

Head 70 — IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT

Controlling officer: the Director of Immigration will account for expenditure under this Head.

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Estimate 2015–16 | \$3,910.3m |
| Establishment ceiling 2015–16 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 7 097 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2015 rising by 106 posts to 7 203 posts as at 31 March 2016 | \$2,864.9m |
| In addition, there will be an estimated 12 directorate posts as at 31 March 2015 and as at 31 March 2016. | |
| Commitment balance | \$9.9m |

Controlling Officer's Report

Programmes

Programme (1) Pre-entry Control
Programme (2) Control upon Entry
Programme (3) Control after Entry
Programme (4) Personal Documentation
Programme (5) Nationality and Assistance to HKSAR Residents outside Hong Kong

These programmes contribute to Policy Area 10: Immigration Control (Secretary for Security).

Detail

Programme (1): Pre-entry Control

| | 2013–14 (Actual) | 2014–15 (Original) | 2014–15 (Revised) | 2015–16 (Estimate) |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Financial provision (\$m) | 259.5 | 265.3 | 276.2 (+4.1%) | 280.7 (+1.6%) |
| | | | | (or +5.8% on 2014–15 Original) |

Aim

2 The aim is to control, through the visa system, legal immigration and the entry of foreign workers and to prevent the entry of undesirable persons.

Brief Description

3 The Visa Control (Policies) Division and Visa Control (Operations) Division of the Department deal with all aspects of pre-entry immigration control through the visa and entry permit systems and related petitions/appeals/judicial reviews. The work involves:

- adopting an open immigration regime to facilitate entry of talent, professionals and entrepreneurs;
- processing applications for entry into Hong Kong for employment, investment, training, residence and study in accordance with approved policies and procedures;
- facilitating entry of bona-fide tourists and business visitors through the issue of visas, visit permits, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Travel Passes and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Business Travel Cards;
- processing applications for Pre-arrival Registration for Taiwan Residents by electronic means to facilitate Taiwan visitors to come to Hong Kong;
- processing applications for Certificate of Entitlement to the right of abode in Hong Kong;
- issuing entry permits to Mainland fisherman deckhands entering Hong Kong on board dual registered vessels for unloading catches in local fish markets under the Mainland Fisherman Deckhand Scheme;
- preventing the entry of undesirable persons who are likely to pose a threat to the security, prosperity and well-being of Hong Kong;
- examining critically the bona fides of foreign visitors seeking to enter Hong Kong; and
- processing petitions/appeals/judicial reviews on visa control and Certificate of Entitlement matters.

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4 The key performance measures are:

Targets

| | Target | 2013 (Actual) | 2014 (Actual) | 2015 (Plan) |
|---|--------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| average processing time (upon receipt of all supporting documents) | | | | |
| entry visas and permits for visit within four weeks (%) | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| entry visas and permits for employment within four weeks (%) | 90.0 | 98.5 | 98.8 | 98.0 |
| entry permits under the Admission Scheme for Mainland Talents and Professionals within four weeks (%) | 90.0 | 97.5 | 96.1 | 97.0 |
| other entry visas and permits within six weeks (%) | 90.0 | 98.4 | 97.4 | 98.0 |
| visit permits, Taiwan Visit Permits (iPermits) and Pre-arrival Registration for Taiwan residents within two working days (%)φ | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| change of status within six weeks (%) | 90.0 | 96.8 | 97.6 | 97.0 |

φ The iPermit Scheme was terminated on 1 March 2014.

Indicators

| | 2013 (Actual) | 2014 (Actual) | 2015 (Estimate) |
|---|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| no. of applications | | | |
| entry visa | | | |
| received | 244 740 | 244 244 | 252 800 |
| processedΩ | 233 026 | 245 048 | 252 800 |
| visit visa | | | |
| received | 64 284 | 67 179 | 73 000 |
| processedΩ | 64 082 | 67 284 | 73 000 |
| visit permit for Taiwan residents# | | | |
| received | 875 | 576 | 330 |
| processedΩ | 881 | 586 | 330 |
| iPermit# | | | |
| received | 1 482 | 75 | N.A. |
| processedΩ | 1 482 | 75 | N.A. |
| Pre-arrival Registration for Taiwan Residents# | | | |
| received | 476 288 | 502 406 | 535 100 |
| processedΩ | 476 288 | 502 406 | 535 100 |
| APEC Business Travel Card - local applications | | | |
| received | 7 171 | 8 771 | 9 900 |
| processedΩ | 6 955 | 9 063 | 9 900 |
| APEC Business Travel Card - referral applications | | | |
| received | 38 131 | 46 691 | 50 600 |
| processedΩ | 38 393 | 46 224 | 50 600 |
| HKSAR Travel Pass | | | |
| received | 826 | 687 | 590 |
| processedΩ | 812 | 738 | 590 |
| change of status | | | |
| received | 9 042 | 9 590 | 11 100 |
| processedΩ | 8 903 | 9 742 | 11 100 |
| entry permit for Mainland Fisherman Deckhands | | | |
| received | 5 642 | 5 410 | 5 400 |
| processedΩ | 5 655 | 5 439 | 5 400 |
| petition/appeal/judicial review | | | |
| received | 54 | 51 | 50 |
| processedΩ | 59 | 39 | 50 |

