



The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
of the People's Republic of China

The First Five-Year Plan

for Economic and Social Development
of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
(2026–2030)

September 2026

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Foreword

Formulated in the opening year of the National 15th Five-Year Plan, this inaugural Five-Year Plan of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) represents a major initiative of the HKSAR Government to uphold and enhance the executive-led system, and to improve the efficacy of its governance. It signals the strategic planning need for Hong Kong to proactively align with national development strategies, and better integrate into and serve the overall national development. It also provides an action agenda for forging consensus and uniting different sectors in society with a view to promoting Hong Kong's transition from stability to prosperity and achieving high-quality development of our city.

The formulation of the First Five-Year Plan for Economic and Social Development of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (2026-2030) (Hong Kong's Five-Year Plan) has to be grounded in the city's practical reality. It is imperative to devise a medium- to long-term strategy for Hong Kong's development, spelling out the directions of development, mission targets, strategic priorities as well as implementation roadmaps, supported by operable and effective policy measures and major projects that feature Hong Kong's unique character. By formulating the Five-Year Plan, we shall shed light on our directions of development, optimise resource allocation, stabilise social expectations, and better protect social well-being and the interests of investors across the world, building a Hong Kong that is more open, more inclusive, more liberal, more prosperous and safer. We will make Hong Kong a bridge and gateway between our country and the rest of the world as well as a more attractive, vibrant and opportunity-rich world city, continuing to make unique and more substantial contributions to building a strong country and achieving national rejuvenation through advancement of Chinese modernisation.

Open up New Horizons and Unfold a New Chapter

Chapter 1 Seize the Strategic Opportunities Presented by Changes Unseen in a Century

1.1 In the 14th Five-Year Plan period, under the leadership and staunch support of the Central Government, Hong Kong has achieved a historic transition from chaos to order and from stability to prosperity. Back in 2019, Hong Kong was overwhelmed by its own version of “colour revolution” and “black-clad” violence, with public order severely undermined. The entire society descended into chaos and unrest as innocent citizens were assaulted, facilities set ablaze and vandalised, and daily lives disrupted. Against this backdrop, the Central Government took decisive action to restore social order by promulgating and implementing the Law of the People’s Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Following the improvement of the electoral system and the full implementation of the principle of “patriots administering Hong Kong”, the new-term Election Committee, Legislative Council, and District Councils were formed successively. In addition, the HKSAR Government has accomplished the glorious mission of enacting local legislation for Article 23 of the Basic Law and implementing the Safeguarding National Security Ordinance. Not only has this bridged the gap of 26 years and 8 months of unfulfilled constitutional responsibility, but also provided a reliable safeguard for Hong Kong to strive for a vibrant economy, pursue development, improve people’s livelihood, and foster reforms. Resuming its governance in the way as intended under the principle of “One Country, Two Systems”, Hong Kong has entered a new phase where we transitioned from chaos to order and is now advancing from stability to prosperity. Our economy has returned to positive growth. Besides maintaining its position as the world’s freest economy, Hong Kong has risen to top spot in cross-boundary wealth management worldwide and is ranked second in world competitiveness. The city is ranked third among international financial centres and has come fourth in talent competitiveness. While staying in fourth place as an international maritime centre, Hong Kong has advanced to fifth in merchandise trade. In 2025, our median employment earnings of full-time employees has increased by about 20% over a four-year period. All these indicate that Hong Kong is at its prime both politically and economically.

1.2 In the 15th Five-Year Plan period, Hong Kong finds itself at a time of development when strategic opportunities exist alongside risks and challenges with intensifying uncertainties. At this juncture, global, epoch-making and historical changes are unfolding at a faster pace. A profound shift is taking place in the international balance of power. Unilateralism, protectionism, and hegemonism are clashing vigorously with multi-polarity and economic globalisation. Relations between major countries are having a major bearing on the international landscape, the dynamics of which will in turn exert a profound impact on the development of Hong Kong. As a highly externally-oriented economy, Hong Kong is extremely susceptible to the influence of the said changing environment. Hong Kong's economic structure still leaves room for enhancement, the mission of transitioning to new growth drivers remains formidable, and deep-seated social problems still require speedy resolution.

1.3 In a world of such turbulent times, China has become a major stabiliser and driver for global economic growth. The 15th Five-Year Plan, which outlines a blueprint for future national development and also places a heightened demand for Hong Kong's better integration into and service of the overall national development, presents major opportunities and opens up new ground for the growth of our city. It is against this background that we formulate our first Five-Year Plan to decisively seize the opportunities presented by national development, with the determination to proactively identify, navigate, and embrace changes, and to fully align with the National 15th Five-Year Plan.

1.4 The new round of technological revolution and industrial transformation has expedited breakthroughs, while the prominence of artificial intelligence (AI) has catalysed the emergence of new industries, new forms of business, and new models. Against the changing domestic and global landscapes, Hong Kong needs to change our mindset and beliefs, drawing on the experience of our country and the effective practices of major global economies to devise a medium- to long-term development strategy. Such a strategy should spell out the directions of development, mission targets, strategic priorities, and implementation roadmaps, addressing our shortcomings to realise better and faster future development.

Chapter 2 Hong Kong's Historic Position in the Period of the 15th Five-Year Plan

1.5 The 15th Five-Year Plan period is a time which presents Hong Kong with strategic opportunities to proactively embrace modern trends, consolidate and enhance our competitive edge, nurture new growth drivers, and achieve high-quality economic and social development. These are five crucial years for us to seize the opportunity to expedite our transition from stability to prosperity, enhancing social well-being, and building a better home for all. These are five promising years for us to integrate into and serve the overall national development, shouldering the dual responsibilities of realising our full potential and contributing to our country.

Chapter 3 Consolidate and Strengthen Hong Kong's Unique Strengths

1.6 Hong Kong enjoys the unique advantages of being supported by our country while closely connected to the world under “One Country, Two Systems”. With a solid foundation of institutional strengths, Hong Kong remains committed to a free and open economic system with the free flow of capital, goods, people, and information. Besides being the world’s only Chinese-English bilingual common law jurisdiction, Hong Kong is held in high regard for its rule of law and maintains a simple tax regime, a clean and efficient government and civil service, as well as internationally aligned regulatory standards. With all these advantages, Hong Kong boasts an internationalised business and investment environment with stability, security, fairness, and predictability. Hong Kong is a “safe harbour”, and a “safe harbour” is a “harbour for development”. Security has become one of Hong Kong’s major developmental advantages. Hong Kong’s status as a world-renowned international financial, maritime and trade centre, coupled with its world-class education and talent resources, consistently positions the city at the forefront of attracting global high-end production factors. With all its strengths, capacity, and confidence, Hong Kong will play an effective role as a “super connector” and “super value-adder”. Not only will we better realise our own development, but also contribute our might to building our country into a strong nation while advancing national rejuvenation.

Table 1 Hong Kong's International Rankings in Economic and Social Development

Overall	• World's 2nd most competitive economy (World Competitiveness Yearbook 2026) ■ Ranked 1st globally in "Business legislation" and "Tax policy" ■ Ranked 2nd globally in "Finance" ■ Ranked 3rd globally in "International trade", "International investment", "Management practices" and "Education" ■ Ranked 4th globally in "Public finance" and "Basic infrastructure"
Economy and Trade	• World's freest economy (Economic Freedom of the World 2025 Annual Report) • World's 5th largest trading entity in merchandise trade (2025)
Finance	• World's No. 3 and Asia-Pacific's No.1 financial centre (Global Financial Centres Index released in March 2026) • World's No. 2 for initial public offering funds raised (First half of 2026) • World's largest cross-boundary wealth management centre (Global Wealth Report 2026)
Maritime and Aviation	• World's No. 4 international maritime centre (The Xinhua-Baltic International Shipping Centre Development Index (2026)) • World's No. 1 in air cargo throughput and 8th in international passenger traffic (World's Busiest Airports rankings 2025) • World's No. 5 in registered ship tonnage
Innovation and Technology	• Asia-Pacific's No. 2 and World's No.4 for digital competitiveness (World Digital Competitiveness Ranking 2025) • Shenzhen-Hong Kong-Guangzhou innovation cluster ranked 1st globally (Global Innovation Index 2026)
Legal Services	• World's 2nd most preferred seat for arbitration (2025 International Arbitration Survey)
Culture, Sports, and Tourism	• Among World's Greatest Places of 2026: Kai Tak Sports Park (Time Magazine: The World's Greatest Places of 2026)

Chapter 4 Underlying Principles of the Five-Year Plan

Adhere to the “One Country, Two Systems” Principle

1.7 With a resolute commitment to fully and faithfully implementing the principles of “One Country, Two Systems”, “Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong”, and a high degree of autonomy, the Government acts in strict compliance with the Constitution and the Basic Law while remaining steadfast in safeguarding national sovereignty, security, and development interests. It is our duty to ensure no deviation or distortion in the implementation of “One Country, Two Systems”. We will uphold and enhance the executive-led system; we will adhere to the improved electoral system; and we are committed to the full implementation of the principle of “patriots administering Hong Kong”. These will intensify our efforts to strengthen the HKSAR’s governance systems and capacity, and enhance the efficacy of governance in accordance with the law, so as to reinforce the positive landscape as we advance from stability to prosperity.

Remain Committed to a Livelihood-oriented Approach

1.8 Committed to the livelihood-oriented approach, the Government aims to provide practical solutions to people’s livelihood concerns. With a focus on the most acute, direct, and practical challenges facing the people, we will prioritise our resources in improving social well-being in areas of deep-seated livelihood concerns such as housing, healthcare, education, employment and elderly care, so as to continuously elevate the sense of fulfilment, happiness, and security in our community.

Uphold an Executive-led System

1.9 The Government will uphold the principle of executive-led governance, with the Chief Executive and the HKSAR Government at the helm embracing the leadership role, earnestly shouldering the primary responsibility for Hong Kong’s governance with a sense of commitment and public service. The administration will take the lead to strive for highly efficacious governance, driving collaborative efforts among the executive, legislative, and judicial arms as they perform their respective duties, thereby achieving governance synergy. Formulating and implementing the Five-Year Plan is a challenging system-wide undertaking, which calls for the executive branch to fully leverage its crucial role to put the “decision-led, resource-led, social mobilisation, public-first” philosophy¹ into practice.

¹ The crux of government administration lies in policy formulation and allocation of public resources; that the government proactively organises social forces and spells out the directions of development; and the people-oriented approach, which takes long-term development into account and does not simply pursue profits through market mechanisms.

Embrace Reform and Innovation

1.10 We are committed to deepening reforms through institutional innovations for elevated governance efficacy, an enhanced civil service structure, and an enhanced Heads of Departments Accountability System. We will strengthen interdepartmental collaboration, supervision, and oversight for better public service, while adopting measures for the digital government initiative and large-scale application of AI to streamline workflows and improve efficiency. We will foster a better business environment, while expediting land and housing supply as well as industry restructuring. In terms of key areas such as finance, innovation and technology (I&T), the Northern Metropolis, community services, and regional coordination, etc., we will rid ourselves of development bottlenecks through institutional reforms and policy breakthroughs to further enhance Hong Kong's overall competitiveness and development impetus.

Uphold the Two-pronged Approach of "Effective Market" and "Capable Government"

1.11 We uphold the two-pronged approach of "effective market" and "capable government". Through strategic guidance, investment in infrastructure, system innovations as well as modernisation of our laws, we will sustain a high-quality business environment that is open, transparent, grounded in rule of law, and internationalised. We will consolidate and enhance our long-standing advantages that are our international finance, maritime, trading, and aviation industries, while expediting I&T development, so as to bolster Hong Kong's overall competitiveness. On the other hand, the Government will share market and economic development insights, stimulate innovation and competitiveness within the business sector, while promoting the free flow and optimal matching of the key factors such as funds, talent, and skills, etc. With a capable government working in tandem with an effective market, we will create strong and synergised impetus driving the high-quality development of Hong Kong.

Adopt a Holistic Approach to Development and Security

1.12 National security is the bedrock of Hong Kong's steady development. We will faithfully fulfil our responsibility in safeguarding national and public safety. We will enhance the legal system and enforcement mechanism for safeguarding national security, as well as the social governance system to prevent risks and resolve challenges of various sorts. We strive to create an environment for development that is safe, ideal for living, and orderly, so as to safeguard Hong Kong's long-term prosperity and stability.

A Pragmatic and Proactive Planning

1.13 We are guided by an evidence-based approach with systemic principles in formulating the Five-Year Plan. The Five-Year Plan accentuates key areas for us to focus our efforts so as to elevate our development impetus across the board. We will remain practical in setting realistic development goals while proceeding with prudence and order. Throughout the planning process, we will duly consider practicalities in implementation to ensure tangible results. We will widely consult various stakeholders, thereby forging consensus by tapping the collective wisdom.

Chapter 5 Major Objectives

1.14 Achieving new breakthroughs in economic development. We endeavour to consolidate and enhance “Four Centres and One Hub”, that is to consolidate and enhance our status as international financial, maritime, and trade centres and an international aviation hub, while expediting the city’s development into an international I&T centre and an international hub for high-calibre talent, thereby fostering an economic structure where technology and industries are deeply integrated. This will drive the high-quality development of our economy. We will strengthen the city’s role as a global offshore renminbi (RMB) business hub, an international asset and wealth management centre, and an international risk management centre, while developing a commodity trading ecosystem and a high value-added supply chain services centre. We will deepen financial innovations, empower industries through finance, and develop high-end financial services such as green finance and digital finance.

1.15 Expanding our global competitiveness and influence continuously. We will deepen our efforts to develop Hong Kong into a centre for international legal and dispute resolution services and a regional centre for intellectual property trade, as the city’s influence as a centre for international legal and dispute resolution services in the Asia-Pacific region has heightened significantly. We will drive Hong Kong’s development into an East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange to further promote the flourishing and integrated development of culture, sports, and tourism. We will expand the reach of our high-quality post-secondary education to attract more non-local students to study in Hong Kong and global top-notch talent and innovation collectives to establish their presence in our city. We will strengthen our economic development impetus and global competitiveness.

1.16 Enhancing the speed and effectiveness of the Northern Metropolis development. With the Northern Metropolis serving as the key growth engine for post-secondary education and I&T development, we will promote the integrated development of education, technology, and talent. The synergised development of industrial parks, universities, and research institutions will foster an innovation ecosystem where industry, academia, and research are deeply integrated. We will also adopt the smart city concept in the planning of transport, housing, greening as well as other public facilities. Taken together, the Northern Metropolis will emerge as a well-equipped metropolitan area ideal for living, work, and travel, further boosting Hong Kong's overall competitiveness and momentum for sustainable development.

1.17 Enhancing social well-being markedly. We will continue to enhance people's livelihood, by improving public services across healthcare, education, housing, elderly care, and other areas. We will strengthen labour rights protection, enhance employment support measures, and put in place a more efficient social security system for targeted response. We will expedite smart city development to create a better living and work environment and continue to enhance the sense of fulfilment, happiness, and security in the community.

1.18 Taking significant strides in integrating into and serving the overall national development. We will take an active part in taking forward major national strategies. We will deepen the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, advancing the development of major cooperation platforms in Qianhai, Nansha, and Hetao. We will strengthen the cooperation with Mainland cities in technological innovation, industry collaboration, and infrastructure interconnectivity, while maintaining close alignment with high-standard international economic and trade rules, so as to create a testing ground for rule alignment within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. This helps us better perform our roles as "super connector" and "super value-adder" in the high-level opening up of the country. For the high-quality cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative, we will deepen our involvement, expand our global cooperation network, and tell good stories of China. These efforts will translate into Hong Kong's greater contributions to the country in building a new development paradigm of "dual circulation", deepening its further reform and opening up.

Major Indicators

Description	Base Year (2025 unless otherwise specified)	2030	Average annual change / cumulative change	Nature
Economy, innovation and infrastructure development				
1. Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth (%)	3.6	—	Within a reasonable range; annual targets to be proposed in light of prevailing conditions	Anticipatory
2. Growth of Labour Productivity Index (%)	2.3 (2024)	—	At a stable level	Anticipatory
3. Air cargo throughput (million tonnes)	5.07	—	Maintaining world-leading position	Anticipatory
4. Value of Hong Kong's total imports and exports of goods (\$ billion) ²	10,927.1	—	Steady growth alongside global economic expansion	Anticipatory
5. Value of Hong Kong's total imports and exports of services (\$ billion)	1,626.8	—	Steady growth alongside global economic expansion	Anticipatory
6. Ratio of total domestic expenditure on innovation activities to GDP (%) ³	1.63 (2024)	Strive to reach 3 after 2030	Around 10% increase in average annual expenditure	Anticipatory
7. Ratio of the value added of Manufacturing and New Industrialisation-related Industries to GDP (%)	3.8 (2024)	Strive to reach 5.5 after 2030	Around 10% increase in average annual value-added	Anticipatory

2 In Hong Kong Dollars unless otherwise specified.

3 With reference to international guidelines and statistical methodologies adopted by other economies, Total Domestic Expenditure on Innovation Activities covers the domestic expenditure on research and development (R&D), which includes basic and applied research, and expenditure on enterprises' application development and other related innovation activities (such as product design, software development, process validation, pilot testing, product testing, and applications for intellectual property registration, etc.). The Government also maintains statistical tracking of the Gross Domestic Expenditure on R&D (solely covers R&D)-to-GDP ratio, which stood at 1.13% for 2024.

Description	Base Year (2025 unless otherwise specified)	2030	Average annual change / cumulative change	Nature
8. Global financial centre	Ranked 3rd globally	Strengthen its world-leading position	—	Anticipatory
9. International cross-boundary wealth management centre	Ranked 1st globally	Strengthen its world-leading position	—	Anticipatory
10. Total number of companies in Hong Kong with parent companies located outside Hong Kong	11 070	—	Average annual increase of 4-5%	Anticipatory
11. “Spade-ready sites” available in the Northern Metropolis in five years (hectares)	120 (2021-22 to 2025-26)	900 (2026-27 to 2030-31)	Cumulative increase of 750%	Binding
12. Completion of domestic units in the Northern Metropolis in five years (units)	11 000 (2021-22 to 2025-26)	70 000 (2026-27 to 2030-31)	Cumulative increase of approximately 640%	Anticipatory
13. Number of non-local students enrolled in full-time locally-accredited post-secondary education programmes in Hong Kong (persons)	79 800 (2024/25 academic year)	100 000 (2029/30 academic year)	Cumulative increase of 25%	Anticipatory
14. Value added of the tourism industry (\$ billion)	86.2 (2024)	126 (2030)	Cumulative increase of approximately 40-50%	Anticipatory
Livelihood				
15. Median monthly employment earnings of employed persons (excluding foreign domestic helpers) (\$)	22,200	—	In line with the trend of economic growth	Anticipatory
16. Risk of premature mortality from four major non-communicable diseases (%) ⁴	7.3 (2024)	6.9	—	Anticipatory

4 It refers to the unconditional probability of dying between ages of 30 and 70 from four major non-communicable diseases, namely cardiovascular diseases, cancers, diabetes, or chronic respiratory diseases.

Description	Base Year (2025 unless otherwise specified)	2030	Average annual change / cumulative change	Nature
17. Ratio of doctors per 1 000 population (persons)	2.25	2.43	—	Anticipatory
18. Per capita public current health expenditure (\$)	18,000 (2024-25)	—	On an upward trend	Anticipatory
Environmental protection				
19. Reduction in carbon emission per unit of GDP (i.e. carbon intensity) against the 2020 level (%)	12.3 (2024)	—	32.5 (Cumulative % reduction in 2030 against the 2024 level)	Binding
20. Share of zero-carbon energy in the fuel mix of electricity generation (%)	25 (2024)	30	—	Binding
21. Average concentration of PM2.5 in the ambient air (µg/m³)	15	<14	—	Binding
22. Overall compliance rate of Hong Kong's surface water quality objectives (%)	> 88	> 90	—	Binding

Part 2

Strengthen the Four Centres, Develop the Hub for High-calibre Talent, Consolidate and Enhance Our Edge in Global Competition

2.1 To ensure Hong Kong's long-term prosperity and stability, we must fully leverage our city's existing advantages while expediting development and enhancing new quality productive forces. By consolidating and enhancing Hong Kong's status as international financial, maritime and trade centres, and developing Hong Kong into an international I&T centre and a global hub for high-calibre talent, we will further sharpen our city's competitive edge. Advancing the development of the "four centres and one hub" at full steam will help drive and sustain Hong Kong's economic development. The arising development dividends will improve people's livelihood, continuously enhancing social well-being. Meanwhile, deepening the development of the international legal and dispute resolution services centre, the regional intellectual property trading centre, and the East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange, among others, will provide staunch support for the development of the "four centres and one hub", fostering the promotion of scientific research and innovation as well as industry development, and fully leveraging Hong Kong's unique strengths of connecting with the Mainland and the world under "One Country, Two Systems" and its world city status. With this, we shall further sharpen our edge amid global competition.

Chapter 6 International Financial Centre

2.2 Finance is Hong Kong's pivotal and crowning strength. Hong Kong, as an international financial centre, must firmly demonstrate its international positioning by leveraging its open financial markets to attract global capital, talent, and financial enterprises. We must seek growth through stability and in turn reinforce stability through growth, a principle anchoring resilient underpinning, stable structures, robust capabilities, and manageable risks, as we move forward with various initiatives. These include fully leveraging the core function of propelling the real economy with finance; forging secure and highly effective financial infrastructure; and systemically developing a diverse capital market. With efforts to drive in-depth integration with Mainland and overseas markets, we strive to actively consolidate Hong Kong's status as a hub connecting global financial markets, facilitating international capital to seize the development opportunities available in our country and in Asia, while assisting Mainland enterprises and capital in pursuing high-quality global expansion. Meanwhile, we will strive to assume a more prominent role in the global financial governance system.

Section 1 Strengthen Our Roles as Global Offshore Renminbi Business Hub, International Asset and Wealth Management Centre, and International Risk Management Centre

2.3 We shall strengthen Hong Kong's role as the world's largest offshore RMB business hub. We will strive for a comprehensive scale-up and continuous refinement of Hong Kong's offshore RMB business and ecosystem respectively. We will strengthen RMB liquidity support and establish a Hong Kong offshore RMB liquidity provision mechanism, while accelerating the innovation and diversification of offshore RMB products. As we develop a comprehensive, multi-layered cross-boundary RMB circulation network, we will improve the stability of offshore RMB financing. In the meantime, we will actively promote the use of RMB to settle government expenditure, and further enhance the capacity of the offshore RMB market in supporting the real economy for the expansion and enabling of trade, investment, financing, and cross-boundary business dealings. We will also support the wider use of RMB in cross-boundary businesses and facilitate the exchange between RMB and other regional currencies. Our financial regulators will step up engagement with their Mainland counterparts, maintaining close communication regarding the concerted efforts to safeguard Hong Kong's financial market stability.

Table 2 Strengthening Hong Kong's Role as a Global Offshore RMB Business Hub

1. Enhancing liquidity Continue to make good use of the Currency Swap Agreement with the People's Bank of China, refine the RMB Business Facility, explore measures to enhance liquidity support for Hong Kong's banks, and facilitate two-way capital flows.
2. Expanding product supply in the offshore RMB market The scale of RMB bond issuance will be continuously expanded, and made regular across a range of tenors. Promote regular issuance of Dim Sum bonds in Hong Kong by high-grade issuers, such as sovereign, institutional, and corporate issuers. Explore further mechanisms for the issuance and trading of RMB-denominated fixed-income instruments to support the building of offshore RMB yield curve. Broaden the application scenarios of using RMB bonds as collateral. Expand the range of liquidity management tools and risk management products available to the offshore RMB market. Actively expand the use of RMB into other areas for pricing, settlement, and investment purposes.
3. Supporting the inclusion of RMB counters under Southbound trading of Stock Connect Encourage Mainland and international investors to use RMB as the investment currency while incentivising more listed companies to set up RMB counters to further promote RMB internationalisation.

Table 2 Strengthening Hong Kong's Role as a Global Offshore RMB Business Hub (Cont'd.)

- | |
|---|
| <p>4. Promoting the advantages of Hong Kong's offshore RMB services to international markets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with the banking sector to actively deepen engagement with high-potential countries and regions, such as the Belt and Road Initiative partner countries and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries, so as to tap into emerging markets. |
| <p>5. Promoting the use of RMB for settling government expenditure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The HKSAR Government will take the lead in actively exploring and driving more settlement of government expenditures in RMB under suitable scenarios. |

2.4 We shall bolster Hong Kong's status as a world-leading cross-boundary wealth management centre. We will provide quality services for global sovereign wealth funds and family offices to develop their businesses in Hong Kong, and strengthen our city's functions in asset allocation and wealth management for Mainland and global investors. We aim to encourage more international and Mainland family capital and long-term capital to establish and expand their operations in Hong Kong through enhancing the regulatory and market infrastructure, enriching the professional services ecosystem, promoting the development of family offices, and enhancing the tax regimes for funds, single family offices, as well as carried interest. We are also committed to promoting the development of our fund market by diversifying the range of asset classes under management and product offerings, including diversified asset management instruments such as alternative asset funds and real estate investment trusts, thereby deepening and broadening our overall asset and wealth management capabilities.

2.5 We shall strengthen Hong Kong's role as an international risk management centre. We endeavour to deepen regulatory cooperation with the Mainland and overseas markets, and fully leverage our competitive edge in the international insurance, reinsurance, and capital markets to advance the synergised development of traditional insurance and non-traditional risk management tools. These will enable us to unleash the synergy effect of multi-layered risk transfer and pooling mechanisms through insurance-linked securities, captive insurers, and a marine specialty risk pool, consolidating our strategic role as a regional and global catastrophe and specialty risk management hub. In the meantime, we will strengthen the insurance industry's risk-based capital regime, promote the investment of insurance capital in infrastructure projects in Hong Kong and the Mainland, and enhance the industry's risk prevention and control capabilities as well as risk management culture.

Section 2 Enhance Equity and Bond Markets

2.6 We will continue to enhance the market regime design and product ecosystem for the equity and bond markets. We will enhance the markets in terms of depth, breadth, and liquidity to assist Mainland enterprises to go global and bring in international capital. We will play our part as the testing ground for the financial opening-up of our country, striving for a greater say and broader influence as an international financial centre.

2.7 We will enhance securities market efficiency. We will strive to enhance the competitiveness of our listing regime and operating efficiency of the securities market infrastructure, and support Mainland and overseas leading enterprises and quality enterprises from emerging industries to list in Hong Kong. Alongside other measures, the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited and the Qianhai Equity Exchange will deepen their collaboration and connect more quality Mainland enterprises to the international capital market through Hong Kong's listing platform with more efficient listing services. Through broadening the mutual access mechanism for financial markets, expanding emerging market fields, and leveraging our functions as an investment and financing platform, we will foster collaborations with the Belt and Road Initiative partner countries, the Global South, and other emerging economies in trade, finance, and infrastructure.

2.8 We will enhance our international bond market. With well-coordinated efforts, we will boost issuance in primary market, enhance liquidity in secondary market, expand offshore RMB business, and develop fixed income and currency infrastructure. Southbound Bond Connect will be refined to expand and enhance different aspects including investment scale, investor scope, products, and trading arrangements. We will encourage more Mainland institutions to invest in Hong Kong's bond market, expanding the channels and trading volumes in respect of Stock Connect, Bond Connect, Wealth Management Connect, and Private Equity Connect. We will develop a diverse range of financial products and risk management tools, while considering the establishment of a central counterparty for clearing repo transactions and enhancing the regulation of over-the-counter derivative products. We will also steadily regularise the issuance of digital Government bonds and enhance relevant legal framework and market infrastructure in order to promote the wider adoption of digital bonds. To expedite the commercialisation, internationalisation, and modernisation of the Central Moneymarkets Unit, and to enhance the connectivity and interoperability of the local central securities depositories for stocks and bonds, we will establish an electronic fixed income and currency trading platform catering for the local markets and RMB internationalisation and develop our Central Moneymarkets Unit into a leading central securities depository in the region.

