

**For discussion
on 5 February 2024**

**Legislative Council
Panel on Home Affairs, Culture and Sports**

Implementation of Youth Development Blueprint

Purpose

This paper briefs Members on the implementation progress of the Youth Development Blueprint (Blueprint) and new youth-related initiatives introduced by bureaux over the past year in response to the latest social situation and youth needs.

Youth Development Policy

2. The Government has all along attached great importance to youth development. Our vision is to nurture a new generation of youth equipped with global perspective, aspiring and positive thinking mindset, and affection for our city and our country. We are committed to providing youth with a fostering environment and hope for the future to strive for continuous growth, so they too can unleash their full potential in the society and contribute to our city, our country and the world.

3. The Home and Youth Affairs Bureau (HYAB) is responsible for coordinating various bureaux in and formulating the overall youth policy and released the Blueprint in December 2022, outlining the overall vision and guiding principles for the Government's long-term youth development work in the future. Organised into four chapters, namely, "Exploration", "Hope", "Empowerment" and "Contribution", the Blueprint put forward more than 160 specific actions and measures, including those that assist young people in overcoming hurdles in education, employment, entrepreneurship and home ownership. The Blueprint provides all-round comprehensive support for youth development and fully implements the spirit of the important speech by President Xi Jinping.

4. Following its release, the HYAB has publicised and promoted the vision and initiatives of the Blueprint to young people and the community through diverse channels, such as broadcasting the promotional video on

television and in cinemas, producing a television programme, etc. The HYAB also produced pamphlets and infographic booklets which are tailored for young people of different age groups, and distributed them through different channels, including various post-secondary institutions, primary and secondary schools, over 500 youth organisations and the Home Affairs Enquiry Centres in all districts, so as to disseminate the information to the young people in the society. Over the past year, the HYAB has also been disseminating information relating to the Blueprint and the relevant policy measures, as well as the latest information of various youth development initiatives on social media platforms. In addition, with a view to promoting the Blueprint to young people and relevant stakeholders in a more in-depth manner, the HYAB and members of the Youth Development Commission (YDC) have proactively visited various post-secondary institutions, over 110 secondary schools, several government advisory committees and other organisations, as well as setting up street counters in different districts across Hong Kong to exchange views with young people and relevant stakeholders and listen to their feedback on the Blueprint. So far, we have introduced the key content of the Blueprint to over 40 000 people in person.

Timely Updates of Youth-Related Initiatives

5. The Blueprint, being an important framework document formulated by the Government for promoting youth development, sets out a clear policy direction and provides effective guidance for bureaux and different sectors of the community alike in taking forward youth development work. Since the release of the Blueprint, the HYAB has been reaching out to young people and relevant stakeholders and listened to their views on the Blueprint. The feedback received from various sectors of the community on the Blueprint are generally positive. They largely agree with the Blueprint's vision and general direction, and consider the Blueprint conducive in charting a clear pathway for youth development work. They hope that the Government and the relevant stakeholders will continue to implement and deepen the youth development work in accordance with guiding principles set forth in the Blueprint.

6. At the same time, we will continue to review youth-related initiatives as appropriate and introduce new measures to address specific areas in light of the latest development and needs in the society, so as to ensure that the initiatives in the Blueprint are progressing with the times and can consistently respond to the evolving needs of young people. The HYAB will continue to coordinate various bureaux and departments on youth development work. Apart from actively taking forward the various initiatives as set out in the

Blueprint, relevant bureaux have also been following the policy direction in the Blueprint and keeping a close watch over the latest situation of the society and the youth. Over the past year, close to 60 new youth-related measures have been put forward to respond to the needs of young people in a timely manner (see **Annex I**). The key areas of these new policy measures include:

A. Promoting Patriotic Education

The Government will roll out patriotic education to enhance national identity and appreciation of the richness and beauty of the traditional Chinese culture amongst the people of Hong Kong, laying a good foundation for our national unity and solidarity. We will also integrate patriotic education into our education system. The Constitution and Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee will establish a Working Group on Patriotic Education in the first quarter of 2024, coordinating the work of government departments and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in taking forward national education and dovetailing with the Patriotic Education Law of the People’s Republic of China, with a view to enhancing education on our country’s history, culture and current affairs on different fronts, thereby promoting patriotism and ensuring its continuity to our future generations. The Education Bureau (EDB) will also strengthen training for Student Ambassadors for the the Constitution of the People’s Republic of China (the Constitution) and the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China (the Basic Law) and students’ national history learning experiences. The Values Education Curriculum Framework will be enriched to raise students’ awareness to safeguard our national security together.

B. Enhancing Vocational and Professional Education and Training

The EDB will continue to adopt the strategy of fostering industry-institution collaboration and diversified development in promoting Vocational and Professional Education and Training (VPET). The EDB is pressing ahead with the establishment of universities of applied sciences (UAS) to raise the status of VPET at degree level and benefit young people who aspire to pursue a career in professional skills sectors. UAS will closely collaborate with professional skills sectors and incorporate substantial internship and work-based learning opportunities in their programmes, which will help students develop applied skills.

C. Assisting Young Families and Creating a Childbearing Environment

In order to encourage young families to positively consider adding new members to their families, the Chief Executive announced in the 2023 Policy Address an array of measures to promote fertility. These measures, including giving families with newborns priority on flat selection and allocation, enhancing child care support, increasing tax concessions and providing newborn baby bonus, etc., aim to encourage fertility by creating a conducive environment for childbearing for young families.

D. Strengthening Mental Health Support

The Government has always attached great importance to the mental health of youth. The Advisory Committee on Mental Health has already made various targeted suggestions in response to the results of the territory-wide youth mental health surveys. In view of recent student suicide cases, the Government implemented the Three-Tier School-based Emergency Mechanism through cross-departmental collaboration of the Health Bureau (HHB), the EDB and the Social Welfare Department (SWD) from December 2023 to January 2024 in all secondary schools in Hong Kong, working together with schools, parents and other stakeholders in society to ensure early identification of and support for students at high risk. To continue supporting students with mental health needs, the Government will extend the relevant mechanism until the end of 2024. Besides, the EDB launched “Mental Health Literacy” resource packages suitable for upper primary and junior secondary levels in the 2023/24 school year and will prepare the launch of resource packages for lower primary and senior secondary levels, with a view to proactively enhancing students’ awareness and assisting schools in promoting mental health. The HHB also launched the “18111 - Mental Health Support Hotline” on 27 December 2023 to provide one-stop, round-the-clock support for people with mental health needs from all backgrounds and of all ages (including youth). The hotline will provide immediate support and counselling services, and refer callers to the most appropriate organisations depending on the nature of individual cases.

E. Enhancing Youth Engagement

The HYAB will organise the Youth Development Summit in mid-2024 as the opening and highlight of the Youth Festival in 2024 and will invite guest speakers and youth groups from the Mainland and overseas to

participate. Young people can exchange views and learn from each other in respect of topics of concerns to youth, with a view to promoting youth development in Hong Kong. We expect that no less than 1 000 persons will participate in the Summit. Besides, the HYAB will study the possibility of utilising suitable facilities to provide Youth Link participants with a platform for constant interaction, including multi-function areas, youth culture and creativity bazaars, and small-scale performance spaces. The goal is to provide a gathering point for constant interaction by the participants and as a base for implementing measures as outlined in the Blueprint to enhance communication and collaboration between the Government, the YDC and youth participants who have taken part in different youth development programmes.

Implementation Progress of Blueprint Initiatives

7. Since the release of the Blueprint, the HYAB has been taking forward and coordinating youth development work with various policy bureaux at full steam to implement some 160 measures under the relevant policy areas as set out therein, among which around 50 measures have already been completed with remaining measures progressing well towards the set targets. The implementation progress of the Blueprint measures is set out in **Annex II**. The following sections highlight the key progress of relevant measures in accordance with the four chapters of the Blueprint, namely, “Exploration”, “Hope”, “Empowerment” and “Contribution”.

A. Exploration – Encouraging Exploration, Preparing for the Future

Enhancing National Education, National Security Education, Awareness in the Rule of Law and National pride

8. The Blueprint covers a range of measures to enhance national education and national security education, awareness in the rule of law as well as national pride of the young people. The measures aim to enable young people to better understand, respect and uphold the Constitution and the Basic Law, and have an accurate understanding of the relationship between Hong Kong and our country under “One Country, Two Systems” as well as the position and role of Hong Kong in national development. In addition to the continuous effort in promoting the Constitution, the Basic Law and the National Security Law, relevant policy bureaux are also taking forward the following initiatives.

9. The EDB has been continuously adopting the “multi-pronged and coordinated” approach to support schools to deepen students’ understanding of our country and strengthen their sense of belonging towards the nation and national identity within and beyond the classroom so that they will become citizens who are law-abiding, responsible, appreciative of Chinese culture and committed to society and our country. The latest progress of the major tasks is as follows:

- (a) The implementation of senior secondary Citizenship and Social Development subject started at Secondary 4 in the 2021/22 school year and has been extended to Secondary 6 in this school year. The content of the Citizenship and Social Development curriculum is closely related to our country’s development. Starting from April 2023, senior secondary students have been provided with opportunities to take part in the Mainland study tours to enhance their understanding of our country and cultivate in them a sense of national identity; and
- (b) All publicly-funded schools attained the requirements of the key performance indicators in the 2022/23 school year, including assigning a dedicated coordinator for planning of national education, organising whole-school national education activities, and arranging students to join national education activities at the inter-school, territory-wide or national levels.

10. The Department of Justice (DoJ) is also committed to promoting rule of law education activities to enhance the promotion of correct messages on the rule of law in the community. The Rule of Law Education Train-the-Leaders (TTL) Programme led by the DoJ, themed “Rule of Law Education (ROLE) Stars”, completed its first phase training in December 2023 with over 400 attendance in total. The trainees were mainly from 20 organisations undertaking youth-related and community work (including youth uniformed groups), while the group leaders who assisted in guiding the discussions and the interactive sessions during the training were from those organisations, the legal sector, DoJ and other related institutions. The DoJ would make reference to the experience from the first phase of the TTL Programme and work on the launch of the second phase of the Programme within 2024 with the assistance of the Steering Committee on Rule of Law Education and its two Working Groups. The second phase would focus on specific topics on the practice of civil and criminal legal procedures, and consideration would also be made to include activities such as visits to law-related institutions. Meanwhile, the first phase of the TTL Programme would also be enhanced and conducted again, aiming to provide training to more trainees from different sectors of the

community, so as to encourage and enable them to pass on the concept and knowledge of the rule of law.

11. The Security Bureau (SB) and the disciplined and auxiliary services have been organising diverse activities to cultivate young people’s physical and mental health, positive thinking, law-abiding and national security awareness, patriotism, and sense of discipline and team spirit, thereby helping them to equip themselves to contribute to Hong Kong and our country. At the same time, the disciplined and auxiliary services have been actively raising the number of active members of their youth uniformed groups. They have also continued to strengthen the promotion of law-abiding awareness and national education, including providing Chinese-style foot drill and flag-raising training and arranging exchange activities to the Mainland, with a view to enhancing young people’s sense of belonging to our country and their national pride.

Providing Quality and Diversified Education and Life Planning

12. The Government has all along been providing flexible and diversified articulation pathways with multiple entry and exit points for young people. To raise the status of VPET at degree level, apart from the new initiatives mentioned in paragraph 6 above, the EDB announced the launch of the second round of the Pilot Project on the Development of Applied Degree Programmes in September 2023, covering four degree programmes in hotel and tourism management, sports and recreation management, building services engineering, and health information and services management. The programmes are expected to be launched in the 2024/25 academic year at the earliest. The EDB’s Study Subsidy Scheme for Designated Professions/Sectors (SSSDP)¹ has been expanded to include top-up degree programmes starting from the 2023/24 academic year. The total number of subsidised places in undergraduate programmes under SSSDP has been increased from about 3 000 to about 4 000 per cohort.

13. The EDB has also actively promoted the implementation of Life Planning Education at primary and secondary schools and enhanced online resources. As at the end of December 2023, the latest career information of 14 types of work was added to the Life Planning Information Website, with seven of them from emerging industries. An additional thematic corner, titled “The

¹ The designated undergraduate (including top-up degree) programmes fall under 10 disciplines that have been identified as having keen manpower demand, namely architecture and engineering, computer science, creative industries, financial technology, healthcare, insurance, logistics, sports and recreation, testing and certification, and tourism and hospitality.

Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA)”, was also set up on the website in July last year to provide information on further studies and careers in the GBA cities. Meanwhile, the EDB has actively liaised with major chambers of commerce, professional bodies and the Industry Training Advisory Committees under the Qualifications Framework (including those of emerging industries) to encourage more member organisations to join the Business-School Partnership Programme 2.0. In the 2022/23 school year, 121 new business partners joined the programme, which has doubled its original target (60 business partners).

14. In addition, the Funding Scheme for Youth Life Planning Activities of the HYAB has sponsored 26 NGOs and collaborated with over 400 secondary schools in school years 2022-25 to organise various life planning activities on different industries and occupations, covering not only some well-recognised sectors such as education, hotel management, accounting, sales, catering, and healthcare services, but also new sports, e-sports, online marketing, digital media and application of information technology. The HYAB will continue to enhance the Funding Scheme and support sponsored NGOs to organise different types of life planning activities (such as thematic talks and workshops, workplace visits, job attachments, etc.), with a view to enhancing young people’s understanding of the development as well as the opportunities in different industries and facilitating them in exploring their future development.

15. Besides, the Government strives to provide diversified job opportunities for young people. The Civil Service Bureau (CSB) has stepped up recruitment and publicity works (e.g. expanding the pool of eligible candidates to penultimate year students, organising large-scale Government Career Fair at local universities) to help young people better plan their future career development. In addition, the CSB coordinates the youth internship programmes of bureaux/departments (B/Ds) on a yearly basis to help cultivating the enthusiasm of young people for serving the community. In 2023-24, we offer over 3 300 internship places in more than 80 B/Ds and public bodies as a continuous effort to provide diversified job opportunities for young people with different career aspirations and who are interested in pursuing a career to serve the community.

16. In addition to the youth internship programmes coordinated by the CSB, over 70% of departments have been organising diversified youth programmes and activities, such as life planning training, job shadowing activities, student/youth ambassador schemes, youth groups, outreach programmes and mentorship programmes, to help young people understand different professions and facilitate their life planning. For example, the Leisure

and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) has launched the Future Curator Training Course, which provides trainings in terms of thematic talks, visits, exchanges with curators and learning project for secondary school students who have interest in history and culture studies and working in museums. The course enhances students' knowledge of the functions of a museum and gives them a greater insight into the job of a museum curator through an interdisciplinary and multi-perspective approach. The Marine Department has established a Marine Department Youth Group (MDYG) to recruit young people aged between 12 and 39. Through organising different activities and career talks, as well as disseminating information, the MDYG aims to deepen young people's understanding of the maritime industry and help them develop their career aspirations in the maritime industry.

Understanding Our Country and The World

17. Following the resumption of normal travel of persons between Hong Kong and other places, the Government has resumed various exchange and internship programmes in the Mainland and overseas, with a view to encouraging young people to experience first-hand the history, culture and present-day opportunities of our country and deepen their understanding of the overall development trend of our country. At the same time, we encourage young people to explore the world and develop a proper global perspective. Major initiatives are as follows:

- (a) In 2023-24, the HYAB and YDC provide over 4 800 internship places and over 36 000 exchange places under various Mainland and overseas internship and exchange programmes². These programmes cover various Mainland provinces and cities, as well as 42 overseas countries, including 27 countries in the Belt and Road region, providing young people with diversified internship and exchange opportunities;
- (b) The EDB has resumed the Students Mainland Exchange Programme in the 2023/24 school year, providing about 100 000 exchange quotas every year, which is sufficient for every student to join at least one Mainland exchange programme in the respective primary and secondary stages. As of the end of December 2023, over 110 schools and about 9 000 students completed the Mainland exchange

2 Relevant programmes include "Funding Scheme for Youth Exchange in the Mainland", "Funding Scheme for International Youth Exchange", "Funding Scheme for Youth Internship in the Mainland", "Thematic Youth Internship Programmes to the Mainland", "Scheme on Corporate Summer Internship on the Mainland and Overseas" and "United Nations Volunteers - Hong Kong Universities Volunteer Internship Programme", etc.

programme. The senior secondary subject of Citizenship and Social Development (CS) also provides students with opportunities for study tours to the Mainland. In the 2022/23 school year, over 43 000 senior secondary students completed the CS Mainland study tours. Starting from the 2023/24 academic year, the University Grants Committee will inject \$100 million into the Funding Scheme for Mainland and Global Engagement and Student Learning Experience for universities to provide more student exchange and learning opportunities outside Hong Kong, and promote a diversified and inclusive international learning environment;

- (c) The five Mainland Offices of the HKSAR Government and their Liaison Units have been proactively providing internship opportunities for the young people of Hong Kong. The hands-on experience through the internship in the Mainland working environment can enhance young people's understanding of the development opportunities in the Mainland, accumulate their work experience and strengthen their advantages and competitiveness in employment. The quotas of the internship offer by the Mainland Offices and Liaison Units have been increased to 48 in 2023-24, and will be further increased to 59 in 2024-25; and
- (d) The overseas Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) have identified overseas internship places for Hong Kong students, both at their offices and in local companies or institutions in the geographical areas under their coverage so as to provide the opportunity for Hong Kong students to understand the work culture of other countries, accumulate work experience and have a taste of living overseas. As of December 2023, ETOs have provided over 50 internship placements for Hong Kong students. In tandem, the Singapore, Jakarta and Bangkok ETOs have collaborated with companies and institutions in the member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to provide over 70 internship placements for Hong Kong students.

18. Moreover, the Government has made good use of cultural and museum resources to deepen the youth's understanding of the world and Chinese culture, as well as the latest development of our country. The museums of the LCSD will continue to organise exhibitions, such as "A Tale of Three Cities: Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and Export of Silk Products in the Ming and Qing Dynasties" in September 2023, "Titian and the Venetian Renaissance from the Uffizi" in October 2023, and "China Manned Space Exhibition" in December 2023. The LCSD has also launched a calendar of Chinese History and Culture Programmes on its homepage.

Furthermore, the permanent exhibition of the reopened Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence has enriched the content on the history of the War of Resistance and adopted a creative approach to enhance visitors' understanding of this chapter of history and their visiting experience, fostering the spirit of patriotism among the youth. Besides, Hong Kong Palace Museum of the West Kowloon Cultural District organises thematic and special exhibitions about Chinese arts and culture regularly, such as "Gazing at Sanxingdui: New Archaeological Discoveries in Sichuan" presented from September 2023 to January 2024 and "Stories Untold — Figure Paintings of the Ming Dynasty from the Palace Museum", which is currently presented.

B. Hope – Instilling Hope, Fulfilling Dreams

Enabling Young People to Capitalise on Opportunities Brought by National 14th Five-Year Plan, Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Development, Belt and Road Initiative, etc., and Integrate into the Development of Our Country

19. Relevant bureaux are adopting a multi-pronged approach to enhance young people's understanding of the development of "eight centres" and related opportunities and encourage young people to capitalise on the opportunities brought by the development of GBA areas, thus integrate better into the overall development of our country. Major initiatives are as follows:

- (a) The Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (FSTB) has organised the "Set Sail for GBA - Scheme for Financial Leaders of Tomorrow" for two consecutive years since 2022, which helped more than 150 young people in Hong Kong to learn about the opportunities in the GBA and prepare them for future career development. The 2023 programme co-organised by the FSTB and the Shenzhen Municipal Financial Regulatory Bureau completed in July last year, providing over 30 internship opportunities in financial institutions in Shenzhen;
- (b) In September and November 2023, the Deputy Secretary for Justice led delegations comprising young representatives of the legal sector to visit GBA cities, including Huizhou, Shenzhen and Foshan. The delegations comprised young representatives of the Law Society of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Bar Association, young government counsel of the DoJ, and law students from the three law schools. The visits allowed young legal practitioners and law students to have a more in-depth understanding of the GBA development and the Mainland's legal system, such that they could plan ahead their future

career development and its relation with the GBA, and contribute to the rule of law development of our country;

- (c) The Hong Kong International Aviation Academy and the relevant aviation training institutions in the Mainland jointly launched the “GBA Youth Aviation Industry Internship Programme” in May 2023. As of December 2023, a total of about 180 interns from the Mainland and Hong Kong have been posted to Hong Kong International Airport and other airports in the GBA respectively for internship under the programme. The target is to provide 450 places under the programme in the first year;
- (d) The Labour Department (LD) launched the regularised “Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme”³ on 1 March 2023 to encourage enterprises with business in both Hong Kong and the Mainland cities of the GBA to employ Hong Kong young people to work in the Mainland cities of the GBA, so as to foster their career development and the exchange of talents in the GBA. The recruitment period of the Scheme for 2023 ended on 31 December 2023. The LD in total received 2 540 job vacancies from 278 enterprises and 702 allowance applications from enterprises after the participants’ commencement of employment. Apart from promoting the Scheme amongst employers and tertiary institutions, the LD has also commissioned the HKFTU Greater Bay Area Social Services and the Hong Kong United Youth Association to strengthen the support for the employed young people. In tandem, the HKSAR Government maintained close liaison with the Governments of the Guangdong Province and the GBA Mainland cities to enhance the promotion of the Scheme and the support for young people; and
- (e) The Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Development Office continues to make use of diversified and multi-media channels, including thematic website (www.bayarea.gov.hk), social media platforms, television and radio programmes, exhibitions as well as the digital information platform “Greater Bay Area Information Station”, which has been set up in different districts in Hong Kong, to disseminate more positive information about the development of the

³ For the Scheme in 2023, enterprises employed young people with bachelor’s degrees or above awarded in 2021 to 2023 in accordance with Hong Kong laws with a monthly salary of not less than HK\$18,000. The HKSAR Government provided enterprises with a monthly allowance of HK\$10,000 for each employed young person up to 18 months.

GBA to local residents including young people and promote GBA development.