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| | 2013 (Actual) | 2014 (Actual) | 2015 (Estimate) |
|--|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Certificate of Entitlement received..... | 6 817 | 5 867 | 6 100 |
| processed Ω | 6 635 | 6 554 | 6 100 |

Ω The number of applications processed includes outstanding applications brought forward from the previous year.

Since the launch of the Pre-arrival Registration for Taiwan Residents on 1 September 2012, it has been well received and many Taiwan visitors, who previously used iPermit or visit permit services, have switched to using the pre-arrival registration service for coming to Hong Kong; hence the drop in the number of applications for “iPermit” and “visit permit for Taiwan residents”. The iPermit Scheme was terminated on 1 March 2014.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2015–16

5 During 2015–16, the Department will:

- refine the various admission schemes to attract and retain talent, professionals and entrepreneurs from outside Hong Kong to support the economic development of Hong Kong, including implementing a pilot scheme to attract the second generation of Chinese Hong Kong permanent residents who have emigrated overseas to return to Hong Kong;
- continue to provide immigration facilitation to support the policy objective of attracting more non-local students to study in our higher education institutions and facilitate them to stay and work in Hong Kong after graduation; and
- continue to implement the new Information Technology Infrastructure (ITI) and expand the data centre capacity to upkeep service quality and enhance its handling capacity to cope with substantially growing service demands and a number of new initiatives in coming years. The new ITI will also support services in Programmes (2) to (5).

Programme (2): Control upon Entry

| | 2013–14 (Actual) | 2014–15 (Original) | 2014–15 (Revised) | 2015–16 (Estimate) |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Financial provision (\$m) | 1,921.2 | 1,989.7 | 2,056.3 (+3.3%) | 2,110.7 (+2.6%) |
| | | | | (or +6.1% on 2014–15 Original) |

Aim

6 The aims are to exercise quantitative and qualitative control over legal immigration; prevent the entry of undesirable persons and the departure of persons wanted for criminal offences; facilitate the movement of bona-fide tourists, business visitors and local residents; and process cross-boundary vehicles.

Brief Description

7 The Border (Rail), Border (Vehicles), Harbour and Airport Divisions of the Department are responsible for operations at all control points of entry into and exit from Hong Kong via land, sea or air. The Border (Rail) Division comprises three land boundary control points, serving railway passengers at Lo Wu, Hung Hom and Lok Ma Chau Spur Line. Lo Wu is the busiest land passenger crossing point. The Border (Vehicles) Division covers four land boundary control points at Lok Ma Chau, Man Kam To, Sha Tau Kok and Shenzhen Bay, serving cross-boundary passengers and vehicles. Among them, the Shenzhen Bay Control Point provides “Co-location of Boundary Crossing Facilities” for both passengers and vehicles. There is also a clearance centre at San Uk Ling which deals with the processing and repatriation of illegal immigrants from the Mainland. Immigration control over people movements by passenger liners and ferries to and from the Mainland and Macao is carried out at various ferry terminals. The Kai Tak Cruise Terminal which opened in 2013 provides immigration clearance to passengers and crew members travelling by cruise liners. Control over other types of sea traffic is usually carried out at the Eastern, Western and Tuen Mun Immigration Anchorages. Operations at the Airport enforce immigration control over passengers and aircrew entering and leaving Hong Kong by air. There are designated detention quarters in the China, Macau and Tuen Mun Ferry Terminals, the Harbour Control Section, the River Trade Terminal, Lok Ma Chau Spur Line and Shenzhen Bay control points and the Airport for detaining passengers and undesirable persons who have been refused entry and pending removal. The work involves:

- examining incoming passengers, crew, vehicles and craft in a courteous and efficient manner to detect illegal immigrants, criminals and undesirable persons;

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- examining outgoing passengers, crew, vehicles and craft in a courteous and efficient manner to detect immigration offenders and persons wanted for criminal offences; and
- repatriating illegal immigrants, individuals refused landing and undesirable persons in an efficient and reasonable manner.

