involved? If not, how will the Government deal with population change in districts for DC election purpose?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

The established practice is that before a District Council (DC) ordinary election, the electoral arrangements will be reviewed, including the number of elected seats and the boundaries of each District Council constituency, taking into consideration, among other things, population changes. For the 2015 DC election, a similar review will be conducted. The work involved will be absorbed within the existing resources.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB058

Question Serial No.

1427

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Financial provision under this Programme is \$26.8 million (15.2%) higher than that of last year. The increased provision will mainly be used to enhance the functions of the Mainland Offices. In addition, there will be a net increase of 7 posts. Will the Government advise on the following:

- a. Regarding the provision for enhancing the functions of the Mainland Offices, will the Government evenly allocate the provision to the four Mainland Offices or will the provision mainly be allocated to one or two offices in the circumstances? With the financial provision, how will the Government enhance the functions of the Mainland Offices? Please provide details.
- b. Regarding the net increase of 7 posts, does the Government expect that there will be changes in staff establishment this year? Which Mainland or Taiwan Office(s) will be affected?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

In 2013-14, we have set aside about \$24.06 million as additional provision for Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" to further enhance the functions of the Beijing Office and the three Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu respectively (Mainland Offices). The additional provision to be allocated to individual Mainland Offices in 2013-14 is as follows: \$7.60 million for the Beijing Office; \$3.94 million for Guangdong ETO; \$3.76 million for Shanghai ETO; and \$8.76 million for Chengdu ETO.

2. Altogether seven new posts will be created in 2013-14 under the Beijing Office, Shanghai ETO and Chengdu ETO. Of these new posts, five will be created in Chengdu ETO (including the four posts for setting up a new Immigration Division), and one post each for the Beijing Office and Shanghai ETO respectively. In addition, one time-limited post under Guangdong ETO will be converted into a permanent post.

3. With the above provision, the Mainland Offices will take forward work to strengthen "homeland relationship" and better assist Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the Mainland, including setting up a new Immigration Division in Chengdu ETO; strengthening liaison with Hong Kong people and groups in the Mainland to provide them with information and assistance as far as possible; conducting researches on national policies and disseminating related findings to facilitate Hong Kong residents and enterprises to seize the development opportunities; and enhancing

communication and publicity (such as revamping websites, exhibitions, and cultural performances, etc.) targeted at different sectors in the Mainland, with a view to promoting the strengths of Hong Kong and fostering mutual understanding and respect between Hong Kong and the Mainland.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB059

Question Serial No.

1429

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Secretary for Security

Question: The Brief Description under this Programme sets out the main responsibilities of the Mainland Offices, which include providing practical assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland. Will the Government advise on the number of cases in which assistance from the Mainland Offices is sought by Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland in the past 3 years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13)? What is the amount of expenses incurred by the Mainland Offices in providing assistance to these residents?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

In 2010, 2011 and 2012, the Immigration Divisions of the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Guangdong received respectively 357, 501 and 362 requests for assistance from Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland. As the work involved in providing assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland is an integral part of the duties and functions of the officers of the Mainland Offices concerned, the manpower provision cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB060

Question Serial No.

3017

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: It is stated in the Brief Description under this Programme that the Bureau will promote public education and encourage community participation to enhance public awareness and respect for the rights of the individual. Will the Government advise on the amount of funding set aside for this purpose? Will the Government give a detailed account of how to promote public education and encourage community participation? Does the Government have any specific plan at the present stage? If yes, please provide information on the contents of the plan.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has been promoting awareness of, respect for and protection of human rights through the allocations to the programmes "Rights of the Individual" and "Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD)". Under these two programmes, the estimated expenditure for 2013-14 is \$177.6 million.

2. In 2013-14, the CMAB will continue its work on the rights of the individual in respect of protection for personal data privacy and human rights, and promotion of equal opportunities on the ground of gender, family status, race and sexual orientation. The EOC and the PCPD will continue to carry out their promotion and publicity, public education programmes and enforcement work as appropriate for areas within their statutory framework.

3. In addition to the above, the CMAB will launch a series of activities for promoting human rights in 2013-14, as set out at the Annex.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

Activities on promoting rights of the individual in 2013-14 under the CMAB

Activities	Responsible organisation	Target
Publication of United Nations Human Rights reports	CMAB	Members of the public
Forums, e.g. Human Rights Forum and Children's Rights Forum	CMAB	Interested non-government organisations mainly, also open to interested members of the public
Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme	Sponsored organisations	Members of the public
Various publicity measures such as Announcement in the public interest (API) and advertisement to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities	CMAB	Members of the public
Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme	Sponsored organisations	Members of the public, in particular children
School Outreach Programme on children's rights project	CMAB and Radio Television Hong Kong	Members of the public, in particular children
API on children's right to participation on TV and radio	CMAB	Members of the public, in particular children
Mobile Application for promotion of children's rights	CMAB	Members of the public, in particular children
Various publicity measures such as API and advertisement to promote the Code on Access to Information	CMAB	Members of the public

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB061

Question Serial No.

3018

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: It is stated in the brief description of the programme that the number of project grants approved under the Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme (the Scheme) was 25 in 2012. Would the Government advise on the following:

- a. How many projects applied for a grant under the Scheme last year (2012-13)? What criteria did the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau adopt to assess whether a grant should be made?
- b. Please provide information by using the table below:

Projects funded by the Scheme	Organiser	Amount of grant (\$)
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		
13.		
14.		
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18.		
19.		
20.		
21.		
22.		
23.		
24.		
25.		

- c. The Government anticipates that 26 projects will be funded in this financial year. Will grants be given to projects similar in nature to the 25 projects set out above? What will be the estimated expenditure involved for sponsoring these 26 projects?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

(a) The Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme (CREFS) aims to provide funding for educational projects in promotion of children's rights. It encourages and enables community organisations to take up educational projects in an effort to raise public awareness and understanding of children's rights. The CREFS received 39 applications and approved sponsorship for 25 of them in 2011-12. In 2012-13, the CREFS received 79 applications and approved sponsorship for 35 of them upon considering factors like: objectives and feasibility of the proposed activities; content of the proposal; financial consideration; experience and network of the organisation; publicity plan; project evaluation and assessment methodology, etc.

(b) In 2012-13, the names of the 35 approved projects, their organisers and amount of grant are at the Annex.

(c) The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau has strengthened the CREFS in 2012-13 by increasing the total amount of funding from \$0.55 million to \$1 million and introducing a new funding category to encourage applicants to organise large-scale projects under the theme of "community participation" to promote children's "right to participation" as enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. In 2013-14, we plan to allocate similar resources to the CREFS. We will consider the projects proposals on individual application merits.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

Projects funded by the Scheme		Organiser	Amount of grant (\$)
1.	Children's Rights Ambassador Training Program	Kowloon Federation of Associations Youth Volunteer Group	38,700
2.	求「童」存「義」*	CCC Kung Lee College	26,150
3.	Understanding the Legislative Council and Construct a Better Society –An Education Project of Yan Chai Hospital Affiliated Kindergartens/Child Care Centres on the Children's Rights to Participation	Yan Chai Hospital Board of Directors	38,800
4.	We are the power of Children's Rights – Cultural Sights Visiting	Pentecostal Church of Hong Kong Tai Wo Nursery School	26,579
5.	Create Our Future Sky – Children's Rights Education Scheme	Pentecostal Church of Hong Kong Tseung Kwan O Nursery School	35,330
6.	Vision of a Good Community from our Children	Caritas Jockey Club Integrated Service For Young People – Lei Muk Shue	27,020
7.	Hear, Act & Speak (HAS) for Children **	Chinese YMCA College	33,300
8.	Children's Creativity Space	Po Leung Kuk Student Guidance Services	15,750
9.	3R (Residents: Rights And Responsibilities) Project	HHCKLA Buddhist Wisdom Primary School	18,450
10.	「童」權「同」權—兒童權利社區大使教育計劃*	The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong Ma On Shan East Children & Youth Integrated Services Centre	39,578
11.	社區小偵探—兒童權利教育工作坊*	The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong Jockey Club Sau Mau Ping Children & Youth Integrated Services Centre	2,650
12.	「童看天空」兒童權利實踐計劃*	The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong Jockey Club Cheung Hau Children & Youth Integrated Services Centre	55,250
13.	Show We Show Right (II)	The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong Jockey Club Cheung Sha Wan Children & Youth Integrated Services Centre	36,300
14.	“We have a dream” children's rights ambassadors project	Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong Shek Kip Mei Centre	20,460
15.	Children's Rights 2013	Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong Hin Keng Centre	94,200
16.	The Voice Workshop	Hong Kong Children & Youth Services	48,710
17.	Community Representative Council with the Voice of Children - Children's Rights Practice Scheme	Stewards Limited	22,600

Projects funded by the Scheme		Organiser	Amount of grant (\$)
18.	「我都有權知」*	Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association Women Affairs Department	19,400
19.	「同一天空下」兒童權利創意解難比賽*	The Hong Kong Institute of Education Alumni Association	25,050
20.	現實與權利之間*	Hong Kong Sheung Kung Hui Kowloon City Children and Youth Integrated Service Centre – Jockey Club Youth Express	18,550
21.	《童意共賞》兒童權利教育推廣計劃*	Chai Wan Kok Catholic Primary School	19,830
22.	Child @ Wan Chai – Children's Rights Project	Baptist Oi Kwan Socail Service	41,900
23.	“Children's World” Children's Rights Education Project	ELCHK, Tai Wo Integrated Youth Service Centre	38,146
24.	Made Children's Authority Powered	Shan King Integrated Children and Youth Services Centre of Seventh-day Adventists	6,239.4
25.	“Children Heart” Children's Rights Education	Association of Baptists for World Evangelism (HK) Ltd. Shing Yan Christian Social Service Centre	32,945
26.	Children's Rights Education Project	St. Charles School	14,550
27.	Funny Community Education Project on Children's Rights	Jockey Club Wah Ming Lutheran Integrated Service Centre	20,006
28.	「影像童心」兒童權利教育計劃*	CMA Secondary School	27,800
29.	Colorful expression of innocent minds	Hong Kong Integrated Nepalese Society	11,650
30.	Global Children	St. Stephen's Girls' College	13,530
31.	U18: Children's Innovations: Child-Friendly Community Project	Caritas Jockey Club Integrated Service For Young People – Wong Tai Sin	168,450
32.	Junior Chief Executive	The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong	172,880
33.	「童看香港」兒童權利教育活動計劃*	ELCHK Central Youth Service – Uncle Long Legs' Letter Box Service	111,500
34.	2013 Children Leadership Training Program: Hong Kong Children's Rights Summit	Roundtable Community Limited	56,610
35.	Children's Council 2013	The Hong Kong Committee for UNICEF	283,000
Total:			1,661,863.4***

* English names of the projects are not available.

** Application withdrawn by the relevant organisation after approval was given.

*** Part of the approved grant will be disbursed in 2013-14.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB062

Question Serial No.

3019

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: With regard to the Matters Requiring Special Attention under this Programme this year, it is stated that the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) will oversee the implementation of the Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality (the Guidelines). Would the Government advise on the following:

- a. So far, have the “concerned Bureaux, Departments and other public authorities” listed in the Guidelines been strictly adhering to the guidance therein to ensure that persons of different races have equal access to public services?
- b. In what manner will CMAB oversee the implementation of the Guidelines? Will extra manpower be needed to enhance the work of supervision? What is the expenditure involved?
- c. Since the Race Discrimination Ordinance came into operation in 2009, how many cases have led to prosecution due to race discrimination? How many of them were successfully conciliated by the Equal Opportunities Commission?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) issued in April 2010 the Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality (the Guidelines) to provide general guidance to relevant Government bureaux and departments and public authorities to promote racial equality and ensure equal access by ethnic minorities to public services in key areas concerned, and to take this into account in their formulation, implementation and review of relevant policies and measures.

2. In cooperation with the Civil Service Training and Development Institute, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) and non-government organisations, the CMAB has also organised cultural sensitivity training sessions for relevant staff of the Government and public authorities to enhance their awareness and understanding of the Guidelines and relevant issues.

3. The Guidelines have been implemented smoothly so far. In 2013, the Guidelines will be further extended and cover a total of 21 Government bureaux and departments and public authorities. Together, they provide key public services which are particularly relevant to meeting

the special needs of ethnic minorities and facilitate the latter's integration into the community. The Government will keep the implementation of the Guidelines, including its scope of application, under review and continue to listen to feedback from stakeholders.

4. Regarding the expenditure involved, the work concerning the CMAB (such as promotion of the Guidelines and keeping the implementation under review) is undertaken as part of the duties of the staff involved and the Guidelines are implemented by relevant authorities with their own resources. These are integral part of the work of the authorities concerned and a separate breakdown of the related expenses is not available.

5. Since the commencement of operation of the Race Discrimination Ordinance (RDO) in July 2009 to the end of February 2013, the EOC has received 192 complaints on race discrimination. After the EOC's investigation, 48 cases have undergone conciliation and 31 of those cases have reached settlement. No prosecution under the RDO has been initiated so far.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB063

Question Serial No.

3176

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: With regard to the Matters Requiring Special Attention under the Programme this year, it is stated that the Bureau will study the views received during the public consultation on the Law Reform Commission's recommendations on stalking and formulate the way forward. In November last year, the Bureau pointed out at the Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs that in deciding on the way forward for legislation, while it is necessary to take into account affording protection to victims of stalking, it is also necessary to safeguard the freedom of the press and the freedom of protest and assembly, as well as ensure that activities such as debt collection would not be adversely affected.