Supporting Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship

20. Hong Kong youth are agile and creative. They are particularly adept at creating business opportunities by blending the best of Chinese and Western cultures. The Government strives to set the stage for our younger generation and promote youth innovation and entrepreneurship. In particular, we encourage them to seize the opportunities brought by the development of the GBA and develop their businesses there. Major initiatives are as follows:

- (a) On nurturing innovation and technology (I&T) talents, the Government continues to enhance the I&T learning environment for students through various programmes. Amongst others, the STEM Internship Scheme has been expanded since June 2023 to cover internship opportunities offered by the five government-funded research and development (R&D) centres and the Hong Kong Productivity Council for eligible students studying STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) programmes at local and non-local universities (including the GBA campuses established by designated local universities). Besides, to further encourage university graduates to pursue a career in the I&T industry, the Government launched enhancement measures to the Research Talent Hub scheme in April 2023, increasing the subsidies provided for eligible companies or institutions for employing research talents, and providing research talents with a doctoral degree with an additional monthly living allowance. In the meantime, different I&T and publicly-funded R&D institutions also provide different training and internship opportunities as well as incubation support for youths and entrepreneurial technology talents to support more new talents to join the I&T sector;
- (b) The HYAB has established the Alliance of Hong Kong Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurial Bases in the GBA⁴ (the Alliance) in December 2023. The Alliance will leverage on the resources and

4 The HYAB, the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the People's Government of Guangdong Province and the Human Resources and Social Security Department of Guangdong Province are the leading parties of the Alliance. Nearly 60 representative organisations from various sectors in Hong Kong and other cities of the GBA also joined the Alliance, including government and public organisations, innovation and entrepreneurial bases, non-governmental organisations and social organisations, post-secondary institutions and scientific research institutes, professional organisations and venture funds.

network of the member organisations to provide a one-stop information, publicity and exchange platform and offer comprehensive support to Hong Kong youth entrepreneurs, with a view to facilitating them in expanding their network in the GBA and enhancing their competitiveness. Furthermore, the HYAB and YDC has granted \$130 million to 16 NGOs under the Funding Scheme for Youth Entrepreneurship in the GBA and successfully recruited 217 youth start-up teams. Over 70 of these teams have established their presence in Mainland cities of the GBA such as Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Foshan, Zhuhai and Dongguan;

- (c) Starting from 2022, the CEDB has been implementing the “Support Scheme for Pursuing Development in the Mainland” through the Hong Kong Trade Development Council to strengthen support for Hong Kong businessmen on the Mainland and enhance young Hong Kong entrepreneurs’ understanding of the business environment and market of the Mainland, and to better equip them to develop the Mainland market and their career. By the end of December 2023, 35 events have been organised for young Hong Kong entrepreneurs on the Mainland with 866 participants; and
- (d) On creative industries, Create Hong Kong funds/implements various programmes, including Design Incubation Programme (DIP), Fashion Incubation Programme (FIP), “The Next Writer Publication Funding Scheme”, “Neo Luma – Market Expansion into Mainland China Film Market”, “Hong Kong Digital Entertainment Industry Fresh Graduate Support Scheme”, “Hong Kong Digital Advertising Industry Fresh Graduate Support Scheme” and “First Feature Film Initiative” under the Film Development Fund. As at end-December 2023, a total of 383 incubatees were admitted under DIP and FIP. The “Hong Kong Digital Entertainment Industry Fresh Graduate Support Scheme” and “Hong Kong Digital Advertising Industry Fresh Graduate Support Scheme” recruited 27 and 41 graduates respectively in 2023.

Addressing Youth Housing Needs

21. The Government has been sparing no effort in meeting the housing needs of different people, including the youth. One of the key objectives is to enhance the housing ladder through providing various forms of subsidised sale flats (SSFs) to help low-to middle-income families achieve home ownership. The beneficiaries include the youth. Majority of buyers of SSFs are youth aged 40 or below. For example, almost half of the applicants who successfully

purchased first-hand Home Ownership Scheme (HOS) flats are youth aged 40 or below; in addition, three quarters of buyers under the White Form Secondary Market Scheme (WSM) are aged 40 or below. In 2023, the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA) launched the Sale of HOS Flats 2023 with around 9 200 HOS flats put up for sale in July 2023, which is the highest number in recent years. The HKHA also launched the WSM 2023 concurrently, with the number of annual quotas maintained at 4 500.

22. Moreover, the Government has also been committed to developing Starter Homes for Hong Kong Residents (SH) projects. Amongst past applicants who successfully purchased SH units, 85% were youth aged 40 or below. Apart from the first two SH projects of the Urban Renewal Authority (i.e. eResidence Towers 1 and 2, as well as eResidence Tower 3) launched for sale which provide a total of 753 SH units, the Government is taking forward four other SH projects, which will provide over 5 800 SH units.

23. The HYAB will also continue to take forward each of the projects under the Youth Hostel Scheme. The second youth hostel project Po Leung Kuk Lee Shau Kee Youth Oasis, whose construction cost was fully funded by the Government, has come into operation since May 2023, providing 1 680 hostel places. Moreover, the HYAB has launched the “Subsidy Scheme for Using Hotels and Guesthouses as Youth Hostels” since early 2023, under which three projects with the provision of 478 hostel places in total have been approved.

C. Empowerment - Resilience Building and Whole-person Development

Nurturing Positive Thinking in Young People

24. The Government places great emphasis on the physical and mental well-being of young people and endeavours to support the healthy growth of young people. Bureaux are taking a multi-pronged approach to nurture proper values in youth and support their comprehensive development through different channels and activities. Major initiatives are as follows:

- (a) The HYAB provides recurrent subvention to 12 youth uniformed groups (UGs) and two NGOs for providing non-formal education and training programmes for young people for promoting positive values among young people and strengthening their leadership skills with a view to enabling them to attain whole-person development including fostering a sense of national identity among young people. The HYAB has put in place a number of initiatives to promote national education among uniformed groups, including organising four rounds of

- “Chinese Drill Train-the-Trainer Workshops” with the support of the Hong Kong Police College and the Civil Aid Service in 2023 which nurtured more than 220 trainers. As a result, every UG has its own formally-trained trainers to train their members on Chinese foot-drills. Besides, the former Home Affairs Bureau and HYAB offered one-off funding to relevant organisations for promoting national education since 2021-22. In 2023-24, the HYAB has approved 8 and 10 organisations to organise activities in support of the National Security Education Day and exchange visits to the Mainland respectively;
- (b) The HYAB and the YDC launched the Funding Scheme for Youth Positive Thinking Activities and the Funding Scheme for Youth Adventure Training Activities in late 2022. The first round of the two funding schemes subsidises 11 NGOs in total to organise projects promoting young people’s positive thinking. The sponsored organisations have gradually rolled out their activities, which last for two years. The total number of beneficiaries in the first round of the two funding schemes is estimated to be more than 16 000;
 - (c) The inaugural Youth Festival was held in 2023 with the slogan “Ignite Youth Power”. Under the tripartite collaboration among the Government, the business sector and the community, around 200 activities, which included knowledge exchange, arts and culture as well as sports-related activities, were featured to strengthen cohesion among and unleash the potential of the youth, and promote positive thinking among young people; and
 - (d) The Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau (CSTB) has been actively promoting sports, culture and arts. On the sports front, the CSTB is working with schools to promote urban sports which are popular among young people in recent years (including 3-on-3 basketball, futsal, sport climbing, skateboarding and breaking). We launched the Urban Sports Funding Scheme in November 2023 to provide subsidy to primary and secondary schools for organising training courses on urban sports in the 2023/24 academic year, providing no less than 8 000 students with the opportunity to take part in urban sports. In 2023-24, the LCSD plans to organise about 120 urban sports activities particularly for the youth to provide more opportunities and boost their interest in sports participation. For arts and culture, the LCSD has organised a series of arts education schemes which are expected to attract more than 560 schools to participate with an attendance of

99 800. It also organised community arts activities targeting at young people (for example, the dance performance “Rhythm Divine” as well as the music gala “Youth Band Marathon”, which were held in July 2023), providing platforms for young musicians and dancers to showcase their talents in performing arts. The LCSD has launched a series of online programmes on its information and learning platform, “Edutainment Channel”, so that young people can participate in diversified cultural activities at their leisure and deepen their understanding of topics relating to arts and culture. The “Edutainment Channel” has launched a Youth Page to facilitate young people in looking for suitable volunteer activities, internship and training opportunities, competitions and programmes, etc.

Youth Mental Health

25. Besides the new measures to enhance mental health mentioned in paragraph 6, the HHB, in collaboration with the Hospital Authority, the EDB and the SWD, has been reviewing the service delivery model of the Student Mental Health Support Scheme (SMHSS) to strengthen professional support for students with mental health needs. Six major directions to improve the operation of the SMHSS are (a) clearly setting out objectives of the SMHSS; (b) improving case management; (c) clarifying roles of professionals from the medical, educational and social sectors; (d) setting up a lead mental health coordinator; (e) reducing the rate of refusal of services and (f) monitoring the operation of the SMHSS. At the publicity and promotion level, the “Shall We Talk” Mental Health Promotion and Public Education Initiative has produced a series of multimedia and physical resources to provide students, youth and the public with mental health-related information.

Supporting Non-Chinese Speaking Youth

26. The Government has been offering support for non-Chinese speaking (NCS) youth actively, encouraging and facilitating them to integrate into the community. The EDB has implemented in full swing a series of enhanced support measures to provide all-encompassing learning support for NCS students from pre-primary to secondary education. In addition to the provision of additional funding for schools, the EDB also provides major curriculum-related learning and teaching resources that are updated on an ongoing basis as well as training and professional support for teachers, thereby strengthening the support for NCS students to learn Chinese and fostering an inclusive learning environment. At the same time, the EDB has also implemented other complementary measures, which include encouraging parents of NCS children

to enrol their children in local kindergartens, as well as organising summer bridging programmes, parent education programmes especially for parents of NCS students, career exploration activities and vocational Chinese language courses, etc., from which schools, teachers, NCS students and their parents are widely benefitted.

D. Contribution – Youth Engagement and Contribution to Society

Enhance Youth Participation in Public Affairs and Strengthening Young People’s Sense of Responsibility and Ownership

27. Young people are the future of the society. The Government strives to encourage young people to participate in public affairs and has set up different platforms at central and district levels, so that young people can contribute to the development of Hong Kong. Major initiatives are as follows:

- (a) The HYAB kick-started the recruitment of Phase VI of the Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth (MSSY) in late May 2023. The number of participating committees has been increased from 15 in Phase V to 20, covering a number of committees relating to Hong Kong’s positioning in the “eight centres” as promulgated under the National 14th Five-Year Plan. We have received more than 1 800 applications, which is the highest ever. Subject to the implementation progress of Phase VI, Phase VII of the MSSY is expected to be launched in Q1 2024;
- (b) The Home Affairs Department (HAD) in April 2023 established the District Youth Community Building Committee and the District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee in each of the 18 districts across the territory to provide forums for discussion on district affairs such as district works projects, youth development and civic education. Certain seats of the Committees were opened up for young people to nominate themselves as members. The HAD invited self-nomination in January 2023 and attracted close to 1 100 applications. About 330 applicants have joined the Committees as members. Each of the Committees consists of 20 to 30 members, whose average age is below 35. Over one-third of members are self-nominated young people aged between 16 and 35; and
- (c) Many bureaux have set up informal and regular youth exchange platforms. For example, in 2022, the SB launched the Security Bureau Youth Uniformed Group Leaders Forum (Leaders Forum) to benefit

the elites in the youth uniformed groups of its departments. To facilitate the development of the Leaders Forum, in the fourth quarter of 2023, the SB signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Shenzhen University to arrange teaching and visit activities and more opportunities for exchange and interaction with young people in the Mainland for Leaders Forum members, and also established the Leaders Forum Alumni Association. Sharing activities are organised regularly to facilitate sharing of views and experience among former and current members of the Leaders Forum. Besides, the Development Bureau and the Construction Industry Council have set up the “Youth Affairs Committee” and the “Construction Youth Alliance” respectively in 2022 and 2023. Various activities have been organised for young people, including the 11-day “Greater Bay Area Construction Industry Youth Exchange Program” in July 2023.

Establishing Platforms for Youth Engagement

28. The HYAB launched the brand new Youth Link platform in September 2023 to link up participants of various government youth programmes. It provides young people with opportunities to develop diverse talents through participating in seminars, different types of large-scale government activities, exchange visits to the Mainland and overseas, etc., and strengthen their communication, interaction and trust with the Government. More than 5 000 youths have joined the Youth Link, and the number of members is expected to continue to grow. Since the establishment of the Youth Link, the HYAB has organised a number of activities for its members, such as the youth dialogue on the 2023 Policy Address and visit to youth hostels, etc. The HYAB will continue to provide members with opportunities to participate in various large-scale government activities, such as Belt and Road Initiative-related activities and exchange tours to the Mainland and overseas, etc. The goal is to organise and provide at least 10 youth development activities for members of the Youth Link by end-2024.

Way Forward

29. The HYAB will continue to coordinate relevant policy bureaux and departments to take forward the implementation of the Blueprint. We will also continue to listen to the views of young people and other stakeholders and keep a close watch over the latest social environment and the needs of the young people. We will introduce new youth-related measures as appropriate to respond to their needs.

Advice Sought

30. Members are invited to note the latest implementation progress of the Blueprint and give their views.

**Home and Youth Affairs Bureau
January 2024**

New Policy Measures related to Youth Development

A. Exploration

1. Organise on-site seminars on national security education for secondary schools to enhance teachers' understanding of the "holistic concept of national security". (Education Bureau (EDB))
2. Establish a Working Group on Patriotic Education under the Constitution and Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee within 2024 with a view to promoting patriotism. (Chief Secretary for Administration's Office, Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and relevant bureaux)
3. Enrich learning and teaching resources relating to national education to help students learn effectively national security, Chinese culture, as well as the history, geography, development and achievements of our country. (EDB)
4. Enhance the quality and effectiveness of national education through different types of regular inspection, including the Theme-based Focus Inspection on National Education, and share inspection findings and promote good practices. (EDB)
5. Enhance the training for Constitution and Basic Law Student Ambassadors and the related learning experiences in the Chinese History curriculum; and organise more activities on Chinese culture such as visits to museums and student competitions. (EDB)
6. Establish a Foot Drill and Flag Party of no less than 40 members under the Customs Youth Leaders Corps within 2024, so as to enhance the training on Chinese-style foot drill and flag-raising skills in preparation for flag-raising ceremonies and large-scale performances. (Security Bureau (SB))
7. Increase the total number of the Fire & Ambulance Services Teen Connect (FAST Connect) members from 300 to 800 and extend the coverage of FAST Connect to all 18 districts of Hong Kong by the end of the 2023/24 school year. (SB)
8. Draw up the criteria for qualifying as universities of applied sciences (UAS) cover admission, curriculum, accreditation, career pathway, and industry engagement, in conjunction with the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications, and with reference to international experiences. (EDB)

9. Support appropriate self-financing institutions to develop into UAS by providing financial and related support, including according priority to eligible programmes of UAS for inclusion under the Study Subsidy Scheme for Designated Professions/Sectors; and providing additional subsidies to encourage institutions to offer more applied degree programmes in professional and technical disciplines and enhance the enrolment incentive. (EDB)
10. Set aside start-up funding to support prospective post-secondary institutions to set up an alliance of UAS for joint promotion to enhance the status of vocational and professional education and training in society and among parents and students. (EDB)
11. Enrich science learning at junior secondary level by integrating the learning of innovation and technology in class; and launch support programmes for Mathematics curriculum to strengthen students' capability in applications of mathematics. (EDB)
12. Promote the setting up of a school-based student talent pool in schools; enhance collaboration with the Hong Kong Academy for Gifted Education to arrange students with potential in Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) to participate in systematic training and competitions of reasonable scale. (EDB)
13. Enhance the existing staff provision of resource teachers for primary and secondary sections of aided special schools and extend it to schools for social development starting from the 2024/25 school year to facilitate special schools to provide students comorbid with Autism Spectrum Disorder with additional support in learning and development. (EDB)

B. Hope

14. Launch the Pilot Scheme on the Use of School Venues by Arts Groups to further open up some school venues for rehearsals by arts groups after school hours on a pilot basis to foster the development of the arts and cultural industries, and to build audience through the provision of more opportunities for students to access art creations. (Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau, EDB)
15. Launch a Fintech internship scheme for post-secondary students in 2023-24 to facilitate their acquisition of practical work experience in Fintech companies in Hong Kong and in the Mainland cities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA). (Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (FSTB))

16. Use the \$107 million funding to implement two-year pilot schemes from 2023/24 academic year onwards for providing on-the-job training allowances to 1 300 trainees enrolled in degree and safety officer courses, and to enhance their career ladder. (Development Bureau (DEVB))
17. Collaborate with the industry to continue the implementation of the construction industry joint promotion campaign with a youth internship programme and a STEAM education platform planned to be rolled out in phases from early 2024. (DEVB)
18. Starting from the 2023/24 academic year, gradually increase training places of ancillary dental workers and provide tuition fee subsidies to attract more new entrants to the industry, thereby meeting development needs of the oral healthcare and dental care sectors in Hong Kong. (Health Bureau (HHB))
19. Provide a one-off cash allowance of \$20,000 as financial incentive for newborns for each baby born on or after 25 October 2023 in Hong Kong to a parent who is a Hong Kong permanent resident. The initiative will last for a period of three years, subject to review thereafter. (Deputy Chief Secretary for Administration's Office and relevant bureaux)
20. Starting from the year of assessment 2024/25, raise the deduction ceiling for home loan interest or domestic rents from the current \$100,000 to \$120,000 for taxpayers who will live with his/her first child born on or after 25 October 2023 until the child reaches the age of 18. (FSTB)
21. Starting from the next Home Ownership Scheme sale exercise to be launched in 2024, the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA) will introduce the "Families with Newborns Flat Selection Priority Scheme", which will reserve a quota of flats for balloting and priority flat selection by family applicants with babies born on or after 25 October 2023 and are aged three or below on the closing day of the application of a particular sale exercise, until the children reach the age of three. (Housing Bureau (HB))
22. Starting from April 2024, the HKHA will introduce the "Families with Newborns Allocation Priority Scheme" under which public rental housing (PRH) family applications with babies born on or after 25 October 2023 and aged one or below will be credited with a waiting time of one year. (HB)

23. The HB adjusted the application requirements for Category A tenants of Transitional Housing. With effect from 1 December 2023, the PRH waiting time requirement is shortened by one year for families with newborns on or after October 25, 2023, i.e. those who have been waiting for traditional PRH for two years will be eligible as Category A tenant. (HB)
24. Over the five years starting from 2024-25, the Hospital Authority will gradually increase the assisted reproductive service quota for in-vitro fertilisation treatment from 1 100 to 1 800 treatment cycles per year and enhance the training for related professional personnel. (HHB)
25. Starting from the year of assessment 2024/25, provide tax deduction on assisted reproductive services under salaries tax and personal assessment, subject to the ceiling of \$100,000 per year. (HHB, FSTB)
26. Starting from April 2024, increase the rates of household and child allowances under the Working Family Allowance Scheme by 15% across the board. (Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB))
27. Over the next three years starting from 2024, set up 10 more aided standalone child care centres in phases over three years to provide nearly 900 additional places for day child care service; and starting from April 2024, increase the maximum level of Child Care Centre Parent Subsidy to \$1,000 per month. (LWB)
28. Starting from the fourth quarter of 2024, double the number of service places under the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project to about 2 000. (LWB)
29. Starting from April 2024, increase the incentive payment at a standard rate of \$25 per hour for home-based child carers of the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project. For carers of infants and young children aged zero to three or children with special learning needs, the rate will increase to \$60 per hour; for carers of children aged three to nine, the rate will increase to \$40 per hour. (LWB)
30. Over the next three years starting from 2024, extend the After School Care Programme for Pre-primary Children to all districts in Hong Kong in phases over three years, with the number of participating centres to be increased from 16 to 28 and the number of service places from about 670 to nearly 1 200. (LWB)
31. In the 2024/25 school year, launch a school-based after school care service in designated primary schools for one year. (LWB, EDB)

32. University Grants Committee-funded universities will continue to take forward a number of hostel projects, in order to increase hostel places by about 13 500 in total by 2027. (EDB)
33. Launch a new round of the Land Grant Scheme and Start-up Loan Scheme within 2024 to support self-financing post-secondary institutions to develop and improve campuses in support of more teaching activities. (EDB)
34. Proactively take forward the development of the Northern Metropolis University Town by encouraging post-secondary institutions to strengthen co-operation with renowned Mainland and overseas institutions, and achieve greater synergy through resources sharing and complementary industry development within the region. (EDB)
35. Establish the Hong Kong Institute of Information Technology (by the Vocational Training Council (VTC)) to provide dedicated pre-employment and in-service training for the information technology (IT) sector, with a view to strengthening Hong Kong's IT capabilities and meeting the manpower and development needs. The programmes will be launched in the 2024/25 academic year. (EDB)
36. The VTC to implement a three-year pilot scheme from the 2024/25 academic year to provide training allowance for registered apprentices and subsidise graduated apprentices in undertaking upskilling courses of relevant trades. (LWB)
37. Collaborate with the relevant Mainland authorities to take forward the mutual recognition of sub-degree level qualifications, including the Higher Diploma qualification, and try out such arrangements on a pilot basis. (EDB)
38. Launch the "Greater Bay Area Career Exploration Tours" to allow secondary students to appreciate the latest development of various industries in the GBA in person to seize new opportunities for career development. (EDB)
39. Majority of buyers of subsidised sale flats (SSFs) are youth aged 40 or below. The HKHA will relax the arrangements on mortgage default guarantee for SSFs, including extending the current maximum mortgage default guarantee period of the second-hand market from 30 years to 50 years, and allowing purchasers (including youth purchasers) to have mortgage loans of longer tenor, to help the circulation of second-hand flats. (HB)

C. Empowerment

40. Regularise the support services for ethnic minority (EM) youths as well as the District-based Programmes for Racial Harmony. (Home and Youth Affairs Bureau (HYAB))
41. Invite sponsored organisations under the first round of “Funding Scheme for Youth Adventure Training Activities” to reserve a certain quota for the participation of EM youths. (HYAB)
42. Provide basic workplace Chinese training for interns of the internship programme for EM students based on the experience of the introduction of such training in 2023, with a view to enhancing their understanding on the application of Chinese and the required level of Chinese proficiency in daily work. The internship programme was launched in 2019 and about 140 EM post-secondary students have participated in the programme so far. (Civil Service Bureau)
43. Design more diversified learning materials under the Online Chinese Language Self-learning Resources for non-Chinese speaking (NCS) students. (EDB)
44. Expand the Summer Bridging Programme to include NCS students progressing to Primary 5 and Primary 6 starting from the 2023/24 school year. (EDB)
45. Increase the number of schools that provide school-based life planning education support services for NCS students. (EDB)
46. Launch a Primary Dental Co-Care Pilot Scheme for Adolescents to promote preventive dental care among the adolescents. (HHB)
47. Launch “Mental Health Literacy” resource packages suitable for upper primary and junior secondary levels in the 2023/24 school year, and will develop those for lower primary and senior secondary levels, with a view to proactively enhancing students’ awareness and assisting schools in promoting mental health. (EDB)
48. Set up a one-stop hotline and offer online counselling services in the 2023/24 school year to provide students and parents with advice on and support in handling conflicts among peers or school bullying. (EDB)
49. Organise the Youth Development Summit in mid-2024 as the opening and highlight of the 2024 Youth Festival and invite participation of guest speakers and youth groups from the Mainland and overseas. (HYAB)

50. Launch a pilot scheme to provide young people with financial planning and counselling services as well as information on financial management, saving and investment that suits their individual needs, so as to assist young people in developing an effective financial management plan. (HYAB)
51. Bring in the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps (HKACC) as a youth uniformed group subsidised by the Government Flying Service and provide flight simulator or virtual reality training for at least 100 cadet members within 2024, with a view to enhancing their aviation education. (SB)
52. Commence the renovation works of the new headquarters and training centre of the HKACC by the third quarter of 2024. (SB)
53. The Correctional Services Department will establish the Ethics College by end-2023 to provide full-time continuing education courses for voluntary enrolment by adult persons in custody to help them equip themselves for re-integration into society. (SB)
54. Expand the Project Lighthouse to no less than 10 participating schools and no less than 200 student participants by end-2023. (SB)

D. Contribution

55. Study the possibility of utilising suitable facilities to provide Youth Link participants with a platform for constant interaction, including multi-function areas, a youth culture and creativity bazaar, and spaces for small-scale performances. (HYAB)
56. Leverage online media and channels to bring young people together and tell good stories of Hong Kong. (HYAB)
57. Continue to implement the Security Bureau Youth Uniformed Group Leaders Forum, including establishing the Leaders Forum Alumni Association by end-2023, and organising at least one sharing activity every quarter to facilitate sharing of views and experience among former and current members of the Leaders Forum. (SB)