2.9 We will strive to attract international financial institutions to establish regional headquarters or offices in Hong Kong and support them in anchoring regional bases in our city. We are staunchly committed to supporting multilateral development institutions such as the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in capitalising on Hong Kong's full-fledged capital market for project financing, bond issuance, investment, and financial management, and will actively support the needs of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank's office in Hong Kong. We will step up our efforts in nurturing and attracting international financial talent, while optimising professional qualification alignments and enhancing practical training and cross-boundary exchange mechanisms. These measures will serve to enrich our financial talent pool comprising professionals with international perspectives and expertise.

2.10 We will step up the development of financial institutions and the pursuit of international financial engagement and collaboration. We will undertake in-depth engagement in regional and global financial development. We will support major Mainland financial institutions in making use of Hong Kong as a platform to elevate their overall service quality, bringing in more capital investment, and setting up their international headquarters in our city for overseas business expansion. We will give full play to the role of Hong Kong offices of major Mainland financial institutions as the risk management centre and operational base for their parent groups, and serve as a springboard for Mainland banks and insurance companies, especially internationalised reinsurers, to expand into global markets. As for the Hong Kong offices of other Mainland financial institutions, our city will serve as a window for them to connect their operations to the international market given Hong Kong's position as the launchpad for Mainland enterprises to go global. We will organise premier financial events to deepen international exchange and practical collaboration.

2.11 We will facilitate company re-domiciliation to Hong Kong. We will channel well-capitalised, well-governed overseas enterprises with substantive operations, especially financial institutions, to re-domicile to Hong Kong in an orderly manner, enhancing the quality and soundness of Hong Kong-based financial entities.

Section 3 Develop a Commodity Trading Ecosystem

2.12 We shall develop a commodity trading ecosystem with gold as an entry point. Under our coordinated efforts, we will drive the development of the clearing system, storage, supply, and infrastructure related to gold trading to fully leverage the role of gold as a strategic asset, with a view to benchmarking other major international gold trading centres in the long run while developing hardware and software simultaneously. Along with expediting the development of infrastructure to provide efficient and reliable services for international-standards gold trading, to achieve capacity expansion, we will offer all-rounded support for more gold traders and financial institutions to establish their presence in Hong Kong. We will also increase the city's overall gold storage capacity and refining capability, step up training for local talent, and explore further preferential policies for enterprises related to the gold industry. Collaboration between the gold markets of Hong Kong and the Mainland will be deepened through a range of proactive initiatives to spearhead mutual market access and develop a one-stop gold storage, trading, clearing, and service hub, hence an integrated gold trading ecosystem. We will also explore the development of RMB-denominated gold and commodity markets, strengthen cooperation with Mainland exchanges including the Shanghai Gold Exchange and the Shanghai Futures Exchange, step up efforts to attract international investors, and increase the variety of RMB-denominated products.

2.13 We will coordinate efforts to achieve innovation and breakthroughs for commodity trading in the offshore RMB market. We will leverage Hong Kong's unique advantages as an approved delivery point within the London Metal Exchange's global warehousing network to drive the synergised development of more commodities-related trading, risk management, and financing businesses. We will also explore new channels to tap into the demand for other investment instruments, and develop an efficient and open commodity trading ecosystem, so as to further enrich the variety of RMB-denominated and -settled commodity futures and options traded in Hong Kong, while encouraging and supporting the use of RMB for pricing and settlement in spot commodity transactions. We will develop RMB-denominated commodity trading and pursue differentiated and complementary development with the Mainland market, including collaboration with the Qianhai Mercantile Exchange.

Section 4 Take Forward “Finance+” to Serve the Real Economy

2.14 On promoting “Finance + Technological Innovation”, we will promote patient capital and venture capital investments in technological and industry innovations. We will widen the financing channels to enhance the listing regime for technology enterprises. By facilitating the acceleration of fintech development, we will support the expansion and strengthening of financing services for I&T enterprises. Moving forward with digital finance, we comprehensively enhance financial institutions’ service efficiency as well as risk prevention and control capabilities, while exploring the in-depth application of digital finance infrastructure. As guided by the principle of “same activity, same risks, same regulation”, we will establish a world-leading licensing and regulatory regime for digital assets, thereby improving their liquidity and promoting market innovation. We will attract various financial resources into the technological innovation fields through market-oriented means, and strengthen the development of frontier technological research of post-secondary institutions, commercialisation and industrialisation of technological achievements, and emerging industries, providing whole life-cycle support for the commercialisation and transformation of scientific research outcomes. On “Finance + Trade”, we will focus on strengthening trade finance, supply chain finance, settlement and clearing, and risk management services, with a view to stepping up support for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and cross-border trade. As for “Finance + Green Development”, we will make a resolute push for the expedited development of green and sustainable finance. We will advance an international carbon market, with a view to contributing to our country’s low-carbon transition in key areas such as industries, transportation, and energy, while supporting green enterprises in going global in an orderly manner. To advance “Finance + Intellectual Property (IP)”, with the use of the IP Financing Sandbox, we will integrate IP into the financial services system in support of IP value transformation, further unleashing the potential of IP as a new economic development impetus. Regarding “Finance + Maritime”, to cater for the financing needs arising from the green transformation of the international maritime industry and align with the national strategy on commodity trading, we will help shipping enterprises diversify their financing channels and expand development frontiers. On “Finance + Livelihood”, financial inclusiveness will be further developed by extending the scope and accessibility of financial services and enhancing the financial services system that is available to all walks of life.

Table 3 Finance+**1. Finance + Technological Innovation**

- Set up an Innovation and Technology Industry-Oriented Fund with a provision of \$10 billion for five thematic areas covering life and health technology, AI and robotics, semi-conductors and smart devices, digitalisation, upgrading and transformation, as well as future and sustainable development. The fund size, expected to reach at least \$40 billion, will comprise contributions from the Government and the market at a ratio of 1 to at least 3.
- Roll out the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund Enhanced Scheme with a provision of up to \$2.5 billion for jointly setting up a matching fund with the market to invest in start-ups of strategic industries. At least \$7.5 billion of market capital is expected to be raised under the scheme.
- Spearhead co-investment in hard and core technology, biotechnology, new energy and green technology, and related applications through patient capital deployment by the wholly government-owned Hong Kong Investment Corporation Limited.
- Advance fintech development steadily across four pillars, namely, data and payment infrastructure, AI, resilience enhancement, and tokenisation of finance.
- Promote further practical applications regarding applying tokenisation technology across a diverse set of asset classes and use cases through the Project Ensemble launched by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority.
- Advance the development of emerging digital assets, such as the Central Bank Digital Currency, stablecoins, tokenised deposits, tokenised bonds and tokenised securities products in a rigorous manner.
- Deepen the application and expand the coverage of supervisory sandboxes in financial services to strike a dynamic balance between financial innovation and regulation.

2. Finance + Trade

- Continue to take forward Project Cargo^x to integrate the cargo and trade data platforms, facilitate trade document digitalisation and cross-border data exchange, and promote adoption of electronic authentication in the digitalisation of trade documents.
- Enhance tax concessions and other measures to boost our attractiveness to Mainland and overseas enterprises for setting up Corporate Treasury Centres in Hong Kong.

3. Finance + Green Development

- Advance the development of an international carbon market to channel funds into sustainable investment.
- Enhance our sustainable finance-related information disclosure framework and sustainable finance ecosystem to strengthen the market's capabilities and professional standards in relation to green finance and transition finance.
- Promote cross-border market collaboration and innovation to facilitate effective matching of green and sustainable projects with international capital, thereby contributing to the global sustainable development goals.

Table 3 Finance+ (Cont'd.)**4. Finance + IP**

- Strengthen financing support for innovative enterprises to better meet their practical needs in areas of capital operation, R&D, business expansion, etc.

5. Finance + Maritime

- Support the development of diversified products pertaining to maritime finance, insurance, trade financing, and value-added services.
- Support green and digital upgrading and transformation of the maritime industry, and foster the development of new energy vessels, clean energy transportation, and low-carbon operation models.
- Promote cross-border RMB settlement in the maritime industry.
- Support the expedited development of protection and indemnity clubs, and promote training in maritime insurance.

6. Finance + Livelihood

- Promote the enhancement and upgrading of the pension finance system and continue to diversify pension finance product offerings.
- Strive to facilitate the public and businesses by continuously upgrading Payment Connect.
- Provide strong support for the growth of SMEs, including strengthened financial support and financial incentives for digital transformation.

Section 5 Strengthen Financial Risk Prevention

2.15 We will safeguard our financial security, improve long-term mechanisms, and enhance our capabilities in financial risk monitoring, early warning, and prevention response. We will also improve the cross-market and cross-agency joint prevention and control mechanism. In the meantime, we will strengthen our risk monitoring in key areas, while enhancing financial infrastructure and the data security protection system, thereby fortifying cybersecurity and consolidating our capabilities in fintech regulation and anti-money laundering.

Chapter 7 International Maritime Centre and Aviation Hub

2.16 To consolidate and enhance Hong Kong's status as an international maritime centre, we will stabilise our container throughput, add value, and strengthen synergy. Guided by the shift of focus from volume-based to value-driven development, we will drive a "volume to value" transformation of the Hong Kong Port. We will strive to facilitate the development of modern maritime services, build a diversified and resilient system of international transportation corridors, promote the healthy and orderly development of international air freight and low-altitude economy (LAE), and expedite the implementation of sea-air intermodal transshipment. With these efforts, we are committed to comprehensively enhancing Hong Kong's function as a hub amid the modern transport network of our country.

Section 1 Advance the Digitalisation, Smart Transition, and Green Transformation of Hong Kong's Maritime Industry

2.17 We will promote the development of a smart and green port, and enhance the interconnection of logistics data. We will strive to lead port operators to expedite smart transition of the Kwai Tsing Container Terminals. With our efforts to continuously unleash the development potential of the Port Community System for in-depth integration with the Global Shipping Business Network, we endeavour to provide one-stop sea-, land-, and air-logistics and supply chain data, as well as value-added services such as One-Data-Multiple-Declarations for local logistics and trading companies. We will expedite the development of a green maritime fuel bunkering and trading centre while also deepening our collaboration with the Pan-Pearl River Delta cities to develop Hong Kong-centric green energy corridors, and study the co-development of a complete green and low-carbon industrial chain and supply chain for new energy vessels, with a view to creating a new model of "production, storage, and transport in South China; bunkering and trading in Hong Kong; servicing global shipping" for the establishment of an end-to-end low-carbon regional green maritime fuel supply chain system.

Table 4 Advancing the Green Transformation of the Maritime Industry

1. Proportion of green maritime fuel used The proportion of Hong Kong-registered vessels taking up green maritime fuels reaches 7% in 2030.
2. Reducing carbon emissions Reduce carbon emissions from the Kwai Tsing Container Terminals by 30% in 2030 as compared to 2021.
3. Establishing Green Energy Corridors Establish five Green Energy Corridors by 2030 to help develop Hong Kong into a green maritime fuel bunkering and trading centre.

2.18 We will promote high-quality collaborative development among ports and deepen cooperation with Mainland and international shipping ports. We will strengthen our status as an international transshipment hub and strive to integrate into the country's logistics hub network, thereby contributing to the country's efforts in increasing its competitiveness and influence in the international shipping landscape. Through cooperation and leveraging the complementary advantages of the Southeast Asia routes of both ports, Hong Kong and Yangpu Ports can establish a "dual-hub" model, which will facilitate the export of cargoes through either port. By making good use of the comparative advantages that Hong Kong enjoys in terms of Central and South America routes, we will collaborate with national key cold chain logistics bases in other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities to develop Hong Kong into an international centre of cold chain trade in South China, thereby contributing to the country's development of an international cold chain logistics corridor between South China and South America. We will continue to develop a comprehensive "rail-sea-land-river" intermodal transport system. By pursuing cross-province operation of and licensing regime reform for cross-boundary goods vehicles, as well as the mutual recognition of commercial vehicle driving licences issued by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, we strive to reduce the cost of cargo transshipment via Hong Kong and achieve the goal of stabilising container throughput.

Table 5 Promoting High-Quality Collaborative Development among Ports

1. **Continuous development of a comprehensive “rail-sea-land-river” intermodal transport system**
 - Expand cargo sources, develop Hong Kong Port into a transshipment hub for high-value goods, and expand our footprint in new markets, such as Central and South America and Oceania, etc. Explore the establishment of a business and trading zone for re-export to facilitate the flow of goods transhipped via Hong Kong within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. By driving the formulation of management guidelines and standards for high value-added logistics services in collaboration with other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities, a cluster of international integrated transport and logistics hubs in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area will be developed in a coordinated manner. Explore innovations in financial and insurance services for “single cargo manifest” based on multimodal transport documents.
2. **In-depth participation in the development of a world-class port cluster in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area**
 - Promote the successful experience of the differentiated development of Hong Kong’s Kwai Tsing Port and Shenzhen’s Yantian Port to encourage the differentiated development and effective collaboration between Hong Kong and other ports in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to achieve synergy effect, and attract goods to be shipped between Central and South America and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to be centrally handled in Hong Kong. Revitalise the feeder network between Hong Kong and other ports within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. Commence international maritime collaboration and port cooperation with Shenzhen and Huizhou to explore new modes of transportation for the Hong Kong-Shenzhen cross-boundary container cargoes as well as the river-sea through cargo operation on specific routes.
3. **Active participation in the scenario incubation for the development of a smart and green logistics model using “water-to-water transshipment”⁵**
 - Create a favourable operating environment for the use of autonomous ships in Hong Kong and the entire Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, thereby promoting maritime digitalisation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

5 It refers to an intermodal transshipment mode in which import and export goods are wholly or partially transported and transhipped using water transportation service, such as river transport and river-sea transshipment.

Section 2 Develop a High Value-added Maritime Services Ecosystem

2.19 We will strengthen high value-added maritime services. By further enhancing Hong Kong's ship registration regime, we aim to enhance Hong Kong's competitiveness as a premier registry for international shipowners and attract more vessels to register in Hong Kong, thus broadening the scale of the Hong Kong-registered fleet. We will also uphold quality enhancement as the major direction to support the upgrading and development of the high value-added maritime services cluster, while fully leveraging Hong Kong's strengths in maritime services such as ship management, ship financing, marine insurance, maritime arbitration services, etc. We will assist enterprises from the Belt and Road Initiative partner countries in developing the Mainland and Asian markets. Through driving industry stakeholders and training institutions to collaborate in further developing a systematic training framework that consolidates existing resources and professional strengths, we seek to build a stable talent pool for the high value-added maritime services.

Table 6 Elevating the International Reputation and Competitiveness of Hong Kong's High Value-added Maritime Services

- 1. Implementing the half-rate tax concession for commodity trading**
 - Implement the half-rate tax concession for commodity trading to incentivise Mainland and international commodity traders to set up international/regional headquarters or operational centres in Hong Kong, as a supportive measure for creating a thriving commodity trading ecosystem and spurring the demand for high value-added maritime services.
- 2. Establishing collaboration mechanism with Mainland maritime training institutions**
 - Establish a regular collaboration mechanism with Mainland maritime training institutions to foster exchanges, cooperation opportunities, and mutual visits between local and overseas professional teaching personnel, while encouraging local maritime enterprises and industry organisations to join the collaboration mechanism to further enrich Hong Kong's pool of maritime service talent, advancing the sustainable development of high value-added maritime services of our city. Engage Mainland maritime educational institutions to jointly provide education services with a view to establishing a top-tier composite system for nurturing maritime talent.

Table 6 Elevating the International Reputation and Competitiveness of Hong Kong's High Value-added Maritime Services (Cont'd.)

3. Supporting the Advanced Maritime Technology Institute in establishing presence in Hong Kong

- Support the Institute in establishing a R&D and collaboration platform in Hong Kong on R&D in frontier and disruptive technologies relevant to the critical segments of the maritime industry chain. Enhance industry-academia-research collaboration with scientific research institutes and technology enterprises to foster the transformation and commercialisation of R&D outcomes, contributing to Hong Kong's development into a "Global Maritime Capital".

4. Reforming the Hong Kong ship registration regime

- Revamp the Hong Kong ship registration regime by permitting arrangements such as dual registration and continuously exploring improvement measures. Support the enhanced access to the Mainland market by Hong Kong-registered vessels. Step up promotion efforts locally and overseas and implement various incentive schemes to attract more shipowners to register their vessels in Hong Kong.

5. Leveraging the strategic collaboration established through the partner port initiative

- Make use of the strategic relationships forged through partner ports to assist enterprises of the Belt and Road Initiative partner countries to tap into the Mainland and Asian markets.

Section 3 Enhance Hong Kong’s Status as an International Aviation Hub

2.20 We will strive to enhance Hong Kong’s competitive edge as an international aviation hub by continuously launching new routes, strategically attracting local and non-local airlines to develop new destinations and increase flight frequencies, and strengthening Hong Kong’s long-haul network, particularly connections with the Belt and Road Initiative partner countries. We will also deepen international cooperation by actively participating in international civil aviation conferences and proactively reach out to aviation partners to negotiate new air services agreements or expansion of traffic rights, with priority focus on regions with further development potential and new growth areas, such as South America, Central Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. We will press ahead with the development of the “Airport City” to drive high-end commercial and tourism activities, and to strengthen the appeal of the Hong Kong International Airport as a transit hub.

Table 7	Development of the International Aviation Hub
Expanding the international air network • Explore with 10 or more aviation partners each year between 2026 and 2030 the strengthening of civil aviation links, at least 40% of which will be the Belt and Road Initiative partner countries. • Increase the global destinations of the Hong Kong International Airport from 220 to 240 within five years.	

2.21 We will deeply engage in the development of the national aviation network. Building on the existing highly internationalised network, we will proactively align with the national aviation network development strategy by fully leveraging Hong Kong’s advantages of connecting the Mainland and the world, and actively integrating into the country’s “one circle, six corridors, and five channels” development⁶. In doing so, we will support and serve our country in enhancing the global reach of the aviation network to strengthen the resilience and connectivity of the national aviation network as a whole, allowing us to be better prepared for the reshaping of the global aviation network landscape. We will strengthen cooperation with the airport cluster in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area in terms of operational coordination, airspace optimisation, intermodal arrangement, and other aspects. By promoting resource sharing and complementary functions within the airport cluster, we will enhance our overall operational efficiency and service quality, thereby boosting the global competitiveness of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area airport cluster.

Table 8 Active Integration Into the National Aviation Development Strategy of “Trunk-Branch Connectivity, Whole-Network Linkage”

Introducing more flights connecting Mainland airports

- Encourage local airlines to launch more flights connecting Mainland airports. By means of intermodal arrangements and code sharing, airlines can expand their customer base and network coverage. With the core idea of “Linking the Trunk and Branch, Connecting Urban and Remote” being embodied by through check-in flights and convenient transit services, enhance the connectivity between Mainland cities and international destinations via Hong Kong’s network as an international aviation hub, so as to realise the two-way convergence of domestic and international dual-circulation.

⁶ It refers to deepening the development of Southeast Asia and Northeast Asia markets and steadily expanding into the West Asia, Central Asia, and South Asia markets to construct an aviation transport network with the neighbouring countries, with a view to boosting the capacity for the international market. An orderly approach will be adopted in enhancing the air route network connectivity of the six major economic corridors established under the Belt and Road Initiative for international cooperation, namely the new Eurasian Land Bridge and China-Mongolia-Russia, China-Central Asia-West Asia, China-Indochina Peninsula, China-Pakistan, and Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar economic corridors. Furthermore, it seeks to establish five major aviation transport channels connecting regions such as Europe, North America, Latin America, the South Pacific, the Indian Ocean, and Africa, thereby expanding overall network coverage.

Section 4 Develop a New Ecosystem for the Aviation Industry

2.22 We shall develop an aviation industry ecosystem with a global edge. We will strive to develop an aircraft parts processing and trading industry ecosystem to establish a “front shop, back factory” industry cluster and Asia’s first aircraft parts processing and trading centre. We will actively participate in the R&D and certification of home-developed aircraft and leverage our bridging role to help home-developed aircraft tap into the global market through Hong Kong. By leveraging Hong Kong’s Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) production base in Dongguan, we will advance SAF value chain development in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (including the construction of an SAF blending facility in Hong Kong), thereby supporting our country’s SAF development.

Table 9 Developing an Aviation Industry Ecosystem with a Global Edge	
Facilitating SAF industry development • Develop an internationally competitive SAF value chain. Establish a Hong Kong SAF value chain in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to jointly develop a demonstration project in the circular economy, with a view to fostering the growth of new energy industry in the aviation sector and nurturing the SAF industry into a globally competitive green industry. The production base is expected to commence operation by 2030. • Achieve an SAF consumption ratio of 1% to 3% for flights departing from the Hong Kong International Airport in 2030.	

2.23 We shall develop Hong Kong into the Asia-Pacific hub for innovative low-altitude applications. We will formulate and implement the Action Plan on Developing Low-Altitude Economy. We will enhance the regulatory regime, set standards, and develop infrastructure, while proactively enhancing R&D, talent nurturing and alignment with international standards in LAE-related fields. We will give full play to our roles as a leader, connector, and illustrator and explore developing a demonstration and compliance base for LAE to go global, on the basis of strengthening effective alignment with the Mainland’s regulatory framework. We will also study jointly advocating for the establishment of an international LAE cooperation organisation with the Mainland.

2.24 We will advance the development of cross-boundary low-altitude logistics in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. By fully leveraging the industry foundation and geographical advantages of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and drawing on our pioneering explorative experiences of collaboration with neighbouring Mainland cities in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, we will strive to connect the key resources in Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao to broaden application scenarios for cross-boundary low-altitude logistics in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, thereby expediting the development of an integrated and scaled cross-boundary low-altitude logistics network covering the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

Table 10 Developing an LAE Ecosystem

1. Improving civil aviation legislation, relevant standards, and regulatory framework • Formulate relevant legislation for unconventional aircraft weighing over 150 kilograms. Having consolidated the implementation experience of the first batch of LAE “Regulatory Sandbox” projects, regularise the more mature projects, and formulate relevant standards. • Promote compatibility between Mainland and Hong Kong LAE-related standards. • Leverage Hong Kong’s status in international organisations such as the International Civil Aviation Organization and the World Meteorological Organization, etc., to proactively support the country’s participation in the formulation of international LAE standards.
2. Advancing the development of LAE infrastructure facilities • Plan ahead for vertiports, air route networks, satellite positioning, three-dimensional spatial data systems, and a smart low-altitude traffic management system, etc.
3. Rolling out the advanced LAE Regulatory Sandbox ㄨ • Test application scenarios that are more technically complex, such as cross-boundary routes, low-altitude passenger-carrying aircraft, unmanned aircraft system traffic management system, and multiple applications/users shared-platforms. Support collaboration with other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities to promote the development of cross-boundary low-altitude logistics activities.
4. Supporting R&D and talent development • Continue to support LAE-related R&D and talent development. Support local institutions and aviation training institutes to further enhance training for various LAE professional talent in the fields of technological research, product development, system design, safety oversight, aircraft piloting, and commercial operation, etc.

Table 10 Developing an LAE Ecosystem (Cont'd.)

- 5. Supporting the organisation of regional and international LAE trade fairs and exploring the establishment of a demonstration zone for LAE products to go global**
 - Attract more buyers from around the world to visit Hong Kong by fully leveraging Hong Kong's status as international financial and trade centres as well as a free port, and providing one-stop support services for LAE import and export trades in areas such as project financing, export credit insurance, and after-sale service, etc.

2.25 We will strive to enhance the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area's intermodal network. We will focus on advancing the development of the Hong Kong International Airport Dongguan Logistics Park, expediting smart and integrated collaboration for airport operations. We will also develop more intermodal transport models, continuously enhance the "Fly-Via-Zhuhai-Hong Kong" initiative⁷, and enhance the convenience for the transport of passengers and goods in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to and from all around the world. With a view to strengthening the Hong Kong International Airport's connectivity with other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities, we will leverage the "sea-air intermodal cargo transshipment mode" at the Hong Kong International Airport Dongguan Logistics Park to enhance the connectivity of the two places, facilitate cargo flow, and strengthen the collaboration between aviation logistics and e-commerce.

2.26 We will strive to take the lead in the interactive development mode that harnesses the complementary strengths of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area airport cluster. We will promote the integrated development of aviation and maritime sectors between Guangdong and Hong Kong, explore cooperation with the airports of Macao and Shenzhen to facilitate collaborative airspace management, and optimise air routes, thereby improving flight efficiency and capacity as well as strengthening cooperation in cargo, maintenance, and training.

⁷ The "Fly-Via-Zhuhai-Hong Kong" passenger service allows Mainland and international travellers to travel between Zhuhai and Hong Kong via the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge using an "air-land-air" model, connecting Mainland and the rest of the world through Zhuhai Airport and the Hong Kong International Airport.

Table 11 Optimising the Intermodal Network of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

1. The Hong Kong International Airport Dongguan Logistics Park • Advance the Dongguan Logistics Park project to enhance the connectivity between Hong Kong and Dongguan and facilitate the cargo flow between the two places under the sea-air intermodal cargo transshipment mode.
2. Developing more intermodal modes • Continue to enhance the international connecting flight transit provided through the Fly-Via-Zhuhai-HK service and the “air-land-air” mode, the “land-air” mode, and “sea-air” mode as well as air-rail intermodal transport services while developing more intermodal modes to bolster connectivity between the Hong Kong International Airport and other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities as well as other Mainland cities.
3. Cooperation with the Macao International Airport in further optimising passenger flow • Leverage the sea-air intermodal services provided at the Skypier Terminal and the dedicated bus service between the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Port and the Hong Kong International Airport (the bonded bus), etc. to enhance service efficiency.
4. The world-class airport cluster in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area • Explore the possibility of further deepening the collaboration among the world-class airport cluster in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. • Support the efforts of the Pearl River Delta Region Air Traffic Management Planning and Implementation Tripartite Working Group to enhance the peripheral flight paths and airspace structure of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and create a more flexible air traffic control model through enhanced data sharing and the application of new technology, thereby enhancing the efficiency in managing the air traffic flow in the region.

Chapter 8 International Trade Centre

2.27 We shall consolidate and enhance Hong Kong's status as an international trade centre. We will expand our networks, enhance our competitive edge, and create new room for growth, while pursuing upgrades with the goal of achieving "digitalisation" and "diversification" and leveraging Hong Kong's advantages as financial and treasury centres, thereby strengthening our role as a platform for offshore trade. We will encourage manufacturing, technology, and logistics enterprises to engage in high value-added activities such as taking international orders, conducting foreign exchange, trade finance, and supply chain management, etc. through Hong Kong, so as to develop our city into an integral hub serving the global industry and supply chains. We will bring together global enterprises to participate in high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, while reaching out to markets around the world, so as to enhance Hong Kong's resilience and strategic significance as an international trade centre.

Section 1 Continue to Expand International Economic and Trade Network

2.28 We will continue to uphold free trade, maintain zero custom tariff, and support the rules-based multilateral trading system in order to provide a business environment with transparency and high degree of certainty for our trading partners. We will continue to consolidate our ties with the European and American markets, further cultivate the ASEAN and Middle East markets, while exploring emerging markets such as Central Asia and Africa. We will actively forge free trade agreements and investment agreements with economies that are of development potential or strategic locations, and continue to seek accession to the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership as early as possible, with a view to further expanding Hong Kong's "circle of friends" in trade. In the meantime, we will secure better overseas market access and investment protection for Hong Kong's trade in goods and services. These efforts will enhance two-way investment flows and promote the further development of Hong Kong's economy.