In this connection, how will the Bureau take into account the above points and strike a balance between affording protection to the victims and safeguarding civic freedoms when formulating the way forward? Will the Government launch a study on legislation to ensure that the views of the public are reflected? If relevant actions are taken, what will be the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

We have commissioned the Centre for Comparative and Public Law of the University of Hong Kong in January 2013 to advise on the experience of overseas jurisdictions in implementing anti-stalking legislation at an estimated expenditure of \$850,000. We will take into account the findings of the study in mapping out the way forward.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB064

Question Serial No.

1228

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The estimated financial provision for 2013-14 will be increased by \$14.1 million for conducting the reviews and consultations relating to constitutional development and conducting a survey to collect information related to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland. What is the provision earmarked for each of the above tasks? As for the nine posts to be created, what are their duties and responsibilities? Are all these posts related to conducting reviews on constitutional development?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Ting-kwong

Reply:

On constitutional development, we will make preparation in 2013-14 for the public consultation on the two electoral methods for 2016 and 2017. For budgetary purposes, we have set aside about \$7.3 million (excluding staff cost). Another provision of \$3 million (excluding staff cost) is earmarked for conducting a survey to collect information related to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland.

2. 10 new posts will be created, to be offset by the deletion of one post under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" in 2013-14. Details of the new posts are as follows –

- (a) six time-limited posts, including one Administrative Officer, one Senior Executive Officer, one Executive Officer II and three Assistant Clerical Officer, to be created when public consultation on the two electoral methods for 2016 and 2017 is launched;
- (b) one Executive Officer I post for supporting work on promotion of the Basic Law;
- (c) one Supplies Supervisor I post for strengthening administrative support for the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau;
- (d) one Assistant Clerical Officer post for strengthening housekeeping work of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices; and
- (e) one time-limited Assistant Clerical Officer post for strengthening clerical support for "homeland relationship".

The above creation of 10 new posts will be offset by the deletion of one time-limited Executive Officer II post in 2013-14 which was created for liaison with the Mainland and promotion of the Basic Law. Therefore, there will be a net creation of nine posts in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB065

Question Serial No.

1243

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The HKSAR Government will set up an Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Wuhan, what are the manpower and resources requirements for setting up the office and when the office is expected to be set up? What is the office's scope of work and in what ways will the work of this office and those of the other ETOs be co-ordinated?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Ting-kwong

Reply:

In 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will take forward preparatory work related to the setting up of a Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Wuhan, with a view to establishing the new office in 2014. The preparatory work includes liaison with the Central People's Government and the provincial and municipal governments, identification of possible office premises and assessing the financial and manpower requirements for implementation of the proposal. One Directorate officer at D2 rank has been assigned to take charge of, among other things, the preparatory work for setting up of the Wuhan ETO.

2. Similar to the existing ETOs in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu, the major responsibilities of the Wuhan ETO are to enhance the liaison and communication with the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in areas under its coverage; represent and promote Hong Kong trade and commercial interests in these areas; encourage and attract investments to Hong Kong, and promote Hong Kong's many advantage as an investment and business hub in Asia; promote the strengths of Hong Kong; and provide information and other appropriate support to Hong Kong residents in these areas. In pursuing the preparatory work in this regard, we will consider the coverage of the new office and the consequent changes to the coverage of the Beijing Office and the existing three ETOs, so that the five offices will share out, and not duplicate, the work and responsibilities.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB066

Question Serial No.

1244

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: What are the plans of the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan for promoting Hong Kong? What were the co-operation initiatives deliberated by Hong Kong and Taiwan in the past years? What are the progress and effectiveness of such co-operation? Is the current staff establishment able to cope with the development of the office?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Ting-kwong

Reply:

Since its establishment in December 2011, the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) in Taiwan strives to:

- (a) establish and maintain contacts with various sectors, cities and municipalities, and relevant authorities in Taiwan to foster closer economic, cultural and other co-operation and exchanges between Hong Kong and Taiwan;
- (b) facilitate Hong Kong businesses in tapping business opportunities in Taiwan while encouraging Taiwanese businesses to invest in Hong Kong;
- (c) organise and support promotional and cultural events to publicise Hong Kong in Taiwan; and
- (d) assist the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Cooperation and Promotion Council (ECCPC) in organising meetings and activities to further enhance exchanges with Taiwan.

The HKETCO has been working with the relevant authorities and trade and cultural organisations in Taiwan to accomplish these tasks.

2. In its 16 months of operation, HKETCO has organised and supported a number of major initiatives in Taiwan. Prominent examples include –

- (a) on the cultural front, co-organising the “Hong Kong Week 2012 – Culture & Creativity@Taipei” with the Cultural Cooperation Committee under the ECCPC which comprised a series of cultural performances, a comics exhibition, a cultural and arts seminar, an international dance video showcase and a Hong Kong contemporary film

showcase; and distributing two issues of “Art & Culture@Hong Kong” to introduce to the Taiwan community various cultural destinations in Hong Kong;

- (b) on the business and investment promotion side, conducting a number of company visits, and organising business seminars such as the “Creativity – Business Opportunities for Hong Kong and Taiwan” seminar in Taipei in July 2012; and
- (c) providing support for the ECCPC delegation to attend the Third Joint Meeting between the ECCPC and its Taiwan counterpart, Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council, and arranging bilateral meetings with the Taiwan authorities and site visits in Taipei in September 2012.

There were good turnouts and positive feedback from the Taiwan audience for the above events. HKETCO will continue the above work in 2013-14.

3. The existing establishment of HKETCO is able to cope with delivering the above work in Taiwan. We will review the resources for HKETCO regularly to ensure the smooth performance of its functions.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB067

Question Serial No.

2408

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The appointment of Under Secretary by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau in December last year had aroused public resentment. Do the Under Secretary's main responsibilities this year (i.e. 2013-14) include the formulation of policies relating to constitutional development or elections? In designating responsible officers to take up the above responsibilities, has the Bureau taken into consideration the fact that the public image of the Under Secretary will have impact on the implementation of the policies?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

The Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs is responsible principally for assisting the Secretary in discharging his official duties, including the handling of Legislative Council business, and deputising for the Secretary during the latter's temporary absence.

2. The appointment of the Under Secretary has strengthened the support to the Secretary in undertaking political work, communicating with the Legislative Council and other stakeholders, and explaining Government policies to the media and the public at large, which is conducive to the implementation of policies.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB068

Question Serial No.

2409

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In respect of the by-election in the Tin Sum Constituency of Sha Tin District Council held on 10 March this year, please provide details of the involvement of the Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs in co-ordinating and monitoring the work of Registration and Electoral Office.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

The Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs was not involved in any work relating to the by-election in the Tin Sum Constituency of Sha Tin District Council held on 10 March this year.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB069

Question Serial No.

2411

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: What is the work plan of the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) in Taiwan this year (i.e. 2013-14) for strengthening economic and cultural exchanges between Hong Kong and Taiwan? What are the indicators developed by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau to measure the performance of HKETCO?

Please list out the respective performance indicators for the Mainland Offices in the recent 3 years (i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13) and those for HKETCO.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

In 2013-14, HKETCO will continue to –

- (a) establish and maintain contacts with various sectors, cities and municipalities, and relevant authorities in Taiwan to foster closer economic and cultural co-operation and exchanges between Hong Kong and Taiwan;
- (b) facilitate Hong Kong businesses in tapping business opportunities in Taiwan while encouraging Taiwanese businesses to invest in Hong Kong;
- (c) organise and support promotional and cultural events to publicise Hong Kong in Taiwan; and
- (d) assist the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Cooperation and Promotion Council in organising meetings and activities to further enhance exchanges with Taiwan.

2. The key performance indicators set out in paragraph 10 of the Controlling Officer's Report, Head 144 – Government Secretariat: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau measure the performance of the Mainland Offices and HKETCO in enhancing trade opportunities,

promoting the strengths of Hong Kong and conducting investment promotion work. The respective performance indicators for the Mainland Offices and HKETCO for 2010, 2011 and 2012 are given in the attached table.

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

Indicators	2010		2011		2012	
	Mainland Offices	HKETCO*	Mainland Offices	HKETCO*	Mainland Offices	HKETCO*
<i>Enhancing Trade Opportunities</i>						
Meetings on trade-related matters attended	394	NA	388	NA	409	30
Visits to Mainland/ Taiwan authorities and trade organisations	475		463		599	42
Seminars, exhibitions and workshops						
Organised	61		64		65	2
Participated	181		191		198	15
Public speeches given	40		50		47	4
Media interviews/ briefings given	107		117		108	4
Circulars/newsletters/ press releases issued	516		579		617	3
<i>Promotion of Strengths of Hong Kong</i>						
Call on senior officials/personnel/ organisations	1 033	NA	1 269	NA	1 605	41
Public relations/cultural functions/events						
Organised	254		260		277	15
Participated	412		371		403	13
Newsletters/pamphlets/ press releases issued	420		320		345	20
No. of visitors assisted	4 257		4 269		5 748	35
Public speeches given	95		98		106	8
Media interviews/ briefings given	484		386		367	31
Enquiries handled (excluding those related to	17 933		16 626		16 773	2 333

immigration matters)						
<i>Investment Promotion</i>						
New projects generated	NA	NA	115	NA	115	4
Projects pursued	218		217		223	17
Projects completed	52		56		62	5

* The HKETCO commenced operation on 19 December 2011.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB070

Question Serial No.

2412

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Please list out the entertainment expenditure of the Mainland Offices in the recent 3 years (i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13).

What is the estimated entertainment expenditure of the Mainland Offices for this year (i.e. 2013-14)?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

The entertainment expenditure of the Mainland Offices from 2010-11 to 2012-13, and the estimate for 2013-14 is tabled below:

2010-11 (Actual)	2011-12 (Actual)	2012-13 (Projected Expenditure)	2013-14 (Estimate)
\$0.6 million	\$0.7 million	\$0.9 million	\$1.1 million

Name in block letters: CHANG KING YIU

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB071

Question Serial No.

2792

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Would the Government please inform this Committee of the progress of the investigation into the cases of "vote-rigging" at the 2011 District Council election. What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Chi-chuen

Reply:

Duties relating to voter registration and checking are carried out by a team of civil servants and non-civil service contract staff in the Registration and Electoral Office (REO). The tasks of this team include, among other things, checking the particulars of voter registration and referring to the law enforcement agencies cases of suspected false registered addresses. The total staff cost and related operational expenses for the work of the team is about \$52 million in 2011-12 and about \$71 million in 2012-13.

2. After the 2011 District Council election, the REO handled about 9 940 complaints of suspected false residential addresses of electors. After checking, the REO referred 2 163 electors to the law enforcement agencies for investigations, which may receive complaints direct. The Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) and the Police have conducted investigations involving 8 287 and 3 020 electors respectively, and a total of 52 persons have been prosecuted and convicted after the 2011 District Council election.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB072

Question Serial No.

1861

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: What will be the theme the Administration set for the publicity of voter registration in the coming year? How much will be spent and what activities will be held to ensure that electors understand clearly the importance of updating their personal particulars? Will the Administration step up its verification efforts to ensure the accuracy of registration particulars recorded on the electoral register?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher

Reply:

The main objectives of the 2013 Voter Registration (VR) campaign are –

- (a) to encourage eligible persons to register as electors; and
- (b) to remind registered electors of their civic responsibility to update their residential addresses in a timely manner after moving away from their previously registered residential addresses.

2. The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will carry out the following publicity activities for the 2013 VR campaign–

- (a) issuing leaflets, riding on the water bills sent to around 2.7 million households, to appeal to eligible persons to register as electors, and registered electors who have moved away from previously registered residential addresses to update their residential addresses;
- (b) broadcasting five television one-minuters to promote VR and emphasise the civic responsibility for registered electors to update their residential addresses;
- (c) broadcasting a new series of Announcements in the Public Interests on television and radio appealing for new registrations and reminding registered electors to notify the REO of change of residential address;
- (d) placing advertisements in newspapers and popular websites and displaying posters to encourage new registrations and timely updating of registered particulars; and
- (e) issuing appeal letters to households which have moved into newly developed private residential buildings to remind them to report change of address.

3. \$6.7 million has been earmarked for publicity work in the 2013 VR cycle.

4. To address public concerns about suspected false registered addresses of electors, the REO implemented a series of enhancement measures to tighten up the checks on electors' registered addresses in the 2012 VR cycle. These measures have proven to be effective. The REO will continue to implement the following checking measures in the 2013 VR cycle –

- (a) follow-up inquiries on undelivered poll cards arising from the 2012 Legislative Council Election;
- (b) verification checks on electors' registered residential addresses through cross-matching of data with the Housing Department, the Housing Society and the Home Affairs Department;
- (c) checks on multiple electors or multiple surnames of electors registered with the same residential address;
- (d) random sample checks on existing electors;
- (e) checks on addresses with incomplete information, commercial addresses or suspected non-residential addresses;
- (f) checks on addresses in buildings already demolished or to be demolished; and
- (g) checks on new VR applications with multiple applicants using the same address for registration.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB073

Question Serial No.

2870

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

- Question: (1) Regarding the checking of addresses of electors registered in the current register in preparation for the 2012 Legislative Council election, how many staff members were assigned for this exercise? What indicators were adopted for assessing the performance of different tasks involved in the checking?
- (2) Regarding to complete initial processing actions on election-related complaints within five working days, what were the respective number of staff assigned and the cost incurred with respect to the handling of complaints arising from the conduct of direct elections for the five geographical constituencies and District Council (Second) functional constituency election?