**Implementation Progress of
Youth Development Blueprint Initiatives**

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
|---|---|
| Exploration - Enhance National Education, National Security Education and National Pride | |
| <p>1. The Government attaches great importance to the promotion and education of the Constitution of the People’s Republic of China (the Constitution) and the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China (the Basic Law). The Constitutional and Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee, chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, and its five working groups will, with a focus on three themes (i.e. (1) The Constitution precedes the Basic Law, and “One Country” precedes “Two Systems;” (2) The high degree of autonomy in the HKSAR comes under the authorisation of the Central Government; and (3) Safeguarding national security is our collective responsibility), step up promotional efforts through diversified approaches, including making more extensive use of online platforms, rolling out large-scale promotional activities at the community level, producing more easy-to-understand television programmes, and enhancing promotion targeting specific groups such as youths and students, etc. (Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB))</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The Government has been making good progress in promoting and educating the public on the Constitution, Basic Law and the Hong Kong National Security Law. The Chief Executive announced in the 2023 Policy Address the establishment of a Working Group on Patriotic Education under the Constitution and Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee to co-ordinate the work of government departments and non-governmental organisations in taking forward national education and dovetailing with the Patriotic Education Law of the People’s Republic of China, with a view to enhancing education on our country’s history, culture, and current affairs on different fronts, thereby promoting patriotism and ensuring its continuity from generation to generation. The CMAB is examining the composition, mode of operation, and scope of work, etc. of the Working Group. It is expected that the details will be announced in the first quarter of 2024.</p> |

| | Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
|----|--|---|
| 2. | <p>Learning elements relating to national education have long been embedded in various subjects in secondary education. Schools are encouraged to regularly review the primary and junior secondary school curricula and enrich them with learning elements such as the history and geography of our country. The senior secondary Citizenship and Social Development subject, the contents of which are closely related to our country's development, has been introduced at Secondary 4 in the 2021/22 school year. It also provides exchange opportunities for students to cultivate their sense of national identity. (Education Bureau (EDB))</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The implementation of senior secondary subject of Citizenship and Social Development started at Secondary 4 in the 2021/22 school year and has been extended to Secondary 6 in this school year. The content of the Citizenship and Social Development curriculum is closely related to our country's development and starting from April 2023, senior secondary students have been provided with opportunities to take part in the Mainland study tours to enhance their understanding of our country and cultivate in them a sense of national identity.</p> |
| 3. | <p>Implement the Curriculum Framework of National Security Education in Hong Kong and the curriculum framework on National Security Education for 15 subjects, explaining details on the topics relating to national security, teaching objectives and learning elements in the primary and secondary school curricula. (EDB)</p> | <p>Completed. The curriculum frameworks of National Security Education in Hong Kong published by the EDB in the 2020/21 school year serve as references for schools to make overall planning.</p> |
| 4. | <p>By the end of the 2022/23 school year, all publicly-funded primary and secondary schools will be required to assign a dedicated co-ordinator to lead the overall planning work and complete the onsite teacher workshops on national security education to improve the planning and implementation of national education on a whole-school approach. (EDB)</p> | <p>Completed. In the 2022/23 school year, all publicly-funded schools have assigned a dedicated co-ordinator to lead the strategic planning of national education based on a whole-school approach. Also, all publicly-funded schools have joined the Onsite Teacher Workshop on National Security Education organised by the EDB by end-January 2023.</p> |

| | Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
|----|--|--|
| 5. | Implement the “enhanced School Development and Accountability framework” to bolster the accountability of staff in publicly-funded schools in providing quality school education and enhancing the national education through the adoption of a whole-school approach. (EDB) | Being taking forward. The EDB continues to organise professional development activities to support schools in conducting self-evaluation under the “enhanced School Development and Accountability framework” (the enhanced framework), implementing national education through the adoption of a whole-school approach. Since December 2022, the EDB has started to organise briefing sessions on the enhanced framework for school sponsoring bodies and publicly-funded primary and secondary schools, including special schools. Besides, starting from April 2023, the EDB has been organising workshops on the enhanced framework for schools in batches. By the end of December 2023, the EDB has in total completed 13 briefing sessions and 33 workshops joined by 2 900 and 2 400 school personnel respectively. |
| 6. | Government schools will take the lead in adopting a whole-school and joint-school collaborative approach to launch the first edition of “Love Our Home; Treasure Our Country” series of inter-school activities in accordance with the “National Education - Event Planning Calendar” issued by the EDB to commemorate key national events, such as the National Day and the National Security Education Day. School sponsoring bodies will also be encouraged to organise inter-school national education activities. (EDB) | Completed. In the 2022/23 school year, all inter-school national education activities of “Love Our Home, Treasure Our Country” have been successfully held and received active participation and positive responses from schools, benefiting more than 12 000 students and teachers. Besides, all publicly-funded schools have organised quality whole-school national education activities and participate in national education activities at the inter-school, territory-wide or national levels. |
| 7. | All publicly-funded schools will organise one or more activities relating to national education for parents every year. (EDB) | Completed. In the 2022/23 school year, all publicly-funded schools have organised at least one activity relating to national education for parents. |

| | Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
|--|--|---|
| 8. | Adopt a more innovative and youth-friendly approach to tell good stories about China and Hong Kong, so as to enhance the national pride of young people. (Home and Youth Affairs Bureau (HYAB)) | Being taking forward. The video interview series titled “To Be Here, It’s Good” produced by the HYAB and the Youth Development Commission (YDC) were released on the YDC social media and its dedicated website, TV 32 of the Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) and local secondary schools’ campus TV in 2023. |
| Exploration - Strengthen Awareness in the Rule of Law | | |
| 9. | The Department of Justice (DoJ) will launch the Rule of Law Education “Train-the-Trainers” Programme. Our training targets include members of the legal profession, youth uniformed groups, district services and community care teams to be set up by the Government, and other community leaders. Through collaboration with relevant organisations and stakeholders, the “Train-the-Trainers” Programme will develop specialised courses and training manuals, and arrange for accredited trainees to participate in education activities on the rule of law organised or supported by the Government to ensure that legal education can instil proper concepts of the rule of law in young people in a comprehensive, easy-to-understand, progressive and widespread manner, convey to young people the positive messages of abiding by the law, understanding the law, and promoting the law, and promote the spirit and consolidate the authority of the Constitution and the Basic Law, thereby enhancing young people’s sense of national identity and awareness in the rule of law. The DoJ will continue to organise various | <p>Being taking forward. The Rule of Law Education Train-the-Leaders (TTL) Programme led by the DoJ, themed “Rule of Law Education (ROLE) Stars”, completed its first phase training in December 2023 with over 400 attendance in total. The trainees were mainly from 20 organisations undertaking youth-related and community work, while the group leaders who assisted in guiding the discussions and the interactive sessions during the training were from those organisations, the legal sector, the DoJ and other related institutions.</p> <p>The DoJ would make reference to the experience from the first phase of the TTL Programme and work on the launch of the second phase of the Programme within 2024 with the assistance of the Steering Committee on Rule of Law Education and its two Working Groups. The second phase would focus on specific topics on the practice of civil and criminal legal procedures, and consideration would also be made to include activities such as visits to law-related institutions. Meanwhile, the first phase of the TTL Programme would also be enhanced and conducted again, aiming to provide training to more trainees from different sectors of the community, so as to</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
|--|---|
| | <p>encourage and enable them to pass on the concept and knowledge of the rule of law.</p> |
| <p>10. At present, all disciplined and auxiliary services (except the Government Flying Service (GFS)) have established youth uniformed groups, while the GFS has deepened its partnership with the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps. All of them will further enhance youth work to cultivate positive thinking, law-abiding awareness, sense of national pride, discipline and team spirit among young people, and enhance their awareness of national security. (Security Bureau (SB))</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The youth uniformed groups of the disciplined and auxiliary services departments have been actively recruiting new members. Various activities are organised to conduct national security education and promote positive thinking, law-abiding awareness, etc. As at 31 December 2022, the active membership of youth uniformed groups of the six disciplined services (i.e. members who participated in at least two activities over the past 12 months) increased by 25.4%, compared with that as at 31 December 2021. In October 2022, the SB launched the “Security Bureau Youth Uniformed Group Leaders Forum” (Leaders Forum) to benefit the elites in its departments’ youth uniformed groups. After the establishment of the Leaders Forum, the SB has been organising activities for its members, with a view to enhancing their competence and broadening their horizons. In addition, the Government Flying Service is getting prepared to bring in the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps (HKACC) as its subvented youth uniformed group in 2024, and will strengthen the aviation education for HKACC members. The relevant preparatory work is under way.</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
|--|--|
| Exploration - Promote Vocational and Professional Education and Training | |
| <p>11. We will expand the Study Subsidy Scheme for Designated Professions / Sectors (SSSDP) in phases starting from the 2023/24 academic year. Specifically, we will include top-up degree programmes for the first time starting from the 2023/24 academic year, involving about 1 000 undergraduate programme places. To tie in with the review of and amendments to the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance (Cap. 320), we also plan to increase in phases about 1 000 self-financing higher diploma programme places and about 1 000 self-financing undergraduate programmes places, with a view to catering for the demand from students of self-financing post-secondary institutions under the proposed unified regulatory framework. Overall speaking, depending on the progress of the relevant work and the supply of programmes from relevant institutions, the total number of subsidised places under the SSSDP will increase by 60% from the existing total of about 5 000 per cohort to about 8 000 per cohort in total, in order to meet the keen manpower demand of designated industries (such as nursing and information technology). (EDB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The EDB has expanded SSSDP to include top-up degree programmes from the 2023/24 academic year. The total number of subsidised places in undergraduate programmes has been increased from about 3 000 to about 4 000 per cohort. Depending on the progress of the amendments to the Cap. 320, the EDB will increase in phases about 1 000 undergraduate places and 1 000 higher diploma places, so as to cover more suitable programmes.</p> |
| <p>12. When selecting the courses to be covered by the SSSDP, we will give priority to applied courses that integrate school-enterprise co-operation and provide work-study connections such as workplace</p> | <p>Completed. The EDB has given priority to programmes of applied nature that involve industry-institution collaboration and internship arrangements when selecting programmes to be covered by SSSDP, while providing more</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
|--|--|
| <p>internships, and cover top-up degree courses for the first time. The goal is to construct a better vocational education advancing path. The EDB will also streamline the implementation details of the SSSDP and the “Non-means-tested Subsidy Scheme for Self-financing Undergraduate Studies in Hong Kong” (NMTSS) to benefit students from different backgrounds, including students with vocational qualifications. (EDB)</p> | <p>flexibility for institutions to admit more students with vocational and professional education and training (VPET) qualifications under SSSDP. In addition, the EDB has also rationalised the implementation details of NMTSS.</p> |
| <p>13. We have launched the first batch of programmes under the Pilot Project on the Development of Applied Degree Programmes (Pilot Project) in the 2022/23 academic year, covering four disciplines: nursing; testing and certification; horticulture, arboriculture and landscape management; and gerontology. We are actively exploring the introduction of more applied degree programmes. (EDB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The second round of the Pilot Project was announced in September 2023 and covers four degree programmes in hotel and tourism management, sports and recreation management, building services engineering, and health information and services management, which are expected to be launched in the 2024/25 academic year at the earliest.</p> |
| <p>14. We will increase the number of industries adopting the Vocational Qualifications Pathway (VQP) under the Qualifications Framework from 6 to at least 18 in the next five years. (EDB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. As of the third quarter of 2023, VQP was completed and newly launched in four new industries, namely Logistics, Information and Communications Technology, Retail, and Security Service, increasing the number of industries adopting VQP from six to 10. The EDB will continue to expedite the development of VQP in collaboration with the industries, and VQP is expected to be launched in Human Resource Management, and Import and Export industries in 2024.</p> |
| <p>15. The Diploma of Applied Education (DAE) Programme will be launched on a regular basis starting from the 2023/24 academic year, incorporating substantial VPET</p> | <p>Completed. The DAE Programme has been launched on a regular basis from the 2023/24 academic year, continuing to provide a pathway for Secondary Six School leavers as well as adult</p> |

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| | elements and providing a pathway for Secondary Six school leavers as well as adult learners to obtain a formal qualification. (EDB) | learners to obtain a formal qualification. The student enrolment for the 2023/24 academic year has exceeded 4 000. Besides, online application for the programme in the 2024/25 academic year has started. |
| 16. | We will enhance applied learning courses at senior secondary education by offering more programme options and support. (EDB) | Completed. The EDB has put in place different optimising measures, including the provision of more diversified courses and enhancing teacher training. All measures have been smoothly implemented. The number of Applied Learning courses has increased from 41 for the 2020-22 cohort to 59 for the 2024-26 cohort to meet the current demand. While the EDB will review and renew the courses in accordance with need, the number of courses is expected not to continually increase. |
| 17. | We will organise an array of activities to enhance the public's positive understanding of VPET and promote its professional image to make VPET an attractive progression pathway. (EDB) | Being taking forward. The Government supported the Vocational Training Council (VTC) to stage the Future Skills Community Event in December 2022 and the VTC Skills Fiesta in October 2023, and is in discussion with the VTC and other organisations to stage more events to promote VPET so as to enhance the public's positive understanding of VPET. |
| Exploration - Promote STEAM Education | | |
| 18. | Promote Innovation and Technology (I&T) Learning “for all” — The EDB will implement enriched coding education at the upper primary level and introduce I&T elements such as Artificial Intelligence in the junior secondary curriculum for adoption by the 2024/25 school year. (EDB) | Completed. The EDB launched the “Enriched Module on Coding Education for Upper Primary Level” and the “Module on Artificial Intelligence for Junior Secondary Level”. |
| 19. | Strengthen Leadership and Co-ordination — Starting from the 2022/23 school year, all publicly-funded schools are required to | Completed. The EDB has been organising professional development programmes for STEAM co-ordinators on holistic planning of |

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| | designate co-ordinators to holistically plan Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) education within and beyond the classroom; and organise or arrange students to participate in quality STEAM activities of reasonable scale at the whole-school, inter-school, territory-wide or international level. (EDB) | STEAM education (including organisation and arranging students to participate in quality and large scale STEAM activities), so as to strengthen the leadership and co-ordination of STEAM education at the school level. |
| 20. | Enhance Professional Training — Arrange teachers to undergo professional training on STEAM in an orderly manner before the 2023/24 school year. (EDB) | Being taking forward. More than 90% of the publicly-funded schools have devised a plan or prepared to devise a plan for professional training. |
| Exploration - Enhance Post-secondary Education | | |
| 21. | In the coming five years, our target is that 35% of the University Grants Committee (UGC)-funded universities' students will be studying STEAM subjects and 60% will be studying subjects relevant to Hong Kong's development into the "eight centres" in the National 14 th Five-Year Plan. (EDB) | Being taking forward. The UGC has commenced the Planning Exercise for the 2025-28 triennium. The UGC-funded universities will be encouraged to provide more programmes relating to STEAM and "the eight centres" in the National 14 th Five-Year Plan in light of the Government's target, the respective institutional roles and visions as well as market demand. The UGC aims to submit the recommendations of the Planning Exercise to the Government in the fourth quarter of 2024. |
| 22. | Increase the number of the UGC-funded research postgraduate places by about 1 600, from the existing 5 600 to progressively 7 200 in the 2024/25 academic year. This, together with the gradual uplift of the over-enrolment ceiling from 70% to 100% from last year onwards, will increase in number of research postgraduate places by more than 50%. (EDB) | Completed. The special allocation exercise for the additional places was completed and the UGC-funded universities were informed of the results in August 2023. |

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| 23. | The subsidy levels of the Mainland University Study Subsidy Scheme will be increased starting from the current academic year, with the introduction of a new subsidy item for travelling expenses, etc. (EDB) | Completed. The subsidy levels of the Scheme has already been increased starting 2022/23 academic year. |
| 24. | To ease the financial burden of loan repayers under the student financial assistance schemes for local post-secondary students, the Government will extend the current interest-free deferral of loan repayment for another year until 31 March 2025. (EDB) | Completed. The Finance Committee of the Legislative Council (LegCo) approved on 30 June 2023 to further extend the current interest-free deferral of student loan repayment for one year from 1 April 2024 until 31 March 2025. |
| 25. | Continue to implement the Multi-faceted Excellence Scholarship (MES) by providing full scholarships for students who excel in sports, arts and/or community service to pursue undergraduate studies in local universities and post-secondary institutions, with a view to promoting a culture of multi-faceted excellence. (HYAB) | Being taking forward. The 9 th cycle of the MES was successfully completed with a total of 35 students being awarded the scholarship. In addition, the 10 th cycle of the MES is open for application until 12 January 2024. The selection process will commence later. |
| Exploration - Enhance Life Planning | | |
| 26. | Strengthen co-ordination of different sectors (including the Government, schools, the business sector and non-governmental organisations (NGOs)) and rationalise their life planning work, and enhance relevant guidelines to create synergy across programmes within and beyond campuses. (HYAB) | Being taking forward. The relevant action group under the YDC will continue to take forward the matter. |
| 27. | Strengthen the implementation of life planning education in junior secondary schools and commence life planning education in upper primary schools | Completed. At junior secondary level, the EDB updated the “Guide on Life Planning Education and Career Guidance for Secondary Schools” and its supplementary document in 2021. The “Framework of Implementation Strategies for |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| <p>starting from the 2021/22 school year. (EDB)</p> | <p>Life Planning Education” were enriched with expected learning outcomes, exemplars and intervention activities in implementing the life planning education (LPE). Elements on the LPE at junior secondary level have also been strengthened in the professional training programmes for teachers. For the primary schools, the EDB has devised the “Framework of Implementation Strategies on Life Planning Education for Primary Schools” (the Framework) and supported schools to implement “Life Planning Education for Primary Schools”. This includes commissioning a university to organise the Certificate Course on Life Planning Education in Primary Schools to help teachers understand the salient points of the Framework and enrich the relevant learning content with reference to the Framework. Meanwhile, briefing sessions on the LPE at primary level and relevant thematic sharing sessions have been held annually since the 2021/22 school year to facilitate teachers’ professional exchanges and development.</p> |
| <p>28. The EDB will organise two sharing sessions in the 2022/23 school year to invite schools to share school-based good practices and experience in organising diversified life planning activities. (EDB)</p> | <p>Completed. The relevant sharing sessions were completed in the 2022/23 school year. The sharing sessions were held on 10 March 2023 and 2 June 2023 respectively.</p> |
| <p>29. Since the launch of the one-stop Life Planning Information Website in 2019, the EDB has been updating and enriching the contents of the Website, including the insertion of information on different types of work from traditional and emerging industries. At present, the website covers the latest careers information of 290 types of work from different</p> | <p>Being taking forward. An additional thematic corner, titled “The Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area”, was set up on the Life Planning Information Website in July 2023 to provide information on further studies and careers in the GBA cities. Also, during the 2022/23 and 2023/24 school years (as at 31.12.2023), the latest career information of 14 types of work, with 7 of</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| <p>industries (including duties, career ladder, entry requirements as well as examples of related training and courses, etc.). In the coming two years, the EDB will further provide the careers information of 20 types of work, with not less than half from emerging industries. In tandem, an additional thematic corner, titled “The Greater Bay Area”, will be set up to provide information on careers and further studies of the cities in the Greater Bay Area (GBA). (EDB)</p> | <p>them from emerging industries, has been newly added onto the website.</p> |
| <p>30. To further promote the co-operation between the business sector and schools, the EDB has launched the Business-School Partnership Programme 2.0 in the 2022/23 school year. The EDB is actively liaising with major chambers of commerce, professional bodies and the Industry Training Advisory Committees (including those of emerging industries) under the Qualifications Framework to encourage their member organisations to join the Programme and provide more and a wider range of career exploration and work experience activities for students to help them gain an initial understanding of the workplace. A series of Holiday Work Experience Programmes will be arranged during major school holidays (e.g. summer holidays, Christmas holidays and Easter holidays) to enable senior secondary students to gain first-hand experience of the actual operation of different industries as well as explore their interests and career aspirations. Study</p> | <p>Being taking forward. Policy measures regarding the Business-School Partnership Programme 2.0 were completed in the 2022/23 school year. In the 2022/23 school year, 121 new business partners joined the programme, which has doubled our original target (60 business partners). With regard to Holiday Work Experience Programmes, three Holiday Work Experience Programmes (including Christmas and Lunar New Year Holiday Work Experience Programme, Easter Holiday Work Experience Programme and Summer Holiday Work Experience Programme) were launched in the 2022/23 school year, providing a total of more than 370 activities and about 1500 work experience quotas. The programme of “Study Tours to the Greater Bay Area” has been enhanced as “Greater Bay Area Career Exploration Tours”. Schools will be informed of the implementation details of the programme through circular memorandum in the first quarter of 2024.</p> |

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| 31. Continue to enhance the Funding Scheme for Youth Life Planning Activities, including supporting subsidised organisations to collaborate with schools in organising more experiential life planning activities, and introduce easy-to-understand career information of different sectors to young people, especially emerging industries of particular interest to young people. (HYAB) | Being taking forward. Currently, NGOs sponsored under the Funding Scheme organise various life planning activities, such as thematic talks and workshops, workplace visits, job attachments, etc., with a view to enhancing young people’s understanding of the development as well as the opportunities of different industries, and facilitating them in exploring their future development. To further enhance sponsored NGOs’ awareness of multi-faceted pathways, we will continue to explore industries/careers that young people interested in, and arrange sponsored NGOs to participate in relevant briefings/seminars/visits with a view to facilitating them to share information of relevant industries with their partnering schools and students. |
| 32. Encourage various government departments and professional grades to form youth groups and organise activities regularly to enrich young people’s understanding of these government departments and professions, and guide them in their career pursuits and experiencing team culture. (HYAB) | Being taking forward. As at end-August 2023, over 70% of the government departments have been organising regular activities to help young people understand different professions and facilitate their life planning. |
| 33. For the construction industry, the Development Bureau (DEVB) and the Construction Industry Council (CIC) are working together with various stakeholders in the construction industry, | Being taking forward: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TV show series: TVB Infotainment named “Profession Impossible” was broadcasted in July and August 2023; |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| <p>including trade associations and relevant professional institutes, to take forward industry promotion programmes to enhance the promotion of the professional image and development opportunities of the industry, so as to attract more young people to join the industry. The programmes offer thematic field visits, short-term internships, job shadowing and mentorship programmes, as well as construction technology experiences and learning resources on construction-related subjects in STEAM education, with a view to providing young people with the opportunity to make on-site observations and gain an early understanding of the opportunities that lie ahead in the construction industry. (DEVB)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TV commercials: It has been broadcasted since June 2023; ● Large-scale outdoor advertisement: It was displayed in Causeway Bay and Mong Kok in July and August 2023 respectively; ● “Master Talk” sessions and field trips: A total of 12 sessions were conducted in 2023; ● STEAM education portal platform: STEAM-related content and activities have been launched, and the portal platform is under preparation. <p>Together, the publicity materials and programmes have reached an audience totalling a million in 2023.</p> |
| <p>34. The disciplined services will strengthen life planning education for their youth uniformed groups to deepen members’ understanding of the work of the disciplined services and enhance their knowledge and skills in various aspects, thereby helping young people explore their career orientation earlier and facilitate their upward mobility. (SB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The disciplined and auxiliary services departments have been actively promoting life planning education to their youth uniformed groups. They aim to enhance youth members’ understanding of the departments’ work through various types of visits, training and activities. Besides, the SB and its departments are actively arranging exchange and study activities in the Mainland for young people. For example, they arranged a total of 56 exchange tours to various cities in the Mainland between March and August 2023, with over 2 200 participants from their youth uniformed groups. These exchange tours covered diverse activities, including visits to law enforcement agencies, technology companies, schools and museums in the Mainland. Direct dialogue between members and Mainland youngsters was also</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| | | <p>arranged to enhance their knowledge and skills in various aspects.</p> <p>To further strengthen life planning education, the various disciplined services departments offered internship opportunities both in the disciplined services and in different sectors (including those in the GBA) for youth uniformed groups in 2023. The aim was to enhance members' knowledge and skills in various aspects, help them explore their career orientation at an early stage and facilitate their upward mobility.</p> |
| 35. | <p>The SB set up the SB Volunteer Services Team and launched the volunteer programme Sunshine Buddies in October 2022 to support children aged 11 to 14 from new arrival families in the following year to enhance their self-confidence, language and presentation skills, and encourage them to join the Government (particularly the disciplined services) and contribute to the community in the future. (SB)</p> | <p>Completed. The SB established the SB Volunteer Services Team and launched the Sunshine Buddies volunteer programme in October 2022. More than 150 kids from new arrival families benefited from the programme. SB organised various activities for the newly arrived children under the programme, including the Sha Tau Kok culture and history experience tour, visits to a franchised bus company and a local soy sauce factory, appreciation of Cantonese opera, a cooking and table manner workshop, attending the flagraising ceremony of the National Security Education Day, watching the FIVB Volleyball Nations League Hong Kong 2023 events to support the national team, etc., with a view to enhancing their abilities and broadening their horizons.</p> |
| Exploration - Understand Our Country and the World | | |
| 36. | <p>Strengthen the communication and co-operation of relevant bureaux to ensure that relevant programmes within and beyond campuses are carried out effectively and achieve synergy. (HYAB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. Two Action Groups, namely the Action Group on National Pride and Identity and Action Group on Youth Exploration, were established under the YDC to oversee the implementation of various exchange and internship programmes. The two Action Groups</p> |