2.29 We will continue to expand our network of overseas offices, focusing on economies which have high growth potential and are under strategic partnership with Hong Kong. Coupled with the overseas networks of the Economic and Trade Offices of the HKSAR Government, Invest Hong Kong, and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, we will deepen external ties and step up efforts in economic and trade promotion. We will proactively engage foreign governments, organisations, and enterprises in regular exchanges to promote Hong Kong's unique advantages. By deepening cooperation with various markets, we aim to attract more overseas enterprises to venture into the Greater China and Asia-Pacific markets through Hong Kong, thereby bringing in overseas capital, enterprises, and talent.

2.30 We will step up efforts in attracting businesses and investment, and guide industry development at full steam. For guiding industry development, we will adopt preferential policies for industry and investment. We will speed up the attraction of industry leaders and various enterprises to establish regional or international headquarters and treasury centres in Hong Kong for managing offshore trade and supply chains. We will also target long-term capital from the Middle East, ASEAN, as well as Europe and America to further strengthen Hong Kong's headquarters economy and promote family offices in Hong Kong. Focusing on key industries in the I&T field such as AI, digital economy, life and health, new industrialisation, and green development, etc., we will draw up a list of target enterprises and an annual action plan for attracting businesses and investment. We will also enhance the mechanisms for cross-departmental coordination and project implementation, so as to provide project-based services for enterprises, while strengthening the one-stop coordination service in land, planning, immigration clearance, talent, and regulatory matters for key investment projects.

Section 2 Develop a High Value-added Supply Chain Services Centre

2.31 We will enhance Hong Kong's function as a platform for going global. Leveraging Hong Kong's advantages in internationalisation and its network, the Task Force on Supporting Mainland Enterprises in Going Global (GoGlobal Task Force) set up by the HKSAR Government in 2025 has successfully led Mainland enterprises to make use of Hong Kong as a platform to expand their business overseas. The GoGlobal Task Force will continue to expand and consolidate the functions of the Economic and Trade Offices in the Mainland and overseas, Invest Hong Kong, and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, with a view to echoing with our country's plan to improve the comprehensive overseas services system and guide Mainland enterprises to set up their cross-border industry and supply chains in a reasonable and orderly manner, thereby supporting them in tapping into international markets and taking part in the global industry, supply, and value chains. We will enhance the standard of comprehensive overseas services, providing one-stop, high-quality, and high value-added professional corporate services for Mainland enterprises going global. We will deepen exchanges and cooperation with relevant Mainland authorities and business organisations to support Mainland enterprises in establishing presence and expanding business overseas, and speed up efforts of the GoGlobal Task Force at comprehensive overseas service points. We will build an integrated ecosystem covering core functions such as overseas market analysis, risk management, legal and dispute resolution services, international branding, supply chain collaboration and enhancement, as well as cross-border financing to assist enterprises in effectively addressing global market challenges.

2.32 We will coordinate efforts among various service sectors, including finance, legal and dispute resolution, accounting, logistics, insurance, testing and certification, etc., to establish a two-way service platform that enables overseas enterprises to enter the Mainland market and Mainland enterprises to go global through Hong Kong. Leveraging Hong Kong's advantage as an international financial centre, we will assist enterprises in getting listed in Hong Kong and provide cross-border trade finance and risk management. With advantages including a common law system that is aligned with international standards, strengthening of the functions of the International Organization for Mediation's headquarters, and our international legal talent, we will offer contract management as well as cross-border legal and dispute resolution services, thereby safeguarding the interests of enterprises against international trade frictions when they expand overseas. We will enhance the standards for testing and international certification for Mainland enterprises and brands, thereby enhancing industry quality, building a strong international image, and fostering the globalisation of brands.

2.33 We will enhance the two-way platform function of the convention and exhibition industry. By fully leveraging the "international showroom" function of Hong Kong's convention and exhibition industry and its edge in brand building, we will focus on attracting more large-scale international exhibition events and trade fairs to be staged in Hong Kong. We will support the inclusion of eligible Hong Kong quality brands in the list of China's leading consumer brands, foster in-depth collaboration among Mainland and Hong Kong enterprises in such areas as brand cultivation, R&D and design, supply chain management, global marketing, etc., and enhance the "Mainland production + Hong Kong services" model for going global, with a view to providing the necessary platform for Mainland enterprises to tap into international markets and supporting well-known Mainland brands to venture into the global scene. Meanwhile, we will attract overseas enterprises to introduce quality products and services into the Mainland market using Hong Kong as a platform for international exhibitions and a springboard for trade. We shall make use of our unique advantages as a two-way platform to further develop and consolidate Hong Kong's status as an international convention and exhibition hub.

Section 3 Continue to Pursue the Comprehensive Upgrade of the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA)

2.34 We will continue to deepen liberalisation under CEPA. We will actively drive the continuous expansion of liberalisation measures under CEPA and deepen cooperation with Mainland service sectors. By leveraging CEPA liberalisation measures, we will continue to strive for further expansion of the Mainland market access and liberalised areas to achieve a higher level of liberalisation in service sectors where Hong Kong enjoys competitive advantages, including the application of national treatment for Hong Kong service suppliers outside the negative list and the improvement of the liberalisation commitments of the Mainland on cross-boundary trade in services under the negative list approach, as well as the promotion of mutual recognition of rules and standards in areas such as trade, investment, finance, IP, and digital governance, etc. We will further introduce the quality professional services of Hong Kong into the Mainland market to facilitate the high-quality development of Mainland service sectors, thereby leveraging Hong Kong's strengths to serve the country's needs and injecting great impetus into the long-term development of our economy.

2.35 Under the CEPA framework, we will seek to align with advanced international economic and trade rules, and adopt an "early and pilot implementation" approach in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to achieve a higher level of liberalisation.

Section 4 Promote the Growth of Digital Trade and Other Emerging Business Models at Full Steam

2.36 We will actively develop digital trade to expedite the digitalisation of trade documents. In addition to promoting the import and export of digital technology, products, and services (including token), we will enhance the data services industry chain, explore facilitation arrangements for cross-boundary data flow within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and actively participate in international governance of digital trade. We will progressively roll out Phase 3 services of the Trade Single Window and promote connectivity with the single windows of the Mainland and other economies to strengthen regional cooperation in digital trade. We will also connect the Trade Single Window with the Commercial Data Interchange of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority to, facilitate banks' access to relevant commercial data for trade finance assessments, helping enterprises reduce financing costs and improve cash flow. We will also facilitate digitalisation of business-to-business trade documents by introducing local legislative amendments, allowing the industry to develop technical solutions that suit their actual needs.

2.37 We will actively develop cross-border e-commerce to fully leverage Hong Kong's unique advantages as an international trading and logistics hub, encouraging brands to go global. We will promote the upgrading, restructuring, and digital transformation of SMEs, as well as their application of emerging technologies by providing flexible funding support, capacity building, training, assistance in promotion, etc. In the meantime, we will encourage SMEs to develop e-commerce supply chains through Hong Kong's cross-border e-commerce networks connecting the Mainland and the world, and leverage platform data analysis to refine their product strategies and marketing campaigns. With such efforts, more targeted resource deployment, enhanced operational efficiency, and market competitiveness can be achieved, and enterprises' capabilities in, among others, e-commerce operations and brand development will be strengthened.

Chapter 9 International Innovation and Technology Centre and International Hub for High-calibre Talent

2.38 We will, on our foundation of being home to five higher education institutions ranked among the world's top 100, focus on international frontier technology fields and strengthen our basic scientific research capabilities in original innovation, with a view to building a robust foundation for developing Hong Kong into an international I&T centre on all fronts. We will actively advance the development of the three major I&T parks under the "north-central-south" spatial layout as well as the five key R&D institutions, so as to establish a global industry-academia-research collaborative innovation platform, and develop Hong Kong into an internationally competitive advanced R&D centre and pilot production and transformation base for technology industries. We will also bring together global top talent and scientific research resources to actively promote the development of new industrialisation system with Hong Kong character, strengthening emerging industries, while planning for future industries. We will also develop Hong Kong into a health and medical innovation hub with global influence. We will basically have established an international I&T centre based in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, serving the entire country and connected to the world, after 2030, giving rise to a new system and new paradigm for I&T development where enterprises will be the key players, "unicorns"⁸ will be the lead, and modern finance will empower the integrated development of technological and industry innovation, bringing into full play the strengths of world-class institutions in scientific research.

Section 1 Enhance the Institutional Framework for Innovation and Technology Development

2.39 We will expedite the alignment with key national strategies in technology. Targeting the country's strategic technology areas, we will focus on core technologies such as life and health, AI and robotics, microelectronics, new energy, advanced manufacturing and new materials, etc. We will take forward the setup of major scientific research platforms at the national and regional levels, with a view to achieving greater scientific breakthroughs in core technologies, as well as in areas pertaining to the core needs of the country, while bringing in relevant enterprises and facilitating their development in Hong Kong. We will continue to raise the ratio of Total Domestic Expenditure on Innovation Activities to GDP, striving to reach 3% after 2030. We will continue to enhance the Mainland-Hong Kong Technology Cooperation Funding Scheme to strengthen collaboration between the Mainland and Hong Kong in scientific research and making technological breakthroughs. We will consolidate, enhance, and fully leverage the "dual base" advantage presented by the State Key Laboratories in Hong Kong and the InnoHK Research Clusters (InnoHK), and support these State Key Laboratories in conducting basic and applied research in line with the core needs of the country.

8 "Unicorns" refer to "Unicorn companies", i.e. start-ups with market valuation over US\$ 1 billion before listing.

Table 12 Developing Major Technology Projects

1. Expanding global scientific research collaborations continuously and attracting high-calibre international talent through InnoHK

- Optimise three research clusters under InnoHK covering key areas, with respective focus on life and health technologies, AI and robotics technologies, as well as sustainable development, energy, advanced manufacturing and materials, thereby increasing the overall scale and magnitude of R&D investment, and strengthening capabilities in basic and scientific research.
- In the area of life and health technologies, support will focus on drug development, molecular diagnostics, bioengineering, vaccine R&D, and medical devices, with a view to establishing a comprehensive chain from basic research to clinical translation.
- In the area of AI and robotics technologies, support will focus on robotics, intelligent systems, AI applications, AI-driven advanced manufacturing and construction, with a focus on promoting the development of future industries such as embodied intelligence.
- In the areas of sustainable development, energy, advanced manufacturing and materials, support will be given to the advancement of sustainable energy and energy storage technologies, with a focus on novel functional materials. Together with intelligent systems and advanced manufacturing technologies, these initiatives will empower future growth.

2. Fostering wider application with respect to areas such as quantum technology, aerospace technology, and ocean exploration, etc.

- Actively explore the development of new technology areas, including quantum technology, aerospace technology, and ocean exploration, etc., with planning focusing on new R&D capabilities.

3. Conducting research on high precision weather prediction model

- Develop a meteorological monitoring data platform for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area in the Hong Kong Park of the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone to facilitate data interconnectivity and sharing of outcomes.

4. Expanding the microelectronics industry chain at full steam

- In addition to establishing the Hong Kong Microelectronics Research and Development Institute, actively press ahead with the establishment of the first national manufacturing innovation centre in Hong Kong. By leveraging Hong Kong's advantages, aim to bring together resources from both overseas and the Mainland, contributing to the country's efforts in achieving a leading position in the strategic field of power semiconductors. Building on its existing foundation, the Microelectronics Research and Development Institute will take the lead in operating the innovation centre at the Microelectronics Centre building, with the target of establishing this innovation centre by 2027.

2.40 We will leverage the role of universities as the source of basic research, and major scientific and technological breakthroughs, and fully capitalise on our resources with comparative advantages such as the State Key Laboratories in Hong Kong and the InnoHK research clusters so as to improve systemic innovation capabilities. We will encourage joint efforts in making breakthroughs in core and frontier technologies, in a bid to enhance the overall efficacy of the innovation system. In the meantime, we will enhance the mechanism for identifying, selecting, and nurturing innovation talent, better support the development of technology talent (young people in particular), and accelerate the development of a strategic technology talent pool.

2.41 We will reinforce the role of enterprises as innovation entities. Through relevant funding schemes and funds, we will continue to channel social capital into strategic emerging industries and future industries, with a view to nurturing I&T enterprises with a global edge and providing staunch support for the development of new industrialisation. In the meantime, we will encourage enterprises to give full play to their role as innovation entities by increasing R&D investment, so as to promote in-depth industry-academia-research integration, and expedite transformation of R&D outcomes as well as industrialised production. We will also support enterprises in establishing R&D centres, pilot production facilities, and bases for mass production, which will help closely link up the key segments of the innovation chain from R&D and testing to application and hitting the market, enhancing the synergised development across the industry, innovation, and supply chains.

Section 2 Develop the New “Three Major Innovation and Technology Parks and Five Key Research and Development Institutions” Paradigm

2.42 We will advance the development of the three major I&T parks, i.e. the Hong Kong Park of the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone (the Loop Hong Kong Park) and San Tin Technopole, the Science Park, and Cyberport. We will pursue the high-quality development of the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone under the vision of “one river, two banks” and “one zone, two parks” by promoting cross-boundary flow of innovation factors between the Shenzhen Park and the Hong Kong Park, as well as facilitating the clustering of scientific research institutes, I&T enterprises, and professional service sectors within the zone. A highly efficient mechanism for synergised innovation between the Hong Kong Park and the Shenzhen Park will basically be established by 2030, paving way for moving steadily towards the ultimate goal of developing a world-class I&T hub. Together with Cyberport to the south focusing on digital technology (such as AI, cybersecurity, blockchain, and fintech, etc.) and the Science Park in the central part of Hong Kong focusing on hard and core technology (such as life and health, and advanced manufacturing, etc.) and enterprise incubation, these three major I&T parks will form the “north-central-south” development paradigm in Hong Kong.

Table 13 Development of the Loop Hong Kong Park and San Tin Technopole

- 1. Pursuing the high-quality development of the Loop Hong Kong Park (87 hectares)**
 - Advance the development of the Loop Hong Kong Park in accordance with four major directions, namely, to build a world-class industry-academia-research platform; to establish an R&D transformation and pilot production base with a global edge for industries; to foster a hub for pooling global I&T resources; and to cultivate a testing ground for institutional and policy innovation.
 - Make the Loop Hong Kong Park a “special zone within our country but outside the Mainland”, and facilitate the cross-boundary flow of the four innovation factors, i.e. personnel, materials, capital and data.
- 2. Implementing the Conceptual Outline of the Development Plan for the I&T Industry in San Tin Technopole (210 hectares)**
 - Foster synergised development between San Tin Technopole and the Loop Hong Kong Park at the upstream, midstream, and downstream levels, so that the two will jointly create a comprehensive industry ecosystem with economies of scale. While the Loop Hong Kong Park focuses on R&D, transformation, and pilot production at the upstream and midstream levels, San Tin Technopole aims to accelerate the transformation of R&D outcomes, providing downstream industry capacity for prototyping, pilot, and mass production, transforming and industrialising the R&D outcomes of the Loop Hong Kong Park, while integrating with the comprehensive industry supply chains in other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities.
 - Establish the San Tin Technopole Company Limited to develop the site by phase, which will be divided and developed into three development hubs (i.e. the Hetao Hub, Chau Tau Hub, and Ki Lun Hub) and three industry development corridors (i.e. the life and health technology corridor, AI and robotics corridor, and microelectronics and advanced industry corridor).

2.43 We will advance the development of five key R&D institutions (i.e. the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC), the Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute (ASTRI), the Hong Kong Microelectronics Research and Development Institute (MRDI), the Hong Kong Artificial Intelligence Research and Development Institute (AIRDI) and the Life and Health Technology Research Institute (LHTRI)) to enhance Hong Kong's public research system and the efficacy of our I&T framework. Building on the solid foundation laid over the years by the HKPC, which focuses on the upgrading and transformation of enterprises and supports the promotion of new industrialisation, and the ASTRI, which concentrates on the fields of advanced communication technologies, intelligent perception, and smart city, we have identified core areas of strategic frontier technologies in our country and Hong Kong for establishing three high-quality R&D institutions, namely the MRDI, the AIRDI, and the LHTRI, so as to consolidate and enhance our capacity in scientific research.

Table 14 R&D Institutions under the New Layout

1. The LHTRI

- The LHTRI Headquarters focuses on "AI + life science". In the meantime, subsidise three LHTRI branches led by local universities to pursue key research directions aligned with their respective research strengths, such as advanced diagnostic technologies, new-generation prevention technologies and therapeutics, and aging-related diseases, etc.

2. The AIRDI

- The AIRDI will drive breakthroughs in AI frontier technologies and conduct research on key core technologies, thereby promoting original innovation and research output in the AI field, as well as propelling the transformation of Hong Kong's research outcomes locally and in the Mainland to enable sharing of industry benefits. Also, it will advocate the formulation of internationally-aligned rules for AI governance, and promote the application of AI technology in different fields, such as finance, trade and logistics, professional services, and healthcare, etc.

3. The MRDI

- Equipped with pilot lines for R&D and trial production of semiconductors to support product development and trial production.
- The Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation will continue to expand the Microelectronics Centre through refurbishing old factory buildings, so as to make available an additional floor area of about 7 500 square metres for attracting and supporting enterprises in the semiconductor industry chain to establish presence in the park.

Section 3 Advance New Industrialisation and Expedite Innovation and Technology Industry Development

2.44 We will promote new industrialisation having regard to local circumstances, with a view to establishing a framework with Hong Kong character for the development of new industrialisation system with reference to our strengths in I&T and the market demand. Major measures include fostering the upgrading and transformation of traditional industries by making use of I&T, developing and strengthening emerging industries of strategic value, planning for future industries, and better developing producer services.

2.45 In terms of implementation strategies, for traditional industries with competitive edge (such as food processing, precision manufacturing, watches and jewellery, and textiles and garments, etc.), we will focus on consolidating the existing foundation while promoting upgrades towards high-end, smart, and green development. Emerging industries, as a medium-term growth engine, will be supported on a priority basis. We will focus our resources to develop and expand industries such as life and health, AI and robotics, microelectronics, and advanced manufacturing, etc. We will accelerate the development of pilot production stages, align with international certification, and establish commercialisation platforms. Downstream manufacturing chains will also be developed by leveraging the well-equipped production facilities of other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities. We will accelerate the industrialisation of sectors such as aerospace technology, marine technology, and LAE, so as to build up momentum for the next wave of new industries and new growth tracks, such as breakthroughs in commercial space innovation, to stay ready for further development. For future industries, we will focus on putting in place forward-looking plans. By encouraging basic research and implementing measures such as patient capital, we will create long-term strategic value, establish expert screening mechanisms and “enterprise-research collaboration” platforms, prioritise resources to cultivate frontier fields, and proactively plan for application scenarios of future industries, such as quantum technology and embodied intelligence, etc. We will also set up pilot zones for future industries. In the meantime, we will continue to strengthen producer services focusing on three core areas of professional services, namely testing and certification, standards development, and technology financing.

Table 15 Strengthening Emerging Industries and Planning for Future Industries

Strengthening emerging industries and making forward-looking preparations and planning for future industries

- Encourage the industry-academia-research synergised development to support emerging industries of strategic value and high-quality development (such as the aerospace economy and marine economy, etc.), as well as future industries (such as quantum technology and embodied intelligence, etc.).
- Attract various financial resources (such as patient capital investment) into frontier industries and technological development through market-oriented measures, complemented by relevant government funding schemes and funds, so as to strengthen emerging industries and plan for future industries.
- Explore cooperation between Hong Kong and Guangdong in areas such as aerospace, etc.

2.46 In line with the above developments, we will accelerate the development of national strategic emerging industries. With reference to the requirements regarding establishing national manufacturing innovation centres, we will advance the establishment of the first national manufacturing innovation centre in Hong Kong on the foundation of the MRDI, focusing on next-generation power semiconductor technologies, processes, chips, components, equipment, etc. for extreme-environment applications, thereby pooling enterprises in the upstream and downstream industry chain to develop a microelectronics ecosystem. Meanwhile, we will support the development of Hong Kong's I&T and strategic industries with patient capital by launching the Innovation and Technology Industry-Oriented Fund and enhancing the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund, in a bid to channel more market capital to invest in specific emerging and future industries of strategic value such as semiconductors, AI and robotics, life and health technology, as well as new energy and new materials, thereby fostering new quality productive forces.

2.47 We will promote AI as a core industry for Hong Kong’s future development and empower different sectors of the economy through AI technology. We will enhance the AI ecosystem in multiple dimensions and continue to take forward the AI+ Initiative on all fronts. We will strengthen integration across boundaries, deepen the development and utilisation of data resources, and pursue synergised development with the Mainland. We will enhance the layout of computing infrastructure at full steam to empower development, and provide strong support for the computing power required to develop the AI industry in Hong Kong through the development of the Sandy Ridge Data Facility Cluster. We will also review the legislation to support wider application of AI, ensuring an up-to-date legal environment, with a view to putting in place a regulatory framework that is conducive to the development of AI and intelligentisation in Hong Kong. While supporting SMEs to expedite their application of AI, we will also enhance the AI literacy of the public, facilitating their enjoyment of a safe, smart, and convenient digital life. Based on life and health technology and embodied intelligence, we will formulate strategies for driving industry transformation with AI.

Table 16 Advancing AI+

1. Advancing the AI+ Initiative on all fronts

- Promote the deep integration of AI in different fields and sectors under the development directions of “industries for AI” and “AI for industries”, with the AIRDI taking the lead to co-ordinate R&D projects and promote matching of AI solutions with industry needs.
- The Committee on AI+ and Industry Development will focus on life and health technology as well as embodied intelligence initially, so as to create favourable conditions for expediting the development of more pilot production scenarios and supporting facilities.
- Enhance awareness, application skills, and responsible use of AI among students, young people, and members of the public.
- Enhance the Digital Transformation Support Pilot Programme to include AI application solutions, with a view to boosting the competitiveness of SMEs amid the wave of AI+.

2. Developing the Sandy Ridge Data Facility Cluster

- The Sandy Ridge Data Facility Cluster will come into operation by 2029.

3. Improving AI and data governance

- Review relevant laws and measures as well as practical experiences in the Mainland and overseas pertaining to areas such as AI and data risks, application rules, governance standards, and cybersecurity, and explore targeted, feasible, and operable solutions in light of Hong Kong’s actual circumstances, with a view to addressing the risks and challenges brought by AI technology and data-driven intelligentisation. Establish a robust and reliable AI and data governance system aligned with national and international standards and rules so as to lay a solid foundation for the sustainable development of AI and cross-boundary data flow.

2.48 We will promote the development of autonomous vehicles in Hong Kong. With the goal of enabling cross-district travel of autonomous vehicles and their connections to other modes of transport, we will, in an orderly manner, actively accelerate the large-scale development of driverless autonomous driving in our city and expedite its transition to commercial operations, with a view to creating a more convenient and safer travel experience for citizens through smart mobility.

Section 4 Develop a Healthcare Innovation System

2.49 We will comprehensively intensify the regulatory reform of drugs and medical devices (collectively known as “medical products”) and enhance our regulatory regime to align with international standards, develop the capacity for independent evaluation and approval of medical products, and participate actively in international regulation of medical products to pursue recognition from international authorities. We will also advance the R&D of innovative drugs and medical devices to expedite the launch of innovative drugs for market use, with a view to developing Hong Kong into an international health and medical innovation hub. We will enhance the drive in the development of medical products within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to promote better health among the public.

Table 17 Establishing an Internationally Renowned Regulatory Authority for Medical Products and Developing the Capacity for Independent Evaluation of Medical Products

- 1. Establishing an internationally renowned authority for medical products and enhance the evaluation and registration mechanism**
 - Establish the Centre for Medical Products Regulation to build and reform the independent approval and regulatory mechanisms for medical products, and develop it into an internationally recognised medical product regulatory authority.
- 2. Implementing “primary evaluation” in phases and acquiring independent evaluation capacity**
 - Commence the initial phase of “primary evaluation”⁹ for new drug registration with full implementation by 2030, so as to establish Hong Kong’s professional standing and capacity in independent evaluation of new drugs and expedite the launch of innovative drugs for market use.

⁹ It involves the assessment of primary data and information of all pre-clinical studies (i.e. animal testing), clinical studies, manufacturing, and quality control by regulatory authorities in order to fully evaluate the safety, efficacy, and quality of a medicine, i.e. to approve applications for registration of medical products in Hong Kong independently based on clinical data, without relying on other drug regulatory authorities.

Table 17 Establishing an Internationally Renowned Regulatory Authority for Medical Products and Developing the Capacity for Independent Evaluation of Medical Products (Cont'd.)

3. Reforming the regulation of medical devices

- Take forward legislative reform to replace the existing voluntary system with a new statutory regulatory regime for medical devices, with a view to enhancing the regulation of medical devices supplied in Hong Kong in respect of safety, quality and performance.

4. Enhancing the proprietary Chinese medicine registration system

- Strengthen the proprietary Chinese medicine registration and regulatory standards and facilitate the going global of proprietary Chinese medicine products by developing Hong Kong-registered proprietary Chinese medicines into a quality brand.

5. Aligning with the national policy of “the measure of using Hong Kong registered drugs and medical devices used in Hong Kong public hospitals in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area”

- In line with the national policy of “the measure of using Hong Kong-registered drugs and medical devices used in Hong Kong public hospitals in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area”, leverage our international platform to expedite the bringing in of global innovative biomedical technology.

6. Participating actively in the work of the Global Harmonization Working Party

- Actively promote the harmonisation of global medical device regulation as a member of the Global Harmonization Working Party.

2.50 We shall develop Hong Kong into Asia’s premier early-phase clinical trial centre and a top-notch medical innovation transformation base in the world. The initiatives include building a comprehensive infrastructure and digital portal for clinical trial, nurturing local medical innovation talent, enhancing clinical application scenarios, fully leveraging the advantage of real-world data, and reforming the evaluation mechanism for medical products. With the Greater Bay Area International Clinical Trial Institute in the Loop Hong Kong Park as the core, we will collaborate with the Greater Bay Area International Clinical Trials Center in the Loop Shenzhen Park under the “one institute, one centre” model to create synergy effect, driving the high-quality development of medical innovation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

Table 18 Creating a Clinical Trial and Medical Innovation Ecosystem

1. Establishing the Hong Kong Clinical Trials Portal

- Launch the Hong Kong Clinical Trials Portal to provide a one-stop digital service entry point for global biomedical enterprises, R&D institutions, and researchers, with a smart matching function for precisely matching suitable research institutions and researchers in Hong Kong and other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities.

2. Setting up the International Clinical Trial Academy

- Provide professional training that complies with the Good Clinical Practice standards of the International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use to facilitate personnel exchange and mutual recognition of professional qualifications between Shenzhen and Hong Kong, laying a solid foundation for developing the Greater Bay Area clinical Research Talent Pool.

3. Promoting the application of real-world data

- The Real-World Study and Application Centre will make use of local real-world data to support registration applications for drugs (in particular rare disease drugs, high-end cancer drugs as well as cell and gene therapies) in the Mainland, aiming to expedite the marketing authorisation of life-saving drugs.

4. Deepening the “one institute, one centre” collaboration on clinical research in the Hetao area

- Fully implement the interfacing of clinical trial resources between Hong Kong and Shenzhen, upgrade the one-stop service platform, and work towards unified standards for ethics review of clinical trials in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, so as to achieve mutual recognition, simplified review, or single review before 2030.