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

The voter registration checking measures relating to the 2012 Legislative Council (LegCo) election were carried out by 78 civil servants and some 330 non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff. To enhance the accuracy of the voter registration records, particularly in relation to the registered electors' residential addresses on the register, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) has taken a number of enhanced checking measures for the 2012 LegCo election, including follow-up inquiries on undelivered poll cards arising from the 2011 District Council election and the 2011 Election Committee Subsector elections; verification of electors' residential addresses through cross-matching with the data of the Housing Department, the Housing Society and the Home Affairs Department; checks on multiple electors or multiple surnames of electors registered with the same residential address; random sample checks on existing electors; checks on addresses with incomplete information, commercial addresses or suspected non-residential addresses; and checks on addresses in buildings already or to be demolished. These measures were carried out in strict accordance with the statutory steps laid down in the relevant electoral laws.

2. During the 2012 LegCo election, the REO deployed about 30 civil servants and NCSC staff to handle all the election-related complaints, and the expenditure on the salary of these staff is about \$8 million. Regarding the performance target of completing of initial processing actions on election-related complaints within five working days, it is not possible to provide a breakdown of the figures by constituency.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB074

Question Serial No.

2871

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In conducting the 2013-14 annual exercise for updating records of the registered electors, would the Administration look into the records of the 217 400 electors who were subsequently struck off from the electoral register in 2012 as they failed to respond to the REO's inquiry letters or e-mails and so as to update their qualifications to vote? If yes, what are the manpower requirements and expenses involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

To address public concerns about suspected false registered addresses of electors during the 2011 District Council Election, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) implemented a series of enhancement measures in checking electors' registered addresses in the 2012 voter registration (VR) cycle. As a result of these measures, the REO issued inquiry letters to about 296 000 electors during the 2012 VR cycle and about 217 000 electors were eventually removed from the 2012 Final Register (FR) after completion of the statutory procedures of inquiry.

2. To appeal to persons whose names have been removed from the 2012 FR to register as electors again, the REO will launch a VR campaign in 2013 to encourage eligible persons to register as electors and remind registered electors to update their residential addresses in a timely manner after moving away from their previously registered address. \$6.7 million has been earmarked for the publicity efforts in the 2013 VR cycle, which will include –

- (a) issuing leaflets, riding on the water bills sent to around 2.7 million households, to appeal to eligible persons to register as electors, and registered electors who have moved away from previously registered residential addresses to update their residential addresses;
- (b) broadcasting five television one-minuters to promote VR and emphasise the civic responsibility for registered electors to update their residential addresses;
- (c) broadcasting a new series of Announcements in the Public Interests on television and radio appealing for new registrations and reminding registered electors to notify the REO of change of residential address; and
- (d) placing advertisements in newspapers and popular websites and displaying posters to encourage new registrations and timely updating of registered particulars.

3. In 2013-14, the VR and checking work will be carried out by a team comprising 86 civil servants and additional non-civil service contract staff whose duties are to carry out VR and checking measures for all constituencies in all elections of the concerned financial year. The provision for the concerned staff cost and operational expenses is \$38 million.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB075

Question Serial No.

2872

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

- Question:
- (a) In 2013-14, there will be a net decrease of 47 posts. Of these posts, how many of them are non-directorate posts and how many of them are directorate posts?
 - (b) Will these posts be permanently deleted from the establishment? What are the main duties of the posts involved?
 - (c) The estimated personal emolument for 2013-14 is lower than the revised estimate of 2012-13. Is the reduction in personal emolument attributed entirely to the 47 posts mentioned above?

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

In 2013-14, there will be a decrease of 62 posts (including one supernumerary directorate post) and an increase of 15 non-directorate posts, making a net decrease of 47 posts. The new posts are to cope with the long-term service needs including implementation of enhanced checks on voter registration. The posts to be deleted in 2013-14 were created for the preparation and conduct of the 2012 Legislative Council election. They are no longer required after the completion of the election.

2. The reduction in personal emolument for 2013-14 is mainly due to the aforesaid changes in establishment.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB076

Question Serial No.

1047

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Regarding electoral services, please provide the following information:

- The details concerning the investigation of vote-rigging cases and complaints against vote-rigging in the 2013-14 Estimates.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

To address public concerns about suspected false registered addresses of electors, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) implemented a series of enhancement measures in checking electors' registered addresses in the 2012 voter registration (VR) cycle. These measures have proven to be effective. The REO will continue to implement the following checking measures in the 2013 VR cycle –

- (a) follow-up inquiries on undelivered poll cards arising from the 2012 Legislative Council Election;
- (b) verification checks on electors' registered residential addresses through cross-matching of data with the Housing Department, the Housing Society and the Home Affairs Department;
- (c) checks on multiple electors or multiple surnames of electors registered with the same residential address;
- (d) random sample checks on existing electors;
- (e) checks on addresses with incomplete information, commercial addresses or suspected non-residential addresses;
- (f) checks on addresses in buildings already demolished or to be demolished; and
- (g) checks on new VR applications with multiple applicants using the same address for registration.

2. If complaints are received in the course of VR about any registration particulars, the REO will refer them to the law enforcement agencies for investigation where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that the electors concerned may have provided false information for VR. The REO will also undertake statutory inquiry process to ascertain whether the electors concerned are still eligible for VR.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB077

Question Serial No.

2449

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: (a) Please inform this Committee of the overall staffing, establishment and expenditure required for handling voter registration from 2008-09 to 2012-13. Please also advise on the staffing, establishment and expenditure involved in checking and verifying the accuracy of the voter registration particulars and provide the corresponding estimated figures for 2013-14.

(b) Please list out, by year, the number of investigations conducted in light of voter registration and the number of prosecutions thus ensued from 2008-09 to 2012-13.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) carries out checking and verification of particulars of registered electors to ensure the accuracy of the final register of voters. This is carried out by a dedicated team of civil servants as part of their voter registration work augmented by time-limited non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff. The details of establishment and the operational expenses incurred for voter registration from 2008-09 to 2013-14 are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Establishment*</u>	<u>No. of NCSC Staff[@]</u>	<u>Operational Expenses</u>
2008-09	74	about 270	\$42 million
2009-10	69	about 50	\$24 million
2010-11	69	about 80	\$23 million
2011-12	78	about 190	\$52 million
2012-13	78	about 330	\$71 million (revised estimate)
2013-14	86	#	\$38 million (estimate)

* including time-limited civil service posts created in election years.

@ NCSC staff are engaged as and when they are required. These figures represent the number of NCSC staff engaged at the peak of the voter registration cycle of the respective years.

NCSC staff will be engaged as and when required.

2. If complaints are received in the course of voter registration about any registration particulars, the REO will refer them to the law enforcement agencies for investigation where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that the electors concerned may have provided false information for voter registration. The REO will also undertake statutory inquiry process to ascertain whether the electors concerned are still eligible for voter registration. After the 2011 District Council election, the Independent Commission Against Corruption and the Police have conducted investigations involving 8 287 and 3 020 electors respectively, and a total of 52 persons have been prosecuted and convicted. The REO does not have the statistics on the investigation and prosecution carried out by the law enforcement agencies in respect of voter registration in previous elections.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB078

Question Serial No.

2665

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The Government has stated in the Policy Address that it will look into the feasibility of enhancing the use of electronic means for publication of counting information in future elections. What are the details? How the information technology and information security sector will be consulted? Will public consultation be conducted? If yes, what are the resources involved and the total expenditure to be incurred? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

In the 2012 Legislative Council (LegCo) election, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) used a computer system called the Counting Information Display System (CIDS) to display information on the counting process of the District Council (second) functional constituency (DC (second) FC) and another system called the Interim Counting Results System (ICRS) to disseminate the counting results of the geographical constituencies and the DC (second) FC. Information of the CIDS and the ICRS was displayed through the on-site display screens at the Central Counting Station (CCS) and the Media Centre and uploaded onto the election website for public information.

2. The REO has embarked on a feasibility and technical study on its information technology system, which includes identifying options of applying information technology to publication of counting information, while ensuring that the transparency of and public trust in our public elections are upheld. In this regard, the REO will enhance the performance of the CIDS and the ICRS and explore the feasibility of using these systems in other elections. Where required, the REO will seek professional input from the information technology and information security sectors.

3. The REO will brief and consult the LegCo on the practical arrangements, including the use of information technology, before the elections. Sufficient provisions will be earmarked for the development and implementation of the systems when drawing up the overall budget for the coming cycle of elections.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB079

Question Serial No.

2666

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In view of the many incidences of “vote-rigging”, does the REO have any plans to step up cross-matching exercise on electors’ registration particulars with other government departments, for example, through the use of “electronic systems” to check registration particulars of electors at polling stations? If yes, what is the estimated expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

Currently, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) conducts cross-checking of information of electors with a number of government departments including the Immigration Department, the Housing Department, the Home Affairs Department, and the Housing Society. The REO will continue to explore the technical feasibility and usefulness of widening the scope of cross-checking with other government departments. Any cross-checking exercise to be conducted by the REO needs to comply with the relevant provisions of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Cap. 486) and the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data has to be consulted.

2. The REO has reviewed the electoral arrangements in the past election cycle and will explore the feasibility of adopting more information technology to enhance the electoral process including the possibility of using electronic systems for verification of registration status. The REO has embarked on a feasibility and technical study on its information technology system with a view to identifying suitable information technology options to assist voter registration and polling work without compromising the transparency of and undermining the public trust in the electoral system.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB080

Question Serial No.

2668

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Of more than 1 120 letters sent to “functional constituency electors who might have been disqualified from voting” by the Registration and Electoral Office before the 2012 Legislative Council election, 448 were sent to the electors from the information technology functional constituency, accounting for about 6.7% of the electorate of the functional constituency. The far higher percentage of electors from the information technology functional constituency receiving the aforementioned letter as compared to other functional constituencies (which are all less than 1%) reflects that there is inadequacy in sample-checking on the part of the Government. In the Election Committee Subsector elections, the Government, at present, mainly relies on the bodies concerned to provide the information of their member voters. As such, please advise on the following:

- (1) Does the Government have any plan to implement a monitoring procedure so that Government departments can conduct mandatory checking on the transparency of the membership administration system of the bodies concerned as well as their compliance with the Election Guidelines and the statutory procedures and thus prevent “vote rigging”, etc. from happening. If yes, what are the details as well as the manpower and the information involved? If no, what are the reasons?
- (2) What are the manpower and the total expenditure involved in dealing with “functional constituency electors who might have been disqualified from voting”? What are the manpower and total expenditures involved in dealing with “functional constituency electors who might have been disqualified from voting” when the two previous territory-wide elections were held (i.e. 2011 Election Committee Subsector elections and 2012 Legislative Council election) ?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

For functional constituencies (FCs), the eligibility of voter registration is, in some cases, tied to membership in bodies specified under the Legislative Council Ordinance (Cap. 542). In these cases, for the purpose of verifying the eligibility of a voter registration application, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will seek information from the concerned specified bodies. Hence, it is important to remind the concerned specified bodies of the importance of good governance, including adopting proper procedures to ensure propriety and transparency in membership administration so that they can provide up-to-date and accurate membership information to the REO

in a timely manner. After discussion with the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), the REO has started from the 2012 voter registration cycle issuing letters to the specified bodies to appeal for their support in maintaining a proper and transparent membership administration system.

2. To sustain these efforts, the ICAC has agreed to initiate a new and targeted visit-cum-advisory service programme starting from the 2013 voter registration cycle to further drive home the message of good corporate governance and transparent membership administration. Under the programme, the ICAC will proactively offer advisory service to individual specified bodies to help review and strengthen their membership administration, ensure procedural compliance and enhance transparency.

3. Duties relating to voter registration and checking are carried out by a team of civil servants and non-civil service contract staff in the REO. The tasks of this team include, among other things, identifying FC electors who may have been disqualified from voting due to changes in their membership status with the relevant specified bodies and (in election years) issuing letters to remind them not to vote on the polling day if their registration eligibility has ceased. The work covers all the constituencies of the concerned elections; hence no breakdown can be provided for particular constituencies. The total staff cost and related operational expenses for the work of the team is about \$52 million in 2011-12 and about \$71 million in 2012-13.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB081

Question Serial No.

2670

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The polling staff has reflected many times that no improvement has been made on the problem of insufficient manpower at polling and counting stations. The performance of some of the polling staff is not quite up to standard. Also, most of the officers of the Registration and Electoral Office do not have sufficient experience in conducting elections. They are inefficient and make no efforts to communicate with the polling staff. Has the Government planned to set aside any resources so as to conduct a manpower resources review on polling and counting stations? Has any consideration been given to increase the manpower and strengthen the training for the staff? Does the Government have any plan to introduce an electronic system to verify the identity of the voters or even allow the public to vote at any polling stations in Hong Kong and thereby boost the voter turnout rate and the degree of public participation? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

As a regular exercise before the Legislative Council elections or the District Council elections, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will review the practical electoral arrangements, including manpower deployment and training for polling and counting staff. In the 2012 Legislative Council election, the REO has put together a team of about 23 000 staff to assist in a wide range of polling and counting work, which represents more than 30% increase compared to the number appointed in the 2008 Legislative Council election. To prepare for the next cycle of elections, the REO will review the manpower requirement in the light of overall electoral arrangement, making sure that there will be sufficient staff equipped with proper training to assume the required electoral work.

2. The REO has embarked on a feasibility and technical study on its information technology system, with a view to identifying options of applying information technology to voter registration and polling work, while ensuring that the transparency of and public trust in our public elections are upheld.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB082

Question Serial No.