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| | | will also make suggestions on enriching young people’s understanding to our country and the world as well as strengthening their senses of national pride and identity. |
| 37. | Further promote the Students Mainland Exchange Programme, providing about 100 000 exchange quotas every year, which is sufficient for every student to join at least one Mainland exchange programme in the respective primary and secondary stages. To tie in with the senior secondary subject of Citizenship and Social Development, the EDB fully subsidises students to participate in Mainland study tours once. (EDB) | <p>Completed. The EDB has resumed the Students Mainland Exchange Programme in the 2023/24 school year, providing about 100 000 exchange quotas every year, which is sufficient for every student to join at least one Mainland exchange programme in the respective primary and secondary stages. As of the end of December 2023, over 110 schools and about 9 000 students completed the Mainland exchange programmes.</p> <p>Besides, Mainland study tours of the senior secondary subject of Citizenship and Social Development (CS) were kick-started in April 2023. Over 43 000 senior secondary students completed CS Mainland study tours in the 2022/23 school year. It is estimated that over 50 000 senior secondary students will complete CS Mainland study tours in the 2023/24 school year.</p> |
| | The EDB will strengthen support for students of post-secondary institutions to participate in exchange and experiential activities in the Mainland, such as enhancing the existing Scheme for Subsidy on Exchange for Post-Secondary Students and further pursue the UGC’s Funding Scheme for Mainland and Global Engagement and Student Learning Experience. (EDB) | Being taking forward. In addition, with the stabilisation of the epidemic, the UGC-funded universities are actively utilising the subsidy for various student exchange programmes. To encourage UGC-funded universities to provide more exchange and experiential learning activities outside Hong Kong and to encourage integration of internationalised learning environment, the UGC will inject \$100 million into the “Funding Scheme for Mainland and Global Engagement and Student Learning Experience” in the 2022-2025 triennium. |

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| 38. | <p>At present, there are around 780 publicly-funded primary and secondary schools establishing over 2 100 sister schools pairs with their Mainland counterparts. The EDB is targeting to achieve an increase of 10% in the number of local schools participating in the Sister School Scheme by the end of 2023. Through participation in sister school exchange activities, more Hong Kong students will be able to enhance friendship with their sister schools' counterparts, broaden their horizons and deepen their understanding of the Mainland, so as to enhance their sense of national identity. (EDB)</p> | <p>Completed. As at December 2023, more than 880 publicly-funded schools had established over 2 600 sister school pairs with their Mainland counterparts.</p> |
| 39. | <p>Resume various programmes in a gradual and orderly manner starting from 2023, and enhance the breadth and depth of the internship and exchange programmes in the Mainland and overseas to facilitate young people in understanding the latest global and national development trends and integrating into the overall development of our country. For example, we will collaborate with more official cultural and scientific research institutions in the Mainland to organise the Thematic Youth Internship Programmes to the Mainland, and incorporate visits to China's overseas projects in selected overseas exchange programmes to help young people appreciate our country's contribution to global development. (HYAB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. Following the resumption of normal travel of persons between Hong Kong and other places, the HYAB has resumed various internship and exchange programmes outside Hong Kong in an orderly manner, including the "Funding Scheme for Youth Exchange in the Mainland", "Funding Scheme for International Youth Exchange", "Funding Scheme for Youth Internship in the Mainland", "Thematic Youth Internship Programmes to the Mainland", "Scheme on Corporate Summer Internship on the Mainland and Overseas", "United Nations Volunteers - Hong Kong Universities Volunteer Internship Programme", etc.</p> <p>New rounds of programmes have been launched from October 2023 onwards to provide young people with broader and deeper exchange and internship opportunities.</p> |

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| | | Outbound exchange activities under the YDC Youth Ambassador Programme were resumed in early 2023, with visits to Singapore in mid-February and to the GBA in mid-May. |
| 40. | The Mainland offices under the CMAB will provide more internship positions for Hong Kong youths and secure more internship opportunities for them in Mainland enterprises and organisations. (CMAB) | Being taking forward. The Mainland Offices have offered internship positions to 48 Hong Kong youths in 2023-24 in total, and will increase the internship positions to 59 in 2024-25. |
| 41. | The Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Singapore, Jakarta and Bangkok will encourage companies and organisations in the member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to offer suitable short-term internship placements to Hong Kong students, so that they can learn about the operation of relevant industries, as well as the economic and socio-cultural environment of the member countries. (Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB)) | Completed. The ETOs in Singapore, Jakarta and Bangkok have collaborated with companies and organisations in ASEAN member countries to provide over 70 internship placements for Hong Kong students, thereby successfully fulfilling the relevant target. |
| 42. | To provide more opportunities for Hong Kong students to travel overseas to understand the working culture of different countries and broaden their horizons, the CEDB has collaborated with local universities to arrange short-term internships for about 50 Hong Kong students in overseas ETOs. (CEDB) | Completed. The CEDB has collaborated with local universities to provide, at various overseas ETOs, over 50 internship placements within 2023-24, thereby successfully fulfilling the relevant target. |
| 43. | Formulate guidelines of good practices for youth internship and exchange programmes outside Hong Kong, and provide one-stop dissemination of information. (HYAB) | Completed. The HYAB has already published the guidelines of good practices for youth internship and exchange activities outside Hong Kong, which has been distributed to organisations to facilitate their planning of activities under new round of funding schemes. |

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| 44. | For the financial services sector, opportunities will be provided for youths and students to interact directly with corporate leaders and conduct study tours to the Mainland, with a view to helping young people broaden their horizons, develop a proper global perspective and prepare for their future careers. (Financial Service and the Treasury Bureau (FSTB)) | Completed. The 2023 Set Sail for GBA - Scheme for Financial Leaders of Tomorrow programme, co-organised by the FSTB, the Shenzhen Municipal Financial Regulatory Bureau and the Greater Bay Area Homeland Youth Community Foundation, was successfully held from June to July 2023. More than 30 local undergraduates studying related subjects undertook a four-day trip in the GBA and a one-day pre-employment training as well as a six-week internship in financial institutions in Shenzhen. It enabled youngsters to deepen their understanding of the financial markets in the GBA and gain first-hand experience of the latest developments in Mainland cities. |
| 45. | The Hong Kong Palace Museum promotes the public's understanding and appreciation of Chinese arts and culture, while advancing dialogues among world civilisations through different activities such as exhibitions and seminars. The reopening of Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence can also deepen the youth's understanding on the history and development of the country. The museums of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) will continue to organise exhibitions related to the history of China and the world, facilitating youth's understanding on the development of the country and the world. (Cultural, Sports and Tourism Bureau (CSTB)) | Being taking forward. Apart from the thematic exhibitions, the Hong Kong Palace Museum (HKPM) organises special exhibitions about Chinese arts and culture regularly and exhibits art and treasures from other parts of the world, striving to present the highest-quality exhibitions that balance the artistic, academic, and historical elements. The special exhibitions about Chinese arts and culture include "Grand Gallop: Art and Culture of the Horse", "Radiance: Ancient Gold from the Hong Kong Palace Museum Collection and the Mengdiexuan Collection" and "Gazing at Sanxingdui: New Archaeological Discoveries in Sichuan". In addition, the HKPM also organises different kinds of learning and engagement programmes, such as talks, workshops, compilation of teaching resource in collaboration with the EDB and youth exchange programmes, with a view to promoting the study and appreciation of Chinese arts and culture of the public. |

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| | <p>The LCSD has launched a calendar of Chinese History and Culture Programmes on its homepage, for easy public access to information about exhibitions, museum programmes, performances, film screenings, and public events related to Chinese history and culture organised by the department.</p> <p>In 2023, the museums of the LCSD have organised exhibitions including “Genesis and Spirit - Tea for Harmony · Yaji Cultural Salon: Exhibition of the Tea Culture of Zhejiang”, “Art Personalised: Masterpieces from the Hong Kong Museum of Art”, “A Tale of Three Cities: Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and Export of Silk Products in the Ming and Qing Dynasties”, “Eternal Enlightenment: the Virtual World of Jiajing Emperor”, “Love Letters: Everlasting Sentiments from the Xubaizhai Collection”, “City Rhymes: The Melodious Notes of Calligraphy” and “Self-discipline and Social Commitment: People and Stories of Tsinghua University”. These exhibitions aimed to promote Chinese history and culture.</p> <p>In 2023, more than 140 sessions of programmes (including exhibitions) have been held by LCSD museums, and the number of beneficiaries exceed two million, while the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence has received 291 school groups for visits.</p> |
| 46. The Tourism Commission, in collaboration with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), has been taking forward the “Enhancement of Hiking Trails - Phase II” | Being taking forward. The AFCD completed the enhancement works at Lion Rock Historic Walk in December 2023 and has been taking forward the enhancement works at Luk Keng War Relics Trail, as well as the preparatory works at |

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| | which covers hiking trails relating to war history, namely Lion Rock Historic Walk, Shing Mun Historic Walk and Luk Keng War Relics Trail, with a view to enhancing hikers', including young people's, understanding of the history of our country and Hong Kong. (CSTB) | Shing Mun War Relics Trail (formerly named as Shing Mun Historic Walk). |
| 47. | The Cultural and Heritage Sites Local Tour Incentive Scheme, launched by the Tourism Commission in 2022, seeks to incentivise the tourism trade to develop and launch tourism products with cultural and heritage tourism elements. The Scheme will incentivise the trade to develop exquisite travel routes with national history elements, thereby assisting different participants including young people to enhance their understanding of our country and Hong Kong through local tourism. (CSTB) | Being taking forward. The Government announced in the 2023 Policy Address that the Cultural and Heritage Sites Local Tour Incentive Scheme will be transformed into the Characteristic Local Tourism Incentive Scheme (CTIS) to provide more in-depth itinerary design, training, etc., with a view to encouraging the trade to develop more thematic tours. CTIS was rolled out on 1 January 2024 to incentivise the trade to develop exquisite travel routes with national history elements, thereby assisting different participants including young people to enhance their understanding of our country and Hong Kong through local tourism. |
| 48. | For the construction industry, we work with various professional bodies in the industry and support the CIC to play a liaison role and set up a mainland liaison office, with a view to providing a common platform and support for young people to work or start their own business in the Mainland, promoting technical exchanges between young professionals in the two places, and arranging opportunities for study visits and learning in the Mainland so that young people can better understand our country's development, especially the blueprints and prospects of the | Being taking forward. The CIC established its Mainland Liaison Office in July 2023. The CIC's Youth Affairs Committee (YAC) and the "Construction Industry Youth Alliance" were also formed in 2022 and 2023 respectively for attracting more young people to join the construction industry and to participate in the exchange programmes. Under the YAC, four task groups were set up responsible for organising different activities for young people, which included the 11-day "Greater Bay Area Construction Industry Youth Exchange Program" in July 2023, with approximately 60 students from different secondary and primary schools participated. |

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| | construction industry and infrastructure development. (DEVB) | |
| 49. | The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) plans to explore with the RTHK the feasibility of co-producing thematic videos/training videos covering various professional environmental topics, including global environmental issues and sustainable development, environmental assessment and planning, climate change, air quality, waste management, water quality and noise control, etc., so that young people can acquire professional knowledge in different areas of environmental protection and understand the national and global trends in environmental protection. (Environment and Ecology Bureau (EEB)) | Being taking forward. The RTHK is producing thematic videos related to noise control, air quality, water quality and waste management. The related filming work is now underway, and is expected to complete within 2024. |
| 50. | Co-operate with the National Cultural Heritage Administration, the Department of Culture and Tourism of Guangdong Province, the Secretariat for Social Affairs and Culture and Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Government of Macao Special Administrative Region, as well as the archaeological and cultural institutions in the Mainland to jointly promote cultural heritage conservation, enabling more young people to understand the history and culture of our country, and the development of our country and the world. (DEVB) | Being taking forward. The DEVB has jointly organised the “Under the Same Roof: Origin and Art of Lingnan Traditional Architecture” exhibition with the National Cultural Heritage Administration (NCHA) and Secretariat for Social Affairs and Culture of the Government of Macao Special Administrative Region in December 2023; and led a group of secondary school students to participate in the summer course jointly organised with NCHA in August 2023 and held in Sichuan. |

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| Exploration - Improve Special Education | |
| <p>51. Starting from the 2022/23 school year, hospital schools will be provided with additional resources to provide hospitalised students suffering from injuries or diseases with a holistic senior secondary curriculum and enhanced life planning education, with a view to facilitating their re-integration into mainstream schools after recovery. The Strength-based Programme under the Project on Whole School Approach to Providing Tiered Support for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder will also be expanded to help senior secondary students with autism spectrum disorder unleash their potential and strengthen their life planning. This will benefit about 100 secondary schools. (EDB)</p> | <p>Completed. The EDB has increased the resources and manpower provision for the hospital schools in the 2022/23 school year to enhance their senior secondary education services. Besides, 25 Strength-based Programmes under the Project on Whole School Approach to Providing Tiered Support for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder were implemented in the 2022/23 school year benefitting nearly 300 students from around 100 secondary schools.</p> |
| Hope - Capitalise on the Positioning of Hong Kong for Career Development | |
| <p>52. We will continue to organise “Set Sail for GBA - Scheme for Financial Leaders of Tomorrow” to help Hong Kong’s young people to understand the development of our country and encourage them to grasp the opportunities brought about by the Greater Bay Area (GBA) development in their future career planning. (FSTB)</p> | <p>Completed. The 2023 Set Sail for GBA - Scheme for Financial Leaders of Tomorrow programme, co-organised by the FSTB, the Shenzhen Municipal Financial Regulatory Bureau and the Greater Bay Area Homeland Youth Community Foundation, was successfully held from June to July 2023. More than 30 local undergraduates studying related subjects undertook a four-day trip in the GBA and a one-day pre-employment training as well as a six-week internship in financial institutions in Shenzhen. It enabled youngsters to deepen their understanding of the financial markets in the GBA and gain first-hand experience of the latest developments in Mainland cities.</p> |

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| <p>53. To develop Hong Kong into an international innovation and technology (I&T) centre, we need to enhance the I&T ecosystem. Currently, the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) supports the development of an ecosystem chain encompassing the upstream, midstream and downstream sectors through various funding schemes. The youths may submit applications if they fulfil the application criteria. At the same time, the Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau (ITIB) has through various initiatives and activities, such as the IT Innovation Lab in Secondary Schools, the Knowing More About IT Programme, the Innovation and Technology Scholarship, the Innovation and Technology Scholarship, the InnoCarnival, talks, interviews and the STEM Internship Scheme etc., created a better I&T learning environment for students in different learning stages; nurtured more new entrants to join the I&T workforce and participate in the development of an international I&T centre. Among the initiatives, the coverage of the STEM Internship Scheme will be expanded next year. (ITIB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. In order to dovetail with the National 14th Five-Year Plan, the Government promulgated the Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Development Blueprint (the I&T Blueprint) in December 2022 to establish a clear development path and formulate systematic strategic planning for Hong Kong's I&T development over the next five to 10 years, charting Hong Kong in moving full steam towards the vision of an international I&T centre. The I&T Blueprint sets out major strategies under four broad development directions including, <i>inter alia</i>, enhancing the I&T ecosystem and enlarging the I&T talent pool.</p> <p>Please refer to items (86) to (89), (97) to (101) and (141) for the latest implementation progress of various relevant measures set out in the Youth Development Blueprint.</p> |
| <p>54. We have asked the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA) to look into ways to nurture arts and cultural talents for Hong Kong and the GBA, and to establish another campus in the Northern Metropolis and raise the proportion of non-local students in order to offer more</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The HKAPA commenced a consultant study in August 2023. The outcome will form the basis for detailed studies on strategic positioning and campus development planning in the next stage.</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| <p>learning opportunities to the younger generation in the long run. We will deploy additional resources to support and nurture young arts groups and artists with potential, offering them with more opportunities to showcase their talents. Moreover, a new talent nurturing scheme will be launched to subsidise HKAPA students or those studying arts and cultural programmes in universities to undertake internships in local arts groups and the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD). These measures will provide young people who aspire to pursue a career in the arts and cultural industries with opportunities and career ladders to join the industries after graduation. (CSTB)</p> | <p>The Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC)'s Arts Talents Internship Matching Programme (including the Young Arts Tech Talents Residency Scheme) and Emerging Artists Development Grant were launched in mid-2023.</p> |
| <p>55. Through the overseas internship opportunities provided by the Government's overseas Economic and Trade Offices and the activities organised by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) under the Support Scheme for Pursuing Development in the Mainland, we will enhance young people's understanding of international business activities and relevant industries, and equip them for future development in the business and commerce sectors. (CEDB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. Please refer to item 103 for the progress on the "Support Scheme for Pursuing Development in the Mainland".</p> |
| <p>56. To nurture more local maritime lawyers, we will launch a Maritime Services Traineeship Scheme to subsidise participating companies to provide traineeship programmes for young people who aspire to a career in maritime law,</p> | <p>Completed. The "Maritime Services Traineeship Scheme – Legal" was launched on 15 September 2023.</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| <p>with a view to broadening the career development opportunities for youths in the high value-added maritime services industry and consolidating Hong Kong’s position as an international shipping centre. (Transport and Logistics Bureau (TLB))</p> | |
| <p>57. The Hong Kong International Aviation Academy will collaborate with relevant aviation training institutions in the Mainland to launch the Greater Bay Area Youth Aviation Internship Programme for mutual exchange of young people to take up internships at the Hong Kong International Airport as well as other airports in the GBA. This will attract young people to join the aviation industry, meet the long-term manpower needs of the aviation industry in Hong Kong and the Mainland, and promote the development of a world-class airport cluster in the GBA. (TLB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The “GBA Youth Aviation Industry Internship Programme” was launched in May 2023. As of December 2023, a total of about 180 interns from the Mainland and Hong Kong have been posted to Hong Kong International Airport and other airports in the GBA respectively for internship under the programme.</p> |
| <p>58. The DoJ will work with the Hong Kong Bar Association, the Law Society of Hong Kong and other relevant organisations to enhance the understanding of the legal profession and the work of the DoJ for those who have not yet joined the legal profession. This include organising open day in collaboration with legal and dispute resolution service related organisations and reach out to not less than 100 young people in 2023. (DoJ)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The DoJ held two “DoJ i-Day” in August and September 2023 which attracted the enthusiastic participation of more than 330 people. “DoJ i-Day” is the first open day held by the DoJ, and is led and participated by young government counsel of the DoJ who are members of “DoJ Fellows”. The activities of “DoJ i-Day” included: sharing by the representative of the Legal Enhancement and Development Office on the “breadth” and “depth” of the work of the DoJ as well as the collaboration among colleagues; sharing by young government counsel on the interesting experience of their work in the DoJ; sharing by young lawyers of The</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| | | Law Society of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Bar Association, and colleagues of the Prosecution Division of the DoJ on their respective roles in criminal legal procedures. “DoJ i-Day” adopted a more lively and interesting approach to promote interactions between DoJ colleagues and the community, allowing participants to understand the work of various divisions of the DoJ and attracting young people to join and work in the DoJ. “DoJ i-Day” has received positive responses and the DoJ would consider holding the event again in 2024. |
| 59. | Encourage young people to make use of their intellect and creativity in their development, and guide and nurture them to pursue active exploration and innovation and seize the career opportunities of commercialising their original works or research and development (R&D) results, so as to contribute to the development of I&T and creative industries and the economy of our country and the HKSAR. (CEDB) | Being taking forward. Since the release of the Youth Development Blueprint, the Intellectual Property Department (IPD) has reached out to more than 50 000 students from over 190 schools in 2023 through the School Visit Programme, Interactive Drama Programme and IP Ambassador Programme. |
| Hope - Support Diversified Career Development | | |
| 60. | As the largest employer in Hong Kong, the HKSAR Government recruits a large number of staff every year to fill vacancies arising from retirement, departure or creation of new posts. The Government encourages young people to join the public service to ensure that there are sufficient manpower resources to serve the public and maintain a healthy turnover in the civil service. These positions can provide diversified, stable and long-term development opportunities for young | Being taking forward. Since June 2023, all civil service grades may, having regard to their manpower resources and operational needs, consider whether to expand the pool of eligible candidates to undergraduate or postgraduate students in their penultimate year of study (e.g. in a four-year undergraduate curriculum, they refer to students in the third year of studies). At present, 22 grades will consider / have considered students graduating in 2025. The Government has stepped up recruitment and publicity works. For example, in September 2023, we organised |