8 The Border (Rail), Border (Vehicles), Harbour and Airport Divisions of the Department strive to cope with the growth of passenger traffic at control points, provide efficient immigration clearance and combat the use of forged travel documents.

9 The key performance measures are:

Targets

| | Target | 2013 (Actual) | 2014 (Actual) | 2015 (Plan) |
|---|--------|------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| clearing visitors within a 30-minute waiting time in the case of travelling by land (%)..... | 95.0 | 97.6 | 99.0 | 99.0 |
| sea (%)..... | 95.0 | 97.9 | 98.7 | 98.7 |
| clearing visitors within a 15-minute waiting time in the case of travelling by air (%)..... | 95.0 | 99.6 | 99.9 | 99.9 |
| clearing residents within a 15-minute waiting time in the case of travelling by land (%)..... | 98 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| sea (%)..... | 98.0 | 99.9 | 100 | 100 |
| air (%)..... | 98 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Indicators

| | 2013 (Actual) | 2014 (Actual) | 2015 (Estimate) |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| passengers/vehicles/vessels examined | | | |
| land..... | 224 248 837 | 234 212 240 | 242 827 000 |
| sea..... | 31 950 950 | 32 962 773 | 33 850 000 |
| air..... | 40 955 387 | 43 235 260 | 46 262 000 |
| visitors/seamen refused entry..... | 37 105 | 42 177 | 51 000 |
| secondary examination..... | 557 712 | 610 497 | 657 000 |

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2015–16

10 During 2015–16, the Department will continue to:

- implement the complementary immigration measures on non-local pregnant visitors coming to give birth in Hong Kong;
- implement facilitation measures to ease the immigration clearance for cross boundary students at control points;
- plan the immigration facilities required in the new control points at the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link West Kowloon Terminus, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong port area and Liangtang/Heung Yuen Wai; and
- develop and implement the new Immigration Control System to enhance operational efficiency and effectiveness at immigration control points for meeting rising service demands.

Programme (3): Control after Entry

| | 2013–14 (Actual) | 2014–15 (Original) | 2014–15 (Revised) | 2015–16 (Estimate) |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Financial provision (\$m) | 783.9 | 804.2 | 835.1 (+3.8%) | 845.5 (+1.2%) |
| | | | | (or +5.1% on 2014–15 Original) |

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Aim

11 The aim is to exercise immigration control by granting or refusing extension of stay; investigating and prosecuting offenders under the Immigration Ordinance (Cap. 115), Immigration Service Ordinance (Cap. 331), Registration of Persons Ordinance (Cap. 177), Marriage Ordinance (Cap. 181), Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance (Cap. 174), and certain provisions under the Crimes Ordinance (Cap. 200); removing or deporting illegal immigrants, overstayers and undesirable persons from Hong Kong; and implementing a unified screening mechanism (USM), based on the procedures under the statutory torture claim screening mechanism, to assess non-refoulement claims lodged on applicable grounds including torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment as well as persecution, and effect timely removal of those whose claim is rejected.

Brief Description

12 The Visa Control (Operations) Division, Enforcement Division and Removal Assessment and Litigation Division of the Department are responsible for post-entry immigration control. The work involves:

- processing and considering applications for extension of stay and change of status from visitors and temporary residents effectively and efficiently;
- taking enforcement action against illegal immigrants and visitors engaged in unlawful employment after entry and/or overstaying, and related employers;
- maintaining vigilance in extension of stay and change of status applications from doubtful visitors so as to prevent them from prolonging their stay in Hong Kong for illicit purposes;
- arresting overstayers, illegal immigrants, illegal workers and other immigration offenders;
- investigating immigration offences and initiating prosecutions if there is sufficient evidence;
- taking enforcement action against air passengers with forged travel documents, including those in transit, and their aiders and abettors;
- dealing with immigration offenders arrested by the Hong Kong Police Force and the Immigration Task Force;
- identifying trends in immigration offences and formulating counter measures;
- removing illegal immigrants, overstayers, immigration offenders and undesirable persons in a reasonable and cost-effective manner;
- issuing and executing removal orders against immigration offenders liable to removal and right of abode claimants not eligible for stay;
- seeking and executing deportation orders against criminals;
- conducting assessment on non-refoulement claims and dealing with related appeals/petitions and judicial reviews;
- processing petitions/appeals/judicial reviews arising from the removal or deportation of illegal immigrants, overstayers, immigration offenders and undesirable persons from Hong Kong;
- investigating and exposing the use or manufacture of forged travel documents by individuals or syndicates;
- exchanging intelligence and information with law enforcement counterparts of the Mainland and other places to prevent human smuggling by forged travel documents as well as sea borne means;
- taking proactive actions against the engagement of foreign domestic helpers in non-domestic jobs;
- taking proactive actions against syndicates arranging the entry of underpaid foreign domestic helpers;
- conducting examination on the status of Vietnamese illegal arrivals;
- detaining immigration offenders under the Immigration Ordinance or Immigration Service Ordinance pending their removal or deportation from Hong Kong; and
- managing the Castle Peak Bay Immigration Centre.

13 The key performance measures are:

Targets

| | Target | 2013 (Actual) | 2014 (Actual) | 2015 (Plan) |
|---|--------|------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| time required to process extension cases (upon receipt of all supporting documents) | | | | |
| visitors within one working day (%)... | 100 | 99.5 | 99.2 | 99.0 |
| residents within two weeks (%) | 100 | 97.4 | 97.3 | 97.0 |

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Indicators

| | 2013 (Actual) | 2014 (Actual) | 2015 (Estimate) |
|--|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| no. of applications | | | |
| extension of stay..... | 321 144 | 331 086 | 342 100 |
| other endorsements | 9 773 | 10 765 | 11 300 |
| operations conducted by the Immigration Task Force (including investigation of forgery and illegal migration cases conducted at the Hong Kong International Airport)..... | 41 774 | 40 888 | 41 500 |
| investigation/removal/deportation cases processed | 44 350 | 43 527 | 44 770 |
| offenders prosecuted | 5 155 | 3 954 | 3 950 |
| persons repatriated | 6 434 | 5 068 | 6 100 |
| appeals/petitions received | 1 840 | 1 014 | 1 650 |
| deportation/removal orders issued | 2 690 | 2 559 | 2 580 |
| non-refoulement claim cases received§ | 491 | 3 516 | 3 660 |

§ Since March 2014, the Department commenced operating a new USM to screen non-refoulement claims lodged on grounds of, apart from torture under Part VIIC of the Immigration Ordinance, torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment under article 3 of section 8 of the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance (Cap. 383), and persecution with reference to the non-refoulement principle under article 33 of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.

The figure for 2013 (491 claims) includes non-refoulement claims lodged on grounds of torture under Part VIIC of the Immigration Ordinance, but not 870 written significations from claimants who seek to raise a claim on the grounds of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment under article 3 of section 8 of the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance and persecution which the Department was not in a position to consider before the commencement of the USM in March 2014. The figure for 2014 (3 516 claims) includes only new claimants who have not previously lodged a torture/asylum claim in Hong Kong, but not the 5 335 claims lodged by previous torture/asylum claimants which the Department also has to determine under the USM pursuant to the applicable transitional arrangements. The projected figure for 2015 is estimated based on the 2014 figure.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2015–16

14 During 2015–16, the Department will continue to:

- process non-refoulement claims under the USM and deal with judicial reviews and appeals/petitions lodged by claimants, and
- step up enforcement action against persons seeking entry into Hong Kong under the disguise of marriages with Hong Kong residents.

Programme (4): Personal Documentation

| | 2013–14 (Actual) | 2014–15 (Original) | 2014–15 (Revised) | 2015–16 (Estimate) |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Financial provision (\$m) | 616.3 | 613.2 | 640.6 (+4.5%) | 651.2 (+1.7%) |
| | | | | (or +6.2% on 2014–15 Original) |

Aim

15 The aims are to counteract illegal immigration and enhance the maintenance of law and order by providing all legal residents with a secure form of identity card and all consequential services related to identity cards; to register births, deaths and marriages and provide all consequential services related to such civil registration; to assess right of abode claims; and to facilitate international travel of Hong Kong residents by providing them with travel documents.