2410

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: As regards the Legislative Council election held last year, what was the actual expenditure incurred for the conduct of the District Council (second) functional constituency election?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

The District Council (second) functional constituency is one of the functional constituencies in the 2012 Legislative Council election. The preparation and conduct of the election of this functional constituency was executed as part of the Legislative Council election. The expenditure incurred for the preparation and conduct of the 2012 Legislative Council election in its entirety, including the District Council (second) functional constituency, in 2011-12 and 2012-13 amounts to about \$500 million; there is no breakdown for individual constituencies.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 8 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB083

Question Serial No.

3329

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In 2013-14, has the Administration set aside resources for rolling out policy research and public consultation on proposals for Hong Kong's constitutional development, including proposals for 2016 Legislative Council (LegCo) election, implementing universal suffrage for Chief Executive election in 2017 and LegCo election in 2020, and drafting the related legislation? If yes, what are the work plan, work schedule and estimated expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

As mentioned by the Chief Executive in his 2013 Policy Address, the Government will launch a comprehensive consultation on the electoral methods for the Chief Executive election in 2017 and the Legislative Council election in 2016 and initiate the constitutional procedures at an appropriate juncture. In this regard, we will make preparation in 2013-14 for the public consultation on the two electoral methods for 2016 and 2017. For budgetary purposes, we have set aside about \$7.3 million (excluding staff cost) and plan to create six time-limited posts for the public consultation exercise when it is launched.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB084

Question Serial No.

3330

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The composition, functions, duties and responsibilities, governance etc. of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) have not undergone any comprehensive review since its establishment. In 2013-14, will the Administration set aside resources for conducting a comprehensive review or preparatory work for the review with respect to the EOC? If yes, what are the relevant work plan, work schedule and estimated expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) is an independent statutory body established under the Sex Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 480). Its functions include enforcing the 4 anti-discrimination Ordinances; working towards the elimination of discrimination; promoting equality of opportunity and harmony; working towards the elimination of harassment and vilification; handling complaints; assisting persons aggrieved by discrimination by way of conciliation and other assistance; and issuing and revising codes of practice, in accordance with the 4 anti-discrimination Ordinances.

2. In 2010, the EOC has invited the Efficiency Unit to carry out a study on the EOC's complaint handling mechanism with a view to improving efficiency and effectiveness and enhancing customer satisfaction. Following the recommendations of the Efficiency Unit in 2011, the EOC employed an external consultant to help devise the survey model and conduct Customer Satisfaction Survey (CSS) in 2012. Feedback to the CSS indicated that service users / the public were generally satisfied with the EOC's performance of its statutory functions. In 2011, the EOC won the "Directors of the Year Award 2011" in recognition of its excellence in corporate governance.

3. In 2013-14, the EOC will continue to enhance its governance, internal financial control and management capabilities. The EOC will also conduct regular reviews to improve its policies, systems and procedures, and implement improvement measures accordingly. The expenditure on these actions constitutes an integral part of the EOC's work; hence a separate breakdown is not available.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB085

Question Serial No.

3331

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In this year's Policy Address, the Chief Executive has clearly expressed that the Government will not conduct any consultation on enacting legislation to regulate acts of discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation. However, some individuals do feel that they are being discriminated against due to their different sexual orientations. In 2013-14, in what ways will resources be allocated to deal with acts of discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation in society. What are the related work plan, work schedule, specific details of the initiatives and estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Government's work on promotion of equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations in 2013-14 includes organising various publicity and promotion programmes (such as Announcement in the Public Interest on television and radio, and advertisement at train stations and bus stations, on the internet and via other media), sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, promoting the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation in public and private sector organisations, pursuing study on measures adopted by overseas jurisdictions, maintaining a hotline for enquiries and complaints, and exchanging views with sexual minority groups to better understand the specific problems they encounter with a view to mapping out targeted measures to tackle such problems. The above work will be undertaken throughout the financial year by the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit (GISOU) and other subject officers in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau. The estimate for the above activities (including the staff cost of the GISOU) is \$2.99 million.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB086

Question Serial No.

3332

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Since the enactment of the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance and the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance, social environment has under a profound change. Will the Administration allocate resources in 2013-14 to conduct comprehensive reviews of the above 3 anti-discrimination ordinances? If yes, what are the specific work plan, work schedule and estimated expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

As provided by the 4 anti-discrimination Ordinances (viz. the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, and the Race Discrimination Ordinance), the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) keeps under review the working of the Ordinances and proposes amendments to the legislation as necessary.

2. During the legislative exercise to enact the Race Discrimination Ordinance in 2008, the Administration has implemented the EOC's proposal to extend the application of the provisions on sexual harassment to the field of education. Another proposal that seeks to revise the headings of sections 7 and 8 of the Sex Discrimination Ordinance to better reflect the content of those sections was taken forward by the Legislation Publication (Revision) Order 2013 and would come into effect on 10 May 2013. We plan to take forward 6 other amendments proposed by the EOC, which are technical in nature, by way of the Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provision) Bill by end 2013. The Administration is reviewing 4 other amendments proposed by the EOC. Such review work will be absorbed by existing resources of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau.

3. The EOC has started to embark on another round of review on the 4 anti-discrimination Ordinances in early 2013. It aims to finalise internal discussion on the review of the 4 Ordinances within the EOC and conduct meetings with stakeholders and concerned groups on the EOC's proposed amendments to raise stakeholders' awareness on the issue in 2013.

4. In addition, in order to gauge public views on issues of equal opportunities and discrimination, the EOC has conducted the “Equal Opportunities Awareness Survey 2012” in 2012-13. The EOC would consider undertaking this survey on a regular basis in future (say, every 4-5 years).

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB087

Question Serial No.

3333

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In 2013-14, will the Equal Opportunities Commission allocate resources for studying the present general situation of discrimination on the grounds of sex, disability and family status in society, with a view to reviewing the effectiveness of the 3 anti-discrimination ordinances and providing a basis for comprehensive review of the ordinances? If yes, what are the specific plan, work schedule and estimated expenditure for the study? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

As provided by the 4 anti-discrimination Ordinances (viz. the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, and the Race Discrimination Ordinance), the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) keeps under review the working of the Ordinances and proposes amendments to the legislation as necessary.

2. During the legislative exercise to enact the Race Discrimination Ordinance in 2008, the Administration has implemented the EOC's proposal to extend the application of the provisions on sexual harassment to the field of education. Another proposal that seeks to revise the headings of sections 7 and 8 of the Sex Discrimination Ordinance to better reflect the content of those sections was taken forward by the Legislation Publication (Revision) Order 2013 and would come into effect on 10 May 2013. We plan to take forward 6 other amendments proposed by the EOC, which are technical in nature, by way of the Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provision) Bill by end 2013. The Administration is reviewing 4 other amendments proposed by the EOC. Such review work will be absorbed by existing resources of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau.

3. The EOC has started to embark on another round of review on the 4 anti-discrimination Ordinances in early 2013. It aims to finalise internal discussion on the review of the 4 Ordinances within the EOC and conduct meetings with stakeholders and concerned groups on the EOC's proposed amendments to raise stakeholders' awareness on the issue in 2013.

4. In addition, in order to gauge public views on issues of equal opportunities and discrimination, the EOC has conducted the “Equal Opportunities Awareness Survey 2012” in 2012-13. The EOC would consider undertaking this survey on a regular basis in future (say, every 4-5 years).

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB088

Question Serial No.

3334

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Given that there are still diverse views in the community on whether discrimination on the grounds of different sexual orientations is a widespread phenomenon in Hong Kong, will the Equal Opportunities Commission allocate resources to conduct a comprehensive study on Hong Kong's present situation of discrimination on the grounds of different sexual orientations in 2013-14? If yes, what are the work plan, work schedule, framework and estimated expenditure for the study? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

In 2013-14, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) has no plan to allocate resources to conduct a comprehensive study on Hong Kong's present situation of discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation because the issue is not directly within the EOC's ambit.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB089

Question Serial No.

3336

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: At present, members of the public may make request to government departments such as the Companies Registry, the Transport Department, the Land Registry etc. for access to other people's personal data. In 2013-14, will the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data conduct a review of the existing Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance to allow members of the public, the media, enterprises etc. to have effective access to the personal data they require and to ensure that such personal data is used for legitimate purposes? If yes, what are the specific plan, schedule and estimated expenditure for such work? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (PDPO) was last amended in 2012 and commencement of the amended provisions was pursued in two phases : the first phase took effect on 1 October 2012 and the remaining provisions commenced on 1 April 2013. The Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) has no plan to conduct another review of the PDPO in 2013-14.

2. Most public registers are governed by specific legislation which prescribes the types and extent of personal data that the general public may access, and the PDPO already provides that personal data shall not be used for a purpose which is not the same as or directly related to the original collection purposes unless the prescribed consent of the data subjects is obtained or an exemption is applicable. If any person uses personal data obtained from a public register for any purpose other than or not directly related to the specified purposes of the register, he/she may have

contravened the relevant data protection principle, and the PCPD may commence an investigation on suspected breach of the principle and issue enforcement notice as appropriate. If in such a case there is any additional breach of the new requirements regulating use of personal data in direct marketing that commenced operation on 1 April 2013, the concerned new offences will also apply.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB090

Question Serial No.

3337

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: At present, many people are not acquainted with existing regulations on protection of personal data. They immediately make a complaint once they have found that some of their personal data have been disclosed, leading to a drastic increase in the number of complaints. In this connection, will the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data conduct a study in 2013-14 on people's understanding and perception of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, and to make adjustments to its public education initiatives in the light of the findings? If yes, what are the relevant work plan and estimated expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) plans to conduct a public opinion survey in 2013-14 to ascertain the attitude of the general public on personal data privacy and PCPD's work (such as community education). Details of the plan are being worked out by the PCPD.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB091

Question Serial No.

4193

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In respect of the work of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau this year, will the Administration advise this Committee on:

The division of work between the Secretary and Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs this year? Please set out, in table form, the respective policy portfolios placed under the purview of the Secretary and Under Secretary. What is the timetable for carrying out the work?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs is responsible principally for assisting the Secretary in discharging his official duties, including the handling of Legislative Council business, and deputising for the Secretary during the latter's temporary absence.

2. The appointment of the Under Secretary has strengthened the support to the Secretary in undertaking political work, communicating with the Legislative Council and other stakeholders, and explaining Government policies to the media and the public at large.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB092

Question Serial No.

4726

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In respect of the work undertaken by the Chairperson of the Equal Opportunities
Commission Mr LAM Woon-kwong from 1 July 2012 to 31 March 2013, please set out
the details, scope and duration of each job.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The functions and powers of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) are defined under
Section 64 of the Sex Discrimination Ordinance (Cap 480). The Chairperson together with the
other Members of the EOC form its governing body which has the authority to perform the
functions and exercise the powers of the EOC.

2. The main duties of the EOC are to:

- (a) investigate complaints lodged under the 4 anti-discrimination Ordinances and facilitate
conciliation between parties in dispute;
- (b) vet and where appropriate provide legal assistance to aggrieved applicants;
- (c) promote anti-discrimination and equal opportunity values and policies through media
and publicity programmes;
- (d) develop education and training programmes and resources;
- (e) conduct research on issues relevant to the EOC and make policy recommendations
accordingly;
- (f) develop and publish codes of practice in accordance with the law; and
- (g) review the adequacy of the current legislation and make recommendations for changes
as necessary.

3. In the period referred to in the question, the incumbent Chairperson, Mr Lam Woon Kwong, continued to lead the EOC and its staff to exercise its statutory functions and powers as detailed above. In between 1 July 2012 and 28 February 2013, the EOC:

- (a) handled 1 066 complaints (in addition to 13 038 public enquiries) and achieved a successful conciliation rate of 68%;
- (b) processed 25 applications for legal assistance, issued 4 writs and settled 8 legally assisted cases;
- (c) conducted more than 300 training sessions/courses for some 15 400 participants. The Chairperson personally attended 92 community events and 34 meeting sessions with various stakeholders, and delivered 60 public speeches. He also hosted 6 press conferences; gave 80 media interviews; edited 2 issues of the regular Newsletter of the EOC, 18 issues of the regular electronic news of the EOC, and contributed 10 articles to a regular press column during the said period;
- (d) released 3 research reports, including:
 - (i) Study on Equal Learning Opportunities for Students with Disabilities under the Integrated Education System;
 - (ii) Public Awareness Survey on Equal Opportunities; and
 - (iii) Study on Students' Sexual Attitudes and Views on Sexual Harassment;
- (e) organised an EOC Forum to enable the public to better understand EOC's work and to obtain feedback to improve EOC's performance; and
- (f) appointed an overseas expert on contract basis to undertake a major legislative review exercise with a view to overhaul, harmonise and improve on the provisions and operation of the anti-discrimination legislation.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB093

Question Serial No.

5229

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The Committee on the Rights of the Child has asked the Contracting States or territories to the Convention on the Rights of the Child to promote public awareness of the provisions of the Convention. In this regard, what is the Administration's related expenditure in the past 5 years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13)? Has provision be earmarked for promotional work in 2013-14 financial year? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

The Government is committed to promoting public awareness of and respect for the rights of children as enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The related expenditure incurred in the past 5 years (excluding manpower resources) is listed in the table below –

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)
2008-09	0.922
2009-10	1.943*
2010-11	1.489
2011-12	1.006
2012-13 (estimate)	1.838

* Including special activities to commensurate the 20th anniversary of the UNCRC.