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| | <p>people with different competencies and interests. (Civil Service Bureau (CSB))</p> <p>the first large-scale career fair designated for government departments at three local universities, as well as roving recruitment talks in the Mainland (e.g. Beijing and Shanghai) to enhance Hong Kong students' understanding on civil service jobs and attract young people with aspiration to serve the community to join the civil service.</p> |
| <p>61. The HKSAR Government provides short-term internship opportunities for young people every year to enable students and youths to gain early exposure to the operation of different government departments and public organisations (including various types of professional, administrative, managerial, support and disciplined services work), helping young people to equip themselves and accumulate valuable social experience, and also cultivating their interest in serving the community and contributing to Hong Kong in their career and life planning. (CSB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. In 2023-24, it is planned to offer over 3 300 internship places in more than 80 bureaux/departments (B/Ds) and public bodies. Individual B/Ds and public bodies organize various internship programmes for young people in different times having regard to their respective objectives and needs. Many of the internship placements have been offered during summer vacation.</p> |
| <p>62. The CSB will continue to co-ordinate various bureaux/departments and public organisations to provide short-term internship opportunities for young people so that participants can gain valuable work experience and knowledge, and broaden their horizons and experience to better prepare them for the job market. (CSB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. Please see item 61 for details.</p> |
| <p>63. We will organise the first Hong Kong Performing Arts Market in 2024 to showcase our outstanding arts groups, including budding arts groups / artists and HKAPA graduates. The Market will</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The first Hong Kong Performance Arts Expo (formerly named Hong Kong Performing Arts Market) will be held on 14 to 18 October 2024.</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| <p>64. LCSD museums will collaborate with the WKCD Authority to continue to implement the museum trainees programme and the summer internship programme to nurture young people's interest in museums and conservation work, thereby attracting those who aspire to pursue a career in the culture and museum industry. The LCSD's "Community Cultural Ambassador Scheme" covers a variety of art forms, including jazz, street dance and multimedia arts which appeal to youngsters, as well as Chinese music, Cantonese opera and traditional puppetry which promote Chinese culture. In 2023, during the open call of the latest Community Cultural Ambassadors, the LCSD is set to encourage more up-and-coming arts groups or artist ensembles to submit programme proposals so as to provide them with more performance opportunities. The number of such groups is targeted to occupy 50% of the total number of the selected groups, and the programmes they present are expected to attract more young audiences to participate. The WKCD also hosted virtual career events and talks to deepen the understanding about working at the</p> | <p>Being taking forward. For now, the museum trainees (conservation) programme of the WKCD Authority has been launched, whereas the summer internship programme of 2023 has ended.</p> <p>The programmes of the "Community Cultural Ambassador Scheme 2023" are now in progress.</p> <p>The recruitment exercise for the "Community Cultural Ambassador Scheme 2024" was held from March to May 2023, and the assessment work has been completed. The LCSD has selected 18 arts groups or artist ensembles to become the Community Cultural Ambassadors in 2024. Among them, 9 are budding arts groups or ensembles of young artists, which form 50% of the total number of the selected groups. These 18 Community Cultural Ambassador programmes are expected to attract about 50 000 attendance, and the programmes of the 9 budding arts groups or ensembles of young artists are expected to attract about 27 000 attendance.</p> <p>In 2023-24 financial year (as at 31 December, 2023), the LCSD has recruited seven summer interns and one museum trainee (conservation), and organised 14 professional training courses in conservation. The LCSD will continue the recruitment of museum trainees (conservation) and summer interns, as well as organising related training courses in conservation in 2024-25.</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| | Authority for young people who aspire to join the arts and cultural industry. (CSTB) | |
| 65. | To support the application of arts technology (Arts Tech) in stage performances, the LCSD has established the East Kowloon Cultural Centre Academy for Arts Tech to nurture specialists to adept in the industry. Starting from the 2nd quarter of 2022, the Academy has provided short-term courses and paid internship opportunities to students and graduates of tertiary institutions and young people who wish to pursue a career in the field, where they have deepened their knowledge on Arts Tech application and collaborated with artists and technology professionals when participating in Arts Tech productions. Through classroom learning and on-the-job training, it is anticipated that they will be equipped with the experiences and skills that are required to meet the strong workforce demand in the industry. To nurture the software essential for the sustainable development of Arts Tech, the Academy will also roll out a 24-month Arts Tech Trainee Programme in 2023-24, where structured trainings with internship opportunities will be offered to young people. (CSTB) | Being taking forward. Following the completion of recruitment by the East Kowloon Cultural Centre Academy in December 2023, the Arts Tech Trainee Programme is expected to commence in the first quarter of 2024. |
| 66. | Create Hong Kong, has all along through the CreateSmart Initiative and the Film Development Fund (FDF), helped nurture talent and promote the development of start-up companies for the creative sectors. To allow more young people to | Being taking forward. The 8 th First Feature Film Initiative opened for application from May to September 2023. 71 eligible applications were received. Assessment of applications is in progress. Besides, the |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| <p>understand the vision and opportunities for development in the GBA, relevant elements have also been injected into the subsidised projects/programmes. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● funding many projects under the FDF to support the development of young people, including the “First Feature Film Initiative” to identify new directors who have never made commercial feature films and fully subsidise the winning new directors as well as their production teams to make their first feature films on a commercial basis. Besides, the FDF also subsidises the “Neo Luma – Market Expansion into Mainland China Film Market” to provide training and internship to participants (especially young film practitioners) for promotion of exchanges and communication between the film and television industry in Hong Kong and the Mainland and for a better understanding of the film and television industry in the Mainland; ● providing one-year on-the-job training in local digital entertainment and digital advertising companies for graduates through the Hong Kong Digital Entertainment Industry Fresh Graduate Support Scheme and Hong Kong Digital Advertising Industry Fresh Graduate Support Scheme; ● subsidising the music industry to organise touring performances in the Mainland and sharing between local | <p>organiser of the project “Neo Luma – Market Expansion into Mainland China Film Market” is preparing for the tour for young Hong Kong film practitioners to the Mainland which will take place in late March 2024.</p> <p>The 5th “Hong Kong Digital Entertainment Industry Fresh Graduate Support Scheme” and the 6th “Hong Kong Digital Advertising Industry Fresh Graduate Support Scheme” provided one-year full-time employment and on-the-job training for graduates recruited in 2023 programme year. Furthermore, the 5th “Hong Kong Digital Entertainment Industry Fresh Graduate Support Scheme” arranged graduates of the programme to attend SIGGRAPH Asia 2023 held in Australia in December 2023.</p> <p>The local music industry led emerging music groups to participate in six well-known overseas music festivals in 2023, including the FOCUS Wales in the UK in May, the Primavera Sound in Spain in June, the Zandari Festa in the South Korea, the Baybeats in Singapore and the BreakOut West in Canada in October, and the Rakrakan Festival in the Philippines in November.</p> <p>In February 2023, the music industry arranged local young music talent to participate in the music performances in various GBA cities (Shenzhen, Zhuhai and Guangzhou) through pre-recorded video format.</p> <p>The Hong Kong Publishing Federation organises the 3rd Next Writer Publication Funding Scheme to subsidise nine emerging writers to publish and</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| <p>young music talent and the music industry in the GBA;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● subsidising the Hong Kong Publishing Federation to organise two editions of “The Next Writer Publication Funding Scheme” to subsidise nine groups of emerging writers in each edition to publish and promote their new books, in order to nurture the next generation of writers and encourage Hong Kong publishers to publish more Chinese books that are creative and have potential for copyright trading; and ● providing funding support to the Hong Kong Design Centre to implement the Design Incubation Programme and the Fashion Incubation Programme, which offers financial assistance and incubation services to design start-ups and up-and-coming fashion designers over a two-year incubation period to help them build up business network, publicise products and conduct market promotions. (CSTB) | <p>promote their new books. The project will also hold the “Hong Kong Emerging Writer Gala Presentation in the Greater Bay Area” for the emerging writers in Macau, Zhuhai, Foshan, Guangzhou and Shenzhen in 2025.</p> <p>“Go! Illustrators – Hong Kong Picture Book Illustrators at International Book Fairs Promotion Scheme” was launched in 2023 to support eight emerging illustrators to participate in Bologna Children's Book Fair in Italy and Beijing International Book Fair to be held in April and June 2024 respectively, as well as to compete in relevant picture book or illustration competitions.</p> <p>The Design Incubation Programme and the Fashion Incubation Programme have been in its phase IV and II respectively. As at end-December 2023, the two programmes has accumulatively admitted 383 incubatees, mainly consisting of design start-ups, young design talents and up-and-coming fashion designers. Participating companies created 1 798 job opportunities. The two incubation programmes will continue to be implemented with a view to creating more opportunities and prospects for design start-ups, young design talents and fashion designers’ brands.</p> |
| <p>67. The CSTB attaches great importance to the all-round development of elite athletes and is committed to supporting their dual career development in sports and education, which would attract more junior athletes with sports potential to become full-time athletes, so as to provide sufficient new forces to elite sports in</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The Government will continue to support the development of elite sports, assist athletes in achieving good results in major international sports events, and will continue to implement various initiatives to support the diversified career development of elite athletes.</p> |

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| <p>Hong Kong and encourage young people to win glory for the country and Hong Kong through sports. We have provided scholarships through the Hong Kong Athletes Fund and have been collaborating with local tertiary institutions in supporting athletes' continuing education. We have also expanded the Retired Athletes Transformation Programme to enable more retired athletes to work for schools and sports organisations to assist in promoting sports and identifying potential sports talents. (CSTB)</p> | <p>The "Hong Kong Athletes Fund" aims to provide grants and subsidies to athletes to support their continuous education. More than 90% of the athletes who benefit from the Fund's education grant and Youth Athletes Scholarship Awards are young athletes (12 to 39 years old). In addition, the "Retired Athletes Transformation Programme" aims to provide more opportunities for athletes to unleash their potential and to facilitate their career transformation, in which they will be employed by schools and sports organisations. The new phase of the programme (2021 to 2024) was launched on 1 September 2021. As of December 2023, the programme has provided funding support to a total of 92 young retired athletes.</p> |
| <p>68. Since 2020, the Government has rolled out the support measure of "Support for Engineering, Architectural, Surveying, Town Planning and Landscape Sectors" under the Anti-epidemic Fund to subsidise private organisations to employ assistant professionals and graduates of the construction industry and offer employment opportunities to young people interested in pursuing relevant careers. We will consider to regularise the measure and determine the way forward. (DEVB)</p> | <p>Completed. The review was completed in February 2023. As the impact of COVID-19 pandemic has diminished, the temporary support measures in connection with COVID-19 will not be continued.</p> |
| <p>69. Assist young people to receive professional training in construction and develop their careers in the construction industry while seizing the opportunities of future infrastructure development. The DEVB will work with the EDB to expand the government funding schemes to</p> | <p>Completed. In the 2023/24 academic year, the EDB added 1 000 subsidised places for students studying top-up degree programmes under the "Study Subsidy Scheme for Designated Professions/Sectors". About 30% of them are for construction-related full-time programmes.</p> |

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| <p>include more additional degree programmes relating to the construction industry, which will significantly reduce the financial and time burden on young people pursuing bachelor's degree programmes. (DEVB)</p> | <p>This makes tuition fees more affordable and helps encourage young people to enroll.</p> |
| <p>70. Promote various “First-Hire-Then-Train” schemes to support on-the-job training for young people to enhance their skills and professional knowledge, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● making good use of the \$1 billion allocated for 2022-23 to enhance training, including supporting the CIC to increase the number of places under its existing on-the-job training programmes to progressively upskill young trainees to become skilled workers (tradesman), and providing allowances for trainees of the three-year part-time professional diploma programme launched in 2022-23, so as to train them up for advancement as young technical personnel. They may also advance to the management level or start their own business and lead their construction teams after accumulating experience. At the same time, the CIC will also enhance the technological elements of the programme to provide targeted training for young people to become well-rounded technical personnel; and ● providing targeted training for young people to become technical personnel in the construction industry, study the feasibility of introducing “First-Hire- | <p>Being taking forward. The CIC has utilised government funding and its own resources to increase the training quota for skilled construction workers from 10 000 places in the 2022/23 academic year, to at least about 12 000 places in each of the academic years from 2023/24 to 2027/28, including training for skilled labours. This policy measure has been included in the 2023 Policy Address as specified key performance indicator (KPI). The CIC will have provided 15 700 training places for skilled construction workers for 2023/24 academic year, exceeding the KPI of at least about 12 000 places in each of the relevant academic years. The CIC will continue to add innovative technology elements to its curriculum.</p> <p>The DEVB has made use of the \$107 million funding allocated under the 2023-24 Budget to launch the two-year pilot schemes, under which on-the-job training allowances are provided for about 1 000 trainees who have enrolled in part-time construction-related degree programmes and about 300 trainees enrolled in construction safety officer courses. The pilot schemes will help the trainees seize the opportunities brought about by the future development of the construction industry for upward mobility, and at the same time help expand the source of manpower supply by training up construction industry talents.</p> |

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| <p>Then-Train” funding schemes and explore collaboration with post-secondary institutions and schools to provide on-the-job training subsidy for students pursuing part-time construction-related degree programmes and construction safety officer courses, so as to respond to the employers in the construction industry who value on-the-job training with both theoretical knowledge and practical site experience, and enhance the employment opportunities for young trainees. (DEVB)</p> | <p>The VTC and the CIC respectively launched in September and November 2023 the on-the-job training allowance scheme for trainees studying part-time degree programmes and the “First-Hire-Then-Train” scheme for construction safety officers.</p> |
| <p>71. About 70% of the training places at the Hong Kong Construction Institute (HKCI), established by the CIC, are enrolled by secondary school leavers or young people switching jobs. The Government has allocated another \$1 billion to the CIC in 2022-23 to strengthen training, including subsidising a total of 27 000 training places in the next six years, and providing trainees with a comprehensive progression pathway in learning and employment with recognised qualifications. In addition, in line with the Government’s promotion of the use of I&T in the industry, the HKCI will incorporate I&T elements in most of its training programmes, with a view to training more young talents in construction technologies for the industry and expanding the development opportunities for young people. (DEVB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The target for 2023/24 academic year has been achieved (see item 70 for details).</p> |

| | Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| 72. | Introduce appropriate measures to increase job opportunities for small construction consultancy firms (many of which are founded by young architects). For example, requiring large consultancy firms and contractors to engage small consultancy firms in the design of projects for suitable consultancy contracts and “Design and Build” contracts. (DEVB) | <p>Being taking forward. Among the five selected consultancy or engineering contracts, requirements for engaging small architectural consulting firms in project design work have been introduced for four of them. For the remaining one contract, we will also include the requirement to engage small architectural consulting firms in project design work in due course.</p> <p>The Architectural Services Department has put the involvement of small architectural consulting firms in suitable large-scale consultancy or engineering project design work as a usual practice.</p> |
| 73. | Partner with local young artists and groups to showcase their art pieces at the harbourfront space to support and promote local artwork while revitalising and beautifying the harbourfront. (DEVB) | Being taking forward. The Harbour Office of the DEVB has held the “Victoria Harbourfront Photo and Short Video Competition” in October 2023. Entries of the competition, some of which from young participants, will be displayed at the harbourfront sites this year. In addition, at the harbourfront sites managed by the DEVB, there are events held from time to time involving youth performance or youth cultural and creative products, such as the “Youth Art Festival x Mid-Autumn Night Market” held at the Kwun Tong Promenade from September 29 to October 1, 2023; the “K-Farm Night Market • Youth Culture & Creativity + Cosplay” held at the Belcher Bay Promenade, Kennedy Town, from October 20 to October 22, 2023. |
| 74. | The Geospatial Lab set up by the DEVB introduces young people to spatial data and encourage them to explore the value and applications of spatial data, develop innovative applications that can bring benefits and convenience to people and | Being taking forward. The Geospatial Lab organised over 130 activities, including the “CSDI Awards 2023”, experience days, workshops, seminars, competitions, school visits, etc. from December 2022 to December 2023. They enable the public, young start-ups and |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| <p>create business opportunities. Through organising different activities, young people can interact with more spatial data-related industries/enterprises, thereby gaining a better understanding of the spatial data-related industries, giving play to their talents and exploring the relevant areas, and also integrating into the GBA and seizing the opportunities of the development of the spatial data-related industries. (DEVB)</p> | <p>students understand and master geospatial technology and knowledge, enhance their skillsets and extend them to different application areas. Besides, the DEVB has been proactively engaging stakeholders and professional institutes, maintaining close connections and strengthening partnerships to promote innovative use of spatial data.</p> |
| <p>75. The Planning Department (PlanD) formulates an outreach programme every year to introduce the work of town planning and related professions to post-secondary institutions and primary and secondary schools, and also recruits post-secondary students of different disciplines as summer interns during the summer holidays. The Buildings Department could also offer short-term internship opportunities. (DEVB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. As of 31 December 2023, the PlanD has conducted outreach activities at 43 schools (including primary schools, secondary schools and tertiary institutions), and organised roving exhibitions at 3 public venues (including shopping malls and government buildings) under its 2023/24 outreach programme to introduce the work of town planning and related professions to the general public, including the younger generation. To take the opportunities to introduce town planning work to young people at different stages of their lives, apart from participating in education and career expo, the PlanD has participated in 5 career fairs organised by various universities last year. In 2023, the PlanD recruited a total of 16 summer interns from tertiary institutions, allowing college students to gain a deeper understanding of the daily operations of the Government. It also recruited 22 town planning graduates, enabling them to undergo a two-year professional training programme to qualify for full membership of professional institute. On the other hand, the Buildings Department employed a total of 15 summer interns in 2023 and they completed their</p> |

| | Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| | | eight-week internship at the end of August of the same year. |
| 76. | The Housing Department (HD) launches a mentoring scheme for young housing managers and a summer internship programme, and opens up vacancies for application by young professional trainees, including trainee engineers and architects. The Housing Department will also provide more development opportunities for young professionals by organising design competitions of different scales. (Housing Bureau (HB)) | Being taking forward. The 2023/24 Mentoring Scheme for Housing Manager Grade Staff was launched in November 2023. This year, 42 mentors and 112 mentees (including 20 Assistant Housing Managers and 92 Housing Officers) took part in the Scheme. On training of young professionals, the HD has been implementing the Training Schemes for the graduates / undergraduates and providing summer internship opportunity to university students. As at 31 December 2023, 67 graduates/ undergraduates of various professional disciplines were undergoing training in the HD. In addition, offer of appointment has been made to one more candidate who will report for duty in January 2024. The HD is planning for the next round of recruitment to fill the remaining vacancies. The 2024 Summer Internship Programme will be launched in the first quarter of 2024. |
| 77. | The DoJ will promote and co-ordinate with the Hong Kong Bar Association, the Law Society of Hong Kong and relevant legal and dispute resolution professional associations, etc. to promote various training, exchange and capacity building activities to facilitate young people in seizing the significant opportunities brought about by national policies such as the 14 th Five-Year Plan and the GBA development, and encourage young legal professionals to participate in programmes such as: the GBA Legal Professional Examination, Legal Talent Recruitment Scheme (Trainee Lawyers) and | Being taking forward. The Deputy Secretary for Justice (DSJ), Mr Cheung Kwok-kwan, led a delegation of young members of the legal sector to visit Huizhou from 7 to 8 September 2023. The delegation comprises a total of 39 people who are young representatives of the Law Society of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Bar Association, young government counsel of the DoJ, and law students from the three law schools. It is the first time the DoJ organised a dedicated delegation for young legal practitioners and law students to visit the Mainland cities of the GBA. It is also the first trip of the “DoJ Fellows”, an in-house alliance of young government counsel |

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| <p>Secondment of Young Professionals from the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to International Law Organisations, etc. to help improve upward mobility for young people and more proactively integrate into the overall development of our country. (DoJ)</p> | <p>established by the DoJ. The purpose of the visit is to enable young legal practitioners and law students to have a “deeper, earlier and more advanced” understanding of the GBA and the Mainland's legal system. As such, they could have a more in-depth understanding of the positioning and policy layout of different cities in the GBA, and of the latest development of the legal system of the Mainland. The visit also enables the participants to plan ahead for the connection between their future career development and the GBA, and learn about forward-looking policies such as the application of technologies in the Mainland legal sector.</p> <p>The DSJ, Mr Cheung Kwok-kwan, also led a young legal delegation of over 30 members to visit two GBA cities, Shenzhen and Foshan, from 16 to 18 November 2023. The delegation comprises young representatives of the Law Society of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Bar Association, young government counsel of the DoJ, and law students from the three law schools.</p> <p>This visit follows the one to Huizhou, conducted by the DoJ with young lawyers in September, to continue to engage proactively with the youth. The DoJ endeavours to support Hong Kong’s new generation of the legal sector, including law students, by providing them with opportunities to acquire a deeper and wider understanding of the country's development, and encouraging them to better integrate into the overall national development and contribute to the rule of law development of the country proactively at an earlier stage.</p> |

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| 78. | The DoJ plans to set up an in-house alliance of young lawyers, tentatively named “Friends of DoJ”, to enable young government lawyers who have been with the DoJ for less than seven years to network and share their experiences, and to encourage their active participation in activities and development of the legal profession. (DoJ) | Completed. The DoJ has established the “DoJ Fellows” as a standing communication platform to understand the views of young colleagues and to unite the strengths of young government counsel. The DoJ encourages members of the “DoJ Fellows” to utilise their expertise and skills, actively participate in the promotion and development of the legal profession, and strengthen the connection between the DoJ and the community (especially young people), so that all sectors of the community could have a more comprehensive understanding of the DoJ’s work and contribute to the development of our country and Hong Kong. The DoJ has organised activities like the “DoJ i-Day” in 2023 which were led, planned and participated by young government counsel. |
| 79. | In addition to the career talks already being conducted by the DoJ at the three law schools, the DoJ will consider arranging legal trainee recruitment talks at the Justice Place, for example, during the holidays for all interested parties not limited to law students. We will make arrangements for serving lawyers (including those at junior, intermediate and senior ranks, and DoJ’s internal young lawyers of the “Friends of DoJ” tentatively) to interact with attendees at the end of the talks. (DoJ) | Being taking forward. The DoJ held two “DoJ i-Day” in August and September 2023 which attracted the enthusiastic participation of more than 330 people. “DoJ i-Day” is the first open day held by the DoJ, and is led and participated by young government counsel of the DoJ who are “DoJ Fellows”. “DoJ i-Day” adopted a more lively and interesting approach to promote interactions between DoJ colleagues and the community, allowing participants to understand the work of various divisions of DoJ and attracting young people to join and work in the DoJ. “DoJ i-Day” has received positive responses and the DoJ would consider holding the event again in 2024. |
| 80. | Under the “Post-Secondary Student Summer Internship Programme” and the “Vacation Training Scheme for Post-Secondary Students”, the EPD provides | Being taking forward. The “Post-Secondary Student Summer Internship Programme” and the “Vacation Training Scheme for Post-Secondary Students” for 2023 were completed as scheduled |

