

On-going Measures in the Youth Development Blueprint

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
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>

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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 “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)</p>	<p>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.</p>

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4.	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		
5.	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>

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	encourage and enable them to pass on the concept and knowledge of the rule of law.
6. 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))	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.

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Exploration - Promote Vocational and Professional Education and Training	
<p>7. 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>8. 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;</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,</p>

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	horticulture, arboriculture and landscape management; and gerontology. We are actively exploring the introduction of more applied degree programmes. (EDB)	which are expected to be launched in the 2024/25 academic year at the earliest.
9.	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)	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.
10.	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		
11.	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		
12.	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	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

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	centres” in the National 14 th Five-Year Plan. (EDB)	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.
13.	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		
14.	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.
15.	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 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	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 December 2023), the latest career information of 14 types of work, with 7 of them from emerging industries, has been newly added onto the website.

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<p>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>16. 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 Tours to the GBA will also be launched to enhance the understanding of senior secondary students on the economic development, education as well as further</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 1 500 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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	studies, career development, etc., in the GBA. (EDB)	
17.	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.
18.	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.
19.	For the construction industry, the Development Bureau (DEVB) and the Construction Industry Council (CIC) are working together with various stakeholders in the construction industry, including trade associations and relevant professional institutes, to take forward industry promotion programmes to enhance the promotion of the professional	Being taking forward: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TV show series: TVB Infotainment named "Profession Impossible" was broadcasted in July and August 2023; ● 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;

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<p>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"> ● “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>20. 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 arranged to enhance their knowledge and skills in various aspects.</p>

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		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.
Exploration - Understand Our Country and the World		
21.	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)	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 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.
22.	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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23.	<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> <p>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.</p>
24.	<p>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)</p>	<p>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.</p>

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25.	<p>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))</p>	<p>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.</p> <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</p>

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		<p>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>
26.	<p>The Tourism Commission, in collaboration with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), has been taking forward the “Enhancement of Hiking Trails - Phase II” 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)</p>	<p>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 Shing Mun War Relics Trail (formerly named as Shing Mun Historic Walk).</p>
27.	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>

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	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.
28. 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 construction industry and infrastructure development. (DEVB)	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.
29. 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	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.

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	environmental protection. (Environment and Ecology Bureau (EEB))	
30.	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.
Hope - Capitalise on the Positioning of Hong Kong for Career Development		
31.	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,	Being taking forward. In order to dovetail with the National 14 th 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. For the latest implementation progress of the various relevant measures, please refer to items (58) to (60), (66) to (69) and (99) below, and item

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<p>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>(33) in the document “Completed Measures in the Youth Development Blueprint”.</p>
<p>32. 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 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>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> <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>

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint		Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
33.	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)	Being taking forward. Please refer to item (71) for the progress on the "Support Scheme for Pursuing Development in the Mainland".
34.	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)	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.
35.	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	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

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint		Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
	dispute resolution service related organisations and reach out to not less than 100 young people in 2023. (DoJ)	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 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.
36.	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		
37.	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	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

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
<p>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 people with different competencies and interests. (Civil Service Bureau (CSB))</p>	<p>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 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>38. 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>39. 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</p>	<p>Being taking forward. Please see item (38) for details.</p>

	Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
	their horizons and experience to better prepare them for the job market. (CSB)	
40.	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 provide a platform for them to showcase their artistic work to audiences from different parts of the world, thereby opening up new opportunities for them in the Mainland and overseas. (CSTB)	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.
41.	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	<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>

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
	<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>
<p>42. 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 second 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)</p>	<p>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.</p>

	Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
43.	<p>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 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 	<p>Being taking forward.</p> <p>The 8th 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 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</p>

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
<p>Graduate Support Scheme and Hong Kong Digital Advertising Industry Fresh Graduate Support Scheme;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● subsidising the music industry to organise touring performances in the Mainland and sharing between local young music talent and the music industry in the GBA; ● 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>(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 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>

	Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
44.	<p>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 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>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> <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>
45.	<p>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 	<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,</p>

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
<p>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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● providing targeted training for young people to become technical personnel in the construction industry, study the feasibility of introducing “First-Hire-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>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> <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>
46. About 70% of the training places at the Hong Kong Construction Institute (HKCI), established by the CIC, are enrolled by secondary school leavers or	Being taking forward. The target for 2023/24 academic year has been achieved (see item 45 for details).

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
<p>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>47. 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>	<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>
<p>48. 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)</p>	<p>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</p>

	Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
		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.
49.	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 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)	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 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.
50.	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	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

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
<p>holidays. The Buildings Department could also offer short-term internship opportunities. (DEVB)</p>	<p>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 eight-week internship at the end of August of the same year.</p>
<p>51. 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))</p>	<p>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</p>

	Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
		2024 Summer Internship Programme will be launched in the first quarter of 2024.
52.	<p>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 14th 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 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>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.</p> <p>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 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</p>

	Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
		<p>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>
53.	<p>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)</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 “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.</p>

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint		Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
54.	Under the “Post-Secondary Student Summer Internship Programme” and the “Vacation Training Scheme for Post-Secondary Students”, the EPD provides summer internships for post-secondary students to gain work experience and better equip themselves. (EEB)	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 during June to August 2023, lasting for 8 weeks. The recruitment work for 2024 will be carried out in mid-2024
55.	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)	Being taking forward. The EPD and the VTC are discussing the implementation details of the training programme, planning to recruit students in mid-2024.
56.	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)	Being taking forward. 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. 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.