2. In 2013-14, the Government will continue its efforts in promoting the rights of children. We will –

- (a) continue to implement the Children’s Rights Education Funding Scheme to encourage and assist community organisations to conduct education programmes for enhancing stakeholders’ understanding of children’s rights as provided by the UNCRC;
- (b) implement an outreach programme together with the eTVonline Internet Portal of the Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) to organise workshops, mock reporting, filming competition, etc in some 70 to 90 schools to promote children’s rights among students;
- (c) launch a smart-phone mobile application to provide smart-phone and tablet computer users with a more convenient and interactive means to access information relating to children’s rights and the UNCRC;
- (d) broadcast a new Announcement of Public Interest to further enhance public awareness of children’s rights as provided by the UNCRC;
- (e) engage the RTHK to produce seven episodes of short television programmes on children’s rights; and
- (f) continue to organise the Children’s Rights Forum to exchange views with children representatives and relevant non-government organisations on matters concerning children’s welfare and development.

The estimated expenditure for the efforts above, excluding manpower resources, is \$2.151 million.

3. In addition to the above, education in schools is an important aspect in the promotion of children’s rights and human rights in general. Human rights education is integral to the school curriculum and is addressed in a wide range of subjects at different key stages of learning.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG
Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)
Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB094

Question Serial No.

5232

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Please provide a breakdown of expenditure and estimated expenditure on programmes for promoting racial harmony and racial equality in the past 5 years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13) and in 2013-14 financial year.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

Work on promoting racial harmony and racial equality is undertaken mainly by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB), the Home Affairs Department (HAD), and the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC).

2. Since 2011-12, the support services for ethnic minorities to facilitate integration into the community have been transferred from the CMAB to HAD. The HAD has put in place a number of enhancement measures for strengthening support services for ethnic minorities, including district-based integration programmes (such as adaptation courses, mutual help networks, employee's training, volunteer service, community visits, etc.); an ambassador scheme to help ethnic minorities by arranging those with similar background and experience to reach out to them and make referrals to Government departments where necessary; provision of an additional support service centre and two sub-centres in Yau Tsim Mong, Shamshuipo and Tung Chung respectively and two additional radio programmes in ethnic minority languages (i.e. Hindi and Thai).

3. The expenditure on the above support services for ethnic minorities to help them integrate into the community is \$7.3 million, \$24.26 million, \$28.4 million, \$22.7 million and \$32.5 million for 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13 respectively. The estimated budget for 2013-2014 is \$35.4 million.

4. The CMAB oversees the operation of the Race Discrimination Ordinance (RDO), and promotes racial equality by issuing in April 2010 the Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality (the Guidelines). The Guidelines provide general guidance to relevant Government bureaux and departments and public authorities to promote racial equality and ensure equal access by ethnic minorities to public services in key areas concerned, and to take this into account in their formulation, implementation and review of relevant policies and measures.

5. The Guidelines have been implemented smoothly so far. In 2013, the Guidelines will be further extended to cover a total of 21 Government bureaux and departments and public authorities. Together, they provide key public services which are particularly relevant to meeting the special needs of ethnic minorities and facilitate the latter's integration into the community. The CMAB will keep the implementation of the Guidelines, including its scope of application, under review and continue to listen to feedback from stakeholders.

6. The CMAB's work is undertaken as part of the duties of the staff involved in the Bureau and the Guidelines are implemented by relevant authorities with their own resources. These are integral part of the work of the authorities concerned and a separate breakdown of the related expenses is not available.

7. The EOC enforces the RDO and implements publicity and public education programmes to promote public awareness of the RDO and racial equality. Expenditure on the enforcement aspect is not available because this function is an integral part of the EOC's enforcement of the 4 anti-discrimination Ordinances. For publicity and public education relating to racial equality, the expenditure (including manpower expenditure) is \$3.80 million, \$4.57 million, \$4.29 million, \$5.15 million and \$6.08 million for 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13 respectively. The estimated budget for 2013-2014 is \$5.01 million. The major publicity and public education programmes relating to racial equality in 2013-2014 will include a funding programme for non-profit organisations to organise programmes to promote equal opportunities; radio programmes for ethnic minorities; outreaching programmes for ethnic minorities; roving exhibitions on the 4 anti-discrimination Ordinances; seminars and trainings for employers, employees, educational institutions, non-governmental organisations, and community groups, etc.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG
Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)
Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB095

Question Serial No.

5245

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Has the Administration considered setting up an Equal Opportunities Tribunal? If yes,
what is the specific plan, including the expenditure, manpower and posts involved? If
no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

We have considered carefully the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC)'s proposal to establish an Equal Opportunities Tribunal (EOT). We have also considered a paper issued by the Judiciary in September 2011 to invite views from interested parties on the review and recommendations on the institutional, legislative and procedural frameworks, rules and practice of the District Court in the adjudication of equal opportunities claims. Whilst the paper made recommendations to provide a more accessible platform for parties to pursue equal opportunities claims in court, it did not support the proposal for an EOT.

2. The Judiciary has implemented the Civil Justice Reform which provides greater case management powers to the court. The Judiciary's proposed measures for the adjudication of equal opportunities claims also include the adoption of a pro-active approach in case management and use of simplified forms to provide a more informal adjudication system, which are in the same direction as the aims of the EOT but could be implemented more expeditiously. Taking into account the above, and other considerations set out in the Judiciary's paper, we share the Judiciary's proposed way forward that the priority at this stage is to implement Judiciary's improvement measures as quickly as possible. The need for a specialised tribunal can be further reviewed in the light of the changing circumstances after the proposed measures have been implemented. We have provided our views to both the Judiciary and the EOC.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB096

Question Serial No.

5246

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Does the Administration have any plan to promote the concept of “equal pay for work of equal value” in the context of gender equality? If yes, what is the specific plan, including the publicity programme, the expenditure, manpower and posts involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) is tasked to implement the 4 Ordinances on anti-discrimination on grounds of sex, race, disability and family status.

2. Since its establishment in 1996, the EOC has worked steadily to advance the Equal Pay for Work of Equal Value (EPEV) principle. The efforts include incorporating EPEV into the Code of Practice on Employment issued under the Sex Discrimination Ordinance; publishing a set of guidelines in 2000 to address the issue of pay disparity between the two genders; publishing an additional Easy Read Guide for small businesses which constitute a large number of employers in Hong Kong; arranging talks for employers, women groups and other stakeholders; and incorporating EPEV principles and practices in the EOC's regular training for different stakeholders and the general public.

3. The work on promoting the concept of EPEV includes conducting research studies and preparing consultancy reports, organising conferences, preparing and printing EPEV guides, etc. These are integral parts of the EOC's efforts in promoting the concept of equal opportunities for all. A separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved is therefore not available.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB097

Question Serial No.

4059

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In the past 3 years (from 2010-11 to 2012-13), what were the number of translators of ethnic minority languages (Indonesian, Tagalog, Hindi, Nepali, Urdu, Japanese, Thai, Korean and Bengali) working in various government departments and the number of staff who have received training in these languages in these departments?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

Currently, there are no standing requirements for staff within the Government to deliver translation or interpretation services in languages other than Chinese (including Putonghua) and English. Government bureaux / departments and individual public bodies will make use of outside translation or interpretation services on a need basis. In addition, the Home Affairs Department provides funding to a non-government organisation for delivering interpretation and translation services for ethnic minorities to facilitate their use of public services.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB098

Question Serial No.

4963

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: What is the existing establishment of the Director of Bureau's Office? What is the estimated provision for salaries and miscellaneous expenses for each staff member of the Office this year (i.e. 2013-14)?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

In addition to the Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau, the existing establishment of the Director of Bureau's Office in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau under Programme (1) comprises five civil servants (an Administrative Officer Staff Grade C, a Personal Assistant, a Senior Personal Secretary, a Personal Secretary I and a Personal Chauffeur) providing support to the office.

2. For budgetary purposes, the provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau for 2013-14 are \$3.38 million, \$2.54 million and \$1.18 million respectively. The provision for the salary, civil service allowances and related expenses for the supporting civil servants is around \$2.9 million.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB099

Question Serial No.

4964

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Since 1 July last year, how many contacts has the Bureau made with the Mainland authorities and what is the expenditure involved? Please answer the question with the table below.

Date	Participants (including those from Hong Kong and the Mainland)	Details of the contacts	Expenditure

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau maintains necessary working relationships with the central and provincial/municipal Mainland authorities to promote closer co-operation with the Mainland and to ensure mutual understanding and effective exchanges with them. We did not keep a separate account to capture related expenditure.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB100

Question Serial No.

4965

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Secretary for Security

Question: Regarding the "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" of the Bureau, please provide the following information:

- a. The cities in which the Mainland and Taiwan Offices are set up and their addresses;
- b. The number of requests for assistance from Hong Kong residents received, the number of enquiries received and the number of visitors assisted by each office in the past 3 years (i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13);
- c. The number of calls on Mainland officials by each office and the expenditure involved in the past 3 years (i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13).

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

The addresses of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices are tabled below:

Office	Address
Beijing Office (BJO)	No. 71, Di'anmen Xidajie, Xicheng District, Beijing
Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Guangdong (GDETO)	Flat 7101, CITIC Plaza, 233 Tian He North Road, Guangzhou
Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Shanghai (SHETO)	21/F, The Headquarters Building, 168 Xizang Road (M), Huangpu District, Shanghai
Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Chengdu (CDETO)	38/F, Tower 1, Plaza Central, 8 Shuncheng Street, Yan Shi Kou, Chengdu
Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) in Taiwan	25/F, President International Tower, No. 9-11, Songgao Road, Xinyi District, Taipei

2. The number of requests for assistance received by the Mainland and Taiwan Offices in 2010, 2011 and 2012 is set out in the table below:

		Requests for assistance relating to immigration and personal safety matters	Other assistance cases	Total (by Office)
2010	BJO	159	91	250
	GDETO	198	85	283
	SHETO	Covered by BJO	30	30
	CDETO		15	15
2011	BJO	232	78	310
	GDETO	269	78	347
	SHETO	Covered by BJO	29	29
	CDETO		11	11
2012	BJO	174	95	269
	GDETO	188	77	265
	SHETO	Covered by BJO	20	20
	CDETO		15	15
	HKETCO*	35	7	42

*The HKETCO commenced operation on 19 December 2011.

3. The number of enquiries received by the Mainland and Taiwan Offices in 2010, 2011 and 2012 is set out in the table below:

		No. of enquiries received		Total (by Office)
		Immigration related	Non-immigration related	
2010	BJO	19 751	4 180	23 931
	GDETO	1 332	6 177	7 509
	SHETO	Covered by BJO	1 276	1 276
	CDETO		6 300	6 300
2011	BJO	21 646	3 604	25 250
	GDETO	1 339	5 630	6 969
	SHETO	Covered by BJO	1 183	1 183
	CDETO		6 209	6 209
2012	BJO	19 474	3 883	23 357
	GDETO	969	5 650	6 619
	SHETO	Covered by BJO	1 318	1 318
	CDETO		5 922	5 922
	HKETCO*	NA	2 333	2 333

*The HKETCO commenced operation on 19 December 2011.

4. The “number of visitors assisted” by the Mainland and Taiwan Offices in 2010, 2011 and 2012 is set out in the table below :

	2010	2011	2012
BJO	1 571	1 538	1 771
GDETO	1 581	1 973	2 852
SHETO	950	594	979
CDETO	155	164	146
HKETCO*	NA	NA	35
Total	4 257	4 269	5 783

*The HKETCO commenced operation on 19 December 2011.

5. The number of “call on senior government officials/organisations” by the Mainland Offices in 2010, 2011 and 2012 is set out in the table below :

	2010	2011	2012
BJO	242	251	304
GDETO	600	828	1 106
SHETO	106	100	95
CDETO	85	90	100
Total	1 033	1 269	1 605

6. The work relating to “call on senior government officials/organisations” is an integral part of the roles and functions of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices. The expenditure involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB101

Question Serial No.

4967

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In Item 3 of the Recurrent Expenditure of the Operating Account, the Bureau stated that the Mainland Offices will conduct a survey to collect information related to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland. Please provide the following information:

- a. When the survey will be conducted by each Office and the expenditure involved;
- b. The reasons for conducting this survey and the number of staff carrying out the related work in each Office;
- c. Whether each Office employs Mainland residents to carry out the related work; and if so, the reasons.

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

The 2013 Policy Address announced that the Government would step up efforts in gathering data related to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland. In 2013-14, we have set aside \$3 million under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" for this purpose. The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) will work with the Census and Statistics Department to conduct a thematic household survey in Hong Kong to collect aggregate data of Hong Kong residents who are frequent travelers between Hong Kong and the Mainland, such as their profile, geographic distribution, and purposes of stay in the Mainland. With the data available from the survey, the Beijing Office, and the three Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu respectively (Mainland Offices) will reach out to more Hong Kong residents and groups in the Mainland to understand their service needs.

2. One Directorate officer at D2 rank in CMAB has been assigned to, among other things, oversee the conduct of aforesaid survey. The Mainland Offices will not be involved in conducting this survey.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG
Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)
Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB102

Question Serial No.

4968

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In paragraph 6 under Recurrent Expenditure of Operating Account, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau stated that a provision of over \$2.5 million will be set aside for the salaries and allowances of civil servants involved in support of the Sichuan earthquake reconstruction projects. Please advise on the following:

- a. What was the expenditure on salary for the above task over the past 3 years (2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)? What was the respective number of officers of the Administrative Service and/or the Executive Grade employed for the task? What is the estimated provision for 2013-14? Please reply by using the table below.