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Brief Description

16 The Registration of Persons Division of the Department is responsible for the assessment of claims to right of abode, the issue of identity cards and the maintenance of identity card records. The Documents Division of the Department receives and processes applications for various types of travel documents. It is also responsible for registering all births, deaths and marriages and providing statistics for planning purposes. The work involves:

- providing identity cards and related services to legal residents;
- operating an accessible and convenient system for birth, death and marriage registration and providing related services;
- improving customer services to registrants for identity cards, births, deaths or marriages;
- monitoring and reviewing the operation of the Civil Celebrants of Marriages Scheme and its impact on marriage services;
- providing eligible Hong Kong residents with HKSAR passports or other travel documents;
- lobbying foreign countries to grant visa-free access to holders of HKSAR passport;
- enhancing the processing of applications for HKSAR electronic travel documents;
- assessing claims to right of abode and dealing with related matters; and
- processing appeals and judicial reviews on identity card and HKSAR passport applications and related matters.

17 The key performance measures are:

Targets

| | Target | 2013 (Actual) | 2014 (Actual) | 2015 (Plan) |
|---|--------|------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| delivery of services related to identity card on the day of applicants' attendance (%) | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| normal processing time per application/case | | | | |
| identity card within ten working days (%)..... | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| certificate of registered particulars within 25 working days (%) | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| verification of eligibility for permanent identity card within six weeks (%)μ | 100 | 99 | 99 | 99 |
| certified copy of birth/death/marriage/adoption certificate within nine working days (%)..... | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| HKSAR passport | | | | |
| first application or replacement within ten working days (%)μ | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| application from children under 11 not holding Hong Kong permanent identity cards within 14 working days (%)μ | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| HKSAR document of identity within ten working days (%)μ | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| HKSAR seaman's identity book on the day of application (%)μ | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| HKSAR re-entry permit on the day of application (%)μ | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| standard processing time at counter | | | | |
| birth/death/adoption registration within 30 minutes (%) | 100 | 99.7 | 99.7 | 99.0 |
| marriage notice within 30 minutes (%) | 100 | 99.7 | 99.9 | 99.0 |

μ The target is applied upon receipt of all necessary documents.

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Indicators

| | 2013 (Actual) | 2014 (Actual) | 2015 (Estimate) |
|--|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| identity cards and certificates of registered particulars issued | 609 309 | 581 944 | 600 000 |
| verification of eligibility of permanent identity card applications | 79 996 | 61 379 | 65 700 |
| birth/death/adoption registrations | 101 176 | 107 164 | 109 050 |
| marriage registrations | | | |
| processing of notice of intended marriage | 56 533 | 59 939 | 59 700 |
| marriage solemnisation (by Civil Celebrants of Marriages) | 27 896 | 28 765 | 29 000 |
| marriage solemnisation (other than by Civil Celebrants of Marriages) | 27 502 | 27 627 | 27 050 |
| birth/death/marriage/adoption certificates issued | 156 587 | 163 903 | 164 150 |
| appointment of Civil Celebrants | 122 | 128 | 128 |
| no. of applications | | | |
| HKSAR passport | 773 306 | 774 032 | 719 100 |
| HKSAR document of identity | 54 101 | 46 765 | 55 000 |
| HKSAR seaman's identity book | 18 | 23 | 23 |
| HKSAR re-entry permit | 98 840 | 105 549 | 106 000 |

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2015–16

18 During 2015–16, the Department will continue to:

- promote the Civil Celebrants of Marriages Scheme, and
- monitor the trend of birth registrations.

Programme (5): Nationality and Assistance to HKSAR Residents outside Hong Kong

| | 2013–14 (Actual) | 2014–15 (Original) | 2014–15 (Revised) | 2015–16 (Estimate) |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---|
| Financial provision (\$m) | 21.7 | 21.7 | 22.6 (+4.1%) | 22.2 (–1.8%) (or +2.3% on 2014–15 Original) |

Aim

19 The Department is authorised by the Central People's Government to deal with Chinese nationality matters in respect of residents in HKSAR in accordance with the Nationality Law of the People's Republic of China and the "Explanations" adopted by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. The Department also accepts applications outside Hong Kong for declaration of change of nationality, naturalisation as a Chinese national, and renunciation and restoration of Chinese nationality through Chinese diplomatic and consular missions. It also provides assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress outside Hong Kong.