5. Expediting the introduction of innovative products into the public healthcare sector

- Identify unmet medical needs of the public healthcare sector and proactively engage global pharmaceutical enterprises and medical device manufacturers in meeting such needs.
- Streamline and expedite the process of introducing innovative products into the public healthcare sector, ensuring a seamless transition from approval to procurement to application.

Section 5 Develop an International Hub for Science and Technology Cooperation

2.51 We will enhance our global influence in science and technology. By strengthening international cross-disciplinary cooperation with world-renowned institutions, research institutes, and I&T parks, we will develop Hong Kong into an important gateway for the country to open up and cooperate with the world in the field of I&T.

2.52 We will develop an international platform to facilitate exchanges among high-calibre academics and talent. We will actively organise and participate in high-level international mega I&T events, bring together top-notch I&T talent and enterprises from around the world, and ensure the successful hosting of heavyweight international I&T events such as the World Internet Conference Asia-Pacific Summit, InnoEX (i.e. the flagship event of the Business of Innovation and Technology Week), the International Academicians Forum, and the Hong Kong World Youth Science Conference and Xiangjiang Nobel Forum, etc., with a view to bolstering our influence in the global innovation network.

2.53 We will host international academic conferences and publish academic journals with global influence. We will launch a funding scheme to support the publication of influential academic journals by local universities and professional organisations, while actively organising international academic events and professional conferences such as the Future Science Prize, with a view to showcasing to the world Hong Kong's capabilities in scientific research and facilitating sustainable international cooperation.

2.54 We will expedite the establishment of a centre of excellence on global advanced manufacturing in Hong Kong¹⁰. The centre will focus on empowering frontier technology-enabled fields such as AI+manufacturing, robotics, new energy, and industrial design, etc. It will undertake the core functions of promoting international technology exchange and demonstration, conducting research on industry standards and policies, promoting technology transfer and commercialisation, as well as talent training and building capabilities, etc., so as to develop a sustainable global cooperation network and flagship projects.

¹⁰ In April 2026, the Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization signed a joint statement on collaboration to advance industrial development, innovation, and digital transformation. The two parties will strengthen cooperation to drive industrial innovation, including expediting the establishment of a centre of excellence in Hong Kong.

Section 6 Develop an International Hub for High-calibre Talent

2.55 We will promote the integrated development of education, technology and talent. By leveraging our strengths, we will enhance the mechanisms to coordinate and execute our education, technology, and talent strategies. The role of institutions, research institutes, innovation platforms, enterprises, and technology programmes in attracting and nurturing talent will be strengthened, with a view to cultivating talent for technological innovation, industry development, and national strategic needs in a coordinated manner. Leading and distinctive academic disciplines will be further expanded and strengthened. This, coupled with the nurturing and development of emerging disciplines and cross-disciplinary areas, will help enhance our own capabilities in nurturing and attracting high-calibre talent. We will also enhance the mechanism for identifying, selecting, and nurturing young innovation talent to better support talent development in this regard.

2.56 We will adopt a targeted approach to attract talent in view of the development needs of our country and Hong Kong. Changes in manpower supply and demand in Hong Kong will be dynamically monitored through the Manpower Projection exercises and the follow-up surveys so that we can advance our talent attraction efforts in a targeted manner. We will review the Talent List and adjust the talent attraction strategies based on the demand for talent. With full regard to Hong Kong's strategic position in future development, we will expand our labour force and improve the demographic structure. We will also strengthen Hong Kong Talent Engage's overseas publicity and promotion efforts in a targeted manner.

2.57 We will establish the "Study in Hong Kong" brand. The Task Force on Study in Hong Kong will strengthen promotion of Hong Kong's quality resources in academic studies, scientific research, and international cooperation, and promote the "Study in Hong Kong" and the "Study Tour in Hong Kong" brands, with a view to attracting high-quality students to pursue their studies or career in Hong Kong. We will support the development of a vibrant international school sector to meet the demand for international school places among non-local families, thereby attracting and retaining non-local talent.

Chapter 10 Leverage Our Advantages as an International City

2.58 We will expedite the development and deepening of Hong Kong's status as an international legal and dispute resolution services centre, a regional intellectual property trading centre, and an East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange, while advancing the integrated development of culture, sports, and tourism. We will focus our efforts in driving the high-end and high value-added transformation and upgrading of Hong Kong's service sector. We will pool global innovation resources, professional talent, and high-end factors, while reinforcing the integrated development of industries and the alignment of rules, thereby building a cluster of emerging centres with a global edge.

Section 1 Deepen the Development of an International Legal and Dispute Resolution Services Centre

2.59 We will better leverage Hong Kong's unique advantages as a common law jurisdiction under "One Country, Two Systems" to deepen Hong Kong's status as an international legal and dispute resolution services centre. We will enhance our diversified and high-level dispute resolution services, including litigation, arbitration, and mediation, etc. We will also develop Hong Kong into a hub for high-calibre legal talent, promote closer interface of rules and mechanisms concerning the safeguards of the rule of law in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and provide high-quality legal professional services for Mainland enterprises going global.

Table 19 Deepening the Development of the International Legal and Dispute Resolution Services Centre

1. Establishing the International Commercial Court

- Support the Judiciary of the HKSAR in advancing the establishment of the International Commercial Court and inviting judges from other common law jurisdictions to adjudicate international commercial cases through more efficient procedures, thereby reinforcing Hong Kong's status as a leading jurisdiction for international commercial litigation.

2. Implementing arbitration law reform

- Implement arbitration law reform and step up the promotion of arbitration services in specific fields such as maritime, IP, and sports, etc., so as to reinforce Hong Kong's role as a world-leading international arbitration centre.

Table 19 Deepening the Development of the International Legal and Dispute Resolution Services Centre (Cont'd.)

3. Developing Hong Kong into a global capital of mediation Implement the mediation regulatory system reform, provide mediation services that are more international, inclusive, and professional, and support the International Organization for Mediation to further its role, thereby developing Hong Kong into a global capital of mediation.
4. Making better use of the Hong Kong International Legal Talents Training Academy Enhance and expand the functions of the Hong Kong International Legal Talents Training Academy to develop Hong Kong into a hub for the training, exchanges, and pooling of high-calibre legal talent of our country or even the international community, particularly the Belt and Road Initiative partner countries.
5. Construction of the Hong Kong International Legal Service Building Construct the Hong Kong International Legal Service Building to provide top-notch facilities and environment for activities such as legal exchange activities and training by local, Mainland, and international legal and dispute resolution service institutions.

Section 2 Develop a Regional Intellectual Property Trading Centre

2.60 To ensure that our IP protection mechanism aligns with international rules, we will continue to enhance our IP regime (particularly in the four key areas of copyright, trade marks, patents, and registered designs). We will advance the extension of suitable international IP treaties to Hong Kong in an orderly manner, so as to enhance the international alignment and overall competitiveness of Hong Kong's IP regime. We will deepen our cross-boundary facilitation measures for, among others, providing enquiry services in more Mainland cities, fostering business collaboration, and facilitating cross-boundary protection, etc., so as to fast-track the processing of eligible cross-boundary applications for registration, so that applicants may enjoy protection in a more timely manner.

2.61 To foster innovation development, we will deepen the reform of the patent system, so that the system may provide more effective support for the protection, technology transformation, commercialisation, and industrialisation of R&D outcomes.

Table 20 Patent System Reform

1. Facilitating original grant patent applications in key technology areas • Explore further facilitation for original grant patent applications for inventions under key technology areas (including emerging industries such as life and health technology, AI and data science, as well as advanced manufacturing and new energy, etc.).
2. Empowering enterprise development through enhancing patent system • Explore ways to reform the short-term patent system and increase the attractiveness of the original grant patent system.
3. Encouraging and promoting R&D and innovation relating to pharmaceutical manufacturing • Explore feasible measures to enhance the patent system, so as to support the development of biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries, thereby encouraging and advancing R&D and innovation activities relating to pharmaceutical manufacturing.
4. Enhancing in-house examination capacity for original grant patent applications • Continue to develop our team of patent examiners to enhance the in-house examination capacity for original grant patent applications, targeting to acquire institutional autonomy in conducting substantive examination of patent applications in major technology fields in 2030. • Expand our team of patent examiners to a scale recognised under the Patent Cooperation Treaty. • Plan for and advance the regulatory arrangements for local patent agency services so that such services will be more regulated and professional.

2.62 We shall develop a thriving and sound IP trading ecosystem. We will advance pilot projects in collaboration with financial and professional services institutions to explore IP financing modes, so as to channel capital into IP-intensive industries such as I&T, cultural and creative industries, etc. Through institutional innovation and policy support, we will develop an IP trading hub where the cost is low and the liquidity is high, encouraging enterprises to centralise their management and exploitation of IP in Hong Kong. With the soon-to-be-established IP Academy, we will more systemically nurture talent with knowledge in the creation, protection, management, financing, utilisation, and commercialisation of IP for various IP-intensive industries, thereby creating stronger impetus for growth within the ecosystem. We will continue to strengthen promotion and exchanges at international and regional levels, deepen collaboration with the Mainland, and support Mainland enterprises in making use of Hong Kong as an IP trading platform to go global.

Section 3 Develop an East-meets-West Centre for International Cultural Exchange

2.63 We will promote our profound traditional Chinese culture and develop cultural contents with Hong Kong character. The Blueprint for Arts and Culture and Creative Industries Development will be fully implemented. We will step up the promotion of Hong Kong's signature mega events and the systematic protection of intangible cultural heritage, so as to foster the inheritance and promotion of profound traditional Chinese culture. We are also fully committed to establishing the Chinese Culture Experience Centre and a museum showcasing the development and achievements of our country, while forging close collaboration between the Hong Kong Palace Museum and the Palace Museum, with a view to presenting the rich facets of profound traditional Chinese culture as well as the major developments and achievements of our country.

2.64 We will develop diverse arts, culture, and creative industries, and enhance the sustainable ecosystem for them. We will support the sustainable development of the West Kowloon Cultural District, so that it may leverage its strengths and contribute to the development of Hong Kong's culture and creative industry chain. We will make good use of our rich blend of local and international cultures to facilitate innovative international communication and collaboration of the culture and creative industries by proactively tapping into overseas markets and incubating new cultural and creative projects. We will also foster the thriving and sustainable development of Hong Kong film industry, and boost the influence of Hong Kong pop culture across Chinese-speaking communities. In the meantime, we will enhance Hong Kong's role as an international arts trading platform and deepen collaboration with Art Basel to consolidate Hong Kong's status as the exclusive host city in the region. We will enhance the cultural and creative talent pool by supporting the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts and the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority in nurturing local arts practitioners, while reforming the funding mechanism for arts groups to drive high-quality development and continuous innovation in the sector. Market forces will be leveraged to attract private sector participation and investment. Meanwhile, we will strengthen the collaboration among local and Mainland arts organisations, museums, theatrical troupes as well as film and television production teams, support co-production and touring of performances and exhibition programmes, and attract internationally renowned artists and cultural organisations to Hong Kong for collaboration, thereby serving as a significant window for mutual learning between Chinese and other cultures. We will support local performing arts, culture, and creative sectors in staging performances and exhibitions outside Hong Kong, while facilitating the overseas promotion of Mainland cultural works and intangible cultural heritage, with a view to fostering deeper understanding and recognition of Chinese culture across Mainland and overseas communities. We will strengthen the global reach of the mainstream media.

Table 21 Development of the Arts, Culture, and Creative Industries

Expanding Hong Kong's arts, culture, and creative industries

- It is expected that, by 2030, the value added of the arts, culture, and creative industries will reach \$170 billion, while the number of employed persons will increase to 228 000.

2.65 We will drive wider participation in sports, and promote sports in the community with the goal of enhancing the overall health of the public, and encourage citizens to engage in territory-wide major multi-sport events as well as community recreation and sports programmes. We will step up support for the development of team sports, align with our country's development direction of promoting the "three big-ball games" (i.e. football, basketball, and volleyball), and leverage Hong Kong's competitiveness in its traditional strongholds so as to foster a strong sporting culture in the community, and to identify and nurture outstanding talent in competitive sports. We will enhance the overall landscape of sports infrastructure, leverage the strategic positioning of the Kai Tak Sports Park as the largest integrated sports, leisure, and entertainment landmark in Hong Kong, review the development potential of existing large-scale venues, and strategically plan for new sports facilities.

2.66 We will develop elite sports, maintain Hong Kong as a centre for major international sports events, enhance professionalism in sports, and develop sports as an industry. Through the elite sports training system of the Hong Kong Sports Institute, we will comprehensively support our athletes and elevate their performance. We will make full use of the Kai Tak Sports Park and the "M" Mark System to support the staging of more diverse and higher-tier major international sports competitions and events in Hong Kong. We will also pursue the hosting of single-sport competitions at the national, Asian, and international levels. We will enhance the governance capabilities of national sports associations and the professional standards of the sports sector, and utilise technology to enhance athletes' performance. In the meantime, we will support Asian and international sports associations to establish presence in Hong Kong, and foster closer ties between Hong Kong and international sports associations. We will also support the implementation of the Pilot Scheme on Sports Dispute Resolution. To spur the development of peripheral industries and professional venue services, we will advance "Sports + Mega events" development (including international mega football events).

Table 22 Sports Development

Expanding Hong Kong's sports industry

- Resources allocated to sports development will cumulatively increase by 20% in the next five years.
- The number of full-time elite athletes will cumulatively increase by 20% in the next five years.
- The value added of sports and related activities at basic prices will cumulatively increase by 10% in the next five years.

2.67 We will deepen the integrated development of culture, sports, and tourism, and enrich the supply of high-quality tourism products. We will deepen thematic travel experience and promote festive events with distinctive local and international characteristics to highlight Hong Kong's East-meets-West cultural edge. We will explore more routes for city walks, foster horse-racing tourism, promote Hong Kong's culinary offerings, expand and strengthen our annual flagship events, and enhance connections and cooperation with world-renowned wine-producing regions. We will continue to develop Hong Kong into the Events Capital of Asia and promote world-class mega event tourism that integrates sports and culture. In the meantime, we will consolidate Hong Kong's position as Asia's hub for international cruises by attracting cruise lines to deploy ships to Hong Kong and leverage Hong Kong as the homeport, actively exploring potential source markets, and sustaining collaboration with ports in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. We will fully capitalise on Hong Kong's beautiful coastline and abundant island resources to develop island-hopping tours and other water sports activities. Meanwhile, we will continue to enhance the attractiveness of famous tourist attractions, including Hong Kong Disneyland and Ocean Park, etc.

Table 23 Integrated Development of Culture, Sports, and Tourism

1. Organising more performances by non-local artists at the Kai Tak Sports Park to enhance the international status of Hong Kong By 2030, the proportion of concerts or performances featuring primarily non-local artists at the Kai Tak Sports Park will increase to 60%.
2. Fostering quality enhancement and capacity expansion of Hong Kong Disneyland Continue to enhance attractiveness through various new facilities, including a new Marvel-themed area and an all-new Pixar entertainment experience. Strive to formulate and roll out the next medium- to long-term development plan.
3. Enhancing the Ocean Park experience and leveraging its strengths in education and conservation Develop Ocean Park into a conservation, research, and education base and leverage its strengths in education and conservation work, including launching more activities with the theme of the conservation of giant pandas and other animals. Upgrade the entertainment facilities within the park, including the planning and construction of a new adventure zone in the upper park area to further enrich in-park experience.

2.68 We will actively develop the yacht economy. We will accelerate the development of yacht berthing facilities so as to provide more yacht berths to attract more visiting yachts (including superyachts) to Hong Kong. We will actively implement facilitation measures for the northbound travel of yachts from Hong Kong and southbound travel of yachts from Guangdong, including authorising relevant organisations in Mainland cities to provide examinations on knowledge of Hong Kong waters as well as recognised short-term training courses and assessments for masters of visiting yachts, with a view to fostering a healthy, sustainable, and competitive environment for the development of the local yacht economy.

2.69 We will develop a core demonstration zone for multi-destination tourism. We strive to become the southern gateway for overseas visitors entering the Mainland, making good use of cross-boundary infrastructure to facilitate visitors' further extension of itineraries to the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and other provinces and municipalities. We will deepen cooperation with the Mainland and industry partners, and step up promotion in conventional source markets such as the United States and Canada, as well as other high-potential markets such as the Middle East, ASEAN, and other parts in Asia and Europe. We will review and enhance various facilitation arrangements for overseas visitors to enter the Mainland via Hong Kong with a view to attracting more high value-added overnight overseas visitors to Hong Kong and the Mainland. We will strengthen the collaboration mechanism with Mainland provinces and municipalities on tourism to promote cross-boundary multi-destination tourism (i.e. Hong Kong + Mainland cities) among residents of both places.

Table 24 Development of the Tourism Industry

Enhancing the economic contribution of the tourism industry

- It is estimated that the value added of the tourism industry will increase from \$86.2 billion in 2024 to \$126 billion in 2030, while the number of employed persons will increase from 159 700 in 2024 to about 203 000 in 2030.
- By 2030, the proportion of non-Mainland visitors among overnight visitors will increase to 40%.

2.70 We will enhance tourism services while bolstering infrastructure and ancillary facilities. We will continue to enhance the regulatory regime of the tourism industry and strengthen the talent cultivation mechanism. We will launch a new specialised tourist guide licensing programme¹¹ to enhance the professionalism of tourist guides. We will work with the tourism industry and educational institutions to expand the talent pool of tourism professionals. We will foster hospitality spirit, upgrade Muslim-friendly facilities, and enhance service quality. We will drive the application of smart technologies in the fields of tourism to create a convenient, inclusive, and smart tourism environment, comprehensively elevating the experience of visitors, thereby boosting Hong Kong's attractiveness and competitiveness as a premium tourism destination.

¹¹ Under the new programme, specialised tourist guide licenses on individual professional areas will be issued, to encourage the industry to nurture talent with specialised knowledge.

Part 3

Expedite the Development of the Northern Metropolis and Spearhead Spatial Layout Optimisation

3.1 We will expedite the planning and development of the Northern Metropolis. We will guide the future spatial layout of our city with the vision of the “South-North Dual Engine (Finance-IT)”¹². To foster the integrated development of education, technology, and talent, the Northern Metropolis will be developed with the objectives of university town, I&T, industry, and environment suitable for living, work, and travel. We will forge ahead with the development of, among others, the Northern Metropolis University Town (NMUT), San Tin Technopole, and the Loop Hong Kong Park, for the mission of leveraging the Northern Metropolis as an important strategic vehicle for high-quality post-secondary education development, integration of technological and industry innovation, and attracting international high-calibre talent. We also aim to develop the Northern Metropolis into a main platform for Hong Kong to deeply engage in the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and to actively integrate into and serve the overall national development. It will also serve as a new engine for us to develop new quality productive forces.

Chapter 11 The Northern Metropolis University Town

3.2 As an internationalised university town that integrates talent cultivation, scientific research, transformation of outcomes, and industry development, the NMUT will drive the synergistic development among the industries, academia, and research, in a bid to achieve the integrated development of education, technology, and talent.

¹² It refers to the “dual-core planning” where our most competitive sectors including finance will continue to develop at the Harbour Metropolis, whereas the I&T sector will be placed at the Northern Metropolis.

3.3 We will expedite the development of the NMUT, promote capacity expansion and quality enhancement for post-secondary education, and foster the integration of industry development with academic sectors where Hong Kong enjoys an edge. We will, in a flexible and innovative mode, jointly organise top-tier programmes, establish joint faculties and laboratories, and carry out high-calibre basic research with renowned Mainland and overseas institutions. We will also step up our efforts to attract world-famous institutions or first-class scientific research institutes to establish presence. We will leverage the strengths of Hong Kong's internationalised post-secondary education sector to spearhead global education exchanges by proactively organising and participating in international post-secondary education events, and bringing together local and global education leaders to jointly explore key issues and the latest trends in post-secondary education. In the meantime, we will support institutions in strengthening international exchanges and connections in areas such as research collaboration, student exchange, and talent development, etc., thereby further enhancing the international standing of our city's post-secondary education sector.

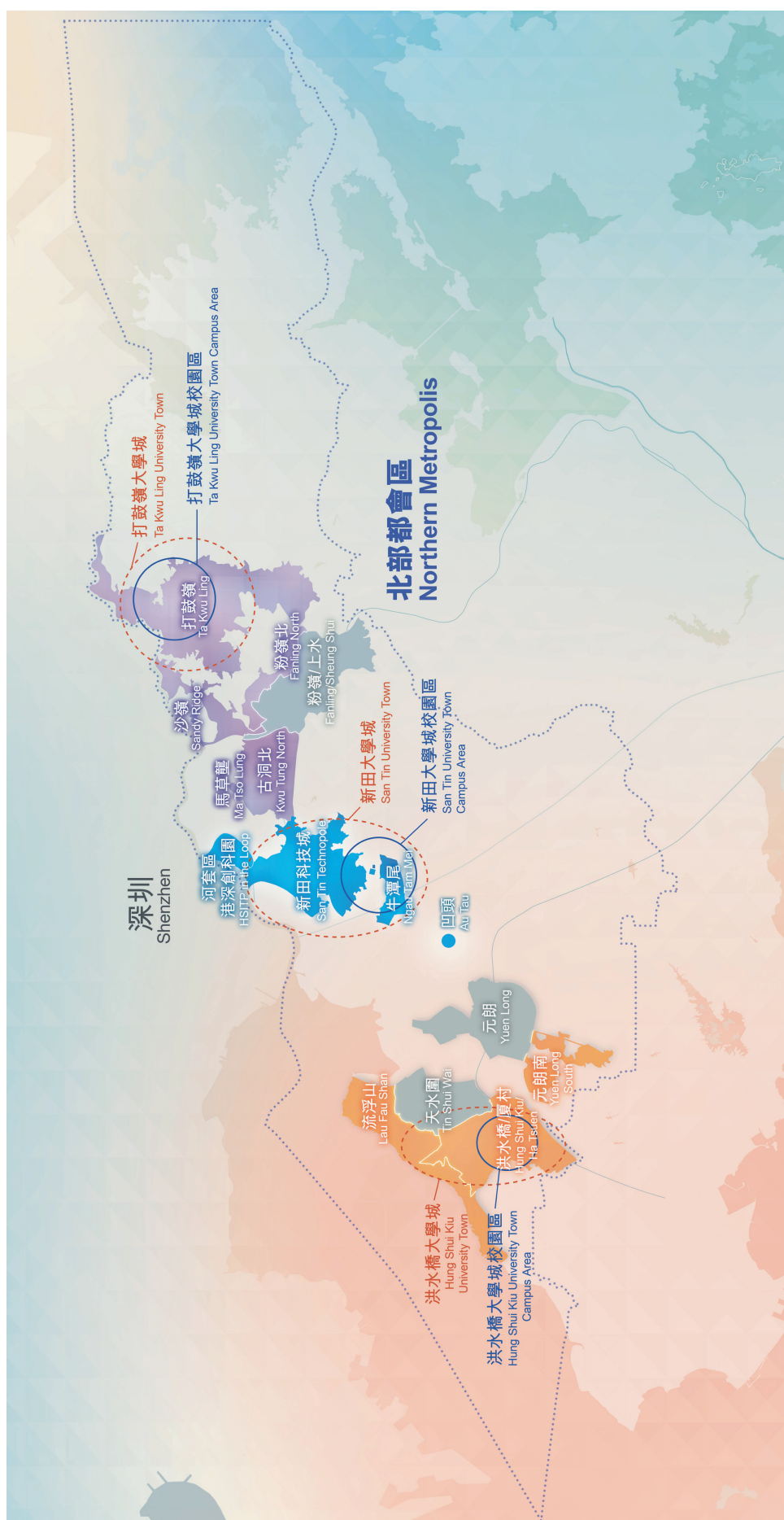
Section 1 Spatial Layout and Functional Positioning

Spatial Layout

3.4 There are three university towns in the NMUT, which are the San Tin University Town (located in San Tin Technopole and Ngau Tam Mei New Development Area (NDA)), the Hung Shui Kiu (HSK) University Town (located in the HSK/Ha Tsuen NDA), and the Ta Kwu Ling (TKL) University Town (located in the TKL NDA, formerly known as the "New Territories North New Town"). Developed based on the concept of "One Town, Five Elements", each uniquely positioned university town encompasses the five elements of education, technology, industry, talent, and urban development for synergised development. Through enhancing speed and capacity, pooling resources, and meticulous planning, we are steadily advancing the comprehensive development of the three university towns.

3.5 The educational facilities within the 300-hectare campus area of the university towns will be connected to the adjacent strategic industry area, distinctive conservation area, recreational, sports and cultural facilities, as well as the surrounding living community. The total area of the three towns has been expanded to over 1 000 hectares.

3.6 Building on the existing foundation, we will prioritise the development of the San Tin and HSK University Towns. The Government will commence the site allocation for the HSK University Town campus area in 2026, and support institutions to move in by 2027 to 2028, with a view to creating a landmark project.



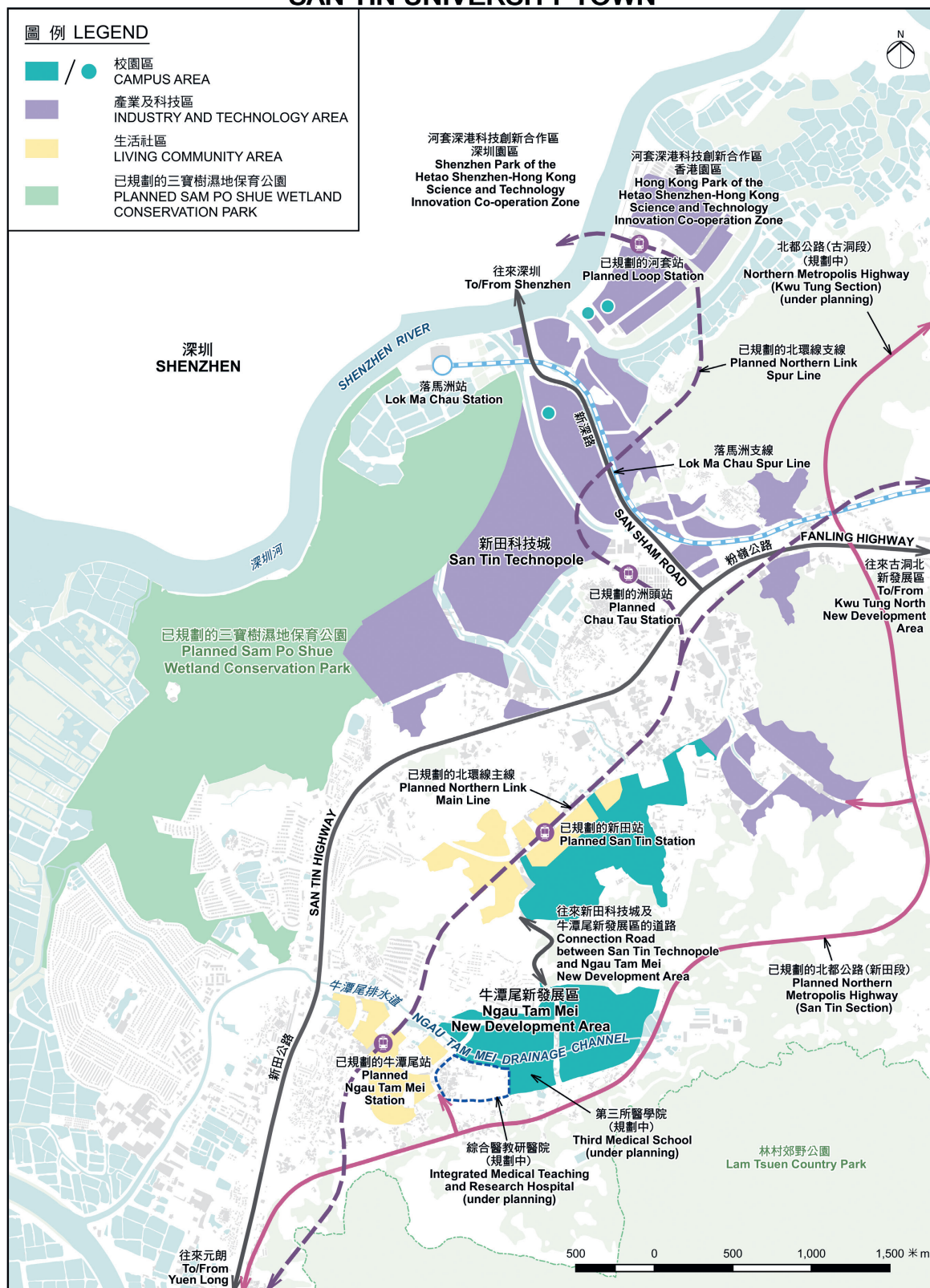
NMUT (San Tin, HSK, TKL). Each university town encompasses campus area, technology area, industry area, and living community area, forming a hub for talent development.