Financial year	No. of officers of the Administrative Service Grade	No. of officers of the Executive Officer Grade	Total expenditure on salary
2010-11			
2011-12			
2012-13			
2013-14 (estimate)			

- b. When will the civil servant posts in support of the Sichuan earthquake reconstruction projects lapse?
- c. What was the expenditure on allowance in support of the Sichuan earthquake reconstruction projects during the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

The expenditure on salaries of civil servants under the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) involved in support of the Sichuan reconstruction projects from 2010-11 to 2013-14, as well as the number of civil servants under CMAB involved in the said projects during the same period with breakdown by grade, are set out in the table below.

Financial year	No. of CMAB officers of the Administrative Service grade	No. of CMAB officers of the Executive Officer grade	No. of CMAB officers of the Personal Secretary grade	Total expenditure on salary of CMAB officers (\$'000)
2010-11	2	2	1	2,375
2011-12	2	2	1	3,029
2012-13	2	2	1	3,197
2013-14 (estimate)	2	2	1	1,840

2. One of the five officers above is dedicated to deal with matters related to Sichuan reconstruction, the post of which will lapse on 31 March 2014. The other four officers also undertake duties related to regional co-operation between the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Mainland and their posts will lapse on 30 June 2013.

3. The expenditure on allowances of CMAB staff who were involved in support of the Sichuan reconstruction projects in the past three years is set out below.

Year	Expenditure on allowance(\$'000)
2010-11	612
2011-12	840
2012-13	984

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB103

Question Serial No.

3845

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: For public opinion surveys on subjects such as constitutional matters conducted by the Bureau and the Central Policy Unit, will the Administration advise this Committee on the following: public opinion surveys conducted in the past 2 financial years (i.e. 2011-12 and 2012-13) and expected to be conducted in 2013-14, including the title and subject of, and the expenditure and institution engaged for each survey? Will findings of the surveys be made public? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The Central Policy Unit regularly conducts internal studies and commissions academic and commercial research institutes to carry out opinion polls on different public policy issues. The findings are for the Government's internal reference and will not be made public.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB104

Question Serial No.

3846

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14 that (the Bureau will) “engage the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council (THEC) to take forward new priority co-operation areas agreed at the Third Joint Meeting between the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Co-operation and Promotion Council and THEC”. In respect of the Bureau’s efforts in co-ordinating and promoting exchanges with Taiwan, will the Administration advise this Committee on the specific details of work undertaken in 2012-13 and the expenditure and manpower involved, as well as the work plan for 2013-14 and the resources and manpower set aside?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Cooperation and Promotion Council (ECCPC) and the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council (THEC) agreed in September 2012 on four new priority co-operation areas, namely: environmental protection, heritage conservation, co-operation on testing and certification industries and notification of unsafe consumer goods, as well as exchanges between the investment promotion agencies of both sides. The expenditure and manpower involved in taking forward the above initiatives will be covered by the existing provision for the respective bureaux and departments.

2. Since the Third Joint Meeting, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau, as the secretariat to the ECCPC, has been coordinating the efforts of relevant bureaux and departments to strengthen co-operation and exchange with Taiwan in these areas, such as lining up experience sharing meetings, mutual visits, etc. Such work will continue in 2013-14. As the work involved is an integral part of our duties and functions for supporting the ECCPC and exchanges with Taiwan, the financial and manpower provision cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB105

Question Serial No.

3693

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
(4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Regarding the consultancy studies (if any) commissioned by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and its department for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, please provide information in the following format.

(a) Using the table below, please provide information about studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds had been allocated in the past 2 financial years (2011-12 and 2012-13) -

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

(b) Are there any projects for which funds have been reserved for conducting consultancy studies this year (2013-14)? If yes, please provide the following information -

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

(c) What are the criteria for considering the award of consultancy projects to the research institutions concerned?

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

Regarding the consultancy studies commissioned by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, the relevant information is provided below -

(a) For studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds had been allocated between 2011-12 and 2012-13 -

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
The Institute of Hong Kong, Macao & Special Economic Zone's Economy, Jinan University	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at (c) below	A Study on the Strategy for the Co-operation of Hong Kong/ Guangdong Service Industries under the "Early and Pilot" Measures To explore the development trend of Hong Kong's service industries in Guangdong and select individual service industries which can be further promoted in Guangdong	RMB 120,000	May 2009	Completed	The research report was passed to relevant Government bureaux and departments for consideration.	The summary of the research report has been uploaded onto the website of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Guangdong for public perusal. The full report has been distributed to the relevant Government bureaux and departments in the Mainland and Hong Kong.

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Chongqing Jiaotong University	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at (c) below	Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) Implementation in Chongqing To understand the status of CEPA implementation in Chongqing and explore the business opportunities of Chongqing for Hong Kong enterprises	RMB 150,000	Dec 2010	Completed	The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Chengdu (CDETO) organised a CEPA seminar jointly with Chongqing Foreign Trade and Economic Relations Commission (CQFTEC) to promote Supplement VIII to CEPA in Chongqing.	The summary of the findings was released through a joint press conference held by CDETO and CQFTEC in Dec 2011. The press handout is also available at CDETO's website. The full report has been distributed to the relevant Government departments in the Mainland and Hong Kong.

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
CBRE Hong Kong Limited	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at (c) below	Rent Allowance Review for Officers Posted/ Seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan To review the rent allowance rates and to draw up a revised rent allowance system for officers posted/ seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan	HK\$ 600,000	Aug 2011	Completed	The proposals of the Administration on rent allowance arrangements for officers posted/ seconded to offices in the Mainland and Taiwan were endorsed by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council (LegCo) at its meeting on 13 Jan 2012.	The consultancy study report has been uploaded onto the LegCo website for public perusal.

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Hewitt Associates L.L.C.	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at (c) below	<p>Consultancy Services for Reviewing the Remuneration Packages for Officials under the Political Appointment System</p> <p>To conduct research and advise the Independent Commission on Remuneration for Members of the Executive Council and the Legislature, and Officials under the Political Appointment System of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (“the Independent Commission”) on the remuneration packages for politically-appointed officials serving in the fourth-term HKSAR Government</p>	HK\$ 1,900,000	Jul 2011	Completed	<p>The consultancy was conducted at the request of the Independent Commission.</p> <p>The consultancy report was submitted to the Independent Commission for consideration.</p>	The findings were released together with the report of the Independent Commission for public perusal.

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Xi'an Jiaotong University	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at (c) below	CEPA Implementation in Shaanxi To understand the status of CEPA implementation in Shaanxi and explore the business opportunities of Shaanxi for Hong Kong enterprises	RMB 150,000	May 2012	In progress	Not applicable as the study is yet to be completed.	Subject to the completion of the study, the summary of the findings will be released through a joint press conference to be held by CDETO, Shaanxi Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office and Shaanxi Department of Commerce. The full report will be distributed to the relevant Government departments in the Mainland and Hong Kong.

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Centre for Comparative and Public Law of the University of Hong Kong	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at (c) below	Study on the Experience of Overseas Jurisdictions in Implementing Anti-stalking Legislation	HK\$ 850,000	Jan 2013	In progress	Not applicable as the study is yet to be completed.	The Administration will consider the way forward in the light of the study and the Panel on Constitutional Affairs will be consulted on this. Relevant paper for the Panel will be made public.
Colliers International	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at (c) below	Annual Review of Rent Allowance Rates for Officers Posted/ Seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan To obtain the city-specific rental index for the annual revision of rent allowance for officers posted/ seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan	HK\$ 429,000	Feb 2013	In progress	Not applicable as the study is yet to be completed.	The information obtained will be used internally to review the rent allowance rates for officers posted/seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan.

- (b) There is currently no plan for new consultancy studies to be conducted in 2013-14.
- (c) The consultancy projects were awarded to the research institutions concerned after considering the following criteria -
- (i) the research institution's background and relevant past experience on the research topic;
 - (ii) the research team's understanding and knowledge of the research topic; and
 - (iii) whether the quoted consultancy fee is reasonable.

In applying the above criteria, we also took into account the views given to us by relevant local authorities.

2. The Registration and Electoral Office, which is under the purview of CMAB, has not commissioned any consultancy study, and currently has no plan for new consultancy studies to be conducted in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB106

Question Serial No.

3704

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In regard to the growing co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland in recent years, please provide relevant information on Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in which the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau has been involved.

(a) For Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes, please provide information over the past 2 years (for 2011-12 and 2012-13) as per following table:

Project / Programme	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong /Guangdong Co-operation (the Framework Agreement), the expenditure involved	Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, commencement date, target completion date)	Have the details, objectives, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If so, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If not, what are the reasons?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the project/ programme

(b) For Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes of this year (2013-14), please provide information as per following table:

Project / Programme	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement, the expenditure involved	Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, commencement date, target completion date)	Will the details, objectives, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology be released to the public? If so, through which channels and what will be the manpower and expenditure involved? If not, what are the reasons?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the project/ programme

- (c) Apart from the projects or programmes listed above, are there any other modes of Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary cooperation? If so, what are they? What were the manpower and expenditure involved over the past 3 years (from 2010-11 to 2012-13)? How much financial and manpower resources have been earmarked in this year's Estimates?

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) attaches great importance to enhancing co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland. There is general consensus in our community that co-operation with Guangdong is mutually beneficial and complementary. The Legislative Council (LegCo), for example, reaffirmed its strong support by passing two motions entitled "Proactively implementing the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation" and "Promoting regional economic integration between Guangdong and Hong Kong" on 26 May 2010 and 5 May 2011 respectively. The motions urged the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government to formulate and implement the specific policies and measures outlined in the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation (Framework Agreement) as early as possible, and to promote economic integration between Guangdong and Hong Kong on various fronts.

2. The Administration has briefed the House Committee and different Panels of LegCo on individual aspects of the Framework Agreement on various occasions. The full text of the Framework Agreement was issued on the day it was signed (7 April 2010) and details were announced in a press release. While CMAB is responsible for co-ordinating the efforts of the HKSAR Government in promoting co-operation with Guangdong, specific projects are initiated and taken forward by the relevant policy bureaux and departments. Where necessary, relevant parties such as advisory boards and LegCo would be briefed or consulted in accordance with established practice.

3. Since the Framework Agreement was signed in 2010, good progress has been made in its implementation. The 2013 Work Plan setting out the work programme of Hong Kong/Guangdong co-operation for the year was agreed and signed in March this year.

4. About 60% of the estimated provision in 2013-14 under Programme (2) relates to Mainland affairs, including among other things the deepening of regional co-operation with the Mainland. In addition, the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong ETOs in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu under Programme (3) play an active and integral role in fostering closer ties with the Mainland at various levels. Under the two said Programmes, an estimated financial provision of \$117.17 million (excluding staff cost) is for the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and its Mainland Offices to take forward the work in parts (1) and (2) of the question above. As the work involved is an integral part of the duties and functions of the CMAB officers concerned, the manpower provision cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG
Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)
Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB107

Question Serial No.

3728

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(4) Rights of the Individual
(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

- Question:
1. How much manpower (please specify the ranks involved) and resources is allocated by the Administration to follow up the work on anti-discrimination for people of different sexual orientations? What is the percentage share of the remuneration paid to the staff in the amount of resources allocated?
 2. What are the scope and nature of work of the above staff?
 3. What channels are available for people of different sexual orientations to lodge their complaints against discrimination?
 4. Given that due to pressure from the community or family, people of different sexual orientations dare not lodge their complaints even when they are subject to discrimination, what proactive steps will the Administration take to reach out to these cases so as to reflect the real situation of discrimination and to find out their actual number?
 5. How many complaint cases involving discrimination against people of different sexual orientations did the Equal Opportunities Commission receive over the past 3 years (2010-2012)? Among which how many were successfully conciliated?
 6. Over the past 3 years, did the Administration conduct any survey to measure the community's support for legislation with regard to discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation? If yes, what were the findings? Has any provision been earmarked for 2013-14 to continue the survey on the above topic? What is the amount earmarked?

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

- (1) The provision for promotion of equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations (including the staff cost of the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit (GISOU)) in 2013-14 is

\$2.99 million. The work on this is undertaken by the GISOU (which comprises one officer at Executive Officer I-equivalent rank and one officer at Executive Officer II rank) and other subject officers in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau. The staff cost of the GISOU in 2013-14 is \$0.92 million.

(2) The work of the GISOU includes overseeing community projects funded under the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme (Funding Scheme), organising various publicity and educational programmes (such as Announcement in the Public Interest, advertisement on different media and seminars) and maintaining a hotline for enquiries and complaints on issues relating to sexual orientation and gender identity.

(3) & (4) Anyone who feels being discriminated on the ground of sexual orientation may lodge a complaint with the GISOU by phone, mail, fax or email. We endeavour to provide practical advice and assistance to the complainants according to their requests. The Funding Scheme also sponsors programmes which aim to, among other things, provide support services for sexual minorities.

(5) The Equal Opportunities Commission has not kept statistics on complaints in relation to sexual orientation discrimination.

(6) The Administration did not conduct any survey to measure the community's support for legislation with regard to discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation in the past three years. However, we have been monitoring surveys conducted by other bodies. For 2013-14, we will take forward a multi-pronged approach to continue public education and publicity in anti-discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation, and we will continue to keep in view the community's views on legislating against discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB108

Question Serial No.

4384

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Will the Administration advise on the provision for personal emoluments (including salaries, allowances and job-related allowances) of the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 as well as the estimated provision for 2013-14? What is the percentage of the provision against the estimated operational expenses of the Director of Bureau's Office?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

For budgetary purposes, the provision for the salary in respect of the position of Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs is \$3.38 million in each of the four years from 2010-11 to 2013-14. The percentage of the provision against the estimated operational expenses of the Director of Bureau's Office in 2013-14 is 33.5%.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB109

Question Serial No.