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| | <p>during June to August 2023, lasting for 8 weeks. The recruitment work for 2024 will be carried out in mid-2024</p> |
| <p>81. The EPD is discussing with the VTC to consider launching an apprenticeship programme related to environmental protection to provide on-the-job training opportunities for students enrolled in vocational certificate, vocational diploma or higher diploma courses to gain practical environmental work experience through working in EPD's waste treatment facilities and air quality monitoring stations, etc. (EEB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The EPD and the VTC are discussing the implementation details of the training programme, planning to recruit students in mid-2024.</p> |
| <p>82. To provide internship opportunities and professional training related to the financial services industry, especially the high-growth sectors, the FSTB has launched the Fintech Career Accelerator Scheme, Pilot Apprenticeship Programme for Private Wealth Management, Future Banking Bridging Programme, Industry Project Masters Network, Banking Graduate Trainee Programme, the Sustainable Finance Internship Initiative and the Pilot Green and Sustainable Finance Capacity Building Support Scheme, to encourage young people to continue to equip themselves and seize more job opportunities, as well as to nurture more talents for the financial services industry. (FSTB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward.</p> <p>The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) and its strategic partners continue to organise the Fintech Career Accelerator Scheme (FCAS) to nurture young talents of various stages of their career development, with a view to expanding the fintech talent pool in Hong Kong. Over 70 students were recruited by the HKMA and 30 participating institutions through the Gap Year Placement Programme of FCAS 2023/24 edition.</p> <p>Co-organised by the HKMA and the Private Wealth Management Association, the Apprenticeship Programme for Private Wealth Management has offered a total of around 400 apprenticeship opportunities in private wealth management since its inception in April 2017.</p> <p>The Future Banking Bridging Programme, implemented by the HKMA and the Hong Kong Institute of Bankers, has provided practical</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| | <p>banking knowledge in popular areas of banking and valuable work experience to over 720 university students in the past three years.</p> <p>The Industry Project Masters Network (IPMN) scheme was officially launched in September 2022 to groom fintech talent, in which Master’s degree students have the opportunity to work on practical fintech projects, gaining hands-on experience and skills. The 2022/23 edition of the IPMN scheme was successfully concluded, with over 130 students participating in the fintech industry projects.</p> <p>Launched in 2022 as a sequel to the Banking Talent Programme in 2020 and 2021, the Banking Graduate Trainee Programme was co-organised by the HKMA and the banking industry, providing over 90 entry-level job opportunities in three fast-growing areas, including fintech, green and sustainable finance, and GBA business, for recent university graduates.</p> <p>The Government launched in December 2022 a three-year Pilot Green and Sustainable Finance Capacity Building Support Scheme for application by market practitioners and related professionals as well as students and graduates of relevant disciplines. After completing eligible programmes or accomplishing relevant qualifications, applicants can apply for a subsidy of up to \$10,000. As of early-January 2024, there were 47 eligible programmes and qualifications provided by the professional and continuing education schools of local universities, professional institutions, international training providers, etc., and the list will continue to be</p> |

| | Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| | | updated. On the other hand, around 570 reimbursement applications have been approved, involving a total reimbursement amount of around \$3.6 million. |
| 83. | <p>The Government has been actively training local healthcare professionals by increasing the number of local healthcare training places in the UGC-funded institutions and self-financing institutions, as well as upgrading and increasing the healthcare training-related teaching facilities in the UGC-funded universities, so as to increase the healthcare training capacity and provide more local young people aspiring to join the healthcare sector with opportunities to receive relevant professional training. The Government will also subsidise students to study in healthcare-related taught postgraduate programmes offered by the UGC-funded universities, self-financing post-secondary institutions or public healthcare organisations, so that graduates of non-healthcare-related undergraduate programmes can also become healthcare professionals upon completion of these programmes, thereby broadening the scope of development for young people in the healthcare sector. In addition, to enhance the professional standards of local healthcare professionals (including young professionals), the Government and the statutory boards and committees of various healthcare professions have been promoting specialist development and continuing professional education and/or</p> | <p>Being taking forward.</p> <p>Healthcare Manpower Projection (HMP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The HMP is generally completed. The Government plans to announce the result of the HMP in mid-2024. <p>Upgrading and increasing the healthcare training-related teaching facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In the legislative years between 2018/19 and 2023, the Government secured LegCo's approval of \$2.2 billion to take forward short-, medium- and long-term works projects for the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, and the University of Hong Kong. <p>Subsidising students to study healthcare-related taught postgraduate programmes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has been subsidising relevant healthcare-related taught postgraduate programmes (such as physiotherapists and occupational therapists). The HHB is exploring the feasibility and detailed arrangement to subsidise taught postgraduate programmes with the Hospital Authority based on their manpower need. <p>Introducing mandatory continuing professional education/development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The HHB introduced the Nurses Registration (Amendment) Bill 2023 into the LegCo on |

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| <p>continuous professional development for serving healthcare professionals. For example, serving doctors, nurses and dentists can receive specialist training to enhance their professional knowledge and skills, which will facilitate their further advancement and development in the profession. ((Health Bureau (HHB))</p> | <p>13 December 2023, proposing to make continuing nursing education a mandatory requirement for nurses. Furthermore, the Government will submit the amendment bill to the Dentists Registration Ordinance in the first half of 2024 for LegCo’s scrutiny and strive to prepare the amendment bill to the Supplementary Medical Professions Ordinance within the year, so as to introduce mandatory continuing professional development for dentists, ancillary dental workers and five allied-health professions (namely physiotherapists, occupational therapists, optometrists, radiographers and medical laboratory technologists).</p> |
| <p>84. The Department of Health (DH) plans to continue to provide summer internship places for Hong Kong post-secondary students in 2023 to help them understand the operation and structure of the DH and to have the opportunity to participate in the core work of the Department during the epidemic. The practical work of the internship is very diverse and includes providing research and support to the DH’s education activities; assisting in the management of social media platforms and related databases; and conducting information gathering on the latest situation of global epidemic, etc. (HHB)</p> | <p>Completed. The DH provided 100 summer internship places for Hong Kong post-secondary students in 2023. The interns reported duty from June to August 2023 and completed their internship by late September.</p> |
| <p>85. The Hospital Authority (HA) will provide about 80 summer internship places for Hong Kong post-secondary students in 2022-23, with additional places to be provided progressively thereafter, for them to gain hands-on experience of the</p> | <p>Completed. The HA has provided over 80 internship placements to Hong Kong tertiary students in 2022/23 and will gradually increase the number of placements thereafter.</p> |

| | Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| | work of the HA in administration, finance, community relations and various clinical and allied health departments. (HHB) | |
| 86. | Currently, the ITF has various schemes to foster an I&T culture and encourage and assist the youths in developing their career in the area of I&T. The General Support Programme assists the community in promoting an I&T culture through providing funding support to non-R&D projects (such as conferences, exhibitions, seminars, workshops, pop-science activities etc.) that contribute to the upgrading and development of local industries as well as the fostering of an I&T culture in Hong Kong. To allow the youths who have joined the workforce to continue to enhance their technology competency, the Reindustrialisation and Technology Training Programme under ITF subsidises local companies on a 2 (Government): 1 (companies) matching basis for their staff to receive training in advanced technologies. (ITIB) | Being taking forward. As at end-December 2023, the General Support Programme supported a total of 415 projects with funding amount of about \$780 million. Meanwhile, as at end-December 2023, the New Industrialisation and Technology Training Programme (formerly known as the Reindustrialisation and Technology Training programme) has approved about 15 500 training grant applications to subsidise local employees in receiving about 45 000 trainings in advanced technologies, involving a total funding amount of over \$600 million. |
| 87. | We will expand the STEM Internship Scheme to cover university students studying STEM-related programmes in the GBA campuses of UGC-funded universities to participate in I&T-related internship in Hong Kong. We will co-ordinate the efforts of the five government-funded research R&D centres and the Hong Kong Productivity Council in offering internship opportunities to STEM students of local and non-local universities, especially those Hong Kong | Being taking forward. The STEM Internship Scheme has been expanded since June 2023 to cover internship opportunities offered by the five government-funded R&D centres and the Hong Kong Productivity Council to eligible students studying STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) programmes at local and non-local universities (including the Greater Bay Area campuses established by designated local universities). In 2023-24, the Scheme has supported over 3 700 internship opportunities as at end-December 2023. |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| students studying abroad, with a view to attracting them to join the I&T workforce after graduation. (ITIB) | |
| 88. To nurture technology talents and encourage their development in technology research, the Innovation and Technology Commission consolidated the relevant programmes under the Innovation and Technology Fund in 2020 and launched the Research Talent Hub (RTH) in July of the same year to provide funding support to eligible organisations/companies to employ research talents (including fresh graduates of bachelor's, master's and doctoral programmes) to undertake R&D work. In view of the importance of human resources in promoting the I&T development in Hong Kong, we will enhance the Research Talent Hub by increasing the current maximum monthly allowance for holders of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from \$18,000, \$21,000 and \$32,000 to \$20,000, \$23,000 and \$35,000 respectively for a maximum of three years. We will also provide a monthly living allowance of \$10,000 to doctoral degree holders under the scheme to enhance Hong Kong's attractiveness to I&T talents. (ITIB) | Completed. The funding support for employing research talents has been increased and monthly living allowance for doctoral degree holders has been provided under the RTH since 1 April 2023. |

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| 89. | The Government will join the I&T industry in organising and promoting more I&T-related large-scale competitions, conferences and summits to support the youths in utilising technology to develop their career in new industries. At the same time, we will praise and promote top-notch local I&T discoveries and products to showcase the innovation achievements of Hong Kong, and assist the youths who have started their businesses and start-ups to explore business opportunities in the GBA and in the Mainland. (ITIB) | Being taking forward. Over the past year, the Government organised and co-organised a series of I&T-related large-scale events, such as the inaugural InnoEX, InnoCarnival 2023, Hong Kong ICT Awards 2023, and Asia Pacific Information and Communications Technology Alliance Awards 2023, and is making preparation for the second City I&T Grand Challenge. |
| 90. | The RTHK will collaborate with the EDB to organise a seed education programme on media industry. Through seminars, workshops and shadowing internships, about 150 secondary school students will have first-hand experience of working in the media, covering various positions in radio and TV stations. It will enable students to explore their own interests and potential and develop a proper understanding on media's ethics and role, thereby providing comprehensive education to young people, fostering their positive thinking, and creating a healthy and positive social environment. (CEDB) | Being taking forward. In 2023-24, around 80 secondary school students have participated in the programme. Seminars, workshops, job shadowing and mock interview activities have been organised as scheduled. Vetting work of video competition is underway. The programme will be continued in 2024-25. The RTHK will commence promotion to schools in March 2024. |
| Hope - Enhance Employability of Young People | | |
| 91. | The Employees Retraining Board (ERB) has been providing eligible training courses that are market-driven and employment-oriented for eligible employees (including young people) to help them enter or re-enter the job market. | Being taking forward. As at end December 2023 in 2023-24, some 6 500 young people aged between 15 and 29 enrolled in various ERB courses. The ERB will continue to offer courses under "Youth Training Programme" and other suitable courses in 2024-25 according to the |

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| | The ERB's youth training programmes are targeted at unengaged youths aged 15 to 24, offering full-time placement-tied courses in various industries to address the employment needs of young people and enhance their vocational skills. (Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB)) | market demand to enhance vocational skills of teenagers. |
| 92. | The Labour Department (LD) is exploring with the ERB to strengthen collaboration on pre-employment and on-the-job training under the Youth Employment and Training Programme (YETP). Under the new arrangement, the ERB offers about 700 courses, including tailor-made courses for young people and vocational skills courses covering 28 trades, for trainees of the YETP. (LWB) | Completed. The collaboration has been running smoothly since its implementation on 1 April 2023 and will be carried out continuously. |
| Hope - Support Continuing Education for Youth | | |
| 93. | The Government has raised the subsidy ceiling of the Continuing Education Fund (CEF) from \$20,000 to \$25,000 per person in August 2022. To support and encourage young people to pursue continuing education and equip themselves, we will consider enhancing the CEF to further raise the subsidy ceiling and expand the scope of recognised courses in the CEF. (LWB) | Being taking forward. The LWB will continue to monitor the implementation and keep ongoing review. |
| Hope - Support Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Youth | | |
| 94. | Support the development of local small and medium enterprises (SMEs) (including start-ups) and continue to implement a number of measures, including various funding schemes and advisory services, to support young people | Being taking forward. Related work continues. |

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| | who wish to start their own business. (CEDB) | |
| 95. | Provide entrepreneurial services to businesses through the four SME Centres. In particular, the Support and Consultation Centre for SMEs of the Trade and Industry Department provides a “Meet-the-Advisors” business advisory service for SMEs to make appointments with experts from various industries to answer questions on specific areas of business operation, and organises relevant activities from time to time, such as the “Introduction to the Young Start-up Support Scheme” webinar, to provide young people with information on starting a business. In addition, the HKTDC’s SME Centre offers an entrepreneurial workshop series, the Hong Kong Productivity Council provides a platform for SMEs and start-ups to share their entrepreneurial stories through the “InnoPreneur Network”, and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC)’s “TecONE” provides information on business development for technology start-ups. (CEDB) | Being taking forward. Related work continues. |
| 96. | Continue to support local bazaars to create business opportunities for small business owners including young people. (HYAB) | Completed. The three “Happy Hong Kong” Gourmet Marketplaces organised by the Home Affairs Department (HAD) from April to June 2023 were successfully held. Amongst them, the Gourmet Marketplace held on Hong Kong Island provided a designated youth area for young merchants to set up their booths, and young merchants also participated in the other two |

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| | | Gourmet Marketplaces held in Kowloon and the New Territories. In the series of “Day x Night Vibes @ 18 Districts” activities being organised by District Offices and District Councils across the territory starting from the end of January 2024, young merchants are invited to set up booths at various local bazaars as well. |
| 97. | To foster the active investment by private capital in local I&T start-ups, we have provided \$2 billion to set up the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund which co-invests at a matching ratio of approximately 1 (Government): 2 (Co-investment Partners) to encourage venture capital (VC) funds to invest in local I&T start-ups. (ITIB) | Being taking forward. As of end-December 2023, the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund (ITVF) has invested around \$210 million in 28 local I&T start-ups, attracting over \$2.1 billion of private investment. [Note: The ITVF is a passive investor, making co-investment in eligible local I&T start-ups with VC funds selected as co-investment partners upon invitation of the latter. Although the age of the entrepreneur does not affect the investment decision, we envisage that some young entrepreneurs will benefit from the scheme.] |
| 98. | The HKSTPC and Cyberport have established the Corporate Venture Fund and Cyberport Macro Fund respectively to co-invest on a matching basis with angel investors or VC funds, etc., in start-ups, which are supported by the HKSTPC and Cyberport. The two funds have currently attracted over \$7.4 billion private investment, supporting around 50 technology start-ups. At the same time, Cyberport and the HKSTPC have also provided opportunities for exchange between the industry, start-ups, local and overseas experts, and investors through various activities related to I&T, such as the Cyberport’s Venture Capital Forum | Being taking forward. As at end-December 2023, the Corporate Venture Fund and Cyberport Macro Fund have invested over \$526 million in 53 technology start-ups, attracting over \$7.7 billion private investment. At the same time, Cyberport and HKSTPC continue to organise various I&T-related activities. For examples, Cyberport organised the Cyberport Venture Capital Forum 2023, while HKSTPC is taking forward preparation for the Elevator Pitch Competition 2024. |

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| <p>and the HKSTPC’s Elevator Pitch Competition. (ITIB)</p> <p>99. The HKSTPC launched the IDEATION (formerly known as the Science and Technology Entrepreneur Programme) to provide \$100,000 seed funding, inter alia, to business starters in the early stage. In addition, the Incubation and Incu-Bio programmes of the HKSTPC provide maximum of \$1.29 million and \$4 million funding for each incubation company. The scope of funding includes rental subsidy, grant, and targeted funding for technology and business development. (ITIB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. As at end-December 2023, about 1 500 applications were approved to join the IDEATION. Separately, more than 830 incubatees were benefited from the two Incubation programmes, of which more than 410 incubatees were graduated successfully.</p> |
| <p>100. Continue to provide funding through the “Technology Start-up Support Scheme for Universities” (TSSSU) to support teams of six designated local universities in starting technology start-ups and commercialising their R&D results. (ITIB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. In 2023-24, more than \$94 million was approved under the TSSSU to 160 technology start-ups associated with the six designated universities. Since the inception of the TSSSU in 2014-15, around \$400 million had been approved to 478 technology start-ups.</p> |
| <p>101. The Government will launch the \$10 billion “Research, Academic and Industry Sectors One-plus Scheme”. Starting from 2023, it will fund on a matching basis, at least 100 research teams in universities which have good potential to become start-ups to commercialise their R&D results. (ITIB)</p> | <p>Completed. The “Research, Academic and Industry Sectors One-plus Scheme” was launched on 18 October 2023. The first application solicitation exercise closed on 30 November 2023. Assessment on the applications is underway. It is expected that the first batch of application results would be announced in the first quarter of 2024.</p> |
| <p>102. Through the Youth Development Fund, we will continue to provide support and incubation services to young people in Hong Kong to help them meet their initial capital needs. In particular, we will enhance and launch a new round of the</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The HYAB has established the Alliance of Hong Kong Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurial Bases in the GBA (the Alliance) in December 2023. The HYAB, the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the People’s Government of Guangdong Province</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| <p>Funding Scheme for Youth Entrepreneurship in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to support more Hong Kong youths to engage in innovation and entrepreneurship locally and in Mainland cities of the GBA. Subject to resumption of cross-boundary travel, the HYAB will later set up an Alliance of Hong Kong Youth Innovative and Entrepreneurial Bases in the Greater Bay Area and invite organisations in Guangdong and Hong Kong, including business start-up centres, universities, NGOs, scientific research units, professional bodies and venture capital funds, to join the alliance and establish a one-stop information, publicity and exchange platform to support Hong Kong youths to start their business in the GBA. (HYAB)</p> | <p>and the Human Resources and Social Security Department of Guangdong Province are the leading parties of the Alliance. Nearly 60 organisations from various sectors in Hong Kong and other cities of the GBA also joined the Alliance, including government and public organisations, innovation and entrepreneurial bases, non-governmental organisations and social organisations, post-secondary institutions and scientific research institutes, professional organisations and venture funds. The Alliance will leverage on the resources and network of the member organisations to provide a one-stop information, publicity and exchange platform and offer comprehensive support to Hong Kong youth entrepreneurs, with a view to facilitating them in expanding their network in the GBA and enhancing their competitiveness.</p> <p>Meanwhile, the HYAB is reviewing the implementation arrangement of the Funding Scheme for Youth Entrepreneurship in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and the Funding Scheme for Experiential Programmes at Innovation and Entrepreneurial Bases in the GBA. The HYAB will explore enhancement measures for the new round of schemes in order to strengthen support to youth entrepreneurs.</p> |
| <p>103. Under the “Support Scheme for Pursuing Development in the Mainland”, the Government will, through the network of 13 Mainland offices of the HKTDC, cooperate with relevant business and trade bodies of Hong Kong people in the Mainland to organise training, exchange</p> | <p>Being taking forward. By the end of December 2023, the HKTDC has organised 35 events for young Hong Kong entrepreneurs on the Mainland with 866 participants.</p> |

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| <p>and business visits in different provinces and cities to enhance support for Hong Kong businessmen and young Hong Kong entrepreneurs in the Mainland. In particular, the HKTDC will organise focused activities to enhance Hong Kong young entrepreneurs' understanding of the business environment and market in the Mainland, equipping them to expand into the Mainland market and seize the opportunities brought about by the National 14th Five-Year Plan and the dual circulation development for better integration into the overall development of our country. (CEDB)</p> | |
| <p>104. The Design Incubation Programme and Fashion Incubation Programme of the Hong Kong Design Centre provide incubation support for start-ups in relevant industries. (CSTB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The Design Incubation Programme and the Fashion Incubation Programme have been in its phase IV and II respectively. As at end-December 2023, the two programmes have accumulatively admitted 383 incubatees, mainly consisting of design start-ups, young design talents and up-and-coming fashion designers. Participating companies created 1 798 job opportunities. The two incubation programmes will continue to be implemented with a view to creating more opportunities and prospects for design start-ups, young design talents and fashion designers' brands.</p> |
| <p>105. The IPD will enhance its School Visit Programme, Interactive Drama Programme and IP Ambassador Programme, including proactively reaching out to a wide range of students in primary and secondary schools and post-secondary institutions and introducing more interactive elements to enhance</p> | <p>Being taking forward. Since the release of the Youth Development Blueprint, the IPD has reached out to more than 50 000 students from over 190 schools in 2023 through the School Visit Programme, Interactive Drama Programme and IP Ambassador Programme.</p> |

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| | young people’s understanding of and respect for intellectual property rights, thereby encouraging young people to make use of their intellect and creativity in their development, and guiding and nurturing them to pursue active exploration and innovation and seizing the career opportunities of commercialising their original works or R&D results, so as to contribute to the development of the I&T and creative industries and the economic development of the country and the HKSAR. (CEDB) | |
| Hope - Facilitate Young People’s Integration into the Overall Development of Our Country | | |
| 106. | Continue to strengthen exchange and co-operation mechanism on youth work with Mainland authorities at all levels, and help Hong Kong’s young people to appreciate and capitalise on the Mainland’s policy measures supporting Hong Kong’s youth development, including the eight measures facilitating the development of Hong Kong’s young people in Mainland China. (HYAB) | Being taking forward. Since the resumption of normal travel between Hong Kong and the Mainland in February 2023, the HYAB has met with Mainland government institutions from various provinces and cities at different levels to exchange views on youth work, such as promoting Hong Kong youth to integrate into the overall development of our country and youth exchange between the Mainland and Hong Kong. |
| 107. | The Government launched the pilot “Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme” in 2021. The feedback from the participating enterprises and graduates was very positive. After review, the Government will regularise the scheme to encourage enterprises with operations in both Hong Kong and Mainland cities of the GBA to employ graduates from Hong Kong’s universities. We will launch the regularised programme in the first half of 2023, and the enhancement measures | Completed. The regularised Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme has been running smoothly since it was launched by the LD on 1 March 2023 and will be carried out continuously. To facilitate more enterprises and young people to join the scheme, the recruitment period of 2023 cohort was extended to 31 December 2023. As at 31 December 2023, the LD received 2 540 job vacancies from 278 enterprises and 702 allowance applications from enterprises after the participants’ commencement of employment. |

