

**For discussion
on 24 February 2026**

Legislative Council Panel on Security

**Development of the Territory-wide Closed-Circuit Television System
under the “SmartView” programme**

PURPOSE

This paper seeks Members’ views on the development of the territory-wide closed-circuit television (CCTV) system under the “SmartView” programme by the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF), and seeks Members’ support for submitting the relevant funding proposal to the Finance Committee (FC) of the Legislative Council for approval.

BACKGROUND

2. The “SmartView” programme is a Government-led, territory-wide initiative to install CCTVs in public places with high crime rate and pedestrian flow. It is implemented by the HKPF in collaboration with different government departments, following the coordination of inter-departmental resources and in accordance with the guiding principles provided by the “Steering Committee on District Governance” chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration. The first phase of the “SmartView” programme was completed by end 2025, with a total of about 5 000 CCTV cameras installed in various locations and about 6 000 CCTV cameras of other government departments and organisations connected. Since its implementation in April 2024 and up to January 2026, the “SmartView” programme has assisted the HKPF in detecting 899 cases, including serious crimes such as murder and robbery, yielding remarkable results.

Proposed second and third phases of the “SmartView” programme

3. In light of this, the Chief Executive proposed in his 2025 Policy Address that after achieving the objectives of the first phase of the “SmartView” programme, the Government will proceed to the second phase to enhance the CCTV system network across the territory. Over 20 000 cameras will be added annually and a total of about 60 000 cameras are expected to cover the entire city in 2028. More real-time data will be used to assist in smart management, enhance the detection of unforeseen incidents to reduce response time and expedite crime detection, thereby better protecting the public while ensuring transparent and secure use of data.

4. Having regard to the needs of newly developed communities in the coming years, upon achieving the established objectives of the second phase in 2028, the HKPF plans to implement the third phase of the project between 2028 and 2031. About 6 500 cameras will be added to further enhance the effectiveness and coverage of the “SmartView” system.

JUSTIFICATIONS

5. The second and third phases of the “SmartView” programme will continue to enhance the effectiveness in preventing and fighting crimes across all districts of Hong Kong, with a view to achieving the objective of enhancing public safety while further improving policing efficiency through the application of technology. The specific reasons for implementing the project are as follows:

(a) *Expanding CCTV coverage to facilitate law enforcement*

6. Installing CCTVs in public places has become a well-established measure among law enforcement agencies around the world, with numerous successful examples. According to various studies and public information, CCTV cameras have long been installed in public places in the Chinese Mainland and Macao, the United Kingdom, Germany, Australia, Singapore and Japan to facilitate law enforcement. In the second and third phases of the “SmartView” programme, the coverage of the CCTV system will be further expanded to cover not only crime black spots but also other locations, like major roads, critical

infrastructures, access to MTR stations, Light Rail platforms and public transport interchanges.

(b) *Consolidating third-party CCTV resources*

7. At present, various government departments and public bodies have in place CCTV systems to cater for their security and crowd management needs. In case investigation, if investigating officers locate CCTVs that are installed at specific locations, they will need to contact different departments and organisations for viewing the footages before they can consolidate the information captured by different cameras to track the target individual or vehicle, which is a time-consuming and strenuous process. The second and third phases of the “SmartView” programme will connect to CCTV systems of more government departments and public bodies, for example those used in tunnels, common areas of public housing estates, recreation and sports venues, the airport and boundary control points. By connecting CCTVs of other organisations into “SmartView”, investigating officers can directly and immediately search for related CCTV footages in the system. This will resolve the problem of having to access CCTV systems of various departments and organisations, thereby enhancing operational efficiency in case investigation. To further enhance the effectiveness of Police-public co-operation in preventing and fighting crime, the HKPF is also exploring collaboration with private commercial organisations to integrate suitable CCTVs into the “SmartView” system.