Location plan (red circles denote the university towns; blue circles denote the campus areas within the university towns)

Functions and Positioning

3.7 The San Tin University Town will be positioned to focus on the development of medicine, life and health technology, AI, robotics, microelectronics, and emerging industries, serving as the core of future I&T development in Hong Kong. The technology and industry areas, encompassing the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone and San Tin Technopole, will become an important base for talent attraction. In the coming five years, we will advance the infrastructure development of the San Tin University Town and commence the construction of the medical school of The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and the integrated medical teaching and research hospital. We will, in collaboration with San Tin Technopole and the Loop Hong Kong Park, support the cooperation between local institutions and renowned Mainland and overseas institutions as well as research institutes in organising programmes and setting up research facilities such as joint laboratories, etc., hence enabling the establishment of national-level research platforms, harnessing the power of high-quality development in science and technology.

新田大學城 SAN TIN UNIVERSITY TOWN



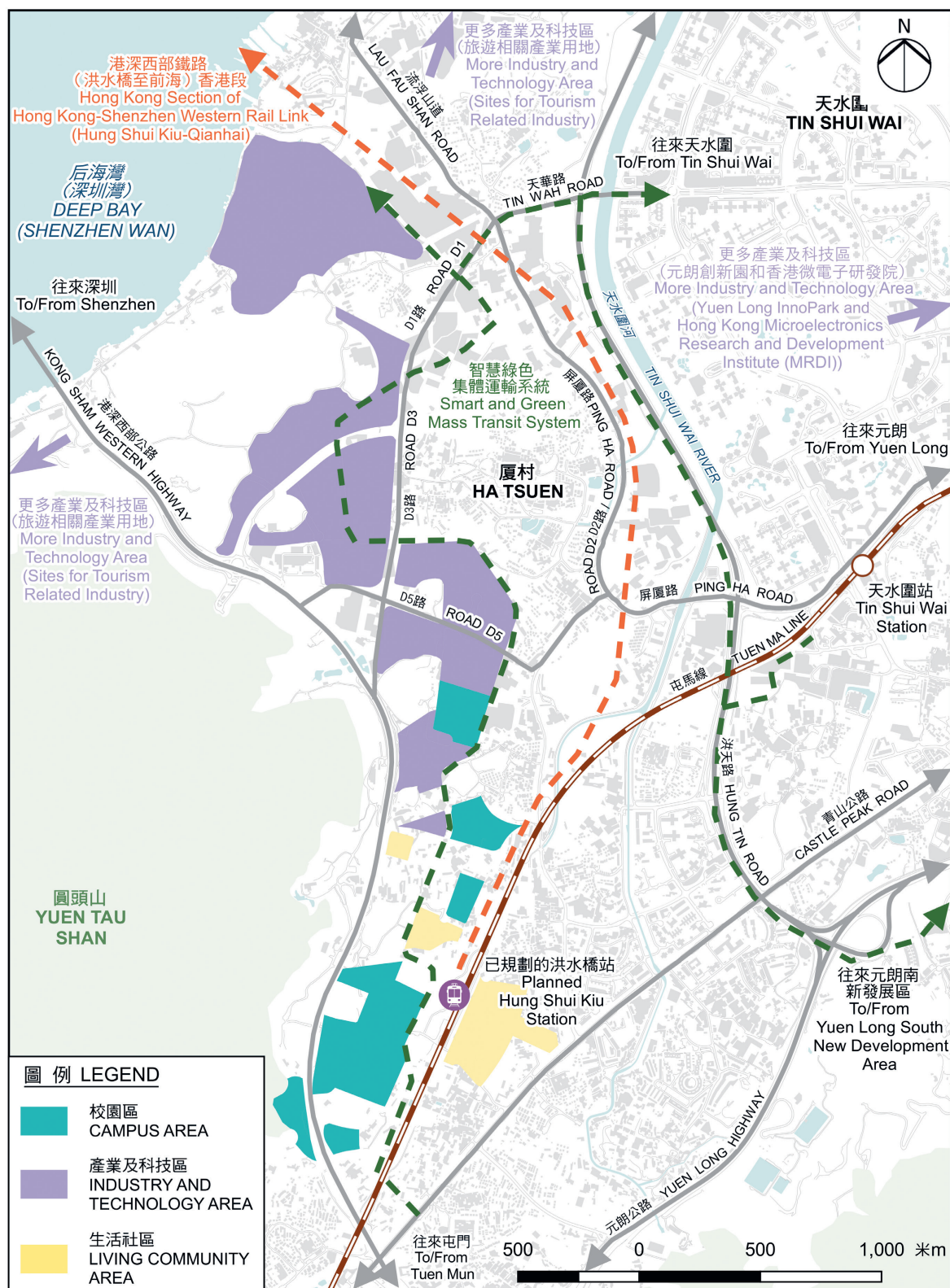
Layout Plan of the San Tin University Town (including campus area, technology area, industry area, and living community area, forming a hub for talent development)

3.8 The HSK University Town is positioned as a cultivation centre for smart manufacturing applied post-secondary education and internationalised talent. We will develop a diverse range of industries through the following efforts, including commercial floor space for high-end professional services and supporting facilities for the provision of producer services, the Hung Shui Kiu Industry Park for promoting smart production, the versatile Enterprise and Technology Park sites, the Lau Fau Shan Digital Technology Hub, as well as the R&D facilities of the Microelectronics Centre at the Yuen Long InnoPark and the Hong Kong Microelectronics Research and Development Institute, in addition to the Advanced Construction Industrial Park in Yuen Long South. We will prioritise the development of the HSK University Town by advancing flagship campus development and promoting cross-sectoral collaboration to bolster industry development in the area. The HSK Station of the MTR Tuen Ma Line is also expected to commence operation in 2030 to tie in with the facilities and gradual population intake of the HSK University Town.

Table 25 Advancing the Development of the HSK University Town

1. Introducing institutions Facilitate the development of flagship campuses and encourage local institutions to foster in-depth collaboration such as teaching and research programmes or projects with renowned Mainland and overseas institutions. Site allocation for the campus area will commence within 2026 for institutions to establish presence.
2. Developing an internationalised cross-boundary platform Fully leverage the advantages of our transport infrastructure projects to create a testing ground for various facilitation measures and mechanisms, offering solutions to facilitate the flow of students and talent between Guangdong and Hong Kong.
3. One-stop services for talent Student hostels and talent accommodation will be provided, creating an international ecosystem characterised by an organic integration of teaching and learning, scientific research, living, and employment.
4. Advancing the development of the Hung Shui Kiu Industry Park, the Lau Fau Shan Digital Technology Hub, and the Yuen Long South Advanced Construction Industrial Park By developing these industry parks, promote a diverse range of industries such as high value-added and smart production as well as advanced manufacturing industry, etc., thereby pursuing industry-academia-research synergised development with the institutions in the HSK University Town.

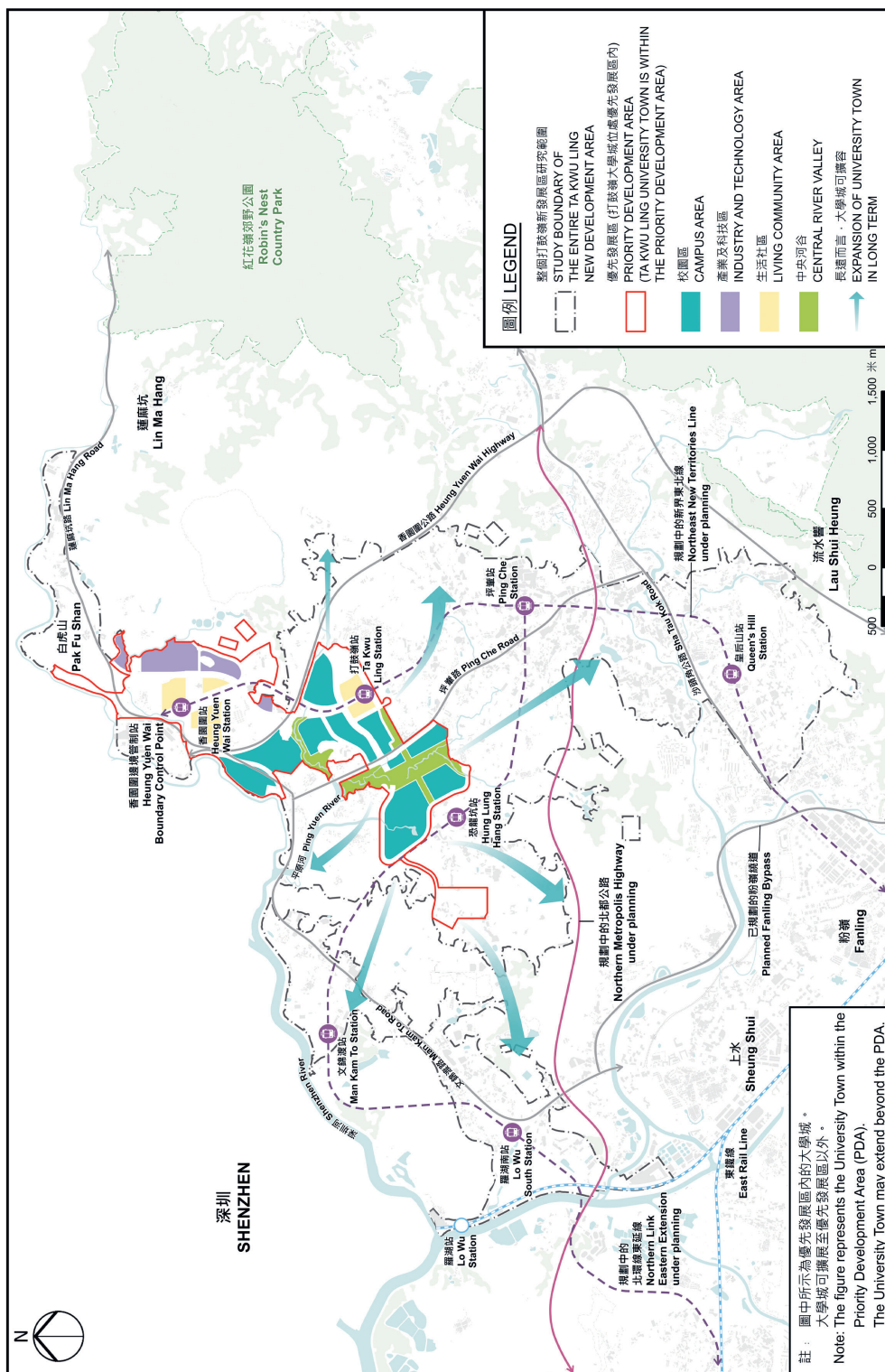
洪水橋大學城 HUNG SHUI KIU UNIVERSITY TOWN



Layout Plan of the HSK University Town

3.9 In addition to fostering the synergised development of education, technology, industry, talent, and urban development, the TKL University Town will also incorporate arts and blue-green development elements, while reserving strategic development space for future development needs. From 2030 onwards, sites will be made available progressively to support emerging industries, advanced construction industries, traditional industries and new industries development, promoting the collaboration between institutions and industries in the area and expediting the commercialisation of research outcomes. Local post-secondary institutions establishing a presence in the area will be encouraged to actively take forward the integration of industry and education, thereby nurturing talent for emerging industries.

打鼓嶺大學城 TA KWU LING UNIVERSITY TOWN



Layout Plan of the TKL University Town (Details of stations therein to be determined)

Section 2 Advance the Development of the Northern Metropolis University Town

3.10 We will advance the development of the NMUT in a coordinated manner by proactively taking the lead in driving the post-secondary institutions to refine and implement their detailed plans, and grasp the key milestone dates, with a view to advancing and completing the various tasks necessary for establishing their presence in the NMUT in an orderly manner.

3.11 We will coordinate the diverse contributions from the Government, post-secondary institutions, and the public. In terms of financial arrangements, the Government will provide full support through a multi-pronged approach (such as land premium exemption and loans, etc.), while post-secondary institutions will mobilise their reserves and/or employ flexible funding modes (such as the issuance of bonds) to bring in market and social capital to jointly advance the NMUT development. Taking full account of the views of post-secondary institutions, we will consider the circumstances of individual institutions and the planned feature subjects, with a view to allocating suitable sites to institutions for the construction of new campuses, supporting their development and capacity building.

3.12 We will expedite the construction of specific ancillary facilities such as student hostels. When we advance the construction of hostels, we will adopt diversified development models, so as to increase the supply of hostel places and continuously upgrade the accommodation standards. In order to provide students with better accommodation and ancillary facilities, the existing mechanism for managing student hostels will be enhanced.

Chapter 12 A Technology-driven Industry-Academia-Research Collaborative Innovation System

3.13 We shall strive to achieve the target of developing the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone into a world-class I&T platform, and expedite the development of industry zones such as San Tin Technopole, the Sandy Ridge Data Facility Cluster, HSK, and Lau Fau Shan, etc. We will step up the development of science and technology services institutions and transformation platforms to form innovation consortia, thereby driving the integration of technological and industry innovation.

Section 1 Coordinated Development of the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone

3.14 We will prioritise and advance the development of the Loop Hong Kong Park, with the focuses placed on development and establishing presence, in a bid to facilitate the scaling up of the I&T industry as soon as possible. We will coordinate and advance the development of the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone under the vision of “one river, two banks” and “one zone, two parks”, strengthening the alignment of the Hong Kong Park and the Shenzhen Park in terms of spatial layout, planning coordination, infrastructure connectivity, etc., and putting in place a unique and effective regulatory regime. We will support the Loop Shenzhen Park in aligning rules governing scientific research with those applicable in Hong Kong and the international arena, while facilitating the secure, efficient, and convenient flow of factors such as personnel, materials, capital, and data.

Section 2 Diversified Industry Development Platform

3.15 We will establish a system with Hong Kong character for diversified industry development having regard to local circumstances. We will expedite the development of San Tin Technopole into a core engine for industry development in the Northern Metropolis to create an industry space for industry-academia-research integration and provide one-stop services for innovation entities, while expanding and opening up more application scenarios, as well as developing platforms for proof-of-concept and pilot production verifications. Starting from end-2026, land parcels for I&T will be available in the area by phase for development.

3.16 Located in the Northern Metropolis, the Sandy Ridge Data Facility Cluster is a core area of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Boundary Control Points Economic Belt. It will provide crucial support for the development of AI in Hong Kong with essential elements such as computing power, thereby deepening Hong Kong's leading advantage in regional digital infrastructure and facilitating its development into a regional hub for advanced data and computing power.

3.17 We will reserve industry land in TKL to develop ancillary facilities for supply chains in support of the development of emerging industries, traditional industries, and new industrialisation, covering modern logistics, food produce, fresh food supply, as well as green/environmental and advanced construction industries, etc.

3.18 We will take forward the development of HSK/Ha Tsuen and Lau Fau Shan NDAs into hubs for high-end professional services, modern logistics, advanced construction industries, smart manufacturing, and digital technology. With priority accorded to the development of high-end professional services industries, we will attract local and multinational enterprises specialising in the provision of high-end professional services such as finance, insurance, wealth and risk management, legal, mediation, arbitration, and accounting, etc., so as to achieve synergised development with the neighbouring Qianhai Co-operation Zone and the new high-tech cluster in Nanshan District. Capitalising on the locational advantage of HSK for its comprehensive transport network and proximity to Qianhai in Shenzhen, we will drive the diversified development of high value-added and smart manufacturing industries such as pharmaceutical manufacturing, food processing, and advanced construction industries at the Hung Shui Kiu Industry Park. There is also potential for establishing HSK as a modern logistics cluster for the development of high value-added logistics, while the Digital Technology Hub will be developed in Lau Fau Shan.

Table 26 Establishing a Platform for Diversified Industry Development

1. Advancing the development of San Tin Technopole

- Commence operating the San Tin Technopole Company Limited, which is wholly owned by the Government, for the phased development of the 210-hectare I&T land.

2. Strengthening computing infrastructure

- The Sandy Ridge Data Facility Cluster has entered the construction stage, and will commence operation by 2029. It is expected to provide computing power of up to 180 000 peta-floating point operations per second by 2032, which is equivalent to 36 times the current level in Hong Kong.

3. Advancing the development of the Hung Shui Kiu Industry Park

- Commence operating the Hung Shui Kiu Industry Park Company Limited, which is wholly owned by the Government, for the phased development of the 27.5-hectare land.

4. Advancing the development of modern logistics and other industries

- About 32 hectares of land in HSK have been reserved for developing a modern logistics cluster, within which spade-ready sites will be progressively rolled out for development starting from 2027-28.
- An “Enterprise and Technology Park” site under the development project of the HSK pilot area of large-scale land disposal awarded, with construction works of the building on the site anticipated to be completed by the successful tenderer in early 2030; the remaining two sites granted to the Hung Shui Kiu Industry Park Company Limited.
- Reserve around 10 hectares of land in Yuen Long South for the development of the first Advanced Construction Industrial Park.

5. Developing landmark I&T facilities in Lau Fau Shan

- The Government plans to develop a Digital Technology Hub in the Lau Fau Shan area, for which about 30 hectares of land have been reserved.

6. Establishing TKL as a base for emerging industries

- Reserve industry land in TKL to develop ancillary facilities for supply chains in support of the development of emerging industries, traditional industries, and new industrialisation, covering modern logistics, advanced construction industries, food produce, fresh food supply, as well as green/environmental industries, etc.

3.19 We strive to develop a synergised ecosystem where the chain of industry-academia-research is well-integrated, creating an end-to-end model for basic research, technology breakthroughs, transformation of outcomes, and industry incubation. Local institutions will join forces with their counterparts in the Mainland and overseas to create a mode of industry development under which R&D undertaken by higher education institutions will go for production in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, with financing support in Hong Kong and Macao, and outcomes targeted for the international market, alongside the setting up of specialised technology transfer organisations and I&T funds. We will encourage institutions in the NMUT to form alliances with adjacent industry parks and join forces with enterprises therein for the purpose of research outcome transformation and commercialisation. Taking the university towns as development axles, we will comprehensively enhance the layout of living amenities, so that higher education institutions will perform their roles in attracting talent and leading innovation, thereby driving the high-quality development of the Northern Metropolis and creating a modernised area that is suitable for living, work, and education.

Chapter 13 Diversified Development of a Metropolis Ideal for Living, Work, and Travel

3.20 We will adopt a reform-oriented mindset and an early and pilot implementation approach to advance the diversified development of the Northern Metropolis. With an approach that is planning-oriented, infrastructure-led, industry-driven, and people-oriented, we shall forge a Northern Metropolis that is blissful, vibrant and innovative. We will implement a series of reform measures, including the adoption of the early and pilot implementation, management, and operation mechanisms for NDAs in the Northern Metropolis, which will entail flexible land use planning to accommodate diversified industries and respond to market changes, as well as innovative and diversified development models, encouraging public-private partnerships, etc.

3.21 We strive to streamline control along the whole development process to expedite developing the Northern Metropolis and bringing in industries. In addition to enacting the Northern Metropolis Development Ordinance, we will also adopt diversified development models to expedite the rolling out of space. To speed up our efforts in bringing in enterprises, we will establish industry park companies, taking full advantage of public-private partnerships, realising the two-pronged approach of “capable government” and “effective market”. We will implement the “Pay for What You Build” Pilot Scheme¹³ to enhance the market’s investment incentive, and use a “two-envelope” approach for tendering¹⁴ to drive integrated development. We will allow low-density facilities to be developed first to generate footfall and income, before the implementation of large-scale developments in the long run.

3.22 We will increase the housing and economic land supply. We will advance the housing and economic development of the Northern Metropolis, with a target of making available the necessary land to enable, in the coming five years, the provision of over 70 000 housing units and one million square metres of economic floor space.

3.23 We strive to achieve higher living standards in the Northern Metropolis. We will progressively enhance the flat mix of public housing and raise the unit size requirements for private residential development in new projects in the Northern Metropolis, so as to create favourable conditions for enhancing the average living space per person. For public housing, preparations are underway to deliver units for rental and sale over the next decade, including those in the Northern Metropolis. We will progressively enhance the internal floor area of these units and increase the proportion of larger units for newly-built subsidised sale flats, including those in the Northern Metropolis.

13 “Pay for What You Build” refers to the arrangement that in lease modifications, subject to the condition of the land parcels involved, owners will be allowed to pay the required premium according to the actual built floor area and use, rather than the maximum floor area based on the maximum plot ratio; and allowing developers to pay land premiums by phase according to the development scale may also be considered.

14 Under a “two-envelope” approach for tendering, the non-premium and premium proposals are considered comprehensively, with the weightings and elements for assessment set to suit individual circumstances.

3.24 We will enhance local and cross-boundary transport infrastructure connectivity. Adopting an infrastructure-led approach, we are pressing full steam ahead with the major Northern Metropolis-related railway and road projects under the “Eight Vertical and Eight Horizontal Corridors”¹⁵ infrastructure layout, including the Northern Metropolis Highway (San Tin Section), the Tsing Lung Bridge at the southern end of Route 11, the Northern Link Spur Line connecting to the new Huanggang Port, and the Hong Kong section of Hong Kong-Shenzhen Western Rail Link. We will also examine the feasibility of a southern extension of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Western Rail Link to strengthen the connectivity between the Northern Metropolis and the Hong Kong International Airport.

Table 27 Promoting the Development of Northern Metropolis-related Transport Infrastructure

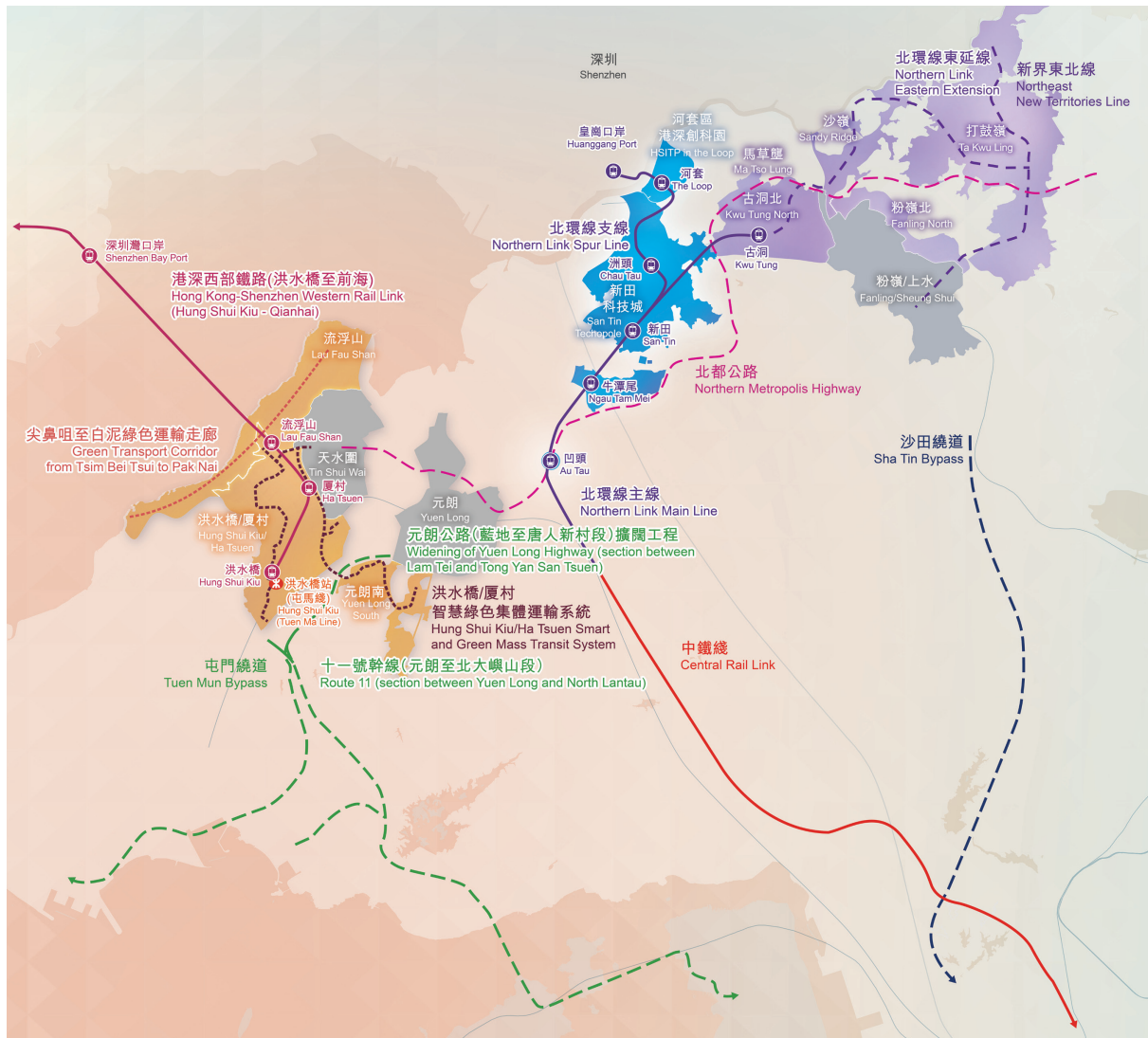
1. Railway projects

- Expedite the construction works of Kwu Tung Station on the East Rail Line and HSK Station on the Tuen Ma Line for commissioning in 2027 and 2030 respectively.
- Implement the Northern Link Main Line in combination with the Spur Line, complete the gazettal procedures for the railway scheme of the Spur Line within 2026, and commence the tunnel boring works for the Northern Link Project progressively from 2028 onwards, with the aim of commissioning the Main Line and Spur Line simultaneously in 2034.
- Expedite the preparatory work for the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Western Rail Link, invite tender for the detailed design and construction of the Hong Kong section in 2027, and strive for commissioning of the Hong Kong and Shenzhen sections in Hong Kong and Shenzhen simultaneously in 2035.

2. Major road projects

- Prioritise taking forward the Northern Metropolis Highway (San Tin Section) in accordance with the strategy of “Holistic Planning and Phased Implementation” and complete the gazettal procedures for the road scheme of the San Tin Section in 2027, with the target of commissioning in 2034.
- To meet the north-south transport demand arising from the future development of the Northern Metropolis and strengthen the connection between the Northern Metropolis and the urban area, priority will be given to taking forward the Tsing Lung Bridge at the southern end of Route 11, with the target of commissioning in 2033.

15 As a series of transport infrastructure projects will progressively materialise in the future, the territory-wide “Five Vertical and Five Horizontal Corridors” railway network and “Three Vertical and Three Horizontal Corridors” major road network will form an “Eight Vertical and Eight Horizontal Corridors” grand layout. The “Five Vertical Corridors” comprise five north-south railway corridors; the “Five Horizontal Corridors” comprise five east-west railway corridors. The “Three Vertical Corridors” refer to the three major north-south corridors; and the “Three Horizontal Corridors” refer to the three major east-west axes.