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| <p>include: setting up a dedicated team to take forward the scheme and strengthening liaison with enterprises, post-secondary institutions, employer groups and other stakeholders; providing practical employment information in the GBA to potential graduates with interest earlier; following up on the employment situation of graduates during and after their participation in the programme; and stepping up publicity and promotion to share the success stories of participants so that Hong Kong youths can gain a better understanding of the development opportunities in the GBA. (LWB)</p> | |
| <p>108. The Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Development Office (the GBA Office) has been disseminating more information about the GBA development to the community through various online and offline platforms. The dedicated website on the GBA development (www.bayarea.gov.hk) consolidates information of the GBA development in relation to major policy areas, development focus, youth innovation and entrepreneurship, and facilitation measures, etc. It also includes a hyperlink to the “Practical Guide for Hong Kong Residents Living in the Mainland” compiled by the Economic and Trade Office in Guangdong, which provides practical information about living in the Mainland cities of the GBA. The GBA Office is identifying suitable venues for setting up one-stop electronic</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The GBA Office continues to make use of diversified and multi-media channels, including the thematic website on the GBA development, social media platforms popular amongst young people including dedicated pages (hk.bayarea) on Facebook and Instagram, as well as the digital information platform “Greater Bay Area Information Station” set up in different districts in Hong Kong and came into operation since August 2023, to disseminate more information to local residents including young people about pursuing development and living in the Mainland cities of the GBA.</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| <p>“Greater Bay Area Information Station” in various districts of Hong Kong, with a view to enhancing public understanding about pursuing development and living in the Mainland cities of the GBA. (CMAB)</p> | |
| <p>109. The GBA Office has been participating in different expositions, including the “Education and Careers Expo” organised by the HKTDC, and setting up booths to introduce various tailored support schemes and facilitation measures of different bureaux and departments of the HKSAR Government for young people in Hong Kong to provide the latest practical information to youths who are interested in pursuing further development in the Mainland cities of the GBA and helping them explore the many choices and opportunities for study, employment and entrepreneurship. (CMAB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The GBA Office has been actively participating in and organising various exhibitions to enhance the understanding of different sectors of the community (including young people) about GBA development. For instance, the GBA Office set up a booth at the Entrepreneur Day at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC) from 7 to 8 December 2023 to introduce the opportunities brought about by the development of the GBA and the various support services available, as well as to encourage talents (including young people) who are interested in starting their businesses in the GBA to grasp the development opportunities. At the same time, the GBA Office set up a booth at the Education and Career Expo at the HKCEC from 25 to 28 January 2024 to showcase the opportunities for study, employment, internship and entrepreneurship, etc. in the GBA for Hong Kong young people. The GBA Office also staged a GBA roving exhibition from 17 January till the end of March 2024 at the campuses of eight local universities and at the Civic Education Resource Centre of Youth Square with a view to enhancing young people’s understanding of the development of the GBA.</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| Hope - Enhance Higher Education | | |
| 110. | The UGC has implemented the Targeted Taught Postgraduate Programmes Fellowships Scheme on a pilot basis for five cohorts, currently providing 1 000 fellowships every year. The scheme provides scholarships to local students pursuing specified taught postgraduate programmes in the eight UGC-funded universities, with a view to attracting more outstanding local students to pursue further studies in priority areas conducive to the development of Hong Kong.(EDB) | Being taking forward. The Scheme has already rolled out 4 Cohorts since 2020/21 academic year. The UGC-funded universities are now recruiting awardees from the 115 eligible taught postgraduate programmes which are under the 5th Cohort of the Fellowship Scheme (i.e. enrolled in 2024/25 academic year). |
| Hope - Address Youth's Housing Needs | | |
| 111. | Subsidise NGOs to rent suitable hotels and guesthouses for use as youth hostels, with a target of providing about 3 000 additional places within five years. Youth tenants will be charged rental of about 60% of the market rent; in return, they have to commit themselves to providing district or voluntary services to the community. (HYAB) | Being taking forward. Three projects with the provision of 478 hostel places in total have been approved since the launch of the Subsidy Scheme in January 2023. |
| 112. | Identify suitable land sale sites and require developers to set aside a certain number of flats to support the Youth Hostel Scheme on a pilot basis. (HYAB, DEVB) | Being taken forward. The HYAB will discuss with the DEVB on the actual implementation time, taking into account factors such as market conditions and overall land supply, etc. |
| 113. | The Government has been sparing no effort in identifying land for housing development to meet the housing needs of different people including the young people. We must overcome constraints to create supply and address short-term public housing shortage, and ensure a steady private housing supply at the same time. We will enhance quantity, speed, | Being taking forward. As announced in the Chief Executive's 2023 Policy Address, the Government has identified sufficient land for providing about 410 000 public housing units (including public rental housing units and Subsidised Sale Flats (SSFs)) in the coming 10-year period from 2024-25 to 2033-34, which can meet the estimated public housing demand of 308 000 units in the same period. As a number |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| <p>efficiency, and quality in land production, staying on top of things and putting in place a long-term plan to steadily increase supply. On building the home ownership ladder, in addition to stabilising the supply of private housing, the Government will make available subsidised sale flats such as those under the Home Ownership Scheme, Green Form Subsidised Home Ownership Scheme and Starter Homes for Hong Kong Residents (SH) projects to meet the home ownership aspirations of the public. (HB)</p> | <p>of measures to enhance the quantity, speed, efficiency and quality of public housing supply are gradually making good progress, the public housing supply in the next 10-year period will register obvious increase.</p> <p>To fill the short-term gap of public housing supply in order to improve the living conditions and quality of life of people living in inadequate housing as soon as possible, the Government will build about 30 000 Light Public Housing (LPH) units by 2027-28.</p> <p>Including LPH and traditional public housing, the total public housing supply in the coming 5 years will reach 171 800 units, some 9% higher than that in the previous five-year period (i.e. 2023-24 to 2027-28).</p> <p>Moreover, the Government will continue to increase land and housing supply in an orderly manner, and make available SSFs such as those under Home Ownership Scheme (HOS), Green-form Subsidised Home Ownership Scheme (GSH) and SH to meet the home ownership aspirations of the public (including the youth).</p> <p>The Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA) provides HOS to help low-to middle-income families achieve home ownership, including young people. The “Sale of HOS 2023” (HOS 2023), with around 9 200 flats from six developments, is the highest number in recent years. The discount rate is set at 38% from the assessed market values. Balloting for HOS 2023 was held in October 2023 and flat selection is expected to commence from end of January</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| | <p>2024. GSH provides an additional avenue for better-off PRH tenants (including young people) to achieve home ownership. Around 4 700 flats from three new GSH developments were put up for sale under the “Sale of GSH Flats 2022” (GSH 2022). The discount rate was set at 59 per cent from the assessed market values. Application for GSH 2022 was launched in September 2022 and flat selection was completed in June 2023.</p> <p>To encourage childbearing, the HA will introduce two new housing schemes for families with newborns. Under the “Families with Newborns Flat Selection Priority Scheme”, a quota of flats will be reserved for balloting and priority flat selection by family applicants with babies born on or after 25 October 2023 to raise the chances for families with newborns to purchase SSFs successfully. Under the “Families with Newborns Allocation Priority Scheme”, applications of families with babies born on or after 25 October 2023 and aged one or below will be credited one year of waiting time. Young families are expected to benefit from the schemes.</p> |
| <p>114. We will re-launch the Starter Homes projects in the Land Sale Programme in the 2023-24 financial year. In the past, more than 85% of the applicants for SH were young people aged 40 or below, and more SH projects will help young people in home ownership. (HB, DEVB)</p> | <p>Completed. On 23 June 2023, the Government put up for tender a private residential site at Yau Kom Tau, Tsuen Wan, for developing SH. The Government rejected the tender received at the close of the tender exercise because the tendered premium did not meet the Government’s reserve price. The HB has invited the Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS) to take up the SH project, and is discussing with HKHS on the detailed arrangements in taking up the project.</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| Empowerment - Enhance Youth Welfare Services | |
| 115. Review the youth welfare services funded by the SWD to ensure that the relevant services are in line with the objectives set out in the Blueprint. (HYAB, LWB) | Being taken forward. To assist young people in overcoming the hurdles in education, employment, entrepreneurship and home ownership so that the younger generation will see hope as mentioned in the Blueprint, the DEVB, the Civil Engineering and Development Department and the PlanD, with the coordination of the SWD, plan to arrange roving exhibitions on the theme of “Kau Yi Chau • Islands of the Future” at Integrated Children and Youth Services Centres (ICYSCs) and Children and Youth Centres (CYCs) in Central and Western District, Islands District, Tsuen Wan District, Tuen Mun District and Yuen Long District from April to June 2024 to let young people know about the new concepts in planning and environmental protection in the Kau Yi Chau Artificial Islands project, as well as the effectiveness in increasing the housing supply and enhancing the economic competitiveness of Hong Kong. The HYAB will continue to cooperate with SWD to organise exhibitions with different themes at ICYSCs and CYCs located in 18 districts of Hong Kong to enhance the sense of identity and belonging to our country and Hong Kong of young people. The LWB will continue to cooperate with the HYAB to review the youth welfare services subvented by the SWD to ensure the related services can meet the goals set in the Blueprint. |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| Empowerment - Promote Sports, Arts and Culture | |
| <p>116. LCSD will organise more community arts activities targeting at young people, among them is the Youth Music and Dance Marathon which serves as a performance platform for young musicians and dancers. Plans are underway to allow more performers/ensembles to participate for showcasing their own works, offering performance opportunities for more young people to reach out to different communities, as well as opportunities for youngsters to join cultural activities and arts festivals staged in the Greater Bay Area and share experience with arts groups and artists of the region. These aim to broaden their horizons, cultivate and arouse their personal interests in the arts and cultural industry, and facilitate them to set up clear career goals and build up proper personal values. (CSTB)</p> | <p>Completed. The dance performance “Rhythm Divine” (8 July 2023) as well as the music gala “Youth Band Marathon” (9 July 2023) were completed smoothly, featuring 42 performers/performing ensembles and attracting around 4 700 participants.</p> |
| <p>117. Continue to curate and provide different platforms for local young artists and graduates/prospective graduates from universities/academies to showcase their talents to various audience groups and to be the new forces in the arts industry. Furthermore, different types of light-hearted programmes and popular dances targeted for young audiences are organised, in order to promote performing arts and culture, as well as to develop their sense of creativity and diversified thinking. (CSTB)</p> | <p>Completed. In 2023-24, a total of 38 local young artists/groups have been provided with different platforms and performance opportunities to showcase their performances and creations through “New Force in Motion” Series, “Our Music Talents” Series, “Chinese Opera Festival 2023: Bless This Land – Cantonese Opera Showcase under the Bamboo Theatre at Victoria Park”, “Cantonese Opera Day”, “Tan Dun WE-Festival: World Premiere & Symposium”, “Institute of Imagination” Series and online programme “Theatre 101 - Theatre and You Know What”.</p> |

| | Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| 118. | To organise library activities for young people to express their creative talents, and offer networking opportunities with scholars, writers and professional groups for them to broaden knowledge and interest in literary writing and performance, to enrich their understanding in the culture and history of China and Hong Kong and to cultivate positive values. (CSTB) | Being taking forward. In 2023, the Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) organised various activities related to Chinese history and culture as planned with a view to deepening the understanding of Chinese culture and Hong Kong history among young people, and fostering a sense of belonging. Literary competitions, literary events, and author talks targeting students and young people have also been held, offering networking opportunities for young people to interact with scholars, writers and professional groups in increasing their knowledge and interest in literary writing and appreciation. By December 2023, the HKPL had organised over 21 000 library activities. |
| 119. | LCSD museums will enhance the organisation of cultural and museum programmes targeting youth. An array of activities will be organised to complement thematic exhibitions. For example, they will collaborate with professional performing arts groups to adopt a relaxed and interesting approach integrated with the elements of history, drama and music to introduce the content of the exhibitions to young visitors. They will also organise outreach education programmes for schools, such as exhibitions, activities, online programmes, etc., to deepen youth's interest in history, culture, art and science and encourage them to participate in cultural and museum programmes. (CSTB) | Being taking forward. The LCSD museums will continue the organisation of cultural and museum programmes targeting youth. They will also organise outreach education programmes for schools, such as Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Mobile Centre – “Mobile ICH” School Education Programme. Furthermore, the LCSD museums will continue to launch various online programmes on the Edutainment Channel, such as Vis-à-vis +01. |
| 120. | The Arts-in-School Partnership Scheme of the HKADC aims to promote | Being taking forward. The Scheme is in progress. |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| <p>collaborations between arts groups/artists and schools in Hong Kong and encourage school operators to lease their premises and facilities to arts groups/artists for artistic creations and various arts activities, with a view to bringing arts into the school campus. (CSTB)</p> | |
| <p>121. For programmes of the nine major performing arts groups, as well as museums and performances in the WKCD, concessionary tickets are available to students. The WKCD also organises learning and promotional activities for young people, such as Chinese opera promotional activities. (CSTB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. Student discount tickets are being offered by major performing arts groups.</p> <p>Apart from concessionary tickets for students of performing arts programmes, the two museums of WKCD offer half-priced tickets for full-time students. Children ages 6 and below do not need tickets. The WKCD Authority also actively organises different learning and participation programmes to promote youth participation in arts and culture. These activities cover wide scope of area, including “Tea House Student Matinees Scheme”, HKPM workshop and talk series targeting primary and secondary school students, M+ Internship and others.</p> |
| <p>122. To organise “Love Your Life Film Festival” which consists of free community movie screenings and post-screening sharing sessions by film practitioners in Hong Kong, so as to cultivate the interest of young persons in movies, to enhance their appreciation of movies and to build audience in the young generations. Subsidised by the FDF, the project will select movies from Hong Kong, the Mainland and foreign countries with a theme on life so as to instil positive</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The 2023 edition of “Love Your Life Film Festival” is completed. A total of 130 screenings were organised, with an audience of over 22 000 persons. Among them, 80 screenings were specifically for students with over 12 000 students and teachers in attendance. Animations were chosen especially for primary students, while life-affirming movies were chosen for secondary students. Post-screening discussions were arranged for guests and audience to discuss themes related to the movies.</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| <p>123. We will work with the sports sector, schools and other sectors to launch a new scheme to promote urban sports, such as 3-on-3 basketball, sport climbing and skateboarding. These sports are popular among young people and have been introduced in the Olympic Games or the Youth Olympic Games in recent years. On the basis of existing community programmes, the LCSD will re-deploy resources to increase the “Urban Sports” and designated sports activities for youth for their priority enrolment. (CSTB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The CSTB is working with the Schools Sports Federation of Hong Kong, China (HKSSF) to launch the Urban Sports Funding Scheme in November 2023. The scheme provides subsidies to primary and secondary schools for organising training courses on urban sports in the 2023/24 academic year, providing no less than 8 000 students with the opportunity to take part in urban sports. By end of December 2023, the HKSSF has received applications from around 360 schools.</p> <p>The LCSD has organised 98 “Urban Sports” activities particularly for the youth as at December 2023, including 3-on-3 basketball, sport climbing, skateboarding and breaking, with about 1 400 youngsters participating. The link to the themed page of urban sports has also been uploaded to the Youth Page of the Edutainment Channel.</p> |
| <p>124. We would review the competition events and format of the biennially held Hong Kong Games (HKG). In order to further attract the young people to participate in the HKG, we will consider introducing new urban sports events which are popular among young people. We will also review the format of the individual sports competitions and consider adding age groups for aged under 18 so as to provide more opportunity for the participation of young people. (CSTB)</p> | <p>Completed. The 9th Hong Kong Games is held in 2023 and 2024. Amongst the eight sports competitions, the 5-on-5 basketball would be replaced by 3-on-3 basketball which is more popular among youth. Three age groups with 15 or below, 16 to 17 and 18 or above have been introduced for athletics, swimming and individual sports including badminton, table-tennis and tennis competitions to provide more opportunity for youth to participate in the Hong Kong Games. For team sports competitions, the number of teams nominated by each district has been increased from one to two or three teams to</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| | <p>encourage wider public participation in the Hong Kong Games. The athlete selection started in July 2023 and would be completed by January 2024. The inter-district sports competitions would be held from March to June 2024.</p> <p>In April and May 2024, we will introduce urban sports events, including sport climbing, breaking and skateboarding as demonstration sports competitions to encourage and attract wider participation in the 9th Hong Kong Games especially for young people.</p> |
| <p>125. To adjust the themed programmes of the LCSD holiday camps by providing more popular sports for the young people, such as team sports, sport climbing, archery, rope course, etc., and increase the types and numbers of water sports activities offered by the LCSD water sports centres for the youth participation. The LCSD will also provide more novel and attractive outdoor fitness equipment as well as consider introducing sports facilities popular for the youths (e.g. climbing wall, boulder wall, skateboard ground, etc.) suitably in new and improvement projects of recreation facilities. (CSTB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. During April to December 2023, the LCSD organised eight themed programmes specially designed for young people in its holiday camps, including sports demonstrations, fun days and booth games for Molkky, rope course, sport climbing, water cycling, dodgeball, floorball, uni-cycling and archery, etc. The programmes attracted more than 720 young people to participate. The remaining two programmes will be completed by February 2024. Besides, the LCSD provided additional 48 water sports programmes specially designed for young people at its water sports centres, including training courses on windsurfing, sailing and canoeing etc. A total of 240 youth participants took part in these activities. The remaining two programmes will be conducted in January 2024.</p> <p>Since 2022, the LCSD has, in accordance with the needs, been considering the provision of sports facilities that are popular among young people, including outdoor fitness equipment, climbing walls and skateboard grounds, etc. where</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| | | appropriate, in the course of carrying out construction/conversion works at leisure venues. In addition to the novel outdoor fitness equipment currently installed at five venues, the number of such facilities will increase as more new sports venues are completed in the next few years. |
| 126. | Through the Sports Subvention Scheme, subvented National Sports Associations (NSAs) can organise more sports activities for participation by youth, including the organisation of more Sports Exchange Programme with the Mainland/Guangdong-HongKong-Macao Greater Bay Area. Various sports coaches and referees training opportunities can also be provided for youngsters with the co-operated efforts of these subvented NSAs. (CSTB) | <p>Being taking forward. To encourage the national sports associations (NSAs) to organise sports exchange activities for young people to visit the Mainland/Overseas, the LCSD provides funding support to NSAs through the Sports Subvention Scheme. In 2023-24, 29 NSAs submitted 45 applications for the Youth Sports Exchange Programme (activities). Among them, 21 NSAs confirmed to organise a total of 28 activities (including seven activities to the provinces and cities in the Mainland and the remaining 21 activities to take place across Asia (such as Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, etc.), Oceania (Australia and New Zealand) and Europe (Germany)). Besides, 15 activities were cancelled by the NSAs and two applications failed to meet the requirement.</p> <p>Among the seven activities to the Mainland provinces and cities, three activities have already been completed while four activities are planned to be conducted in early 2024.</p> |
| 127. | Enhance the quality of sports facilities in public housing estates and incorporate sports into daily life. (HB) | Being taking forward. The “Well-Being Design Guide” conducted by the HB is in good progress. The relevant design guide will be completed in 2024, which will be applied to the new Public Housing in future and as reference for the renovation work of the existing Public Housing. |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| Empowerment - Strengthen Mental Health Support for Youth | |
| 128. The HHB has funded the implementation of mental health programmes under the Mental Health Initiatives Funding Scheme (with an earmarked funding of \$300 million) to strengthen community support and raise public awareness of mental health. Priority areas under the first phase of the funding scheme include lay leaders in the community (including youth) to build support networks in the mental health community and carer support (including carers of school children in general and children with special learning needs); the approved projects have commenced progressively from February 2022. Priority areas under the second phase of the funding scheme include support for carers (including carers of school children in general and children with special learning needs), strengthening family relationships and support for children and youth with special educational needs. Approved projects were commenced progressively from March to May 2023. (HHB) | Being taking forward. Projects under the first and second phases of the funding scheme are being carried out simultaneously. 23 projects have been completed under the first phase of the funding scheme. Other projects are currently being implemented. |
| 129. The HHB, in collaboration with the Hospital Authority (HA), the EDB and the SWD, has launched the “Student Mental Health Support Scheme” (SMHSS) since the 2016/17 school year to provide support services for students with mental health needs in schools based on a medical-education-social collaborative model. The SMHSS expanded its coverage from 17 schools in the 2016/17 school year to | Being taking forward. The HHB has been improving the operation of the SMHSS along six major directions, including (a) clearly setting out objectives of the SMHSS; (b) improving case management; (c) clarifying roles of professionals from the medical, educational and social sectors; (d) setting up a lead mental health coordinator; (e) reducing the rate of refusal of services and (f) monitoring the operation of the SMHSS. |

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| 130. The Government has earmarked a recurrent annual funding of \$50 million to implement the “Shall We Talk” mental health promotion and public education initiative to disseminate mental health information to parents, teachers, children, youths and students through collaboration with primary and secondary schools and post-secondary institutions, television, radio, newspapers, social media, etc. The HHB will also strengthen collaboration with primary and secondary schools and postsecondary institutions to promote mental health and disseminate positive messages through various activities, thereby enhancing teachers’ and students’ knowledge on, awareness of and interest in mental health. (HHB) | Being taking forward. In 2022/23, “Shall We Talk” has produced a series of multimedia materials and physical resources, including animated videos, mental health tips notebooks and stickers of online chatbot “Bonbon”, which were distributed to more than 1 300 primary and secondary schools and higher education institutions in Hong Kong. For higher education institutions, “Shall We Talk” collaborated with the M+ Museum to promote a series of art appreciation and experiential activities from March to May 2023 to encourage young people to speak openly about psychological issues and seek appropriate support when needed. In addition, “Shall We Talk” is producing more mental health education resources and organising mental health promotion activities, including the campus tour “Talk with the Flow”, etc. Relevant activities are in progress. |
| 131. To strengthen the support towards child and youth mental health services, the Advisory Committee on Mental Health led the formation of the Expert Group on New Service Protocol for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (the Expert Group) to review the service model of mental health services tailored for children and adolescents. Under the | Being taking forward. Upon the completion of the two-year Pilot Scheme in late July 2023, a preliminary evaluation has been conducted. Pending the deliberation of the way forward, the Pilot Scheme will be extended for 12 months until the end of July 2024 to provide timely assessment, support and intervention services for children and adolescents with ADHD and Comorbidity under the New Service Protocol. |

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| <p>recommendation of the Expert Group, the former Food and Health Bureau (currently the HHB) launched the Pilot Scheme on New Service Protocol for Child and Adolescent with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Comorbidity (Pilot Scheme) in 2021, providing timely assessment, support and intervention in the community for children and adolescents with ADHD and comorbidity through a new service model. The HHB will continue to work with the Expert Group to consider whether the new service model can be adopted for treatment of other common mental health problems among the youth. (HHB)</p> | |
| Empowerment - Promote Positive Values | |
| <p>132. We have implemented the “Values Education Curriculum Framework” (Pilot Version) in secondary schools. Building on the features and needs in students’ stages of development, the framework lists the learning expectations on their attitudes and behaviours in different domains (e.g. personal, family, community, national and global domains). On this ground, it is to develop students’ ability to, on the basis of positive values and traditional Chinese ethics, analyse objectively and make reasonable judgement in different issues they may encounter at different developmental stages so that they could take proper action when facing choices, and challenges and frustrations in their future life. Adopting the Chinese culture as the backbone, it</p> | <p>Completed. Following the roll-out of patriotic education announced in the Chief Executive’s 2023 Policy Address, the EDB announced the enrichment of the “Values Education Curriculum Framework (Pilot Version)” in December 2023. It includes (1) emphasising further the role of Chinese culture as the backbone of values education; and (2) optimising the priority values and attitudes (PVAs) – extending the existing PVA “Care for Others” to “Benevolence” and adding “Filial Piety” and “Unity”. Schools should nurture students from the aspects of the interests, well-being and security of individuals, groups and the country; help them develop national identity and a sense of civic responsibility from a young age, as well as to think about how to maintain national security and contribute to the country.</p> |