Brief Description

20 The work on nationality-related matters and assistance to Hong Kong residents outside Hong Kong involves:

- receiving and processing declarations of change of nationality;
- receiving and processing applications for naturalisation as a Chinese national and for renunciation and restoration of Chinese nationality;
- dealing with enquiries on Chinese nationality matters;
- providing prompt assistance to Hong Kong residents outside Hong Kong in distress, or those who have been imprisoned or detained, and their family members in Hong Kong;
- operating the 24-hour Assistance to Hong Kong Residents Unit hotline with 46 lines; and
- providing the Registration of Outbound Travel Information service which enables Hong Kong residents to register their contact details and itinerary outside Hong Kong, as well as receive updates on Outbound Travel Alerts and related public information.

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21 The key performance measures are:

Targets

| | Target | 2013 (Actual) | 2014 (Actual) | 2015 (Plan) |
|---|--------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| normal processing time per application/case | | | | |
| assistance to Hong Kong residents outside Hong Kong on day of request (%)..... | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| declaration of change of nationality in person on day of application (%)μ | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| application for naturalisation as a Chinese national within three months (%)μ | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| application for renunciation of Chinese nationality within two months (%)μ | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| application for restoration of Chinese nationality within three months (%)μ | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |

μ The target is applied upon receipt of all necessary documents.

Indicators

| | 2013 (Actual) | 2014 (Actual) | 2015 (Estimate) |
|--|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| applications under the Chinese Nationality (Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap. 540) | | | |
| declaration of change of nationality..... | 135 | 137 | 140 |
| application for naturalisation as a Chinese national..... | 1 477 | 1 458 | 1 550 |
| application for renunciation of Chinese nationality..... | 106 | 112 | 109 |
| application for restoration of Chinese nationality..... | 11 | 3 | 3 |
| requests for assistance by Hong Kong residents in distress | | | |
| outside Hong Kong and by their family members..... | 1 981 | 2 068 | 2 300 |
| telephone calls received and made via “1868” hotline | 209 282 | 206 625 | 238 400 |

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ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

| Programme | 2013–14 (Actual) (\$m) | 2014–15 (Original) (\$m) | 2014–15 (Revised) (\$m) | 2015–16 (Estimate) (\$m) |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| (1) Pre-entry Control..... | 259.5 | 265.3 | 276.2 | 280.7 |
| (2) Control upon Entry..... | 1,921.2 | 1,989.7 | 2,056.3 | 2,110.7 |
| (3) Control after Entry | 783.9 | 804.2 | 835.1 | 845.5 |
| (4) Personal Documentation | 616.3 | 613.2 | 640.6 | 651.2 |
| (5) Nationality and Assistance to HKSAR Residents outside Hong Kong..... | 21.7 | 21.7 | 22.6 | 22.2 |
| | 3,602.6 | 3,694.1 | 3,830.8 (+3.7%) | 3,910.3 (+2.1%) |
| | | | | (or +5.9% on 2014–15 Original) |

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Programme (1)

Provision for 2015–16 is \$4.5 million (1.6%) higher than the revised estimate for 2014–15. This is mainly due to the salary increments for staff, filling of vacancies and the net increase of nine posts for meeting operational needs.

Programme (2)

Provision for 2015–16 is \$54.4 million (2.6%) higher than the revised estimate for 2014–15. This is mainly due to the salary increments for staff, filling of vacancies and the net increase of 99 posts for providing immigration clearance services at various control points and meeting other operational needs.

Programme (3)

Provision for 2015–16 is \$10.4 million (1.2%) higher than the revised estimate for 2014–15. This is mainly due to the salary increments for staff and filling of vacancies, partly offset by the decrease of one post arising from the phased completion of the information technology projects under the third Information Systems Strategy Review.