Schematic Diagram of Major Transport Infrastructure in the Northern Metropolis (distribution of railways, major roads, and stations)

"Five Vertical and Five Horizontal Corridors" Rail Layout



"Three Vertical and Three Horizontal Corridors" Major Road Layout

The "Eight Vertical and Eight Horizontal Corridors" Infrastructure Layout

3.25 We will enhance the planning for public services, community facilities, and cultural and sports facilities in the area. We will coordinate the distribution of facilities in relation to housing, employment, education, healthcare, social welfare, recreation, and greening, etc. in the Northern Metropolis. Diversified arts and cultural facilities, as well as arts performance and exhibition spaces will be developed. We will adopt the “15-minute neighbourhood” concept in the course of land use planning, enhance transport connectivity, and develop high-quality public space and blue-green network¹⁶. In 2027, we will launch the plan to establish the New Territories North Cluster and press ahead with the construction of an integrated teaching and research hospital in Ngau Tam Mei. By comprehensively enhancing the quality of life, and attracting talent to reside and work, we will forge the Northern Metropolis into an exemplary model for quality living in Hong Kong.

16 It refers to the network of green spaces and blue water resources, such as river channels, wetlands, open spaces, and hills.

Part 4

Deepen the Development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and Create an International Collaboration Network

Chapter 14 Advance the Development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

4.1 The Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area serves as a strategic fulcrum of the country's new development paradigm, a demonstration zone of high-quality development, and a pioneer of Chinese modernisation. Hong Kong will participate in the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area into an international first-class bay area and a world-class city cluster with global influence.

4.2 Hong Kong will continue to deepen and strengthen collaboration with Guangdong Province to take forward key areas of the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area such as I&T cooperation, industry chain development, wider application of medical products, as well as the establishment of an international hub for high-calibre talent and a quality living circle ideal for living and travel. Hong Kong will fully leverage the major cooperation platforms in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and collaborate with other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities to jointly promote synergised development, mutual benefits, and policy innovation.

Section 1 Strengthen Cooperation in Innovation and Technology

4.3 To develop an I&T industry chain in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to foster the transformation of R&D outcomes, we will actively participate in the technological and industry innovation of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. We will encourage Hong Kong's scientific research institutions to participate in the establishment of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Joint Laboratories and expedite the enhancement of the overall layout of the I&T ecosystem, so as to provide an environment ideal for the development of scientific research institutions and Mainland enterprises. With the Loop Hong Kong Park as the focal point, Hong Kong will further strengthen the strategic alignment with other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities, particularly the strategic emerging industry clusters in Shenzhen, and facilitate the cross-boundary flow of I&T factors, with a view to fostering the transformation, large-scale production, and industry application of R&D outcomes in other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities. We will work with Shenzhen to achieve "cooperation in R&D, collaborative transformation, and sharing the benefits of development", to formulate mechanisms and models to achieve industry chain synergy for emerging and future industries, consolidating and enhancing the position of Shenzhen-Hong Kong-Guangzhou as a leading global innovation cluster.

4.4 Seizing the strategic opportunities presented by collaboration in technological and industry innovation within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, we will deepen the two-way integration of innovation chain and industry chain. By aligning with the industries in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, we will foster the high-end R&D-advanced manufacturing-modern services in-depth collaboration model, jointly developing a modernised industry ecosystem with a global edge. We will advance the cooperation and exchange on hydrogen development between Hong Kong and Guangdong by commencing extensive collaboration in the areas of information sharing, demonstration and application, promotion of standards, industry technology development, capacity building, financial services and professional services, etc. Cooperation between Hong Kong and Guangdong in areas such as satellite technology, deep space exploration, satellite data applications, aerospace popular science education, and aerospace cultural tourism will also be explored. Leveraging the industrial output of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and its module production capacity, we will strengthen our aggregate capability in achieving technological breakthroughs for the development of construction supply chain, including technologies such as Modular Integrated Construction and Multi-trade Integrated Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing, etc., so as to develop the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area into a hub for building technology and construction, while enhancing the stability of the supply of technologies and materials needed by Hong Kong's construction industry, which will further drive down construction costs.

4.5 We will strive to attract high-quality I&T leadership talent from the Mainland and overseas to establish presence in Hong Kong, bringing in their businesses, investment, or R&D outcomes. We will also facilitate the effective transformation and application of the IP rights arising from R&D outcomes, with a view to promoting the vibrancy of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area I&T ecosystem.

Section 2 Promote “Hard Connectivity” of Infrastructure

4.6 We will contribute to the development of the “Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area on the Rail” by advancing the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Western Rail Link and the Northern Link Spur Line, so as to enhance the capacity and quality of cross-boundary passenger services in the western and middle parts of the boundary between Hong Kong and Shenzhen. A feasibility study on the southward extension of the Hong Kong section of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Western Rail Link in future will be undertaken to enhance the connectivity between the Northern Metropolis and the Hong Kong International Airport.

4.7 We will strengthen the development of new infrastructure in Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao. We will promote the interconnectivity of computing infrastructure with other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities, and expedite the formation of enormous intelligent computing clusters, with a view to supporting the development of a cooperation hub for the computing power of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao to go global.

Table 28 Enhancing the Infrastructural Interconnectivity within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

- | |
|---|
| <p>1. Striving to extend the operating hours of the clearance services at land boundary control points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strive to extend the operating hours of the clearance services at land boundary control points, so as to facilitate the transport of passengers and goods in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to and from all parts of the world via Hong Kong, enhancing the flow of people and goods. |
| <p>2. Stepping up the planning and cooperation for 6G</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote the development of 6G network in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and the construction and upgrading of new communications infrastructure in support of the innovative application of advanced mobile communications technologies. |

Section 3 Foster “Soft Connectivity” by Deepening the Alignment of Rules and Mechanisms

Expedite the Alignment of Rules and Enhance the Level of Market Integration in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

4.8 We will facilitate the mutual recognition of professional qualifications in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. On a pilot basis, we will advance the development of common standards for the skill levels of skilled workers and technicians of the construction industry in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and introduce Hong Kong’s engineering standards and project management models to the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. We will make wider use of the advanced construction technologies and new materials of our country, so as to showcase the edge of Chinese standards to our international counterparts.

4.9 We will promote the nurturing and flow of legal talent in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. We will encourage more legal talent from Hong Kong to participate in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Legal Professional Examination and practise in other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities. We will promote complementary development among the arbitration regimes of the three places, establish a platform for promotion of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area standards on arbitration and mediation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and explore the pathway for formulating model arbitration rules for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

4.10 We will proactively align with the development of the “Healthy Bay Area” and strengthen collaboration of medical talent between the Mainland and Hong Kong. We will enhance the medical cooperation with other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities, as well as other Mainland cities, to promote the alignment of healthcare services and regulatory frameworks, enhance the overall medical professional standards between the two places, and promote the integrated development of healthcare across the region. Leveraging the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Medical Specialist Training Centre as a starting point, we will create a new paradigm of specialist training focusing on Shenzhen-Hong Kong cooperation and Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area integration, with a view to further expanding the scope of training to cover Mainland physicians from more disciplines.

4.11 We will establish an international hub for high-quality development of the country's water sector. We will develop advanced standards for water-related affairs which are applicable to the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. Pilot testing, transformation, and application of the advanced technologies involved in the Mainland's water-related affairs will be conducted in Hong Kong, capitalising on Hong Kong as a platform to showcase these water-related technologies to our international counterparts, so as to assist technologies and enterprises of the Mainland and Hong Kong in going global.

4.12 We will actively develop and promote Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Standards and Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Certification to encompass a broader spectrum of products and services, for which technical specifications will be established to enhance quality, facilitating Hong Kong enterprises to tap into markets in other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities.

Enhance the Level of Facilitation for Cross-boundary Flow of Factors

4.13 To facilitate the cross-boundary flow of people, we will enhance the clearance capacity of boundary control points. We will step up facilitation measures for cross-boundary passenger flow, enhance the layout of boundary control points, and boost clearance efficiency. We will also leverage the advantages of the redeveloped Huanggang Port by implementing the co-location arrangement and adopting the novel "collaborative inspection and joint clearance" mode. Under this new clearance mode, cross-boundary passengers can verify their identity and complete immigration procedures of both places in one go by undergoing the "document reading" or "face scan" clearance at the automated channels. Meanwhile, cross-boundary drivers can complete clearance procedures of both places by undergoing "five-party inspection" arrangement at the "joint one-stop" vehicle lanes. We will adopt a "cross-river construction" approach for the redevelopment of the Sha Tau Kok Control Point, with the aforementioned novel and convenient clearance mode also adopted. We will consider introducing the said clearance mode in existing boundary control points if conditions permit. We will also strengthen the coordination mechanism for boundary control points in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and promote information exchange among multiple boundary control points, so as to enhance their predictive and management capabilities, and thus the operational efficacy.

4.14 We will promote the development of cross-boundary logistics, facilitating the clearance and circulation of goods between Hong Kong and the Mainland. We will make good use of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge to drive the establishment of a Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge new trade corridor, so as to facilitate the smooth operation of inter-city logistics within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. We will also increase investment for capacity expansion, upgrading, and digitalisation of cross-boundary freight ports to expedite customs clearance and reduce the logistics costs of enterprises. We will promote the digitalisation of cross-boundary trade, enhance connectivity between the Single Windows of the Mainland and Hong Kong and progressively extend the “Single Submission for Dual Declaration” Scheme to cover more trade documents and modes of transport. These measures will reduce duplicate data entry for enterprises and further facilitate cross-boundary trade.

4.15 We will consolidate Hong Kong’s role as a food import and export trade hub. We will promote the export of a wider spectrum of Hong Kong food products to the Mainland and enable them to enjoy customs clearance facilitation, while leveraging modernised technologies to help establish Hong Kong’s agricultural and fisheries products as one of the exemplary brands of safety, premium quality, and carbon reduction in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. We will facilitate import of premium-quality agricultural and food products from different provinces and municipalities to Hong Kong, developing our city into a base for Mainland food enterprises to expand their business and a window to tap into overseas markets.

4.16 We will facilitate cross-boundary vehicle transport and promote the development of cross-boundary autonomous driving. We will continue to enhance the facilitation measures for cross-boundary vehicle transport (including “Northbound Travel for Hong Kong Vehicles” and “Southbound Travel for Guangdong Vehicles”) and promote the interconnectivity of charging infrastructure, so as to better address the ever-increasing demand for cross-boundary travel and commuting. We will proactively develop and implement cross-boundary autonomous driving demonstration projects of strategic significance to advance the scaling up and commercialisation of autonomous driving.

4.17 We will promote cross-boundary capital flow and advance pilot initiatives to drive financial policy innovation. We will strengthen collaboration with financial markets in cities such as Shenzhen and Guangzhou, etc., so as to facilitate the application of cross-boundary data validation platform, and foster the high-quality development of fintech in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. We will fully leverage the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area as a testing ground for policy innovation to provide a wider range of cross-boundary insurance products for residents therein, explore the implementation of facilitation services for settlement of cross-boundary insurance funds in banking institutions’ current accounts, and deepen the interconnectivity of insurance markets of the two places. We will also enhance the cross-boundary gold processing trade, while exploring green finance and sustainable investment as well as fintech cooperation, with a view to promoting the development of carbon markets and green finance ecosystem in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and fostering the development of international carbon markets.

4.18 We will facilitate the convenient flow of data in order to enhance government services. We will establish a sound cross-boundary data management mechanism, promote collaboration on cross-boundary data governance, and enhance cross-boundary data flow facilitation, with a view to promoting data flow, usage, and secure data sharing in areas such as fintech, e-commerce, and electronic health records, etc. We will also deepen the interconnectivity and standardisation of information infrastructure in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, while exploring electronic identities mutual recognition and digital government services integration.

Table 29 Enhancing the Level of Facilitation for Cross-boundary Flow of Factors

1. Exploring enhancement of the mutual capital market access mechanism

- Closely monitor market development, and continuously explore further enhancement of the “Cross-boundary Wealth Management Connect Scheme in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area” to jointly promote with the Mainland the steady and smooth implementation of the scheme, while deepening the mechanisms of Bond Connect, Stock Connect, etc.

2. Enhancing cross-boundary financial services for people’s livelihood

- Further enhance cross-boundary financial services relevant to people’s livelihood, including cross-boundary credit referencing, cross-boundary data validation, account opening by attestation, Payment Connect, and facilitative payment arrangements for Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area residents purchasing properties, making efforts to enhance the convenience, access, and efficiency of cross-boundary financial services to better meet people’s livelihood needs.

3. Enhancing the after-sales services for Hong Kong insurance policies held by residents of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

- Through improving the alignment mechanism and operational guidelines, steadily enhance the level of convenience for Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area residents who are holders of Hong Kong insurance policies to enjoy insurance after-sales services, where risks are controllable.

Table 29 Enhancing the Level of Facilitation for Cross-boundary Flow of Factors (Cont'd.)

4. Expanding the cross-boundary medical record sharing

- Anchor eHealth as the core platform to drive the orderly alignment of healthcare data standards and data security protection mechanisms between Hong Kong and other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities. On the premise of strictly safeguarding data security and patient privacy, and in compliance with the laws and regulations of both places, we will build a secure and efficient cross-boundary data sharing network and expand cross-boundary medical record sharing to more effectively support citizens' cross-boundary medical needs, and enhance the quality and safety of cross-boundary healthcare services.
- Leverage data as a key factor to catalyse the synergised development of "Healthy Bay Area", and establish a "Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area model" for the cross-boundary data governance for our country.

Section 4 Achieve "Connectivity of Hearts" among Residents in Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao

4.19 We will strengthen cooperation between Hong Kong's higher education institutions and those in other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities by establishing cross-disciplinary partnerships, facilitating scientific research, knowledge transfer, and commercialisation, with a view to promoting high-level research. We will continue to support Hong Kong's higher education institutions in forming alliances with their counterparts in the Mainland, and enhance the level of joint talent cultivation and exchanges between Guangdong and Hong Kong, fostering effective industry-academia-research collaboration between Hong Kong and the Mainland.

4.20 We will broaden the horizons for young people to develop their careers in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and encourage them to seize the opportunities in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. Through the Alliance of Hong Kong Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurial Bases in the Greater Bay Area, we strive to spark innovation and entrepreneurial spirit among young people and support them in pursuing their dreams. We will continue to implement the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme, and facilitate the employment, internship, and entrepreneurship for young people of Hong Kong who wish to pursue opportunities in other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities. Enterprises which employ young people of Hong Kong can also arrange for young people from the Mainland to work in Hong Kong, so as to promote talent exchange within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

4.21 We will establish a cross-boundary medical network and strengthen cross-boundary healthcare collaboration to develop the “Healthy Bay Area” model. In addition to facilitating the flow of cross-boundary medical data as a key factor, we will explore further expanding the “Elderly Health Care Voucher Greater Bay Area Pilot Scheme” to offer eligible Hong Kong elderly persons greater convenience and flexibility. We will dovetail with the national policy of “the measure of using Hong Kong registered drugs and medical devices used in Hong Kong public hospital in the Greater Bay Area”, and facilitate cross-boundary medical consultations as well as sharing of medical resources. We will also continue to promote the Voluntary Health Insurance Scheme, under which the designated basic benefit items of certified plans are applicable worldwide, including in various cities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, thereby facilitating Hong Kong people’s access to cross-boundary healthcare services.

4.22 To enhance the interface of cross-boundary elderly services, we will continue to expand the Residential Care Services Scheme in Guangdong, and further improve the cross-boundary cash assistance arrangements. We will also extend the “Pilot Scheme for Direct Cross-boundary Ambulance Transfer in the Greater Bay Area” to facilitate more point-to-point two-way ambulance transfers.

4.23 To jointly develop an international, first-class beautiful bay area, we will cooperate with Guangdong and Macao to promote ecological civilisation and enhance the biodiversity of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. We will participate in the development of “Beautiful Bays” by implementing water quality management, marine refuse prevention and control, as well as blue carbon restoration¹⁷, so as to enhance marine carrying capacity. Through data sharing and collaborative governance under a smart environmental monitoring platform, we will jointly develop a worldclass beautiful bay area. We will deepen collaboration in resources circulation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and continue to maintain close cooperation with Guangdong in taking forward Zero Waste Bay Area. We will also deepen ecological cooperation between Hong Kong and Shenzhen, providing links for collaborative public participation in biodiversity conservation between both places, and commence cooperation in ecological monitoring and observation along the Shenzhen-Hong Kong ecological corridor.

17 “Blue carbon restoration” refers to the conservation and restoration of ecosystems such as coastal areas and wetlands, thereby enhancing their capacity to absorb and sequester carbon dioxide.

4.24 We will strengthen the training and protection of the Pearl River Estuary and the rivers along the Guangdong-Hong Kong boundary, and promote cooperation in disaster prevention and mitigation, water security, planning, implementation, and management of projects, information sharing, water-related technology, mutual recognition of standards, etc., so as to provide support and safeguards on the front of water resources for the high-quality development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

4.25 We will promote the integrated development of culture, sports, and tourism, to develop the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area into a cultured bay area. We will strengthen cooperation with other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities and the tourism industry to introduce multi-destination travel itineraries, thereby fully leveraging Hong Kong's role as a core demonstration zone for multi-destination. We will leverage the sports venue resources of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities to enhance the efficacy of training and event organisation, and co-organise major sports leagues such as the Guangdong-Hong Kong Cup, so as to promote sports tourism. Under the strategic framework of the Agreement on Strengthening of Sports Cooperation and Promotion of Integrated Development, we will deepen cooperation, and strive to co-organise important regional and international single-sport events. We will strengthen cultural exchanges, pass on Cantonese opera and the characteristics of Lingnan culture, and promote the sales and cross-boundary exhibition of Hong Kong publications.

Section 5 Advance the Development of Major Cooperation Platforms within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

4.26 Hong Kong will continue to actively participate in the development of the various major cooperation platforms, including Qianhai of Shenzhen, Nansha of Guangzhou, Hengqin of Zhuhai, and the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Co-operation Zone. We will collaborate to share infrastructural and industry resources, deepen strategic alignment to promote mutual benefits, and fully leverage the pilot and demonstration role of major cooperation platforms in the country's deepening of reforms, expansion of opening-up, and fostering of cooperation.

4.27 We will support the Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Co-operation Zone as a platform for early and pilot implementation. We will support the exploration of the integrated development of technology and finance in both places, attracting more foreign capital to the Mainland private capital market. We will support Hong Kong's modern service industry, including international professional services and resources such as architectural design, taxation and accounting, advisory, etc., in establishing presence in Qianhai so as to tap into the Mainland market. We will advance Shenzhen-Hong Kong cross-boundary IP cooperation, and widen the collaboration to position Qianhai as the pilot platform of Hong Kong's construction project management regime. In the meantime, we will continue to deepen the precise alignment and institutionalised cooperation in professions such as legal services, arbitration, and mediation between the two places, so as to contribute to the diversification of mechanisms for international commercial dispute resolution. We will support young people of Hong Kong in seizing opportunities brought by various initiatives such as the Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Youth Innovation and Entrepreneur Hub, thereby incubating more innovative Hong Kong entrepreneurial teams with global vision as well as competitive entrepreneurial projects. We will continue to develop the offshore soybean spot market through the Qianhai Mercantile Exchange, and jointly adopt cross-border RMB settlement and the use of digital RMB with relevant institutions, reinforcing Hong Kong's function as a global offshore RMB business hub. We will also support the development of a safe and convenient Shenzhen-Hong Kong cross-boundary data channel in Qianhai to expand data collaboration in areas such as healthcare, finance, and education, etc. between Shenzhen and Hong Kong.

4.28 We will support Nansha in playing its role as a high-standard gateway for opening up. By facilitating mutually beneficial cooperation in maritime transport, enhancing existing routes, and promoting differentiated development of ports in both places, we will strengthen the overall competitiveness of ports in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area for a win-win collaboration. We will support Hong Kong's maritime service sector in providing professional maritime services to Nansha, such as ship management, inspection and testing, finance, international ship broking, and maritime legal services, etc., with a view to upgrading the maritime industry of the Mainland through Hong Kong's internationalised maritime ecosystem. We will explore innovative mode of cooperation, and participate in the construction and operation of key projects, such as infrastructure and industry chain cooperation, in Nansha. We will coordinate for the enhancement of the prevailing qualification recognition registration system in Nansha and the establishment of a communication mechanism for regular sharing of project information to facilitate Hong Kong enterprises to participate in the tendering exercises. We will leverage Hong Kong's I&T strengths to promote the development of marine biological resources and ecological monitoring, and foster the two-way flow of talent and innovative resources through collaboration within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and I&T parks as well as platforms of scientific research institutes. We will also promote mutual recognition of cross-boundary vocational qualifications, facilitate the mobility of professional talent, and encourage young people to work or become entrepreneurs in Nansha.

4.29 We shall develop a high-level I&T demonstration zone in Hetao by coordinating and advancing the development of “one river, two banks” and “one zone, two parks” at the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone. The Loop Hong Kong Park will join forces with the Shenzhen Park in developing the Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Co-operation Zone into an important focal point of the international technology and innovation centre in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, as well as the key impetus for high-quality development.

4.30 We will deepen our collaboration with Macao in areas such as economic development, culture, tourism, talent attraction, law, airspace management, boundary control point coordination, and emergency response, etc., with a view to seizing the opportunities in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area together by leveraging our respective strengths. We encourage different sectors of society to proactively participate in the development of the Hengqin Guangdong-Macao Intensive Co-operation Zone, so that the business community and professional services providers of Hong Kong may capitalise on the opportunities presented by the integrated development of Hengqin and Macao to further expand their business.

Chapter 15 Deepen Regional Cooperation with the Mainland

4.31 We will further strengthen collaboration with other areas in the Mainland. Through multi-layered cooperation, we will align with the development needs and industry distribution of different places to strengthen professional collaboration, market connectivity, and talent exchange, so as to leverage our respective strengths and achieve mutual benefits. A mechanism for regular exchanges among government departments will be established to promote policy alignment and experience sharing. We will support Hong Kong enterprises in participating in regional development strategies of the country, and foster two-way investments and market expansion by organising investment promotion activities and through business matching platforms.

4.32 We will actively deepen cultural, youth, and professional exchanges with the Mainland. We will encourage higher education institutions and scientific research institutes to launch joint research projects and student exchange programmes, and continue to implement the Sister School Scheme to foster interactions among principals, teachers, and students of both Hong Kong and the Mainland, so as to promote professional collaboration and enhance teaching quality. We will promote interactions in the creative industries by co-organising exhibitions, cultural festivals, and residency exchange programmes. We will also support young people in better developing their careers through a wide array of programmes, such as internship, employment, entrepreneurship support, as well as exchange visits, etc.

Chapter 16 Deepen International Cooperation and Exchanges

4.33 Hong Kong will continue to give full play to its advantages under “One Country, Two Systems” and its unique role as a world city. We will deepen international exchanges and expand our global cooperation network. As a “super connector” between the Mainland and the rest of the world, Hong Kong will continue to develop diversified platforms as an open, inclusive, and professional city, with a view to promoting mutual trust and benefits between our country and the rest of the world, contributing to the development of “a community with a shared future for mankind”.

4.34 We will leverage our strengths as a world city and actively participate in the work of international organisations. We will further integrate our institutional advantages and internationalisation attributes into the system of coordinated regional development to reinforce free trade, regional cooperation, and the rules-based multilateral trading system. We will further support our country in strengthening its voice and work in international organisations, and attract more international organisations and multilateral institutions to establish offices or regional headquarters in Hong Kong.

Table 30 Active Participation in the Work of International Organisations

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|--|
| 1. Active participation in the work of international economic and trade organisations <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Actively participate in international organisations such as the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation and the World Trade Organization, etc. |
| 2. Attracting international organisations to establish presence in Hong Kong <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attract more international organisations and multilateral institutions to establish offices or regional headquarters in Hong Kong. |
| 3. Consolidating Hong Kong’s status as a Regional Specialised Meteorological Centre for Nowcasting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Hong Kong Observatory will continue to consolidate its status as the Regional Specialised Meteorological Centre for Nowcasting, providing training and technical support in nowcasting for Southeast Asian region. |

Table 30 Active Participation in the Work of International Organisations (Cont'd.)

4. Strengthening Hong Kong's status as an international legal and dispute resolution services centre

- Through the establishment of the headquarters of the International Organization for Mediation in Hong Kong, showcase our edge as the only Chinese-English bilingual jurisdiction in the world practising common law and our status as an international legal and dispute resolution services centre, with a view to enhancing the influence of our country in global governance, and positioning Hong Kong as the global capital of mediation.
- Provide practical legal training and promote exchanges among international legal talent through the Hong Kong International Legal Talents Training Academy, so as to develop Hong Kong into a national as well as an international hub for high-calibre legal talent.

4.35 We will organise high-level international conferences and forums to strengthen our global influence. More regional and global conferences and forums will be held, bringing together political and business leaders, experts, and scholars from different countries with a view to fostering exchanges and telling good stories of China and Hong Kong. The Belt and Road Summit has been hosted successfully in Hong Kong for many years, and has become an important platform for economic and trade cooperation connecting the Belt and Road Initiative partner countries. We will strive to regularise or host more international mega events in various fields such as finance, I&T, green development, and healthcare, etc., so as to attract global representatives to visit Hong Kong and better understand the development achievements, policy opportunities, and business environments of our country and our city. Meanwhile, we will support Mainland enterprises in tapping into international markets through these international conferences and forums held in Hong Kong.

4.36 We will leverage Hong Kong's international arts exhibitions, cultural festivals, theatre performances, as well as films and music platforms to systematically facilitate Chinese culture to go global, and promote the core values of Chinese culture through high-quality arts and cultural works.

4.37 We will serve as a bridge for the promotion of Chinese standards. Through technology empowerment, cross-boundary collaboration, and institutional innovation, we will contribute in the areas of R&D, formulation of standards, product certification, overseas expansion of enterprises, and export facilitation. We will support the showcasing, transformation, and worldwide promotion of the technological achievements of our country using Hong Kong's international platform, thereby facilitating the internationalisation of Chinese standards.

Table 31 Promoting Chinese Standards**1. Railway Standards**

- With the benefit of the newly-formulated Hong Kong Railway Standards, integrate the advanced railway specifications of our country and recognised international standards, and take full advantage of Mainland experience in railway construction and world-leading technologies for application in relevant railway projects.

2. LAE Standards

- Facilitate the alignment of Mainland and international standards for the LAE industry, and promote compatibility of LAE-related standards in the Mainland and Hong Kong.

3. Chinese Medicine Standards

- Strive to become a bridgehead for the global expansion of Chinese medicine by facilitating participation of the Government Chinese Medicines Testing Institute in developing international Chinese medicine standards through platforms such as the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine to promote Chinese medicine products in overseas markets.
- By establishing The Chinese Medicine Hospital of Hong Kong and the Government Chinese Medicines Testing Institute, promote pure Chinese medicine and integrated Chinese-Western medicine services as the “Hong Kong model” in the modern healthcare system, so as to provide a high-standard reference model for the world. Develop Chinese medicine standards aligned with international standards, on the basis of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Chinese medicine, with a view to extending the benefits of Chinese medicine services and products to more countries.

4. National Hospital Accreditation Standards

- Facilitate the internationalisation of national hospital accreditation standards by encouraging more hospitals in Hong Kong to attain accreditation under China’s International Hospital Accreditation Standards and serve as demonstration platforms, so as to enhance the understanding and recognition of national standards among international healthcare institutions. Improve treatment effectiveness through establishing, by phase, Chest Pain Centres, Stroke Centres, and Integrated Cardiovascular Diseases Centres in accordance with national standards, thus providing Hong Kong empirical evidence and exemplars in facilitating the internationalisation of national standards.