4385

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Will the Administration advise on the provision for personal emoluments (including salaries, allowances and job-related allowances) in respect of the Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs and the Political Assistant to Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 as well as the estimated provision for 2013-14? What is the percentage of the provision against the estimated operational expenses of the Director of Bureau's Office?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

For budgetary purposes, the provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (USCMA) and Political Assistant to Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (PA to SCMA) for 2010-11 to 2013-14 are as follows –

	2010-11 to 2012-13	2013-14
Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs	\$2.37 million	\$2.54 million
Political Assistant to Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs	\$1.86 million	\$1.18 million

The percentage of the provision for the salary of the USCMA and the PA to SCMA against the estimated operational expenses of the Director of Bureau's Office in 2013-14 is 36.8%.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB110

Question Serial No.

3781

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will continue to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland, targeting in particular at Guangdong, Beijing, Shanghai, the Chengdu-Chongqing Economic Zone, the Economic Zone on the West Coast of the Taiwan Strait and other provinces and regions in the Pan-Pearl River Delta Region. Will the Administration advise on the details of work relating to the deepening of co-operation with the above regions and the estimated expenditure? Has the Administration assessed the quantifiable economic benefits for Hong Kong arising from deepening regional co-operation?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

Generally speaking, two divisions out of the three divisions in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) are responsible for Mainland affairs (Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs"). In addition, the Beijing Office and the three Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu respectively (Mainland Offices) under Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" play a leading and integral role in fostering closer ties with the Mainland at various levels. Under the two said Programmes, an estimated financial provision of \$117.17 million (excluding staff cost) is for CMAB and its Mainland Offices to take forward the work to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland. As the work involved is an integral part of the duties and functions of the CMAB officers concerned, the manpower provision cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

2. With the above provision, CMAB and its Mainland Offices will deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland, including organising and providing logistic support for co-operation fora (such as conferences and meetings) in Hong Kong; participating in bilateral and multilateral co-operation fora in the Mainland; enhancing liaison and communications with the Central People's Government, the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in the Mainland; and organising events (such as seminars, exhibitions and workshops) to promote Hong Kong's strengths and trade and commercial interests.

3. We do not have any quantitative estimation on the economic benefits arising from the work of regional co-operation. We believe the growing co-operation with the relevant regions will

foster a better business environment and generate increased opportunities for Hong Kong enterprises.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB111

Question Serial No.

3782

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: In 2013-14, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will monitor and disseminate information to Hong Kong business sector on policies and regional development in the Mainland and Taiwan that have significant bearings on the business environment and opportunities to Hong Kong enterprises. Will the Administration provide details of the past efforts it had made in this respect and the expenditure involved? What is the detailed work plan for the coming year and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

To facilitate the Hong Kong business sector to keep abreast of the major developments in the Mainland and Taiwan and capitalise on the markets, the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu (collectively, Mainland Offices), as well as the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) in Taiwan have been gathering relevant information on new laws and regulations, policies and significant regional developments and disseminating such information to the Hong Kong business sector through various channels, such as circulars/newsletters/press releases, websites, seminars, workshops and exhibitions. For example, in 2012, the Mainland Offices and HKETCO had issued 620 circulars/newsletters/press releases, and organised and participated in 280 seminars, exhibitions and workshops in enhancing trade opportunities.

2. In 2013-14, the Mainland Offices and HKETCO will continue with the above efforts. The above work is an integral part of their roles and functions. The estimated expenditure involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB112

Question Serial No.

3783

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: In 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will strengthen economic and trade liaison with and enhance investment promotion function in the Mainland. In this connection, will the Administration advise in detail the specific work, the estimated expenditure involved and manpower arrangement for the coming year? Has the Administration conducted an analysis on which Mainland cities have the largest investment potential. If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

The major responsibilities of the Mainland Offices (namely the Beijing Office, and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu) include enhancing liaison and communication with the counterparts in the areas under their coverage; representing and promoting Hong Kong's trade and commercial interests; encouraging and attracting investments to Hong Kong and promoting Hong Kong's many advantages as an investment and business hub in Asia; and promoting the strengths of Hong Kong through appropriate channels. The above work complements each other in promoting the economic interest of Hong Kong in the Mainland.

2. In 2013-14, the Mainland Offices will continue to adopt a multi-pronged approach in promoting the economic interest of Hong Kong, including strengthening economic and trade liaison with and enhancing investment promotion function in the Mainland through appropriate channels. These channels include attending meetings and calling on the Mainland counterparts, organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops; as well as gathering relevant information on new laws and regulations, policies and latest economic developments in the Mainland and disseminating such information to the Hong Kong business sector through circulars/newsletters/press releases etc.

3. The Mainland Offices also work closely with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (TDC), which conducts thematic studies on investment environment in the Mainland. The related reports are available online at TDC's website, which is hyperlinked to the websites of Mainland Offices for easy access by the public. The Mainland Offices will also assist Hong Kong businessmen operating in the Mainland in liaising with the relevant local authorities if they wish to obtain more in-depth information about the investment potential of a particular city in the Mainland.

4. In promoting inward investment, the Investment Promotion Units of the Mainland Offices, working together with the Headquarters of Invest Hong Kong, will continue to identify potential Mainland companies in the areas that they cover; proactively approach and visit the companies identified; provide free one-stop information and consultation services; organise incoming visits and assist the Mainland companies to set up or expand their business operations in Hong Kong.

5. The Mainland Offices' work on strengthening economic and trade liaison with and enhancing the investment promotion function in the Mainland is an integral part of their roles and functions. The estimated expenditure involved and manpower arrangement cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB113

Question Serial No.

3513

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: One of the matters requiring special attention in 2013-14 is to: "enhance publicity to promote equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations, including promotion of the Code of Practice against Discrimination on the Ground of Sexual Orientation in public and private sectors." What are the details of such work and the estimated expenditure? How do they compare with those in 2012-13?

Asked by: Hon. LEE Wai-king, Starry

Reply:

The Government's work on promotion of equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations in 2013-14 includes organising various publicity and promotion programmes (such as Announcement in the Public Interest on television and radio, and advertisement at train stations and bus stations, on the internet and via other media), sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, pursuing study on measures adopted by overseas jurisdictions, maintaining a hotline for enquiries and complaints, and exchanging views with sexual minority groups to better understand the specific problems they encounter with a view to mapping out targeted measures to tackle such problems. We will also encourage major employers in the public and private sectors to adopt the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation (the Code); organise seminars, talks and briefings to promote adoption and application of the Code.

2. The above work will be undertaken by the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit (GISOU) and other subject officers in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau. The estimate for the above activities (including the staff cost of the GISOU) is \$2.99 million. This represents an increase of \$0.25 million (9.1%) over the revised estimate for 2012-13 and \$1.15 million (62.5%) over the original estimate for 2012-13.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB114

Question Serial No.

4996

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The Chief Executive Mr C Y LEUNG stated that it is necessary to enhance relations with the Mainland in all aspects ("homeland relationship"). Please provide the details and content of the "homeland relationship" initiatives, the indicators for their effectiveness, as well as manpower and financial expenditure involved. Currently, what is being carried out on "homeland relationship" by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices stationed in the Mainland (Beijing, Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu)? Please elaborate.

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

In 2013-14, we have set aside about \$24.06 million as additional provision for Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" to further enhance the functions of the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu (Mainland Offices). Altogether seven new posts will be created in 2013-14 under the Beijing Office, Shanghai ETO and Chengdu ETO, and a time-limited post under Guangdong ETO will be converted into a permanent post.

2. With the above provision, the Mainland Offices will take forward work to strengthen "homeland relationship" and better assist Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the Mainland, including setting up a new Immigration Division in Chengdu ETO; strengthening liaison with Hong Kong people and groups in the Mainland to provide them with information and assistance as far as possible; conducting researches on national policies and disseminating related findings to facilitate Hong Kong residents and enterprises to seize the development opportunities; and enhancing communication and publicity (such as revamping websites, exhibitions, and cultural performances, etc.) targeted at different sectors in the Mainland, with a view to promoting the strengths of Hong Kong and fostering mutual understanding and respect between Hong Kong and the Mainland. The performance indicators under "Enhancing Trade Opportunities" and "Promotion of Strengths of Hong Kong" in Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" are applicable to the aforementioned work which is an integral part of the functions of the Mainland Offices.

3. At present, under the policy steer of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau, the Mainland Offices are formulating implementation plan to take forward the above work. They

have also strengthened the dissemination of information on Hong Kong's latest developments and policies through enhancing liaison and communication with the Central People's Government, the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in the Mainland.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB115

Question Serial No.

4997

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) proposed to be set up in Wuhan by the HKSAR Government will be very close to the existing ETO in Chengdu and the Chongqing Liaison Unit. What are the details of their respective work? Will there be any duplication of resources? Taking account of other cities and markets in need of support in the Mainland, will there be any uneven distribution of resources?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

With national support policies, the Central Region of the Mainland has seen rapid economic growth in recent years. It also occupies a strategic location connecting the vibrant economies in the Eastern part and the vast hinterland in the Western part. The Central Government positions Wuhan, Hubei as the centre in the Central Region. Besides, Wuhan is an integral transport hub in the Region with solid economic foundation. It also has close ties and strong complementarity with Hong Kong.

2. To seize the opportunities arising from the development of the Central Region, in 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will take forward preparatory work related to the setting up of a Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Wuhan, with a view to establishing the new office in 2014. In pursuing the preparatory work in this regard, we will consider the coverage of the new office and the consequent changes to the coverage of the Beijing Office and the existing three ETOs (Mainland Offices), so that the five offices will share out, and not duplicate, the work and responsibilities.

3. Similar to the existing ETOs in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu respectively, the major responsibilities of the Wuhan ETO are to enhance the liaison and communication with the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in areas under its coverage; represent and promote Hong Kong trade and commercial interests in these areas; encourage and

attract investments to Hong Kong, and promote Hong Kong's many advantages as an investment and business hub in Asia; promote the strengths of Hong Kong; and provide information and other appropriate support to Hong Kong residents in these areas.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB116

Question Serial No.

5351

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In respect of the electoral arrangements for 2016 Legislative Council election and 2017 Chief Executive election, has the Government earmarked any resources for conducting public consultations or other preparatory work in 2013-14? If yes, what are the details and the expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

As mentioned by the Chief Executive in his 2013 Policy Address, the Government will launch a comprehensive consultation on the electoral methods for the Chief Executive election in 2017 and the Legislative Council election in 2016 and initiate the constitutional procedures at an appropriate juncture. In this regard, we will make preparation in 2013-14 for the public consultation on the two electoral methods for 2016 and 2017. For budgetary purposes, we have set aside about \$7.3 million (excluding staff cost) and plan to create six time-limited posts for the public consultation exercise when it is launched.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB117

Question Serial No.

4584

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) will engage the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council (THEC) to take forward new priority co-operation areas agreed at the Third Joint Meeting between the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Co-operation and Promotion Council and THEC. In this connection, will the Administration provide details of the co-operation areas, CMAB's work plan and a breakdown of the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

The Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Cooperation and Promotion Council (ECCPC) and the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council (THEC) agreed at the Third Joint Meeting on four new priority cooperation areas, namely: environmental protection, heritage conservation, co-operation on testing and certification industries and notification of unsafe consumer goods, as well as exchanges between the investment promotion agencies of both sides. In 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau, as the secretariat to the ECCPC, will coordinate the efforts of relevant bureaux and departments to strengthen co-operation and exchange with Taiwan in these areas, such as lining up experience sharing meetings, mutual visits, etc. As the work involved is an integral part of our duties and functions for supporting the ECCPC and exchanges with Taiwan, the financial and manpower provision cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB118

Question Serial No.

4286

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14 under this Programme that the Bureau will facilitate commencement of the new provisions relating to direct marketing and legal assistance in the Personal Data (Privacy) (Amendment) Ordinance 2012 (PDPAO). In this regard, the Bureau expressed at the meeting of Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs in January that the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data will launch various publicity and education programmes from January to March this year for making preparation for the commencement of the remaining provisions of the PDPAO. In this connection, will the Bureau advise on the following:

- a. the progress and effectiveness of such publicity and education programmes, the expenditure involved, and whether the remaining provisions will come into operation on 1 April?
- b. the number of complaints relating to direct marketing received from January 2013 till now? Of these complaints, how many have been granted legal assistance and what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

Majority of the provisions of the PDPAO came into operation on 1 October 2012. The outstanding provisions relating to direct marketing and legal assistance also came into operation on 1 April 2013. The Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) has pursued publicity and promotion activities in connection with implementation of the provisions relating to direct marketing and legal assistance as set out in the following page:

For the provisions relating to direct marketing

Target Audience	Activities	Achievements
Data users involved in the collection and use of personal data for direct marketing activities	1. A media briefing was held on 15 January 2013.	30 media attended the briefing.
	2. A new guidance on direct marketing was released on 15 January 2013: - new requirements on the collection and use of personal data in direct marketing; and - sale of personal data to third parties for direct marketing.	The new guidance is available in printed copies and on the PCPD website.
	3. An introductory seminar to members of the Data Protection Officers' Club was held on 22 January 2013.	115 members attended the seminar.
	4. Advertisements in professional publications/newsletters of major relevant associations have been/will be issued in March and April 2013.	The major relevant associations include the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, the Hong Kong Retail Management Association, and the Hong Kong Institute of Chartered Secretaries.
	5. 12 professional workshops and one special seminar on direct marketing have been organised from January to March 2013.	708 participants (including data protection officers, compliance officers, legal practitioners, marketing practitioners and personnel from the industries of banking, insurance, retail and telecommunications, as well as the public and other private sectors) enrolled in the workshops/seminar.
	6. A dedicated seminar for the Hong Kong Retail Management Association was held on 15 March 2013.	There were over 100 attendees.

