

行政長官2025年施政報告 The Chief Executive's 2025 Policy Address





Policy direction

Strategic planning

- In the past 3 years, focus has been on "reform and embrace changes", driving institutional reform and policy innovation
- After 3 years of reform, a more solid foundation for **comprehensive strategic planning** exists. In addition to shortand medium-term measures, **long-term planning** and **systematic arrangements** are also developed
- Through "reform" + "planning", the development direction is clearer

Two pillars: economy and people's livelihood

- Economic growth underpins improved livelihoods, which in turn drive economic development
 - → Economy and people's livelihood are mutually reinforcing

Theme

Deepening Reforms for Our People Leveraging Our Strengths for a Brighter Future

Leveraging Our Strengths for a Brighter Future

The well-being of the people is the government's original aspiration, with the welfare of members of the public as its top priority

Despite **financial pressures**, this term of government has consistently invested heavily to improve the lives of all citizens

- The government's recurrent expenditure is primarily allocated to three key areas of public welfare: social welfare, healthcare, and education (which together account for about 60% of recurrent expenditure)
- Expenditure on the three key areas of public welfare in the 2025-26 financial year is expected to total nearly \$350 billion, equivalent to almost \$960 million per day
- Annual spending in the three key areas has risen by about \$56 billion, from under \$300 billion before this term of government, marking a nearly 20% increase

Social Welfare Daily **Expenditure:** \$357 million **Total daily** Healthcare Daily expenditure for the **Expenditure:** 3 areas is nearly \$316 million \$960 million Education Daily **Expenditure:** \$282 million

Leveraging Our Strengths for a Brighter Future

Continuously invest in livelihood initiatives, staying true to the original aspiration of improving lives

Dedicated chapter on people's livelihood

- Increase housing supply and enrich housing ladder (reaching 189 000 units in overall public housing production [about 80% higher than at the start of this government term] in the 5 years starting from 2026-27 onwards; shortening the waiting time for Subsidised Rental Housing by a whole year to 5.1 years [Target: reducing it to 4.5 years in 2026-27]; increasing the quota ratio between Green Form and White Form [from 40:60 to 50:50], given the about 50% increase in the five-year supply of Home Ownership Scheme flats; increasing the quota of the White Form Secondary Market Scheme by 1 000; relaxing the alienation restriction period of new flats sold under the Home Ownership Scheme / Green Form Subsidised Home Ownership Scheme [from 15 years to 10 years] to encourage future entry into the private housing market; etc.)
- 2) Healthcare (enhancing the public healthcare system; strengthening primary healthcare services; enhancing cancer prevention and treatment; promoting the development of Chinese medicine; enhancing 9 measures for mental health; etc.)

Leveraging Our Strengths for a Brighter Future

Continuously invest in livelihood initiatives, staying true to the original aspiration of improving lives

Dedicated chapter on people's livelihood

- Ensure employment priority of local workers (combating abuse of the Enhanced Supplementary Labour Scheme: extending the local recruitment process for waiters/waitresses and junior cooks [to 6 weeks], during which employers must attend an on-site job fair at least once a week; implementing the manning ratio requirement more stringently [so that the 2 local: 1 imported ratio is calculated based on posts being applied for, but not on all posts engaged by an employer]; etc.)
- Targeted poverty alleviation (injecting \$180 million into the Child Development Fund; setting up 6 additional Community Living Rooms → bringing the total to 15; etc.)
- Care for the elderly (increasing the total number of Community Care Service Vouchers by 4 000 → to 16 000; setting up 3 new Neighbourhood Elderly Centres; increasing the total number of Residential Care Service Vouchers by 1 000 → 7 000; launching a pilot scheme to subsidise elderly Comprehensive Social Security Assistance recipients choosing to retire in Guangdong; etc.)
- Social development (promoting fertility through a multi-pronged policy approach, including extending the claim period of additional child allowance for newborns from 1 year to 2 years, enhancing childcare services, and increasing the service quota for assisted reproductive service, etc.; establishing the Working Group on Ageing Society Strategies; etc.)
- 7) Transport (inviting tenders for 3 green mass transit system projects; approving 3 areas for cross-district autonomous vehicles trials; etc.)