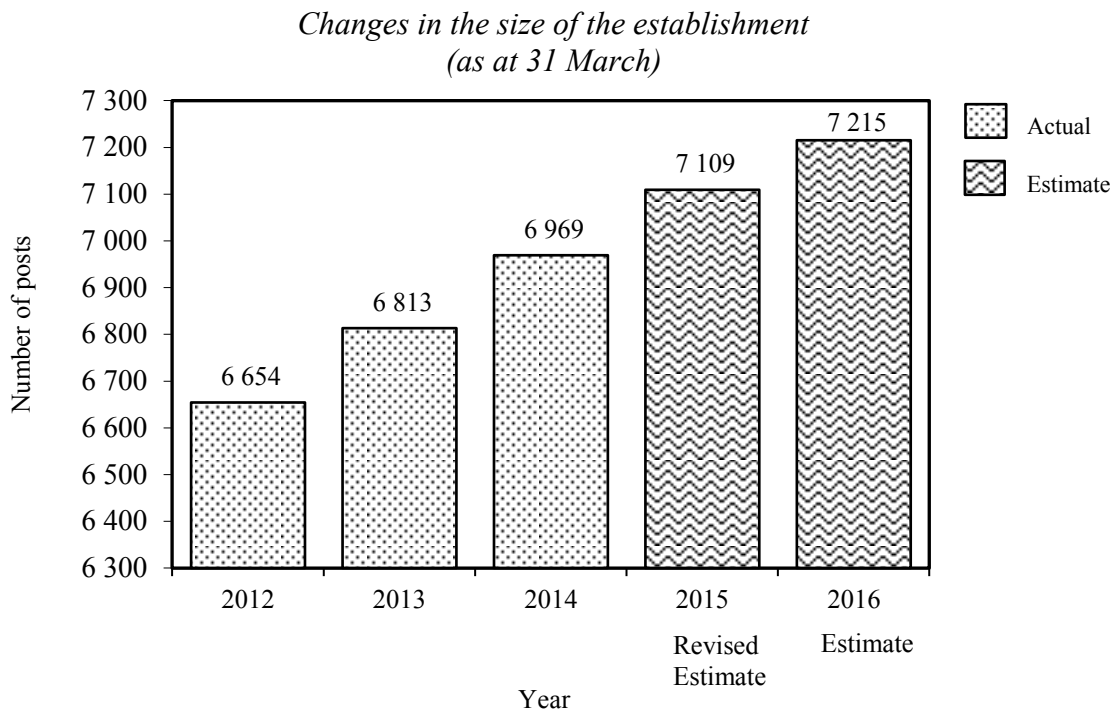
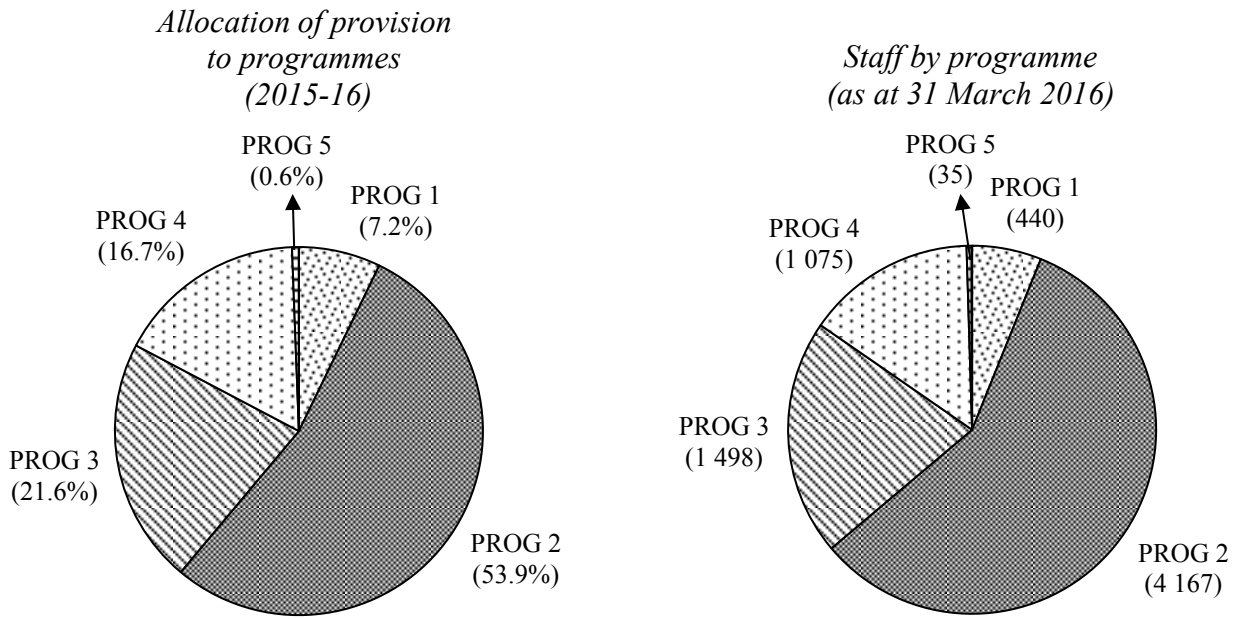
Programme (4)

Provision for 2015–16 is \$10.6 million (1.7%) higher than the revised estimate for 2014–15. This is mainly due to the salary increments for staff and filling of vacancies, partly offset by the decrease of one post arising from the phased completion of the information technology projects under the third Information Systems Strategy Review.