(c) *Enhancing the use of artificial intelligence*

8. The “SmartView” system is currently equipped with artificial intelligence (AI)-powered functions, such as crowd size analysis and automatic number plate recognition. As the number of CCTVs increases and video analytics technology matures, the HKPF plans to introduce more AI-powered video analytic functions to enhance the efficiency of crowd management operations and enable early identification of persons involved in serious crime or wanted persons, thereby facilitating police investigation. Using AI technology to conduct analysis can also facilitate crime detection and investigation, shorten the time required for officers to search and view footages, and improve policing efficiency.

RECOMMENDATION

9. We recommend that the second and third phases of the “SmartView” programme include the following features and functions:

(a) Installation of CCTV cameras and connection to third-party CCTVs

By analysing crime black spots and densely populated areas across various districts in Hong Kong with available data, identify suitable strategic locations for installing cameras or connecting to third-party CCTV systems, so as to expand the coverage of CCTVs and facilitate law enforcement.

(b) Establishment of network infrastructures

With the gradual increase in the number and coverage of CCTV cameras, relevant network infrastructures, including optical fibre networks and network equipment, need to be upgraded to ensure stable transmission of CCTV footages.

(c) Expansion of video management system

The existing video management system of the “SmartView” programme was launched in 2024. With the increase in the number of CCTVs in the second and third phases, the volume of data to be processed by the system will rise significantly. Therefore, there is a need to expand system capacity and upgrade its processors accordingly.

(d) Building an AI-powered video analytics toolbox

We plan to build an AI-powered video analytics toolbox to analyse the CCTV footages of the “SmartView” system using AI technology. The platform will make use of efficient algorithms to rapidly analyse the footages, thereby assisting the Police in preventing and fighting crimes.

Proposed procurement arrangements

10. The “SmartView” programme is related to the day-to-day law enforcement work of the HKPF and has a direct bearing on national security, public safety, public order and the maintenance of law and order. Based on geopolitical risk assessment and taking into account the potential medium to long term risks on the supply chain and information security, the HKPF considers it necessary to ensure the security and reliability of the project, stability of the supply chain, long term security and availability of the system, and stable interface with the operation of the first phase. Under such circumstances, the HKPF proposes to adopt the direct engagement approach in procurement regarding the “SmartView” programme.

EXPECTED BENEFITS

11. The second and third phases of the “SmartView” programme are expected to bring about the following benefits:

(a) Preventing crime

Increasing the number of CCTV cameras will expand the overall coverage, create a strong deterrent effect on potential criminal activities and effectively enhance crime prevention across all districts in Hong Kong. Public safety will be enhanced, and Hong Kong’s status as one of the safest and most stable cities in the world will be maintained.

(b) Enhancing efficiency in crime detection and investigation and law enforcement

Based on real-time information provided by the CCTV system, the HKPF can grasp more effectively the status and development of unforeseen incidents and formulate better response strategies and manpower deployment plans, thereby enhancing the overall response capabilities. Leveraging the AI-powered video analytics toolbox, the Police will be able to track and search for target persons and vehicles in a speedier and more precise manner, which enhances the efficiency

in crime investigation and detection. In particular, in mounting operations involving interception of target vehicles, it is expected that the target's location can be accurately predicted with more comprehensive real-time information.

(c) Managing public events effectively

In major public events, a comprehensive CCTV system will facilitate crowd management and ensure smooth operation of the events, which help maintain Hong Kong's position as an events capital. With video analytics technology, the system can perform real-time crowd density assessments, so that the Police will be able to carry out better crowd management measures and detect high-risk behaviour, thereby mitigating the impact of unforeseen incidents and better protecting the safety of the public and visitors.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Non-recurrent Expenditure

12. We estimate that the above proposal will incur a non-recurrent expenditure of \$4,066,482,000 from 2026-27 to 2031-32. A detailed breakdown is at [Annex 1](#).