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
	<p>The Future Banking Bridging Programme, implemented by the HKMA and the Hong Kong Institute of Bankers, has provided practical 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</p>

	Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
		continuing education schools of local universities, professional institutions, international training providers, etc., and the list will continue to be updated. On the other hand, around 570 reimbursement applications have been approved, involving a total reimbursement amount of around \$3.6 million.
57.	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	<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.

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
<p>various healthcare professions have been promoting specialist development and continuing professional education and/or 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>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 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>58. 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</p>	<p>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.</p>

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint		Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
	ITF subsidises local companies on a 2 (Government): 1 (companies) matching basis for their staff to receive training in advanced technologies. (ITIB)	
59.	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 students studying abroad, with a view to attracting them to join the I&T workforce after graduation. (ITIB)	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.
60.	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.

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint		Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
61.	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		
62.	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. 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))	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 market demand to enhance vocational skills of teenagers.
Hope - Support Continuing Education for Youth		
63.	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	Being taking forward. The LWB will continue to monitor the implementation and keep ongoing review.

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint		Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
	themselves, we will consider enhancing the CEF to further raise the subsidy ceiling and expand the scope of recognised courses in the CEF. (LWB)	
Hope - Support Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Youth		
64.	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 who wish to start their own business. (CEDB)	Being taking forward. Related work continues.
65.	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”	Being taking forward. Related work continues.

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint		Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
	provides information on business development for technology start-ups. (CEDB)	
66.	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.]
67.	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 and the HKSTPC's Elevator Pitch Competition. (ITIB)	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.

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint		Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
68.	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)	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.
69.	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)	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.
70.	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 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	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 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

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
<p>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>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>71. Under the “Support Scheme for Pursuing Development in the Mainland”, the Government will, through the network of 13 Mainland offices of the HKTDC, co-operate with relevant business and trade bodies of Hong Kong people in the Mainland to organise training, exchange 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</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>

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint		Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
	opportunities brought about by the National 14 th Five-Year Plan and the dual circulation development for better integration into the overall development of our country. (CEDB)	
72.	The Design Incubation Programme and Fashion Incubation Programme of the Hong Kong Design Centre provide incubation support for start-ups in relevant industries. (CSTB)	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.
73.	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 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	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.

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint		Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
	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		
74.	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.
75.	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 "Greater Bay Area Information Station" in	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.

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
76. 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)	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.

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
Hope - Enhance Higher Education	
77. 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	
78. 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.
79. 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.
80. 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 <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
<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 <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
		<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>
Empowerment - Enhance Youth Welfare Services		
81.	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

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint		Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
		(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.
Empowerment - Promote Sports, Arts and Culture		
82.	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.

	Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
83.	<p>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)</p>	<p>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.</p>
84.	<p>The Arts-in-School Partnership Scheme of the HKADC aims to promote 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>Being taking forward. The Scheme is in progress.</p>
85.	<p>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</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</p>

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
Chinese opera promotional activities. (CSTB)	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.
86. 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 values to young people. Its target audience is students and members of the public. (CSTB)	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.
87. 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”	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.

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
	<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>88. 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 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</p>

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint		Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
		such facilities will increase as more new sports venues are completed in the next few years.
89.	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>
90.	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.
Empowerment - Strengthen Mental Health Support for Youth		
91.	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	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

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
<p>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)</p>	<p>funding scheme. Other projects are currently being implemented.</p>
<p>92. 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 210 schools in the 2021/22 school year, with all five HA clusters with child and adolescent psychiatric services participating in the Scheme. The HHB will strengthen the multi-disciplinary SMHSS to identify students in need and</p>	<p>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.</p>

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
<p>93. 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)</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>94. 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 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</p>	<p>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.</p>

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint		Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
	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)	
Empowerment - Promote Positive Values		
95.	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 - Promote Positive Thinking		
96.	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	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

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
enhancement of knowledge and promote experience sharing. (HYAB)	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.
97. 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.
98. 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

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint		Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
		Scheme. Sponsored organisations have gradually rolled out their activities.
Empowerment - Promote an Innovation and Technology Culture		
99.	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%.
100.	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 to young people and providing thematic vocational and educational information according to the interests of the youth.
101.	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	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.

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	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)	
Empowerment - Make Use of Life-wide Learning Grant/Activities		
102.	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		
103.	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.
104.	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	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

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
<p>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)</p>	<p>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>Empowerment - Combat Youth Drug Abuse</p>	
<p>105. 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</p>

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
	<p>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 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>106. 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</p>

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint		Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
		“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.
Contribution - Further Expand the Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth		
107.	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 - Establish Platform for Youth Engagement		
108.	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.
109.	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	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.

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
<p>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)</p>	
<p>110. 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 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)</p>	<p>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 experience and target to launch the first version in the first quarter of 2024.</p>
<p>111. 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)</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>112. 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</p>	<p>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.</p>

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint		Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
	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)	
113.	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 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)	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. 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.
Contribution - Encourage Youth’s Participation in Volunteer Work		
114.	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	Being taking forward. Presentation ceremony of the 2 nd 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

Actions and Measures Set Out in Youth Development Blueprint	Latest Implementation Progress <i>(As at January 2024)</i>
<p>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>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 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.</p>