Programme (5)

Provision for 2015–16 is \$0.4 million (1.8%) lower than the revised estimate for 2014–15. This is mainly due to the decreased requirements for new or replacement equipment.

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| Sub-head (Code) | Actual expenditure 2013–14 | Approved estimate 2014–15 | Revised estimate 2014–15 | Estimate 2015–16 |
|----------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Operating Account | | | | |
| Recurrent | | | | |
| 000 | Operational expenses | 3,593,312 | 3,675,262 | 3,818,545 |
| 202 | Repatriation expenses | 6,347 | 8,272 | 7,652 |
| | Total, Recurrent..... | 3,599,659 | 3,683,534 | 3,826,197 |
| | Total, Operating Account | 3,599,659 | 3,683,534 | 3,826,197 |
| Capital Account | | | | |
| Plant, Equipment and Works | | | | |
| 603 | Plant, vehicles and equipment..... | — | 5,940 | 5,148 |
| 661 | Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)..... | 2,971 | 4,577 | 812 |
| | Total, Plant, Equipment and Works..... | 2,971 | 10,517 | 5,960 |
| | Total, Capital Account..... | 2,971 | 10,517 | 5,960 |
| | Total Expenditure | 3,602,630 | 3,694,051 | 3,830,774 |
| | | 3,602,630 | 3,694,051 | 3,830,774 |
| | | 3,602,630 | 3,694,051 | 3,910,311 |

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Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2015–16 for the salaries and expenses of the Immigration Department is \$3,910,311,000. This represents an increase of \$79,537,000 over the revised estimate for 2014–15 and of \$307,681,000 over the actual expenditure in 2013–14.

Operating Account

Recurrent

2 Provision of \$3,896,699,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Immigration Department.

3 The establishment as at 31 March 2015 will be 7 109 posts. It is expected that there will be a net increase of 106 posts in 2015–16. Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated power create or delete non-directorate posts during 2015–16, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$2,864,897,000.

4 An analysis of the financial provision under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is as follows:

| | 2013–14 (Actual) (\$'000) | 2014–15 (Original) (\$'000) | 2014–15 (Revised) (\$'000) | 2015–16 (Estimate) (\$'000) |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Personal Emoluments | | | | |
| - Salaries..... | 2,716,154 | 2,749,722 | 2,877,663 | 2,903,183 |
| - Allowances..... | 51,756 | 57,125 | 56,409 | 58,230 |
| - Job-related allowances..... | 1,274 | 1,444 | 1,330 | 1,384 |
| Personnel Related Expenses | | | | |
| - Mandatory Provident Fund contribution..... | 11,841 | 12,618 | 13,256 | 11,383 |
| - Civil Service Provident Fund contribution..... | 105,559 | 126,145 | 132,528 | 157,581 |
| Departmental Expenses | | | | |
| - Data processing..... | 184,802 | 193,052 | 192,801 | 206,111 |
| - Specialist supplies and equipment..... | 143,573 | 133,063 | 140,050 | 142,667 |
| - General departmental expenses..... | 374,058 | 396,565 | 400,274 | 410,625 |
| Other Charges | | | | |
| - Land usage cost..... | 3,978 | 5,200 | 3,908 | 5,200 |
| - Grant to the Immigration Service Welfare Fund..... | 317 | 328 | 326 | 335 |
| | 3,593,312 | 3,675,262 | 3,818,545 | 3,896,699 |

5 Provision of \$7,652,000 under *Subhead 202 Repatriation expenses* is for the repatriation of illegal immigrants, immigration offenders and convicted criminals in accordance with the relevant immigration legislation.

Capital Account

Plant, Equipment and Works

6 Provision of \$812,000 under *Subhead 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)* represents a decrease of \$3,765,000 (82.3%) against the revised estimate for 2014–15. This is mainly due to decreased requirements for new or replacement equipment.

Head 70 — IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT

Commitments

| Sub-head (Code) | Item (Code) | Ambit | Approved commitment | Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2014 | Revised estimated expenditure for 2014–15 | Balance |
|-------------------------------|----------------|--|------------------------|--|--|---------|
| | | | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| <i>Capital Account</i> | | | | | | |
| 603 | | <i>Plant, vehicles and equipment</i> | | | | |
| | 827 | Replacement of Immigration Launch No. 6 | 9,900 | — | — | 9,900 |
| | | Total | 9,900 | — | — | 9,900 |