Target Audience	Activities	Achievements
	7. A seminar co-organised with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and the Trade and Industry Department was held on 20 March 2013 targeting small and medium enterprises.	Over 150 participants enrolled in the seminar.
Data subjects (General public)	8. A short video on direct marketing was uploaded onto the PCPD website in October 2012.	As at March 2013, over 2 300 views were recorded.
	9. Mass media coverage has been generated on the new regulatory regime on direct marketing.	Special article published in a free newspaper on 16 October 2012. A special report broadcast on television on 31 December 2012. Further coverage from media including newspapers, television and business newsletter.
	10. An information leaflet on the exercise of the right of consent to and opt-out from direct marketing activities was released on 15 January 2013.	The information leaflet is available in printed copies and on the PCPD website.

For the provisions relating to legal assistance

Target Audience	Activities	Achievements
Data subjects (general public) and data users	1. A media briefing was held on 15 January 2013.	30 media attended the briefing.
	2. An information leaflet on “Legal assistance for civil claims under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance” was released on 15 January 2013.	The information leaflet is available in printed copies and on the PCPD website.
	3. A short video on the legal assistance scheme was uploaded onto the PCPD website in October 2012.	As at March 2013, over 900 views were recorded.

2. Separately, the Administration has released an Announcement in the Public Interest for broadcast on television and radio from March 2013 to raise the awareness of data subjects of their rights under the new regime regulating the use of personal data in direct marketing. Posters and newspaper advertisements were also arranged.

3. The PCPD has received 20 complaint cases relating to direct marketing in the two months from 1 January to 28 February 2013. The PCPD did not receive any application for legal assistance during this period.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB119

Question Serial No.

3947

Head: 144 GS: Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Secretary for Security

Question: Please list out the respective manpower and expenditure of the Beijing Office, the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan, and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu. Please set out, in table form, a breakdown by category the number of requests for assistance from Hong Kong residents handled by each office in each of the past 3 years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13)

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

The establishment of the Beijing Office for 2013-14 will comprise 3 directorate officers (i.e. 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade A, 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade B1 and 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 14 non-directorate officers (i.e. 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 3 Trade Officers, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer, 3 Immigration Officers, 1 Chief Information Officer, 1 Information Officer, 1 Executive Officer I and 1 Senior Personal Secretary). The office will be supported by 30 locally-engaged staff to assist in various duties.

2. The establishment of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Guangdong for 2013-14 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 14 non-directorate officers (i.e. 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 4 Principal Trade Officers, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer, 2 Immigration Officers and 1 Principal Information Officer). The office will be supported by 26 locally-engaged staff to assist in various duties.

3. The establishment of the Shanghai ETO in 2013-14 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 6 non-directorate officers (i.e. 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 3 Trade Officers and 1 Senior Information Officer). The office will be supported by 13 locally-engaged staff to assist in various duties.

4. The establishment of the Chengdu ETO in 2013-14 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 11 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer and 2 Immigration Officers). The office will be supported by 20 locally-engaged staff to assist in various duties. The above figure has included the additional manpower to support the Immigration Division planned to be established under the Chengdu ETO in 2013.

5. The establishment of the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) in Taiwan in 2013-14 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 7 non-directorate officers (i.e. 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 2 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Executive Officer I and 1 Personal Secretary). The office will be supported by 7 locally-engaged staff to assist in various duties.

6. In 2013-14, the allocation for the Mainland and Taiwan Offices under Programme (3) is \$203.3 million. We have earmarked \$62.7 million for the Beijing Office, \$50.4 million for the Guangdong ETO, \$30.4 million for the Shanghai ETO, \$33.8 million for the Chengdu ETO and \$25.9 million for the HKETCO.

7. Information on the number of requests for assistance received by the Mainland and Taiwan Offices in 2010, 2011 and 2012 is set out in the attached table.

Name in block letters: GORDON LEUNG
Post Title: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional
and Mainland Affairs (Acting)
Date: 16 April 2013

		Requests for assistance relating to immigration and personal safety matters	Other assistance cases	Total (by Office)
2010	BJO	159	91	250
	GDETO	198	85	283
	SHETO	Covered by BJO	30	30
	CDETO		15	15
2011	BJO	232	78	310
	GDETO	269	78	347
	SHETO	Covered by BJO	29	29
	CDETO		11	11
2012	BJO	174	95	269
	GDETO	188	77	265
	SHETO	Covered by BJO	20	20
	CDETO		15	15
	HKETCO*	35	7	42

*The HKETCO commenced operation on 19 December 2011.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB120

Question Serial No.

4733

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: In 2012-13, how much resources were allocated by REO for voter registration? What were the details and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The 2012 Voter Registration (VR) campaign for new registration lasted from 31 March to 16 May 2012, while the publicity to remind registered electors to update their registered particulars with the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) lasted until 29 June 2012. The REO implemented, with the assistance of other government departments as necessary, the following measures –

- (a) launching a series of publicity measures, including television and radio Announcements in the Public Interests, mini-concerts, radio programmes, placement of advertisements in newspapers, at major MTR stations and on public transport vehicle bodies, display of posters, buntings and banners, placement of advertisements through new media such as Facebook and Yahoo, messages broadcast through MTR Info Panels and setting up a dedicated website for VR;
- (b) setting up registration counters at the five Registration of Persons Offices of the Immigration Department, higher education institutions and locations with heavy pedestrian flow to appeal to eligible persons to register as electors and registered electors to update their registered particulars with REO;
- (c) sending VR forms to various institutions and organisations, including government departments, banks, universities, higher education institutions, youth and elderly centres to facilitate interested and eligible persons to register;
- (d) sending appeal letters and notification letters to encourage and facilitate eligible persons to register as electors in functional constituencies (FCs);
- (e) appealing to the specified bodies to encourage their members who are eligible electors in FCs to register; and
- (f) sending appeal letters to households which have recently moved into new private residential buildings to remind them to report change of address to REO.

2. The overall estimated expenditure for the 2012 VR campaign in 2012-13 is \$71 million including total staff cost, promotion and publicity expenses and other operating expenses for processing the registration forms received and for compiling and publishing the provisional and final registers.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB121

Question Serial No.

4738

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title): Head:

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Please advise on the respective numbers of complaints received during the Legislative Council and Chief Executive elections last year. What is the progress of follow-up actions taken so far? Has any provision been set aside for handling of the complaints mentioned above this year?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Electoral Affairs Commission has received 57 and 7 421 complaints in respect of the 2012 Chief Executive election and 2012 Legislative Council election respectively. As at 15 March 2013, the progress of investigation of these complaints is set out below:

Election		Progress of investigation			Total no. of complaints received
		Action completed and case closed	Referral made to other relevant parties for follow-up action	Investigation underway	
1	2012 Chief Executive election	42	9	6	57
2	2012 Legislative Council election	6 367	525	529	7 421

2. The Registration Electoral Office will continue to process the outstanding complaints. Eleven staff will be deployed to handle these complaints as part of their duties and the expenditure on the salary of these staff has been included in the 2013-14 Draft Estimates of Expenditure.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB122

Question Serial No.

4751

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: After last year's Legislative Council election, the media reported that some of the elderly voters held a piece of paper in their hands reminding them whom to vote on the Polling Day. As this affected the fairness of the election, is the Office currently conducting investigation on this matter? Has the Office reserved expenses for reviewing the relevant measures?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

In the 2012 Legislative Council election, complaints were lodged with the Electoral Affairs Commission making reference to media reports that some electors had a label showing two numbers (which were believed to be the candidate numbers of two candidates) affixed to the palm of the electors. The complainants alleged that some electors might have been manipulated by other persons to cast their votes. As the allegations involve possible breach of the Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Conduct) Ordinance which is enforced by the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), the complaints have been referred to the ICAC for investigation with the complainants' consent of referral. The REO will keep in view the findings of ICAC's investigation and in the light of the findings consider whether there is a need for follow-up actions. The manpower involved will be absorbed by existing resources.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB123

Question Serial No.

4757

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Please advise on the estimated amount of expenditure for conducting the by-election for the Tin Sum Constituency of the Sha Tin District Council held on 10 March 2013.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The estimated expenditure for the conduct of the Sha Tin District Council Tin Sum Constituency by-election on 10 March 2013 is around \$0.6 million.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB124

Question Serial No.

3664

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: Regarding the departmental records management work over the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13):

1. Please provide information on the number and rank of officers designated to perform such work. If there is no officer designated for such work, please provide information on the number of officers and the hours of work involved in records management duties, and the other duties they have to undertake in addition to records management;
2. Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been closed pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal:

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metre of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

3. Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred to GRS for retention:

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metre of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

4. Please list in the table below information on records which have been approved for destruction by GRS:

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metre of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

In the Registration and Electoral Office, one officer at the rank of Senior Executive Officer is appointed as the Departmental Records Manager (DRM) responsible for establishing and implementing a comprehensive departmental records management programme. The DRM is

assisted by five officers at Executive Officer I or II rank in records management. Staff of individual offices are responsible for the day-to-day records management activities in their own offices. The work is performed as part of their daily duties. We do not keep daily logs on the number of hours of work involved in records management.

2. Information on programme and administrative records which were closed pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal in the past three years is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metre of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
Programme records	2001 – 2010	770 records in 35.98 linear metres	2 to 5 years after action completed	Some are confidential
Administrative records	2001 – 2004	608 records in 2.82 linear metres	12 months after action completed	No

3. Information on programme and administrative records which were transferred to GRS for retention in the past three years is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metre of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
Programme records	1997 – 2004	12 records in 0.72 linear metre	2012	Permanent retention in Public Records Office	Yes
Administrative records	Nil				

4. Information on records which were approved for destruction by GRS in the past three years is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metre of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
Programme records	1982 – 2011	2 600 records in 86.9 linear metres	Not Applicable	6 months to 5 years after action completed	Some are confidential
Administrative records	1981 – 2009	308 records in 8.6 linear metres	Not Applicable	3 months to 7 years after action completed	No

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB125

Question Serial No.

4149

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) has set up a team of 79 staff to conduct random checks on voters' residential addresses, promote the new District Council (Second) Functional Constituency Election, conduct checks on demolished buildings and strengthen inter-departmental efforts in verifying personal particulars of voters, etc. Its expenditure was met by REO's provision in 2011-12 and 2012-13.

REO will delete 47 posts this year (2013-14). As such, I would like to know the following:

1. Will the team continue to operate this year? If yes, what is the expenditure and establishment involved? If no, what are the reasons?
2. REO has undertaken to review the actual workload arising from strengthening checks on voters' identities. What are the results? What will be the impact on REO's expenditure and changes in establishment?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

Duties relating to voter registration (VR) and checking are carried out by a team of civil servants and non-civil service contract staff (NCSC) in the REO. In 2012-13, the VR and checking were carried out by such a team comprising 78 civil servants and some 330 NCSC staff whose duties are to carry out VR and checking measures for all constituencies in all elections of the concerned financial year. The 79 staff mentioned in the question belong to that team.

2. After reviewing the experience in 2012-13, the REO will strengthen the existing manpower in conducting VR and checking. In 2013-14, the VR and checking work will be carried out by a team comprising 86 civil servants augmented by additional non-civil service contract staff who will be engaged as and when required. The provision for the concerned staff cost and operational expenses is \$38 million.

3. In the 2013 VR cycle, the REO will continue to implement the enhanced checking measures adopted in 2012 to oversee the accuracy of the registered particulars of electors. In addition, the REO will strengthen the publicity on VR to encourage eligible persons to register as electors and remind registered electors to update their residential addresses in a timely manner after moving away from their previously registered address. Details of the checking measures and VR publicity in the 2013 VR cycle were reported to the Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs at its meeting held on 18 March 2013.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG
Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer
Date: 16 April 2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB126

Question Serial No.

3915

Head: 163: Registration and Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Question: With respect to assisting street sleepers, senior citizens living in residential care homes and patients admitted to hospitals to vote, how is the REO going to improve the relevant electoral arrangements? Has the REO considered changing its passive approach of the past and taking proactive steps to reach out and provide assistance to this particular group of people mentioned above?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

In accordance with the electoral legislation, the Chief Electoral Officer must in at least 10 days before the polling day send a poll card to each elector. Also, the Chief Electoral Officer must state in the poll card the polling station at which the elector must cast his or her vote. To facilitate electors to vote, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will attach to the poll card sent to each elector a location map of the allocated polling station. This arrangement is applicable to all electors, including electors who are street sleepers, elderly electors who live in residential care homes, and in-patient electors.

2. For electors who have mobility difficulties, if they find that the polling stations allocated to them are inaccessible to wheelchair-bound or disabled electors, they can apply to the REO by phone or by fax five days before the polling day for re-allocation of polling stations which are accessible to them and close to their residence. If circumstances permit, the REO will also through the Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation arrange Rehabus service for these electors to transport them to and from the polling stations. For instance, for the 2012 Legislative Council election, thirty-four electors applied for re-allocation of polling stations while eleven electors used the Rehabus service. For street sleepers, the REO will try to assist them in registering as electors and allow them to use a suitable correspondence address for receipt of poll cards and other election-related documents. They will also be assigned to vote at polling stations which are near to the addresses they have stated as residence in their voter registration forms.

3. The REO will continue to explore ways to improve the existing electoral arrangements with a view to facilitating street sleepers, senior citizens living in residential care homes and patients admitted to hospitals to vote.

Name in block letters: LI PAK HONG

Post Title: Chief Electoral Officer

Date: 16 April 2013