Recurrent Expenditure

13. It is estimated that the recurrent expenditure for the above proposal will be \$72,926,000 in 2026-27, and will increase gradually to \$243,119,000 per annum from 2036-37 onwards with the growing number of CCTVs. The relevant expenditure covers hardware and software maintenance, communications network, contract staff services and consumables. A detailed breakdown is at [Annex 2](#).

Cost Savings

14. The “SmartView” programme will increase the efficiency of law enforcement actions and crowd management, saving manpower currently used for

repetitive tasks such as searching and viewing CCTV footages. The HKPF estimates that an annual notional savings of \$19,740,000 will be generated from 2028-29 onwards. The manpower saved will be redeployed to other increasingly heavy police duties that require the professional judgement of police officers.

15. The cost and benefit analysis for the proposed system is at [Annex 3](#).

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

16. Subject to the views of the Members on the proposal, we plan to seek funding approval from the FC in March 2026. After obtaining funding approval from the FC, it is expected that the contract for the second and third phases of the “SmartView” programme will be awarded in April 2026 with full operation scheduled for March 2031. The project implementation plan is as follows:

	Main Task	Target Completion Date
(a)	Seeking funding approval from the FC	March 2026
(b)	Award of contract	April 2026
(c)	Commencement of second phase	April 2026
(d)	Completion of second phase	March 2028
(e)	Commencement of third phase	April 2028
(f)	Completion of third phase	March 2031
(g)	Full operation of the system	March 2031

ADVICE SOUGHT

17. Members’ views are sought on the above proposal and our plan to seek funding approval from the FC.

Security Bureau
Hong Kong Police Force
February 2026

**Development of the Territory-wide Closed-circuit Television System
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Non-recurrent Expenditure

	2026-27 (\$'000)	2027-28 (\$'000)	2028-29 (\$'000)	2029-30 (\$'000)	2030-31 (\$'000)	2031-32 (\$'000)	Total (\$'000)
(a) Hardware	244,496	249,781	140,618	50,741	62,914	144,657	893,207
(b) Software	45,390	88,863	78,016	28,713	28,903	83,159	353,044
(c) Communications network	387,390	387,390	135,195	68,398	68,398	264,403	1,311,174
(d) Implementation services	100,893	110,279	70,192	59,895	66,464	548,724	956,447
(e) Contract staff	39,379	39,379	42,882	32,575	34,979	26,481	215,675
(f) Site preparation	19,236	19,380	1,370	748	1,115	-	41,849
(g) Training	424	438	137	75	112	-	1,186
(h) Others	27,270	45,450	4,545	4,545	9,090	-	90,900
(i) Contingency	45,423	49,441	24,851	12,909	14,290	56,086	203,000
Total	909,901	990,401	497,806	258,599	286,265	1,123,510	4,066,482

Item (a): The estimated expenditure of \$893,207,000 is for acquisition and installation of hardware, including servers, CCTVs, storage devices and network equipment.

Item (b): The estimated expenditure of \$353,044,000 is for acquisition of related computer software, including system software for system management, application server, database and system backup.

Item (c): The estimated expenditure of \$1,311,174,000 is for acquisition of optical fibre network connections.

Item (d): The estimated expenditure of \$956,447,000 is for engaging service providers to provide system implementation and support services. Major implementation activities include system analysis and design, application development, as well as system installation and configuration.

Item (e): The estimated expenditure of \$215,675,000 is for hiring contract information technology professional staff to provide project management services, including project planning and monitoring, liaison with project stakeholders,

co-ordination of site preparation and infrastructure, support of system development and acceptance testing.

- Item (f): The estimated expenditure of \$41,849,000 is for site preparation and wiring works.
- Item (g): The estimated expenditure of \$1,186,000 is for providing training for police officers on system operation.
- Item (h): The estimated expenditure of \$90,900,000 is for the on-site supervision, testing and commissioning costs of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Trading Fund, and the costs of the Security Risk Assessment and Audit and Privacy Impact Assessment of the system.
- Item (i): The estimated expenditure of \$203,000,000 represents a 5% contingency on items (a) to (h) above.