5. Green and low-carbon hydrogen standards and certification framework

- Establish a set of green and low-carbon hydrogen standards and a certification system that connect with the Mainland and the rest of world to enhance mutual recognition and competitiveness in the global market. Develop Hong Kong into an international demonstration platform for green and low-carbon hydrogen technologies to promote the internationalisation of China’s green hydrogen standards, technologies, and products.

Chapter 17 Pursue Cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative

4.38 We will deeply participate in the high-quality Belt and Road cooperation. We will make full use of our diverse and internationally-recognised professional service resources and experiences, attracting and allocating capital, enterprises, projects, talent, technologies, rules and standards, so as to solidify Hong Kong's status as the premier partner and a hub for multilateral cooperation for the Belt and Road Initiative partner countries. We will provide financing, project management, and risk management services for areas such as urban development, transport network, ports, airports, and energy, etc. for the Belt and Road Initiative partner countries, and will support the implementation of green infrastructure and sustainable development projects. Riding on actual projects, we will facilitate the participation by Hong Kong enterprises and professionals in relevant collaboration projects with the Belt and Road Initiative partner countries, with a view to achieving more pragmatic and sustainable outcomes.

4.39 We will actively participate in the development of the Silk Road Maritime and Air Silk Road by stepping up cooperation with the Belt and Road Initiative partner countries in respect of port operation, maritime services, as well as air passenger and cargo services, so as to enhance logistics efficiency and improve the intermodal network.

4.40 We will support high-quality green Belt and Road development by establishing an international green cooperation hub to pool resources and foster green innovation, supporting all parties to participate in the high-quality green development under the Belt and Road Initiative. We will actively take part in the Belt and Road Conference on Science and Technology Exchange, and the Belt and Road Ministerial Meeting on Science, Technology and Innovation, and participate in the implementation of the Belt and Road Science, Technology and Innovation Co-operation Action Plan.

4.41 We will expand channels for cultural exchanges with the Belt and Road Initiative partner countries in areas such as culture, education, sports, legal, as well as among young people and entrepreneurs, etc. We will actively promote the application of the rules, standards and best practices of Hong Kong among the Belt and Road Initiative partner countries, and advance the development of a "clean Silk Road", strengthening cooperation in fighting corruption and maintaining a clean business environment.

Part 5

Enhance Social Well-being and Refine the Social Protection Framework

5.1 The ultimate objective of governance lies in enhancing social well-being. In the meantime, enhanced livelihood will stimulate market demand in society, energising market activities, propelling economic development. We will enhance our population strategies, with a view to promoting high-quality population development. To actively address the challenges arising from demographic changes, such as ageing population and declining birth rate, we will continue to pursue enhancements in various policy areas, including education and training, housing supply, labour and welfare, healthcare services, youth development, and child care support, etc. Coordinated efforts will be made to advance institutional improvement and service enhancement, so as to continuously strengthen the sense of fulfilment, happiness, and security in our community.

Chapter 18 Advance Quality Education

Section 1 Strengthen Future-ready Education System

5.2 We will holistically enhance students' AI literacy while strengthening teachers' professional capacity. To nurture students' innovation capabilities, we will systematically drive comprehensive educational innovation and promote the progressive integration of AI into learning, teaching, and assessment across various Key Learning Areas (including Physical Education, and Arts Education, etc.) and cross-disciplinary domains (such as STEAM education¹⁸). We will also advance school curriculum development to keep pace with the times, fostering students' spirit of "Technology for Good" with humanistic qualities.

18 That is Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics education.

5.3 We will foster cross-sectoral collaboration to forge a digital education ecosystem. By promoting digital education in primary and secondary schools, we will strengthen students' learning in mathematics, science, and technology, laying a solid foundation for their further studies in I&T, thereby nurturing innovative talent for the future. We will promote the digitalisation in kindergarten education administration, enhance the overall effectiveness of schools in leveraging I&T (such as AI), and create more space for teachers to cultivate children's curiosity, creativity, and exploratory spirit. We will enhance the compilation of teaching materials and the review mechanism for textbooks, and adopt digital technologies to strengthen support for learning and teaching.

5.4 We will deepen patriotic education, national education, national security education, and values education, and integrate them into daily teaching, with a view to nurturing a new generation with both virtue and ability, an affection for our country and Hong Kong, cultural confidence, proper values, and a global perspective. We will strengthen biliterate and trilingual education and the learning of other languages to promote cross-cultural exchanges, supporting Hong Kong's role as an East-meets-West centre for international arts and cultural exchange and a base for fostering cultural exchanges between our country and the rest of the world. We will make full use of the resources in the Mainland to advance patriotic education for young people and take forward the establishment of Patriotic Education Bases for Hong Kong and Macao Youth in an orderly manner. We will strengthen values education and ground students in Chinese culture, guiding them to take an interest in the well-being of mankind as a whole, with a view to cultivating among them a stronger sense of mission and responsibility towards "building a community with a shared future for mankind".

5.5 We will broaden the international horizons of Hong Kong students by driving post-secondary institutions to actively organise more exchange activities, and making good use of various measures, such as the Funding Scheme for Chinese Mainland and Global Engagement and Student Learning Experience, to broaden the international horizons of Hong Kong students, enhance cross-cultural exchange on campus, and foster a diverse and inclusive international learning environment, while encouraging students to explore development opportunities both at home and abroad.

Section 2 Enhance the Allocation of Education Resources

5.6 We will enhance the allocation mechanism for education resources to tie in with demographic changes, enhance the dynamic adjustment of resources for basic education and their re-allocation to address surpluses and shortfalls, and facilitate further expansion and development of quality primary and secondary schools. We will also step up efforts to encourage and support school sponsoring bodies to merge quality primary and secondary schools with potential, and expedite resource consolidation for schools of a smaller scale, resulting in schools of larger scale, higher quality, and higher efficiency as their respective strengths and missions aggregate, thus achieving synergy.

5.7 We will strengthen the cultivation of teachers' morality and ethics, refine the training framework for teachers, enhance their professionalism and competencies, and promote the spirit of outstanding educators. We will enhance the teacher registration mechanism and set out specific training requirements and targets. In the meantime, we will also broaden the scope of the training mechanism and training modes while deepening cooperation with the Mainland.

5.8 We will promote capacity expansion and quality enhancement of Hong Kong's post-secondary education, so as to continuously consolidate and develop the unique advantages of Hong Kong's highly internationalised and diversified education system under "One Country, Two Systems", advancing the high-quality development of education. In line with the strategy of invigorating the country through science and education, we will step up efforts in developing basic and emerging disciplines, as well as interdisciplinary studies, and nurturing top-notch talent. We will deepen international exchanges and cooperation, promote collaboration between Hong Kong's institutions and academic and research institutions in the Mainland and overseas, as well as encourage local institutions to organise large-scale international events in Hong Kong, so as to consolidate and enhance Hong Kong's status in the international education arena. We will foster the mutual empowerment between I&T and talent cultivation to promote the integrated development of education, technology, and talent, with a view to better serving our country's endeavour to develop into a leading country in education.

Section 3 Nurture Cross-functional and Multi-skilled Talent

5.9 We will build a platform for the integration of industry and education to advance the high-quality development of vocational and professional education and training. We will foster global exchanges and collaboration across the industry and academia sectors by encouraging institutions to upgrade into universities of applied sciences, and substantially increasing the provision of applied degree programmes. By encouraging universities of applied sciences to offer programmes and conduct research projects in collaboration with the institutions in the Mainland and overseas, and adopting advanced modes of teaching for vocational and professional education and training, we will enhance the overall quality and recognition of our universities of applied sciences.

5.10 We will strengthen continuing vocational skills training to enhance the productivity and competitiveness of our workforce. We will enhance the depth and breadth of local continuing vocational skills training, and seek capacity expansion and quality enhancement in light of future trends in the application of skills and I&T, with a view to developing a high-quality, progressively-paced, and personalised skill-based training system for local workers. The Employees Retraining Board will be upgraded and become the “Upskill Hong Kong”, which will foster closer communication and stronger ties with enterprises, thus facilitating its timely apprehension of and response to prevailing and future trends in skills demand and manpower requirements of various sectors amid social developments, providing multi-level opportunities of upskilling and continuous education through diversified channels for the entire workforce.

Chapter 19 Foster the Development of Young People, Women, Families, and a Harmonious Society

Section 1 Enhance Youth Development Opportunities

5.11 We will develop diversified platforms for exchange and practical experience to broaden the horizons of young people. Building on the Youth Development Blueprint, we will step up our focus on young people's education, employment, entrepreneurship, and home ownership. We will strive to help them overcome practical difficulties while providing them with broader platforms and more opportunities to grow and thrive. We will strive to nurture a new generation of young people with an affection for our country and Hong Kong, empowering them with a global perspective as well as an ambitious and positive mindset. Leveraging Mainland resources, we will organise a wide variety of in-depth youth exchange activities to the Mainland, passing on the spirit of loving our country and Hong Kong. We will support young people in better seizing opportunities arising from national development, with a focus on nurturing talent who can serve the needs of our country and leverage the strengths of Hong Kong. We will develop the Youth Development Summit as a flagship event to advance international youth exchange and collaboration, harnessing the power of young people to tell good stories of our country and Hong Kong.

5.12 We will strive to create a conducive environment for young people to fully realise their talents. We will widen the scope of the Young Talent Training Programme to more industry sectors, aiming to nurture quality young talent for more key areas under the development plans of our country and Hong Kong. Through a wide array of youth programmes and activities, we endeavour to holistically cultivate the diverse talents of young people, and offer them more opportunities to explore, including participation in exchanges regarding public affairs, science, arts, and sports, thereby unleashing their potential and enhancing the effectiveness of talent development.

Section 2 Support Young People in Pursuing Their Dreams

5.13 We strive to foster better development for our young people through strengthening collaboration among the Government, the business sector, and the community. We will provide young people with more internship and exchange opportunities to sharpen their competitive edge in both local and international job markets. We will also enhance the education and employment prospects for young people of ethnic minority through internship opportunities, language education, and support at district-level.

5.14 We will foster youth entrepreneurship with support measures such as funding and incubation services, with a view to transforming youth innovation and creativity into new impetus for economic development. We will better leverage the one-stop platform that is the Alliance of Hong Kong Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurial Bases in the Greater Bay Area to provide holistic support for our young people's entrepreneurial endeavours.

5.15 We will strengthen support for youth employment. We will enhance youth employment support services, monitor the impact of technology application on the labour market for young people, and assist young people (fresh graduates in particular) in securing on-the-job training opportunities and work experience, thereby enhancing their employability.

Section 3 Empower Women to Realise Their Potential

5.16 We are committed to creating an environment conducive to driving women's development, protecting their rights, and promoting their well-being. We strive to empower women across all roles, social positions, and life stages so that they can realise their multifaceted potential amid Hong Kong's high-quality development.

Section 4 Foster Family Harmony and a Culture of Social Cohesion

5.17 We will advocate good family virtues, strengthen family bonds, education, and traditions, and promote good family values, thereby consolidating the family as the cornerstone of social harmony.

5.18 We will facilitate communication and development with and among the rural communities. We will reinforce the role of Heung Yee Kuk and clansmen associations as a key force dedicated to the country and Hong Kong and promote the spirit of loving the hometown, with a view to fostering mainstream values which are characterised by patriotism as well as affection for Hong Kong and in conformity with the principle of "One Country, Two Systems".

5.19 We encourage religious communities in Hong Kong to sustain their efforts in fostering social harmony and inclusion, and take part in the provision of educational, medical, and welfare services. With the concerted efforts of all walks of life, we will strive to create an equal and caring society characterised by diversity and inclusiveness. We will enhance the support for ethnic minorities with a view to increasing their understanding of the development of our country and striving for the betterment of Hong Kong together.

Chapter 20 Deepen Healthcare System Reform

Section 1 Advance the High-quality Development of Primary Healthcare

5.20 We will develop a sustainable governance system for primary healthcare¹⁹. To strengthen legal protection in the healthcare sector, we will empower the Primary Healthcare Commission through legislation to establish multi-disciplinary, evidence-based, coordinated, and coherent service and referral standards. We will also set up a statutory register of primary healthcare service providers to enhance service quality.

5.21 We will develop the Primary Healthcare Co-care Network and the District Health Network in a coordinated manner, expanding service coverage to the elderly, women, and newborn infants, strengthening multi-disciplinary collaboration, and connecting primary healthcare with secondary²⁰ and tertiary²¹ healthcare services. We will strive to substantially complete the establishment of District Health Centres in all 18 districts across Hong Kong within five years, and strengthen community support for mental health and psychological well-being. By leveraging the District Health Network, we will promote personalised Life Course Preventive Care Plan built on a family medicine model, providing citizens across different life stages with screening for chronic diseases and cancers as well as health advice, with a view to actualising early prevention, early identification, and early management.

Table 32 Enhancing Primary Healthcare Services

1. Enhancing the accessibility of primary healthcare services

- Within five years, further enhance the accessibility of primary healthcare service, bringing the cumulative membership of District Health Centres to one million, including 700 000 members receiving services under the Primary Healthcare Co-care Network.

2. Strengthening public-private collaboration

- In line with the Primary Healthcare Blueprint, enhance the family doctor system across both the public and private sectors, expand the list of primary healthcare service providers, reinforce the bi-directional referral mechanism, and enhance the coordination between community-based primary healthcare and hospital services.

19 Primary healthcare is the first tier of the healthcare system, serving as the first point of contact for individuals and families in continuing healthcare process.

20 Secondary healthcare services include acute and convalescent in-patient care, day surgery, specialist out-patient, and Accident and Emergency services.

21 Tertiary healthcare refers to highly complex and costly hospital care, usually with the application of advanced technology and multi-disciplinary specialised expertise. Tertiary healthcare services are usually required by patients with complicated but relatively less common diseases, or those suffering from catastrophic injuries or illnesses.

Table 32 Enhancing Primary Healthcare Services (Cont'd.)

3. Increasing resource allocation

- Steadily increase government resource allocation to primary healthcare programmes, with an estimated rise of about 30% from the current level by 2030-31, to promote systematic preventive care through a life-course approach.

Section 2 Enhance the Resilience of Hong Kong's Healthcare Services

5.22 We will deepen public healthcare reform. In the interest of the public, we will reform the subsidisation structure of public healthcare services with greater efforts, as well as to enhance the protection for “poor, acute, serious, critical” patients on all fronts. We will strive to make the healthcare system more sustainable to better cope with an ageing society, the increasing prevalence of chronic diseases, and the development of innovative drugs and medical devices, thereby strengthening the role of the public healthcare system as a safety net for all. Under the principles of “the Government’s overall commitment will not be lessened” and sustainability of subsidisation, we will continue to implement the healthcare service reform.

5.23 We will enhance the quality and efficiency of private healthcare services. We will implement the statutory premises-based regulatory regime under the Private Healthcare Facilities Ordinance to ensure the facility safety and service quality of private hospitals, day procedure centres and clinics as well as to enhance their price transparency, thereby protecting patients’ safety and rights. We will also promote the integration of private healthcare data, the standardisation of the scope of healthcare services and chargeable items, and the development of evidence-based clinical guidelines as well as quality and efficiency standards, with a view to enhancing overall service quality and efficiency.

5.24 We will promote comprehensive, high-quality, and high-standard development of Chinese medicine. By inheriting the wisdom of Chinese medicine and leveraging our country’s development experience and resources, we will make good use of Chinese medicine to provide Hong Kong citizens with higher quality and more comprehensive healthcare services for better health outcomes.

5.25 We will advance the development of healthcare infrastructure. The public hospital development plan has been rolled out progressively to raise the overall healthcare capacity and quality. We will press full steam ahead with the works projects²² under the First Hospital Development Plan, which upon completion will increase the total number of public hospital beds under the Hospital Authority to about 35 000 in 2031, and that of operating theatres to about 360. We are taking forward the eHealth+ development plan to develop a digital health network that covers the whole city and connects with the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. We will develop new functions and expand the scope of services, integrate all government-subsidised health programmes, and transform the eHealth App into an integrated health tool for citizens.

5.26 We will advance the development of smart hospitals. Following the two major strategic directions of “Provide Smart Care” and “Develop Smart Hospitals”, we will leverage digitalisation, the use of data, and AI to holistically advance the digital transformation of public hospitals in five key areas, namely “smart care”, “smart hospital management”, “smart hospital support”, “smart staff”, and “smart facilities and infrastructure”.

5.27 We will enhance the development of healthcare professionals. Through the systematic projection of healthcare manpower, we will strive to strengthen the training of local healthcare professionals and the strategies for talent attraction, and actively advance the relevant infrastructure development. We will promote exchanges between local and Mainland healthcare professionals and facilitate the alignment of healthcare professionals training in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area with international standards, thereby further fostering the interactions and development of healthcare professionals in Hong Kong and the Mainland.

22 Projects expected to be completed between 2026 and 2030 include the redevelopment of Kwai Chung Hospital, the new Kai Tak Hospital, the redevelopment of Grantham Hospital (phase 1), the redevelopment of Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital, the expansion of Lai King Building in Princess Margaret Hospital, the redevelopment of Prince of Wales Hospital, phase 2 (stage 1), the expansion of United Christian Hospital, the redevelopment of Kwong Wah Hospital, and the redevelopment of Shek Kip Mei Health Centre. Two other projects, namely the expansion of North District Hospital and the development of Health Integrated Building at On Sau Road, Kwun Tong, are expected to be completed in 2031 and 2032 respectively.

Section 3 Concerted Efforts to Build a Healthy and Vibrant Hong Kong

5.28 We will strengthen our disease prevention and control system and smart anti-epidemic measures. We will comprehensively enhance the multi-point triggered monitoring and early warning system for communicable diseases as well as our emergency response capacity, while continuously optimising the disease prevention and control system to prevent the importation of cases. We will also strengthen manpower training and the review of our vaccination strategy, alongside the establishment of a scientific, precise, and holistic disease prevention and control system, so as to consolidate frontline defence against communicable diseases. We will participate actively in the World Health Organization's laboratory networks in promoting R&D as well as clinical trial of vaccines, supporting the translation of R&D outcomes. In the meantime, we will advance the digital intelligence transformation of the communicable disease prevention and control system, focusing on building an "integrated epidemic management system" with an emergency response function to enable accurate risk assessment. Before proceeding with the planned long-term development of Hetao, we will continue to fully utilise the temporary structures and facilities of the Central Government-Aided Emergency Hospital to provide day-to-day healthcare services.

5.29 We will deepen joint prevention and control. We will consolidate the cooperation mechanism for epidemic notification and joint prevention and control between Hong Kong and the Mainland (in particular other Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area cities) and make it a normal practice. We will also deepen information sharing, technological collaboration, and talent training with Mainland and overseas disease control institutions. All these will improve the quality of collective efforts in early warning and risk assessment.

5.30 We will strive to raise public health awareness and build a smoke-free city. We will fully implement the Life-course Health Promotion Strategy and the Action Plan on Weight Management while commencing a new round of territory-wide Health Behaviour Survey in parallel to improve the life-course health monitoring system. By leveraging big data integration and analytics, we aim to deliver evidence-driven insights to inform healthcare policy formulation and resource allocation so as to reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases at source. We will bring home the messages on healthy eating, regular physical activity, and mental health to the education and work environment to guide the public towards a healthy lifestyle. We will also strengthen tobacco control measures to build a smoke-free city.

5.31 We will participate actively in international healthcare affairs. We will advance international cooperation on the health front through active participation in international healthcare conferences, as well as the deliberation and formulation of international standards and specifications, etc., while making ongoing efforts to deepen health exchange and cooperation with various regions. We will host major international healthcare events such as the Asia Summit on Global Health, building a high-level international exchange platform to play a more important role in global health governance and make positive contribution to enhancing the health and well-being of mankind.

Chapter 21 Enhance and Diversify the Housing System

Section 1 Strive to Resolve the Housing Issue

5.32 We will eradicate substandard subdivided units in an orderly manner to safeguard the basic housing needs of the grassroots. By implementing systematic housing policies and significantly increasing public housing supply through continuously enhancing quantity, speed, efficiency, and quality (including the completion of approximately 30 000 Light Public Housing units), we will have laid down a solid foundation for expediting public housing allocation to the grassroots, such that they may be caught by the public housing safety net the soonest. We are pressing ahead with the Basic Housing Unit regime to ensure that subdivided units in residential buildings are in compliance with the statutory requirements on safety, fire protection, and hygiene, etc.

Table 33 Eradicating Substandard Subdivided Units in an Orderly Manner
Resolving the issue of substandard subdivided units • Target to resolve the issue of substandard subdivided units in residential buildings by 2030, safeguarding the life and property of residents.

5.33 We will substantially increase public housing supply and take forward the Long Term Housing Strategy on all fronts. We will update the long term housing demand projection annually and formulate a rolling 10-year housing supply target in light of social, economic, and market changes. In the next decade, housing supply will be planned with a distribution of 40% for public rental housing (PRH) units, 30% for subsidised sale flats, and 30% for private residential properties. We remain committed to refining policy arrangements along three key directions, namely adhering to the “supply-led” principle, ensuring the rational use of PRH resources while encouraging upward mobility, and enhancing the housing ladder to promote home ownership among young people. Through these efforts, we strive to establish a new paradigm of sustainable, multi-strata housing supply.

5.34 We will continue to take forward the Light Public Housing initiative in an orderly manner as a groundbreaking and innovative type of temporary housing to address the pressing needs of residents, improving their living environment and quality. Through the extensive use of the Modular Integrated Construction approach and the adoption of innovative construction technologies to expedite construction, as well as the conversion of school premises, the remaining small number of units will be completed in 2027 to achieve the target of providing 30 000 Light Public Housing units, such that grassroots families waiting for traditional PRH can move into Light Public Housing with an improved living environment at a lower rent than that of traditional PRH, moving out of inadequate housing the soonest.

Table 34 Substantially Increasing Public Housing Supply

1. Increasing Public Housing Production

- Taking into account Light Public Housing, the total public housing production in Hong Kong will reach around 196 000 units in the coming five years (i.e. from 2026-27 to 2030-31).

2. Shortening the composite waiting time

- With the persistent increase in the total public housing production, the Composite Waiting Time for Subsidised Rental Housing will reduce to 4.5 years in 2026-27, and is expected to further reduce to less than four years in 2030-31.

5.35 We will continue to enhance the housing ladder to enable those of different income groups to achieve home ownership. We will continue to increase the supply of subsidised sale flats while refining sale and resale arrangements. We will also continue to pursue policy innovation and optimisation in relation to the housing ladder, so as to establish a multi-layered and diversified housing supply system. These measures will assist young people in achieving home ownership, support PRH residents and subsidised sale flat owners in moving up the housing ladder, and expedite the turnover of housing resources, thereby fundamentally strengthening Hong Kong's housing system and housing ladder.

5.36 In planning public housing units for completion over the next decade, the internal floor area of these units will be progressively enhanced and the proportion of larger units for newly-built subsidised sale flats will also be increased. In the meantime, the design of subsidised sale flats will be reviewed so as to cater for the lifestyle of the younger generation.

5.37 We will drive the development and application of construction technologies to enhance the speed and quality in housing production. We will actively promote the application of smart construction technologies such as Modular Integrated Construction with a view to advancing by two years the adoption of Modular Integrated Construction in not less than half of the public housing projects scheduled for completion in the five-year period of 2026-27 to 2030-31. In the long run, the second generation of Modular Integrated Construction or its further refined and developed new versions will be adopted at the planning and design stage in all new Modular Integrated Construction public housing projects to further boost the efficiency of housing production. We will strengthen collaboration among the Government, the industry, academia, and research institutions, so as to enhance the construction technology innovation platform, with a view to transforming public housing projects into a “housing innovation and technology incubation hub”. We will also promote integration into the innovation and industry chains of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and drive the synergised development of areas such as innovative housing technologies, smart construction, resource conservation, low carbon and emission reduction, and housing safety, etc.

Section 2 Enhance the Use of Housing Resources

5.38 We will sustain efforts to create land and build up the land reserve. To meet the socio-economic development needs of society, we will take the lead in supplying land. The 10-year formation forecast of “spade-ready sites” will be updated annually to enhance predictability and transparency in land supply. Through the annual Land Sale List and coordinating land supply sources such as railway property developments and the Urban Renewal Authority’s projects, land will be disposed in an orderly manner to facilitate the steady and healthy development of the property market. We will continue to introduce innovative land development models to further incentivise development and channel private capital to participate actively in strategic land and comprehensive community development projects, thereby driving the coordinated development of industries and high-quality residential neighbourhoods.

Table 35 Sustained Efforts in Land Creation
Sustained efforts in land creation, building up the land reserve • In the next 10 years (i.e. 2027-28 to 2036-37), the estimated output of “spade-ready sites” is about 2 500 hectares, among which about 1 400 hectares would be ready in the next five years (i.e. 2027-28 to 2031-32).

5.39 We will regenerate old districts with a new mindset. We will use land in new development areas to support the redevelopment of old districts to overcome the bottleneck of saturated infrastructure capacity that makes redeveloping old districts difficult, including reserving sites in the NDAs of the Northern Metropolis such that the Urban Renewal Authority can offer a new “Flat-for-Flat” arrangement. We will ease restrictions for the Urban Renewal Authority to take on redevelopment projects and review the “Seven-year Rule” compensation arrangement. In the next five years, the Urban Renewal Authority will commit at least around \$40 billion for urban renewal initiatives. To encourage the market to participate actively in the regeneration of old districts, we will introduce policy innovations by suitably increasing the plot ratio of private redevelopment projects on a pilot basis and implementing cross-district transfer of plot ratio. When implementing redevelopment projects, the regeneration of old districts will be integrated with environmental enhancement and regional development instead of following the “demolish and rebuild” approach for standalone building blocks, which will in turn reshape urban spaces, enhance community functions, improve transport connectivity, and enhance greening and public spaces (including waterfront areas), thereby transforming old districts into new communities that are smart and green, meeting modern living standards.

5.40 We will enhance the safeguarding mechanisms and monitoring practices for PRH to ensure the efficient use of public housing resources. Multi-pronged measures, such as optimising allocation of PRH and facilitating transition to subsidised home ownership, etc., will be implemented to encourage upward mobility and home ownership of PRH residents who have the means, thereby increasing the turnover rate of units, benefiting more families in need. We will apply information technology and data analysis to enhance detection of and combating abuses of PRH, with a view to expediting flat recovery for allocation to those who have been waiting.

Chapter 22 Strengthen the Protection for People's Livelihood

Section 1 Strengthen the Support for Disadvantaged Communities

5.41 We will continue to provide and enhance inclusive public services, including social welfare, healthcare, education and housing, etc., to offer basic protection to our citizens, with a view to relieving their family burden and improving their quality of life. We will progressively put in place multi-tiered social security to ensure the provision of an appropriate and dignified safety net for disadvantaged communities. In the meantime, we will empower those who can help themselves to encourage self-reliance and continuous striving.

5.42 We will stay committed to the “people-oriented” principle, under which we will step up our targeted poverty alleviation efforts and forge ahead in two key directions. First, an integration of macro-level statistics and micro-level care to provide different disadvantaged groups with focused support and responses that address their unique needs. Second, a shift from relying on the Government’s sole effort in poverty alleviation towards promoting tripartite collaboration among the Government, the business sector, and the community to consolidate diverse forces for a more steady and sustainable progress in targeted poverty alleviation.