Leveraging Our Strengths for a Brighter Future

Support economic development and create jobs

Support small and medium enterprises

- 1) 11 measures to enhance support for SMEs (extending the application period for the 80% Guarantee Product under the SME Financing Guarantee Scheme for 2 years and extending the principal moratorium arrangement for 1 year; providing concessions on water and sewage charges for non-domestic accounts, as well as trade effluent surcharge, and waiving fees for various licences and permits for food businesses and agriculture and fisheries industries; earmarking an additional \$30 billion (in the next 2 to 3 years) to increase expenditure on works projects; streamlining the restaurant licensing regime; injecting \$1.43 billion into the BUD Fund; strengthening the interface between Hong Kong enterprises and e-commerce service providers; etc.)
- **Economic diversification** (developing the **food industry**; promoting the development of the **agriculture and fisheries industries**; introducing a licensing arrangement allowing operators to **let dogs enter their food premises**)

Leveraging Our Strengths for a Brighter Future

Deepen reforms and explore new growth points

Deepen reforms

- Accelerate the development of the Northern Metropolis (establishing the Committee on Development of the Northern Metropolis; removing barriers and easing restrictions to streamline administrative procedures; introducing dedicated legislation to accelerate the development of Northern Metropolis; etc.)
- Develop and reform industries; advance through dual axes of introducing industries and promoting local industry development (formulating preferential policy packages to attract more enterprises; and: (i) attract industries, including an aircraft dismantling and parts recycling company, along with talent training, and pharmaceutical companies; (ii) promoting the development of local industries, including the sustainable aviation fuel and hydrogen energy industries; (iii) promoting the development of the Al industry; etc.)
- Further enhance governance and government services (establishing the Heads of Department Accountability System; strengthening the performance appraisal system for civil servants; setting up an Al Efficacy Enhancement Team; introducing market-based business models to enhance LCSD services)

Leveraging Our Strengths for a Brighter Future

Leveraging Hong Kong's strengths

Hong Kong's own advantages

- 1) Consolidate Hong Kong's status as an **international financial centre** (strengthening the **stock market**, the **bond market** and the **currency market**; expediting the building of an **international gold trading** market; enhancing the **New Capital Investment** Entrant Scheme; etc.)
- 2) Consolidate Hong Kong's status as an international trade centre (setting up the Strategic Committee on Commodities; promoting digital trade; etc.)
- Consolidate Hong Kong's status as an **international shipping centre** (establishing a **comprehensive "rail-sea-land-river" intermodal transport** system connecting to the inland region; building an international "**partner port**" network; developing a **digitalised port** system; etc.)
- Build an **international education hub** (constructing the **Northern Metropolis University Town**; keeping the **15 000** funded places for **local students unchanged**; **raising** the enrolment ceiling for **self-financing non-local students** in funded post-secondary institutions from 40% **to 50%** of local places; establishing a **task force** to promote **studying in Hong Kong**; etc.)
- 5) Promote the integrated development of culture, sports and tourism (developing a premium arts trading hub; developing the yacht economy; etc.)

Leveraging Our Strengths for a Brighter Future

Hong Kong's dual advantages

- Our country

- International

Our country's opportunities combined with our international prospects

- Our country: source of our biggest opportunities

 The world's second-largest economy; rapid national development; opportunities arisen from the Belt and Road Initiative; the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area; "bringing in and going global"; etc.
- 2) Hong Kong's international prospects

 The world's freest economy; top-class business environment; free trade agreements; connections to both the Mainland and the world; a bridge for international access to the Chinese market; etc.
- 3) Strategies and actions
 Actively inviting the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank to set up an office in Hong Kong; establishing an Economic and Trade
 Office in Kuala Lumpur; setting up the Task Force on Supporting Mainland Enterprises in Going Global, an inter-departmental
 one-stop platform; Belt and Road network; deepening international network cooperation; expanding aviation network; expanding
 global trade network (ASEAN countries, Middle East, Central Asia and Latin America regions); etc.



深化改革 心繋民生 發揮優勢 同創未來



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