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| | provides schools with a framework across various disciplines/curriculum areas to promote values education. (EDB) | |
| 133. | Foster family values in youth and advocate for cherishing the family through organising different programmes and activities, and enhance our support in the role of family in advancing positive youth development. (HYAB) | Being taking forward. The Family Council will continue to promote a culture of loving families and family core values (i.e. “Love and Care”, “Respect and Responsibilities” and “Communication and Harmony”) to members of the public (including young people) through organising various types of publicity programmes and activities, including adopting the theme of “Inheritance of Good Family Traditions and Customs” for its 2024-25 publicity campaign to promote good traditional family values and virtues to families (including the young generation); and launching a new Funding Scheme on the Promotion of Family Education in the latter half of this year to support non-profit-making community projects in promoting family education. |
| Empowerment - Enhance Youth Rehabilitation | | |
| 134. | To provide more comprehensive support for young persons in custody (PICs) who wish to continue their studies, the Correctional Services Department (CSD) signed a memorandum of understanding with the Hong Kong Metropolitan University (HKMU) on 24 October 2022 to affirm the long-term partnership between the CSD and HKMU in education and development of strategies to assist the rehabilitation of inmates, including credit transfers and programme articulation for PICs who were/have enrolled in post-secondary programmes prior to their imprisonment, and financial assistance by | Completed. The CSD and the Hong Kong Metropolitan University signed the memorandum of understanding on 24 October 2022. |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| <p>the HKMU to inmates enrolled in its programmes to help them complete their postsecondary studies. (SB)</p> | |
| <p>135. In recent years, quite a number of persons who have committed crimes under the influence of radical ideas have been admitted to correctional institutions. The CSD is actively implementing the Project PATH, under which a number of suitable rehabilitation programmes have been developed for PICs to help them rebuild positive values and face positively the challenges ahead. These new or enhanced programmes include: :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● “Youth Lab” Psychological Counselling Programme: The CSD has enhanced its existing psychological counselling services by setting up a new psychological counselling programme, Youth Lab, to helps young PICs manage emotions through mindfulness practice and art therapy, so as to enable them to undergo psychological rehabilitation and rebuilding, thereby enhancing their thinking process and respect of the law. The project was officially launched on 6 July 2022 at the Pik Uk Correctional Institution. ● “Change Lab” Community-based Psychological Service Centre: The CSD also sets up a community-based psychological service centre, the Change Lab, to provide community-based psychological counselling for | <p>Completed. All four newly set up Multi-purpose Family and Rehabilitation Service Centres (MFRSCs) have commenced operation. The MFRSCs located in Shau Kei Wan, Sheung Shui, Tuen Mun, and Sha Tin were officially inaugurated on 26 October 2022, 21 December 2022, 24 March 2023, and 27 March 2023 respectively. Separately, in order to enhance psychological and counselling services for young PICs and those under supervision after release, the CSD launched the “Youth Lab” on 6 July 2022 and then commenced service of the “Change Lab” in the MFRSC in Shau Kei Wan on 26 October 2022. In addition, the CSD rolled out “Project JET” scheme in late October 2022, providing more employment opportunities (including those in the GBA) for young PICs and rehabilitated persons.</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| <p>young PICs after release, assisting those young people under statutory supervision order to build up confidence and psychological resilience for overcoming difficulties and resisting temptations, as well as strengthen the relationships between supervisees and their families, thereby breaking the cycle of crime. The Change Lab is located in the first multi-purpose family and rehabilitation service centre in Shau Kei Wan and has commenced service on 26 October 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● “The Project JET” Life Planning Project: In end-October 2022, the CSD launched the Project JET, a life planning project, to arrange for various enterprises to participate in life planning programmes and provide more employment opportunities for young PICs and rehabilitated persons, including the arrangement of more professional internships such as accounting, management trainees and fashion design, so that they can further develop their potential and contribute to the community after release. The “Local Programme” will arrange for various local enterprises to provide local employment information and internship opportunities, while the “Greater Bay Area Programme” will invite businessmen and major enterprises with operations in the GBA to participate in the project and introduce the latest development and | |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| | <p>employment situation of the GBA to young PICs and rehabilitated persons who wish to work in the GBA. They will also be offered internship positions in the GBA to help them seize the development opportunities in the GBA after release.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● “Understanding History is the Beginning of Knowledge” Educational Initiative: In 2022, the CSD has optimised the “Understanding History is the Beginning of Knowledge” educational initiative with the theme of “Road to Reunion”, encompassing online seminars and technological elements such as virtual reality (VR) and e-sports activities to help PICs understand Chinese history and culture, enhance their national identity and encourage them to treasure the opportunities and look to the future. (SB) | |
| 136. | <p>The LD is exploring with the CSD on encouraging employers to provide on-the-job training for rehabilitated youths through the Youth Employment and Training Programme, so as to enhance their employability and help them integrate into society and become self-reliant. (LWB)</p> | <p>Completed. The collaboration has been running smoothly since its implementation in December 2022 and will be carried out continuously.</p> |
| Empowerment - Promote Positive Thinking | | |
| 137. | <p>Apart from the regular subvention to the 11 uniformed groups, the HYAB will provide recurrent subvention to the Hong Kong Army Cadets Association from</p> | <p>Completed. The HYAB has started to provide recurrent subvention to the Hong Kong Army Cadets Association from 2022-23 onwards to</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| | enhance support for youth development and national education. |
| 138. Starting from 2023, the Government will organise the annual Hong Kong Youth Festival to bring young people together and invite different sectors of the community to organise a wide spectrum of activities to nurture positive thinking, facilitate development of potential and enhancement of knowledge and promote experience sharing. (HYAB) | Being taking forward. The first youth festival, with a number of major/highlight events and “partner activities” organised by government departments, community bodies, youth or district organisations and NGOs, was held in 2023. Under the tripartite collaboration among the Government, the business sector and the community, around 200 activities, which included knowledge and exchange, arts and culture as well as sports-related items, were held in all 18 districts, while some activities were held in other cities within the GBA. Besides, as mentioned by the Chief Executive in his 2023 Policy Address, the HYAB will organise the Youth Development Summit in mid-2024 as the opening and highlight of the 2024 youthfest@HK. Relevant preparation work for the 2024 youthfest@HK is underway. |
| 139. Launch a new funding scheme to provide subsidies for NGOs to organise projects to nurture the positive thinking of young people, particularly those that involve cross-sectoral collaboration or are youth-led and could promote community contribution. The objective is to promote awareness of young people’s physical and mental well-being and instil positive thinking and values in them to become aspiring individuals who take responsibility and commit to the betterment of our country and Hong Kong. (HYAB) | Being taking forward. Application result of the first round of Funding Scheme for Youth Positive Thinking Activities (2023-25) (FSYPTA) had been announced in June 2023. About \$27 million in total is granted to seven NGOs to organise projects promoting young people’s positive thinking for two years. It is estimated that the FSYPTA activities will benefit no less than 30 000 attendance, including about 6 000 attendance in the first round of the Scheme. Sponsored organisations have gradually rolled out their activities. |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| 140. | Launch a new funding scheme to provide subsidies for NGOs in organising systematic and quality adventure training activities for young people, with the aim to promote youth's physical and mental well-being, resilience, sense of discipline and team spirit through overcoming various difficulties and challenges and gaining experience that is different from their daily lives. (HYAB) | Being taking forward. Application result of the first round of the Funding Scheme for Youth Adventure Training Activities (2023-25) (FSYATA) had been announced in June 2023. About \$24 million in total is granted to four NGOs to organise projects promoting young people's positive thinking for two years. It is estimated that the FSYATA activities will benefit no less than 50 000 attendance, including about 10 000 attendance in the first round of the Scheme. Sponsored organisations have gradually rolled out their activities. |
| Empowerment - Promote an Innovation and Technology Culture | | |
| 141. | To continue to promote the "IT Innovation Lab in Secondary Schools" and "Knowing More About IT Programme" to publicly-funded primary and secondary schools, encouraging and assisting schools to organise extra-curricular activities relating to information technology (IT) to enhance students' creative thinking, cultivate an interest in IT among students and enhance their digital skills, computational thinking and innovation abilities, thereby promoting an I&T culture and further strengthen the long-term supply of local IT talents and the overall I&T talent pool. (ITIB) | Being taking forward. As at end-December 2023, the percentage of primary and secondary schools joining "Knowing More About IT" and "IT Innovation Lab in Secondary Schools" programmes was over 88%. |
| 142. | Further enhance "Youth.gov.hk" with innovative ways to strengthen the dissemination of youth development-related information, especially content relating to entrepreneurship and career development, improve user experience and make good use of social media for promotion. (HYAB) | Being taking forward. Since the transfer of the management of "Youth.gov.hk" to the HYAB, we have been consolidating and disseminating vocational and educational information provided by various bureaux/departments/organisations on the portal, as well as enhancing the content of the portal's social media accounts by introducing development opportunities in emerging industries |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| | | to young people and providing thematic vocational and educational information according to the interests of the youth. |
| 143. | The Subsidy Scheme for Encouraging Early Deployment of 5G programme aims to subsidise the early deployment of 5G by public and private organisations (including schools and start-ups) for enhancing operational efficiency and service quality. Over 160 projects have been approved with the subsidy, applying 5G in areas including STEM education, smart healthcare and teaching, AR/VR communication systems and 5G streaming of live music performances, etc. (CEDB) | Being taking forward. As of end 2023, a total of 13 educational institutions (including 6 schools) received funding and successfully completed their projects. The projects covered 5G applications related to education and improving the campus learning environment. |
| 144. | To enhance young people’s understanding of 5G and its potential for applications, and to make use of 5G to improve learning environment, the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) plans to organise an inter-school competition on 5G application in 2023. The competition aims to promote the integrated application of 5G and STEM-related knowledge and skills among secondary school students, thereby fostering their innovative thinking, collaboration and problem-solving skills. Participating students are required to design solutions using 5G or 5G-enabled tools to improve the campus environment, learning environment, and the neighbourhood. (CEDB) | Completed. The OFCA received a total of 33 submissions from 29 secondary schools at the end of May 2023. The first and the final rounds were held in August and November 2023, respectively. The Award Presentation Ceremony was held in December 2023 to announce the results of the competition. |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| Empowerment - Make Use of Life-wide Learning Grant/Activities | |
| 145. Provide public sector schools (including special schools) with a recurrent Life-wide Learning Grant to support schools in taking forward life-wide learning with enhanced efforts. Depending on individual circumstances, schools may use the grant flexibly to organise more out-of-classroom experiential learning activities for students in different learning and curriculum areas, so that students can have more lively and enriched learning experiences for broadening their horizons, enhancing their motivation and interest in learning, and fostering their whole-person development. (EDB) | Completed. The EDB will continue to disburse Life-wide Learning Grant to public sector schools annually. |
| 146. Collaborate with various local organisations and NGOs to support schools in providing students with more diversified and all-round learning opportunities in areas of community service, physical and aesthetic development, career-related experiences, etc. Students are encouraged to take an active role in caring for the needy in the community, participate in more physical and aesthetic group activities that are beneficial to their physical and mental well-being, and broaden their horizons through out-of-classroom experiential learning activities, thereby enhancing their spirit to serve and sense of responsibility, and developing an active and healthy lifestyle as well as positive thinking. (EDB) | Completed. The revamped Life-wide Learning Activity Databank was launched in June 2023 to support schools in providing more out-of-classroom experiential learning activities. As of the end of December 2023, 15 professional development programmes related to life-wide learning were held for teachers in the 2023/24 school year. The cumulated number of local organisations and NGOs collaborating with the EDB is over 60. |

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| 147. | Help students develop an active and healthy lifestyle through the “Active Students, Active People” (ASAP) Campaign. (EDB) | Being taking forward. The ASAP Campaign launched by the EDB aims to help student develop active and healthy lifestyle, and has received positive response. |
| Empowerment - Enrich Diverse Experiences | | |
| 148. | The Planning Department organises the annual “Be a Town Planner” programme for primary and secondary schools through the City Gallery to foster primary and secondary school students’ understanding of and interest in town planning in Hong Kong. Every year, the City Gallery also collaborates with the University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups to provide opportunities for young students studying town planning programmes to participate in the City Gallery Student Ambassador Scheme to introduce Hong Kong’s urban development and town planning work to the public. (DEVB) | Being taking forward. The “Summer Planning School 2023 - Be a Little Planner” and “Be a Teen Town Planner - Planning for a Sustainable Neighbourhood” Competition were completed in August and July 2023 respectively, with participation of a total of 90 primary school students and receipt of 129 submissions from secondary school students. In the 2023/24 academic year, about 40 “Hong Kong Youth Ambassadors” and “Student Ambassadors” provided guided tours for visitors at the City Gallery. |
| 149. | The Geospatial Lab set up by the DEVB organises activities to encourage and enhance young people’s use of different geospatial data for a comprehensive understanding of the community and characteristics of the city. Coupled with objective data analysis which facilitates positive communications and enhances the development of multiple intelligences and talents of young people, this will enable young people to understand that spatial data can become one of the key capabilities for smart city development, and apply it to different industries/professions. (DEVB) | Being taking forward. The Geospatial Lab has organised over 130 activities, including the “CSDI Awards 2023”, experience days, workshops, seminars, competitions, school visits, etc. from December 2022 to December 2023. They enable the public, young start-ups and students understand and master geospatial technology and knowledge, enhance their skillsets and extend them to different application areas. Besides, the DEVB has been proactively engaging stakeholders and professional institutes, maintaining close connections and strengthening partnerships to promote innovative use of spatial data. |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| Empowerment - Combat Youth Drug Abuse | |
| <p>150. To prevent young people from taking drugs and committing drug-related offences, the Government will step up efforts to combat the drug abuse problem through a multi-pronged strategy, namely preventive education and publicity, drug treatment and rehabilitation, legislation and law enforcement, external co-operation and research. Detailed measures will be introduced in the light of the latest drug abuse situation. The SB and relevant departments will work with various sectors to walk the extra mile in taking forward the initiatives, especially in publicity and education targeting young people, adopting ways that could better meet the needs of the young generation and going into schools to spread the message of “Let’s Stand Firm. Knock Drugs Out!” to encourage young people to live a healthy and positive life and stay away from drugs. (SB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The Narcotics Division of the SB has been closely monitoring the overall drug abuse situation in Hong Kong. According to the Central Registry of Drug Abuse, the overall number of reported drug users has been on a declining trend since over a decade ago (2009), with the number of reported drug users under the age of 21 decreasing significantly from 888 in 2021 to 718 in 2022, a drop of approximately 20%. This reflects the concerted efforts of the entire community. The Narcotics Division is currently preparing the “2023/24 Survey of Drug Use among Students”, which will be conducted during the 2023/24 school year, so as to better grasp the latest situation of youth drug abuse. In terms of preventive education and publicity, the government has completed a series of initiatives, including the launch of a new anti-drug theme in 2022, which was widely publicised. For secondary and primary school students, the Narcotics Division, the EDB, and related government departments have continued to dedicate efforts to implement anti-drug education among students. At present, 309 secondary schools and 298 primary schools have enrolled in various anti-drug various anti-drug education programs (including the Healthy School Programme with a Drug Testing Component, the Beat Drugs with Sports Programme, anti-drug preventive education, interactive anti-drugs drama and professional anti-drug training provided for school staff). For tertiary students, government departments have also further implemented anti-drug education targeted at them, e.g. through courses or student hostel</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| | <p>activities. Additionally, in February 2023, the legislative control on cannabidiol (CBD) came into effect. As part of its ongoing work, the Narcotics Division will continue to introduce appropriate measures in response to the latest drug situation.</p> |
| Empowerment - Address Indebtedness of Youth | |
| <p>151. The Investor and Financial Education Council (IFEC) and the financial regulators will continue to provide resources on financial management and investor education to help the public make informed investment and financial decisions and manage their money wisely. We have amended the legislation to lower the statutory interest rate cap for lending from 60% to 48% per annum with effect from 30 December 2022 to reduce the debt burden. We will continue to promote prudent financial management and review with the Companies Registry on the regulatory arrangement of the “Buy Now Pay Later” platforms in a timely manner. (FSTB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. The FSTB rolled out the latest round of public education activities in the fourth quarter of 2023 to promote the message of prudent financial management to youngsters through online and offline channels. Regarding “Buy Now Pay Later” services, the FSTB will enhance collaboration and intelligence exchange with the Consumer Council to further protect consumers’ rights and interests.</p> <p>The IFEC continues to actively promote youth financial education during the period. In September 2023, the IFEC held the 7th “Personal Finance Ambassador Programme” for tertiary students which was participated by 33 teams from 12 tertiary institutions. In addition, the IFEC continues to collaborate with tertiary institutions to launch the “Practical Personal Financial Management Programme” and held a total of 17 seminars in relation to personal finance for tertiary students from April to December 2023. Furthermore, in September 2023, the IFEC launched an online financial education campaign “Lost and Found” to promote the establishment of good financial habits and attitudes among youngsters, as well as encourage continuous learning and improvement of financial capabilities. The short films for the campaign received a total of 1.8 million views.</p> |

| Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint | Latest Implementation Progress |
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| Empowerment - Support non-Chinese Speaking Youth | |
| <p>152. The EDB provides all-encompassing support for non-Chinese Speaking (NCS) students from pre-primary to secondary education through a series of measures. In addition to providing additional funding to schools as well as major curriculum-related learning and teaching resources, the EDB offers teacher training and professional support, thereby strengthening the support for NCS students to learn Chinese and fostering an inclusive learning environment. The EDB has also implemented other supplementary measures, which include encouraging parents of NCS children to enrol their children in local kindergartens so that they would adapt to the local education system and gain exposure to the Chinese language and learn the language as early as possible; providing summer bridging programmes to help NCS students at the junior primary levels adapt to the classroom setting and consolidate their Chinese learning at the junior primary levels; and providing parent education programmes especially for parents of NCS students so that they would support and encourage their children to master the Chinese language and gain better understanding of the multiple pathways available to their children. Besides, career exploration activities have been offered to facilitate NCS students' preparation for further studies and career pursuits. NCS school</p> | <p>Completed. The relevant policy measures have been implemented in full swing. Details of the latest progress are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>Additional funding for schools</u>: All schools admitting NCS students are provided with additional funding depending on the number of NCS students admitted. ● <u>Learning and teaching resources</u>: The EDB has been continuously developing diversified learning and teaching resources to provide teachers with guidelines and support in curriculum planning, learning and teaching and assessment. All these resources have been uploaded to the EDB website and will be updated on an ongoing basis. ● <u>Teacher training and professional support</u>: The EDB has been continuously organising professional development programmes to enhance teachers' professional capabilities. In the 2022/23 school year, around 3 390 teachers from about 740 primary and secondary schools have participated in the seminars and workshops organised by the EDB. Moreover, about 90 secondary and primary schools as well as about 60 kindergartens have joined the school-based support services for teachers who teach NCS students the Chinese language. In the 2023/24 school year, as at end-December 2023, around 900 secondary and primary school teachers have participated in the seminars and workshops organised by the EDB. Besides, about 80 secondary and primary schools as well as about 40 kindergartens have joined the school-based |

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| | leavers would also join dedicated courses on vocational Chinese Language to enhance their employability. (EDB) | <p>support services for teachers who teach NCS students the Chinese language.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>Other complementary measures (including the Summer Bridging Programme, parent education programmes especially for parents of NCS students, career exploration activities and vocational Chinese language courses)</u>: In the 2022/23 and 2023/24 school years (as at end-December 2023), the beneficiary counts are 3 600 and 2 400 respectively, including NCS students and their parents, as well as NCS school leavers. |
| Contribution - Further Expand the Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth | | |
| 153. | We aim to triple the number of participating advisory committees from around 60 at present to not less than 180 within the current-term Government to enhance their function as talent “incubators”. (HYAB) | Being taking forward. The recruitment of Phase VI of the Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth started in late May 2023 and the number of participating committees has been increased from 15 to 20. Subject to the implementation progress of Phase VI, Phase VII is expected to be launched in the first quarter of 2024. |
| Contribution - Encourage Young People to Participate in Community Contribution | | |
| 154. | Establish the Youth Community Contribution Committees in 18 districts for young people to offer their views on district development and works projects, and re-organise the existing District Youth Programme Committees into District Youth Development and Civic Education Committees. The two committees will be opened up for young people to nominate themselves to participate. (HYAB) | Completed. The HAD established the District Youth Community Building Committee and the District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee in 18 districts across the territory in April 2023, and invited self-nominations to the Committees in January 2023 which attracted close to 1 100 applications. About 330 applicants have joined the Committees as members. Each of the Committees consists of 20 to 30 members, whose average age is below 35. Over one-third of members are self-nominated young people aged between 16 and 35. |

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| Contribution - Establish Platform for Youth Engagement | |
| 155. Encourage policy bureaux to set up informal and regular platforms for youth exchange to allow different bureaux to interact directly with young people in the sector and also identify suitable candidates for the formal advisory structure. (HYAB) | Being taking forward. Many bureaux have set up informal platforms to interact with young people. The HYAB will continue to encourage policy bureau to establish similar youth exchange platforms. |
| 156. The HYAB will create a brand new youth network to serve as a long-term platform for youth engagement. It will bring together past participants of various youth development programmes organised, funded or co-ordinated by the HYAB. The youth network will enable young people to contribute to the community and develop their diverse talents through offering a range of opportunities for community involvement, volunteer work, talent development, diverse experience, etc. Our aim is to progressively develop the youth network to gather a group of vibrant, diverse and competitive young people who are committed to active engagement in community building. We will also make use of the youth network as a platform to disseminate government information to enhance young people's understanding of government policies. (HYAB) | Being taking forward. The HYAB launched the brand new Youth Link platform in September 2023 to link up participants of various youth government programmes. It provides young people with opportunities to develop diverse talents through participating in seminars, different types of large-scale government activities, exchange visits to the Mainland and overseas, etc., and strengthen their communication, interaction and trust with the Government. More than 5 000 youths have joined the Youth Link, and the membership recruitment will continue. Our goal is to organise and provide at least 10 youth development activities for members of the Youth Link by end-2024. |
| 157. Launch a youth-based mobile application (app) to disseminate diversified information on various youth development programmes. It will also provide a one-stop platform for young people to explore different opportunities | Being taking forward. With reference to the opinions collected from youth and different stakeholders during March to April 2023 through focus groups and questionnaire, the HYAB is developing the user interface and the backend system of the app which caters to the youth |

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| | and activities according to their needs and interests, and foster engagement of the youth community. We will organise focus groups to take into account young people’s views when designing the app that caters for them. (HYAB) |
| 158. | Support the CIC in establishing “Construction Youth Network” to better connect with them, establish a regular communication channel, encourage them to participate in the discussion of various issues in the CIC, listen to their views in drawing up measures to support the development of the industry including young practitioners, and reflect their views to the Government. (DEVB) |
| 159. | With the support of the DEVB, the CIC plans to set up the “Construction Youth Volunteers Teams” in its volunteer network under the Construction Industry Sports & Volunteering Programme to co-ordinate and support young people in the industry to participate in volunteer work in the community, including making use of their construction skills to help the needy in the community so that they will feel more empowered by themselves and the construction industry. (DEVB) |
| 160. | The SB established the Security Bureau Youth Uniformed Group Leaders Forum in October 2022, comprising outstanding members of various youth uniformed groups of disciplined and auxiliary services. The Forum will tender advice to the SB on how to effectively enhance young people’s sense of national identity |
| | experience and target to launch the first version in the first quarter of 2024. |
| | Being taking forward. The CIC established the Youth Affairs Committee (YAC) in November 2022 and “Construction Industry Youth Alliance” in July 2023 for attracting more young people to join the construction industry and to participate in exchange programmes. Under the YAC, four task groups were set up responsible for organising different activities for young people. |
| | Being taking forward. Eight rounds of voluntary home renovation services were arranged in various districts (including Yau Tsim Mong District, Eastern District, Sham Shui Po District, Yuen Long District, Tai Po District, Tsuen Wan District, North District, etc.) between November 2022 and November 2023. |
| | Being taking forward. The SB established the Leaders Forum and arranged an induction course for the members in October 2022. After the establishment of the Leaders Forum, the SB has organised a series of activities for its members, including training camps, seminars on national security, the Basic Law and “One Country, Two Systems”, and study tours to the Mainland. |

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| <p>and national security awareness, encourage their participation in public affairs and help them understand world developments. It will also take forward or organise related youth education programmes. (SB)</p> | <p>Also, 10 summer internship places were provided to members in 2023 to enhance their competence and broaden their horizons. The SB will continue to hold diverse activities regularly, with a view to achieving the objectives of enabling the Leaders Forum to tender advice to the SB on youth development work and organise relevant activities.</p> |
| Contribution - Encourage Youth's Participation in Volunteer Work | |
| <p>161. Actively promote youth's participation in volunteer services. Newly launched measures include: creating a youth category in the Hong Kong Volunteer (HKV) Award jointly organised by the HYAB and the Agency for Volunteer Service (AVS) to recognise and encourage more young people to participate in voluntary work; requiring youth tenants in the newly launched "Youth Hostel Scheme-Subsidy Scheme for Using Hotels and Guesthouses as Youth Hostels" to provide community or voluntary services to the neighbourhood community; and launching a new round of "United Nations Volunteers - Hong Kong Universities Volunteer Internship Programme" to provide local university students with valuable opportunities to undertake voluntary internships in overseas service units of agencies under the United Nations. (HYAB)</p> | <p>Being taking forward. Presentation ceremony of the 2nd HKV Award co-organised by the HYAB and the AVS was conducted on 3 January 2024 with more than 22 000 awards presented (i.e. nearly double the number of awards last year). Youth-specific award categories include Outstanding Youth Volunteer Award, Outstanding Youth Volunteer Group Award, Top Three Highest Volunteer Hours Award (Youth Group), as well as the new Outstanding Youth Volunteer Project Award (OYVPA). The OYVPA recognises projects initiated by youth volunteers, which utilise innovative ideas and resources to serve the target community. It aims to encourage more youth to participate in volunteer services through innovative concepts and sustainable elements. In addition, youth tenants under the Subsidy Scheme are required to participate in no less than 200 hours of community or volunteer services to the neighbourhood community each year. The Subsidy Scheme has been making good progress since its launch in early 2023. The HYAB also launched two rounds of "United Nations Volunteers - Hong Kong Universities Volunteer Internship Programme" in 2023. A total of 23 university students undertook 6-month volunteer</p> |

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| | internships in various United Nations agencies located along the Belt and Road region. A new round of programme for 2024 was rolled out in December 2023, providing a total of 25 placements covering more countries along the Belt and Road region. |