**Development of the Territory-wide Closed-circuit Television System
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Annual Recurrent Expenditure**

	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33 to 2035-36	2036-37 onwards
	(\$'000)	(\$'000)						
(a) Hardware repair and maintenance	49,751	49,798	50,126	56,351	56,396	56,396	56,396	144,579
(b) System software maintenance	13,331	14,103	14,623	17,306	17,407	17,407	17,407	36,880
(c) Communications network	3,840	6,220	9,439	15,787	15,787	15,787	15,787	21,673
(d) Contract staff	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,481
(e) Consumables	6,004	10,221	10,706	10,706	12,106	13,506	13,506	13,506
Total	72,926	80,342	84,894	100,150	101,696	103,096	129,577	243,119

Item (a) : The annual estimated expenditure of \$144,579,000 is for hardware repair and maintenance services and related expenses.

Item (b) : The annual estimated expenditure of \$36,880,000 is for the maintenance and support services of software, such as the video management system and the AI-powered video analytics toolbox.

Item (c) : The annual estimated expenditure of \$21,673,000 is for providing data transmission services for the CCTVs.

Item (d) : The annual estimated expenditure of \$26,481,000 is for hiring contract information technology professionals to collaborate with the internal technical team in maintaining applications and infrastructure, and enhancing system functions when necessary.

Item (e) : The annual estimated expenditure of \$13,506,000 is for replacing consumables, such as batteries of the CCTV system.

Cost and Benefit Analysis for the Development of the Territory-wide Closed-circuit Television System under the “SmartView” programme

Item	Cash flow (\$'000)											
	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35	2035-36	2036-37	Total
1. Non-recurrent												
Expenditure (see Annex 1)	909,901	990,401	497,806	258,599	286,265	1,123,510	—	—	—	—	—	4,066,482
Staff cost ¹	32,449	32,449	32,449	32,449	32,449	32,449	—	—	—	—	—	194,694
Total Non-recurrent Cost	942,350	1,022,850	530,255	291,048	318,714	1,155,959	—	—	—	—	—	4,261,176
2. Recurrent												
Expenditure (see Annex 2)	72,926	80,342	84,894	100,150	101,696	103,096	129,577	129,577	129,577	243,119	1,304,531	
Staff cost ¹	—	—	—	—	—	—	25,718	25,718	25,718	25,718	128,590	
Total Recurrent Cost	72,926	80,342	84,894	100,150	101,696	103,096	155,295	155,295	155,295	268,837	1,433,121	
Total Non-recurrent and Recurrent Cost (A)	1,015,276	1,103,192	615,149	391,198	420,410	1,259,055	155,295	155,295	155,295	268,837	5,694,297	
3. Savings												
Recurrent notional savings ²	—	—	19,740	19,740	19,740	19,740	19,740	19,740	19,740	19,740	19,740	177,660
Total Savings (B)	—	—	19,740	177,660								
Net Savings (C) = (B) - (A)	(1,015,276)	(1,103,192)	(595,409)	(371,458)	(400,670)	(1,239,315)	(135,555)	(135,555)	(135,555)	(135,555)	(249,097)	(5,516,637)
Net Cumulative Savings	(1,015,276)	(2,118,468)	(2,713,877)	(3,085,335)	(3,486,005)	(4,725,320)	(4,860,875)	(4,996,430)	(5,131,985)	(5,267,540)	(5,516,637)	

¹ Staff cost to be absorbed within existing resources.

² Recurrent notional savings mainly arise from the enhanced efficiency in law enforcement actions and crowd management upon implementation of the second and third phases of the “SmartView” programme. Since the relevant manpower is currently deployed for supporting other tasks as well, the cost savings cannot be realised through deletion of posts. However, the fragmented manpower saved will be redeployed to support other police duties.