Section 2 Targeted Response to Specific Needs

5.43 We will provide targeted support for persons with disabilities as well as their carers. We will promote the application of technology, including the continued implementation of the Innovation and Technology Fund for Application in Elderly and Rehabilitation Care, to enhance the quality of life of frail elderly persons and persons with disabilities while alleviating the pressure on care personnel and carers. Building on the existing care service and support systems, we will actively enhance capacity building on all fronts, including the provision of residential care homes, rehabilitation services, selective placement, and carer support, etc. We will also step up the promotion of a friendly workplace culture to encourage and support employment of persons with disabilities and their carers, thereby building a thriving disability-inclusive society.

5.44 We will expand the School-based After School Care Service Scheme launched by the Commission on Poverty (now renamed as the Commission on Targeted Poverty Alleviation) so as to unleash parents’ employment potential and enhance their household income. We will also set up additional Community Living Rooms to provide subdivided unit households with various facilities, along with referrals to other social welfare services, etc., to raise their living standard, broaden their interpersonal networks, and strengthen their sense of belonging to the community.

Section 3 Effective Consolidation of Resources

5.45 We will promote data-driven proactive support and champion a shift in approach in the social welfare sector from “reactive response” towards “proactive identification and targeted support”. Subject to privacy protection, compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and public confidence, we will explore the establishment of a “welfare information sharing e-platform” to progressively consolidate relevant data scattered across different systems in various fields such as social welfare, healthcare, education, housing, and transportation, etc., so as to analyse and identify risk signals while expanding screening and outreach networks for timely detection of risk factors and support needs among individuals and families. The aim is to enhance the effectiveness of our proactive identification, outreach, and intervention efforts regarding high-risk cases, and strengthen our demand forecasting capabilities and resource deployment efficiency, thereby advancing the provision of services to the preventive stage as far as practicable to forestall accumulation of risks.

5.46 We will promote an institutionalised model of tripartite collaboration among the Government, the business sector, and the community in poverty alleviation. The Government will adopt a policy-led approach and set up an efficient matching platform through which the business sector’s goodwill will be pooled together and matched with the community’s creativity to enable the delivery of more targeted support projects for groups in need. Under this model, the Government will identify targets for assistance and set up the regime; the business sector will provide resources in terms of funding, venues, talent, experience, technologies, etc.; while the community and welfare organisations will design innovative services and take charge of the actual implementation drawing on both their frontline insights and practical experience. Such joint efforts will progressively develop into steady, sustainable and scalable forces, thereby promoting the innovation and development of social welfare services.

Section 4 Safeguard Children’s Well-being

5.47 To continue to strengthen the child protection system, we will continuously enhance the handling and reporting mechanism for suspected child abuse cases to facilitate early identification and intervention while enhancing deterrence. We will also continue to strengthen professional support for child abuse victims and their families through Child Protection Support Service Teams. In the meantime, we will review in a timely manner and continuously enhance support and supervision for child care and related services, while also strengthening child protection-related promotion, education, and training, to safeguard the well-being of children through a multi-pronged approach, thereby weaving a comprehensive and effective safety net for children.

5.48 We will strengthen family support services. In line with the “family-focused” and “carer-centric” principles, we will strive to bolster the support for working families in childbearing and expand community child care and after-school care services. We will also promote the long-term strategy of gradually transitioning family support services from “crisis response” towards “prevention and fostering family resilience”.

5.49 To strengthen child care services, we will continue to substantially increase the number of child care service places, while continuously reviewing and enhancing various child care services. In the meantime, through the School-based After School Care Service Scheme, we will help alleviate the child care pressure on grassroots parents (in particular single parents), thereby fostering better parent-child relationship.

Table 36 Strengthening Child Care Services

Increasing child care service places

- Set up additional aided standalone child care centres, with the target of gradually increasing 1 800 child care service places, i.e. from about 1 500 service places in 2025 to about 3 300 places in 2030.

Section 5 Deepen Collaboration and Exchange in Social Services with Mainland Counterparts

5.50 We will strengthen our collaboration with the Mainland. We will advance the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Social Service Co-operation Projects, thereby deepening the integrated and concerted development of quality social welfare services in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. We will also support talent exchange and training between the social service sectors of the Mainland and Hong Kong (including Hong Kong social welfare organisations making effective use of the Dedicated Fund provided by the Government to arrange Mainland study visits for their staff) to promote professional exchange, practice-based research, and experience sharing across various social welfare areas between Hong Kong and the Mainland. In the meantime, we will support social welfare organisations in Hong Kong to introduce from the Mainland new technologies as well as smart equipment applicable to social service settings while assisting our country’s products and services in going global.

Chapter 23 Enhance Labour Protection

Section 1 Increase Labour Supply

5.51 To harness I&T to enhance employment services, we will deploy tools such as AI to strengthen job matching, enhance push notification for employment information, and provide more personalised recommendations regarding job vacancies and vocational training. We will also organise thematic job fairs of varying scales and types to expedite the dissemination of employment information and improve the effectiveness of job matching. In the meantime, we will render support to key groups, including youths, women, older and middle-aged persons, ethnic minorities, and people with disabilities, etc., to reduce employment barriers, thereby promoting employment and unleashing the potential labour force.

5.52 We will import labour on an appropriate scale alongside efforts to unleash the local labour force. On the premise of protecting local workers, we will import labour in an orderly manner and on an appropriate scale in response to actual social and economic needs. We will closely monitor the changes in labour supply and demand, and dynamically adjust the type and number of workers to be imported. While maintaining stable cooperation with existing source countries of foreign domestic helpers, we will actively seek expansion of source countries, and admit foreign domestic carers with better elderly care skills, with a view to addressing the challenges posed by an ageing population and meeting the home care needs of the elderly.

Section 2 Enhance Labour Rights Protection

5.53 We will protect employment rights and foster harmonious labour relations. In response to socio-economic development level and the needs arising therefrom, we will systematically review and enhance the labour legislation to align with the policy directions on population and encouraging childbirth, etc. in a timely manner. We will improve the legal framework by exploring and enacting new legislation applicable to new forms of employment to continuously strengthen labour protection. We will also follow the mechanism to review the statutory minimum wage rate annually to ensure that the pay rise for low-paid workers can keep pace with inflation, so that they may share the fruits of economic growth when the economy performs well. We will enhance the consultation mechanism among employees, employers, and the Government to facilitate effective tripartite communication and forge consensus on labour-related issues of common concern. In the meantime, we will promote an “employee-oriented” culture in human resource management, fostering labour relations built on mutual trust and understanding.

5.54 We will deepen the culture of occupational safety and health by making better use of new technology. Through proactive application of new technology, we strive to enhance the effectiveness of management and regulation of occupational safety and health by exploring the use of AI to facilitate inspection and law enforcement. We will also promote smart handling of occupational safety and health information by introducing a smart management system to enhance the separation of enquiries and complaints, so as to accord priority to high-risk cases. Meanwhile, we will leverage data analytics to support risk-based inspection and policy formulation. We will establish a one-stop industry-based occupational safety and health information platform to facilitate inter-departmental collaboration and information sharing, thereby further deepening awareness and culture of occupational safety and health in society. Also, we will provide professional advice from the regulatory perspective regarding the R&D of technology products related to occupational safety and health, facilitating the introduction of such products with a view to improving the safety performance of the industry.

Chapter 24 Concerted Efforts to Build a Thriving Age-friendly Society

Section 1 Foster a Sense of Security among the Elderly

5.55 To enhance elderly care service capacity, we will build more government-funded community and residential care facilities for the elderly and progressively increase the number of vouchers under both the “Community Care Service Voucher Scheme for the Elderly” and the “Residential Care Service Voucher Scheme for the Elderly” in order to steadily raise the proportion of vouchers in the overall subsidised care services. In the meantime, we will, on a pilot basis, provide government-built elderly welfare premises for self-financed operation by the sector, while continuing to implement the Incentive Scheme to Encourage Provision of Residential Care Home for the Elderly Premises in New Private Developments. We will strive to promote the development of the elderly care services market and enhance the overall elderly care service capacity through public-private collaboration.

Table 37 Enhancing Elderly Care Service Capacity
Additional places for subsidised long-term care services for the elderly • Provide 8 000 additional places for subsidised long-term care services for the elderly, bringing the number of service places from around 69 500 in end-2025 to around 77 500 in end-2030.

5.56 We will promote cross-boundary elderly care. Seizing the development opportunities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, we will further enhance the support measures for cross-boundary elderly care to provide elderly people of Hong Kong with more choices and greater convenience in living and receiving care across the boundary, thereby fostering social and livelihood integration between the two places as well as the development of the elderly care industry in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. To this end, we will strengthen cooperation with Mainland cities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area in identifying more quality residential care homes for the elderly for joining the “Residential Care Services Scheme in Guangdong”, so as to expand the care facility network and service capacity of the scheme. We will make good use of Mainland’s facilitation policy measures for Hong Kong residents, and subsidise Hong Kong elderly people participating in the scheme to purchase the local “Basic Medical Insurance for Urban and Rural Residents” and the “Commercial Medical Insurance”, and disburse portable cash assistance to the elderly retiring across the boundary directly through remittance using Mainland banking network. To deepen exchanges and cooperation in elderly care, Guangdong and Hong Kong will leverage respective strengths to jointly advance personnel training, service enhancement, and market development.

5.57 We will strengthen the promotion of active ageing. To this end, we will consolidate existing resources and networks, step up the promotion of retirement planning, raise the awareness of healthy ageing, and promote the elderly's invaluable contribution to society.

Section 2 Promote a Sense of Worthiness among the Elderly

5.58 We will promote the social integration of the elderly into the community. By encouraging the elderly to participate in social affairs, establishing mutual support networks and exchange platforms for the "young-olds", and forming elderly volunteer teams in the community, we will strive to promote mutual help and a sense of worthiness among the elderly so that they can achieve self-fulfilment and play an active role in society.

5.59 We will support elderly employment by providing vocational training services specific to the needs of older persons, so as to enhance their employability in response to the needs of the labour market. In the meantime, through dedicated employment services and programmes for older and middle-aged persons, we will encourage employers to provide on-the-job training and adopt elderly-friendly employment practices to boost the employment of the healthy elderly.

5.60 We will strengthen and scale up the silver industry. We will encourage the introduction of more silver consumer products and development of more application scenarios in domestic, community, and institutional settings, while stimulating diverse consumer demands for silver tourism, leisure and culture. We will also promote the professional development and branding of the silver economy to foster quality silver consumption locally and facilitate overseas expansion of the sales network.

5.61 We will improve the standards of silver services. Through strengthening exchanges and collaboration between certification institutions in Hong Kong and those in our country, we will foster mutual recognition of qualifications and the "one inspection, two certificates" arrangement, thereby enabling silver products and services to access the Mainland market more easily while also tapping into overseas markets. We will strive to upgrade the existing certification standards to national standards, with a view to enhancing market competitiveness.

Chapter 25 Build a Green and Liveable City

Section 1 Realise Green Transformation

5.62 We will promote continuous optimisation of the energy mix and maintain the stability of electricity tariffs. Through efficient utilisation of clean energy transmission pathways and the country's clean, low-carbon, safe, and efficient new energy system, we will progressively increase the share of zero-carbon energy in the local fuel mix of electricity generation to achieve the goal of ceasing the use of coal for daily electricity generation by 2035 and increase the share of zero-carbon energy in the fuel mix of electricity generation to about 60% to 70%. With these efforts, we strive to strengthen energy security, help lower energy generation costs, and stabilise fluctuations in electricity tariffs, thereby supporting the sustainable and high-quality development of our city.

5.63 To continuously improve the energy efficiency of major energy users such as buildings, we will enhance the regime of energy efficiency standards for buildings and electrical products, and promote green, energy-saving, and carbon-reduction retrofits for new and existing buildings. Our goal is to reduce the electricity consumption of commercial buildings by 30% to 40% and that of residential buildings by 20% to 30% from the 2015 level by 2050, and to achieve half of the above targets by 2035.

5.64 We will promote the use of green transport. We will steadily promote vehicle electrification and the trial and application of new energy transport while developing safe and efficient supporting networks for charging and hydrogen filling, etc., thereby creating conditions for achieving zero vehicular emissions before 2050. We will also introduce Smart and Green Mass Transit Systems, with construction works of such systems in Kai Tak, East Kowloon, HSK, and the South Island Line (West) commencing from 2027 progressively. These systems can overcome previous technical constraints in constructing heavy rail, providing cost-effective and convenient public transport systems with low carbon emissions.

5.65 To deepen the reform of the municipal solid waste management system, we strive to move away from reliance on landfill disposal for municipal solid waste by 2035, with a view to achieving “Zero Landfill”. This will contribute to reducing carbon emission and promoting the development of a circular economy, including the development of high value-added precious and rare metal recovery and refining industries, thereby establishing a waste material refining hub in Asia. We will enhance our recycling and waste-to-energy system by leveraging technology to advance waste sorting and resource utilisation, and building a digital recycling network, with a view to achieving waste-to-resources transformation, waste reduction, and harmless disposal. We will also expand producer responsibility schemes to raise recycling rates for recyclables, such as retired electric vehicle batteries and plastic bottles, thereby turning waste into resources and reducing reliance on raw materials.

5.66 We will develop green technologies and new energy, and establish a carbon trading hub. Through the Green Tech Fund, we will support the development of green technologies and promote the commercialisation of R&D outcomes, thereby increasing the supply of green technologies. The Strategy of Hydrogen Development in Hong Kong will be implemented in an orderly manner to steadily promote a wider application of hydrogen in Hong Kong. In this regard, we will set out the lifecycle greenhouse gas emission values for green hydrogen and low-carbon hydrogen, and provide support for the planning and development of hydrogen projects, investments in relevant infrastructure, and green finance arrangements, in order to enhance the mutual recognition and competitiveness of Hong Kong’s green and low-carbon hydrogen in the global market. In the meantime, we will develop Hong Kong into a demonstration platform for green and low-carbon hydrogen technologies to facilitate the export of technologies and products developed in both the Mainland and Hong Kong, and provide financing and professional services for green hydrogen technologies and products. We will also assist the country in implementing Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on carbon credit and trading mechanism, and advancing the formulation of clear and strict international standards, thereby providing a reliable decarbonisation cooperation platform for overseas countries and enterprises.

Table 38 Proactive Decarbonisation and Green Transformation

1. Green transport

- Complete the construction of a ChaoJi charging demonstration station in Hong Kong in 2027. The number of fast chargers will increase to 4 000 in 2030 and is expected to further increase to around 10 000 in 2035, supporting around 500 000 electric vehicles.
- The target is to cease new registrations of fuel-propelled private cars, including hybrid vehicles, in 2035 or earlier.

2. New energy

- Establish a certification system for green hydrogen and low-carbon hydrogen standards that connects with the Mainland and the rest of the world in 2027 and promote its international application.

Section 2 Strengthen Ecological Protection

5.67 To continuously improve the quality of our ecological environment, we will carry on with our efforts to review and enhance management strategies of various ecological protected areas, covering key areas such as Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark, the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site designated under the Convention on Wetlands, country parks, as well as marine parks and marine reserves, etc., strengthening ecological conservation and enhancing biodiversity. We will also expand the network of terrestrial and marine protected areas in an orderly manner, and study the establishment of a coastal protection park at Tsim Bei Tsui, Lau Fau Shan, and Pak Nai to strengthen the conservation of the coastal ecosystem of Deep Bay.

5.68 To strengthen the protection of wild fauna and flora as well as endangered species, we will continue to enhance their protection and governance, rigorously implement the relevant international conventions, and regulate trade in endangered species. We will also review and enhance the relevant legislation to strengthen enforcement against smuggling and illegal trade in endangered species and protect cetaceans found in Hong Kong waters.

5.69 We will expand cooperation in ecological conservation. We will strengthen collaboration with relevant Mainland provinces and municipalities to jointly conserve cross-border ecology and migratory animals, including deepening ecological cooperation between Shenzhen and Hong Kong, establishing a collaborative platform for public participation in biodiversity protection in the two places, and taking forward the development of the Shenzhen Wutong Mountain-Hong Kong Robin's Nest ecological corridor, with a view to enhancing ecological integration between Shenzhen and Hong Kong. Through partnerships with the relevant Mainland provinces and municipalities, we will also enhance the protection of Chinese white dolphins in Guangdong and Hong Kong, strengthen the conservation of Shenzhen Bay (Deep Bay) wetlands, and advance coral conservation, while putting in place arrangements for rescue cooperation of large aquatic wild animals between Shenzhen and Hong Kong.

Table 39 Continuous Improvement in Ecological Environment Quality

Implementing a management system of ecological protection red lines

- By 2030, maintain at least 40% of the total terrestrial area as terrestrial protected areas.
- By 2030, maintain at least 20% of the total marine area as marine protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures²³.

5.70 We will strengthen environmental protection in key areas to contribute to building a Beautiful China. By establishing a smart environmental monitoring system, we will improve law enforcement efficiency and environmental risk prevention and control, so as to fully realise precise, scientific, and law-based pollution control, leading to reduction in both pollution and carbon emissions in a coordinated manner. We will continue to develop and introduce innovative technologies and facilities, such as AI and big data, etc., and further develop the Hong Kong Environmental Database, an online platform for environmental impact assessment and monitoring, so as to enhance pollution prevention and control as well as the effectiveness of environmental monitoring through more targeted efforts. The air quality monitoring network will be optimised to make it more targeted and to improve its real-time performance and coverage. We will vigorously pursue the "Beautiful Bays" initiative, strengthen nearshore pollution prevention and shoreline remediation, and continuously improve the water quality and marine ecological environment of Victoria Harbour and nearshore waters.

23 It refers to areas outside protected areas that are considered important for in-situ conservation of biodiversity.

Part 6

Adopt a Holistic Approach to Development and Security, Enhance Public Governance Efficacy

6.1 Security is the prerequisite for development, whereas development reinforces security. We will adopt a holistic approach to development and security, so as to drive a shift towards a prevention-based model for security governance of the city, enhancing the resilience of the economy and society. While spearheading various initiatives with a reform-oriented mindset, we will enhance the risk alert mechanism, step up inter-departmental collaboration, map out division of work and responsibilities, do away with unreasonable restrictions and cumbersome procedures, so as to induce development impetus. By leveraging new technologies such as AI, we will promote the digitalisation and intelligentisation of public administration, so as to empower and enhance management standards through technology. We will persistently take forward reforms to the civil service system, with a view to building a team of civil servants that is professional, highly efficient and with patriotic fervour and love for Hong Kong.

Chapter 26 Enhance Security Governance

Section 1 Safeguard National Security

6.2 We will continue to improve the HKSAR's legal system and enforcement mechanisms to safeguard national security, with a view to, in strict alignment with our country's national security framework, establishing the HKSAR's legal system, strategic system, policy system, as well as risk prevention and control system for safeguarding national security under the principle of "One Country, Two Systems". Under the guidance of the holistic national security approach, we will enhance the synergy and collaboration among various government departments to fiercely combat infiltration, sabotage, subversion, and separatist activities by overseas hostile forces and local anti-China destabilising forces, thereby ensuring national security and social stability.

6.3 We will strengthen the top-level structure to robustly safeguard national security under an authoritative chain of command. We will consolidate and enhance the role of the Committee for Safeguarding National Security of the HKSAR in effectively assuming its primary responsibility for safeguarding national security, and actively prevent, suppress, and impose punishment for acts and activities endangering national security, thereby further building up a solid defence for national security in Hong Kong. We will continue to strengthen the duty of the Committee for Safeguarding National Security of the HKSAR to support the National Security Adviser and the Office for Safeguarding National Security of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR in carrying out the mandates for safeguarding national security in accordance with the law.

6.4 We will resolutely ensure that laws are observed and strictly enforced to bring offenders to account. We will enhance the national security risk monitoring and warning regime as well as the emergency response mechanism for major incidents, while strengthening synergy and collaboration among government departments. We will ensure the synergisation between the Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and relevant local laws, while rigorously carrying out national security-related law enforcement, and earnestly upholding the authority and dignity of laws on national security.

6.5 We will strengthen national security education, and put in place a regularised, diversified, and all-encompassing national security education and publicity system through a multi-pronged strategy. We will continue to raise civil servants' self-awareness of safeguarding national security, while actively promoting national security knowledge at schools, communities, and enterprises. In the meantime, we will strengthen national security education promotion programmes targeting young people to foster their sense of nationhood, national affection and national identity.

6.6 We will review and improve counter-terrorism strategy in Hong Kong, continuously monitor the global terrorism trend and counter terrorism measures, develop specialised counter-terrorism training, and optimise various contingency plans. We will also deepen cooperation and exchanges at cross-boundary and international levels, in addition to the expansion of community intelligence networks, with a view to comprehensively enhancing Hong Kong's overall counter-terrorism deployment and preparedness, and enhancing counter-terrorism governance capabilities.

Table 40 Enhancing Counter-Terrorism Governance Capabilities

1. Strengthening inter-departmental coordination and cooperation

- Conduct an average of 120 counter-terrorism exercises of different types annually over the next five years, so as to strengthen inter-departmental coordination and cooperation, as well as to test and enhance capabilities in the areas of counter-terrorism intelligence gathering and analysis, response and recovery, etc.

2. Large-scale inter-departmental counter-terrorism exercises

- Through relevant working groups under the Counter-Terrorism Three-tier Prevention Framework²⁴, make preparations for a large-scale inter-departmental counter-terrorism exercise every 12 to 18 months, which will serve as an interim target and a milestone for reviewing the effectiveness of counter-terrorism exercises.

6.7 We will advance technological empowerment for national security, and enhance national security capability building in key areas and emerging domains. We will bolster our cybersecurity defence system by deepening the HKSAR Government's cybersecurity protection, collaboration, and emergency coordination mechanisms. We will also work in collaboration with institutions in the Mainland and overseas to identify at an early stage the emerging international cyber threats and attack trends, so as to boost our capabilities in ensuring cybersecurity. Meanwhile, we will strengthen the system security and overall resilience of critical infrastructures on all fronts.

6.8 We will safeguard the computer system security of critical infrastructures for maintaining the normal functioning of society, so as to enhance the overall security of Hong Kong's computer systems. In addition to enhancing the framework for data governance, we will proactively align with the safety rules for national and international data to facilitate synergy and collaboration in areas such as standards, technology innovation, and information sharing, etc. We will also enhance the comprehensive management of cyber space and data security.

²⁴ The Chief Executive Counter-terrorism Steering Group is the first tier (top tier), which steers and formulates counter-terrorism policies and directions; the Secretary for Security Counter-terrorism Co-ordinating Group, as the second tier, coordinates cooperation of bureaux/departments on counter-terrorism matters; and seven interdepartmental working groups, as the third tier, follow up on specific studies and carry out counter-terrorism work.

Section 2 Strengthen Disaster Prevention, Mitigation, and Response Capabilities

6.9 We will develop a smart city management system, leveraging AI to comprehensively enhance the efficacy of city management and security governance. We will proactively explore developing an “AI City Brain” integrated city management system with the use of new technologies such as AI, big data, and the Internet of Things, etc. for real-time inter-departmental data sharing and smart analysis. Real-time perception, risk alert, instant prediction, and synergised processing will be realised in the management and operation of the city, thereby creating an intelligent hub for city management and security governance. We will enhance the resilience of the city through new technologies, so as to lay a solid foundation for the sustainable economic and social development amid the new round of technological revolution.

Table 41 Developing a Smart City Management System	
1.	Exploring the development of Hong Kong’s “AI City Brain” integrated city management system • Explore the development of Hong Kong’s “AI City Brain” integrated city management system with the use of new technologies such as AI, big data, and the Internet of Things, etc., making high-quality contributions to the enhancement of management efficacy and security of our city.
2.	Fostering digitalisation and upgrading of infrastructure resilience • Capitalise primarily on aerospace satellite remote sensing, phased array radars, integrated high density three-dimensional land-sea surveillance networks, and AI frontier technologies, to promote sharing of data and information networks with the Mainland, so as to enhance the capabilities of quick assessment and information dissemination in case of inclement weather and earthquake hazards. • Conduct R&D on AI model for a smart flood forecast and alert system, which can consolidate real-time hydrometric, precipitation, and tidal data for quick simulation of flood scenarios. • Foster the digital intelligence transformation of traditional infrastructures such as transport, energy, drainage, water supply, and communications, etc., and introduce technologies of digital twin, condition monitoring, and predictive maintenance.

Table 41 Developing a Smart City Management System (Cont'd.)**3. Leveraging the Internet of Things Fire Detection System to enhance building fire safety standards**

- Actively promote the installation of the Internet of Things Fire Detection System as well as specified fire service installations and equipment, as an alternative solution for old buildings to enhance fire safety standards under the statutory requirements.
- Actively encourage voluntary installation of the Internet of Things Fire Detection System in other suitable buildings to further enhance the overall fire safety standards.

4. Leveraging AI in the Transport Sector

- Set up a traffic management platform to enhance the overall efficiency of the transport network.
- Leverage big data analytics and AI to predict traffic fluctuations, identify bottlenecks, and formulate contingency plans, thereby assisting in traffic management and transport planning.

6.10 We will comprehensively enhance fire safety governance efficacy and improve the relevant legislation and regulatory systems. While inspections and rectifications on fire safety risks will be made, we will implement an accountability mechanism, with a view to raising the awareness on fire and disaster prevention of responsible persons across all sectors. We will improve the response strategy for tackling major fire incidents, and enhance the structure and composition of professional rescue teams, so as to enhance firefighting and rescue capabilities under extreme conditions (including in skyscrapers) and maximise emergency-response efficacy at major fire scenes continuously. We will pursue legislative amendments of the Fire Services Ordinance to comprehensively improve the fire safety legislation and regulatory systems, thereby enhancing the deterrent effect and enforcement effectiveness.

6.11 To comprehensively enhance building safety governance, we will focus on tackling aged and dilapidated buildings. We will reform building rehabilitation strategies, enhance the support for owners in technical, works tendering, and financial aspects, with an official organisation to gate-keep the tender process through rigorous intervention, and combat corruption and bid-rigging in maintenance works in a targeted manner. Through promoting preventive maintenance, early intervention, and the use of technology, we will assist owners in a holistic manner enabling them to conduct regular inspections and maintenance for aged and high-risk buildings. We will also amend the Buildings Ordinance to strengthen regulation of the maintenance works sector and increase penalty for non-compliance, thereby enhancing professional conduct and upholding works quality.

6.12 We will deepen building management reform and develop a smart community network. We will strengthen the Government's coordination and involvement in building management, step up efforts to support owners' corporations and owners, leverage the platform of the District Councils to facilitate exchanges of management experience, promote the joint property management model²⁵ in an orderly manner, and encourage innovative application of smart management solutions.

6.13 We will strengthen flood control and drainage, shoreline management, and slope safety management. We will upgrade the overall flood control capabilities in the aspects of works, ecology, and digital intelligence, etc. We will review the stormwater drainage systems of Hong Kong systematically, implement the works for stormwater interception, rainwater storage, as well as drainage improvements, enhance the city's drainage and regulation capabilities in coping with frequent rainstorms and short-duration heavy rainfall, and enhance the synergised layout of drainage networks and flood control facilities in districts. Through multi-layered protection design, flood risks in coastal areas brought by sea level rise and storm surge will be mitigated. In the meantime, we will continuously manage and control slope safety risks in a holistic manner.

6.14 We will deepen the overall prevention and control system for public law and order. We will step up efforts to prevent and combat telecommunications fraud and cyber fraud, drug offences, etc., and enhance the capabilities to intercept the supply of drugs at source at boundary control points and in the logistics chain. We will continuously promote anti-deception and anti-drug publicity and public education in the community to strengthen citizens' self-awareness of guarding against drugs and deception. We will strengthen cross-boundary cooperation by collaborating with Mainland and overseas law enforcement agencies as well as police organisations to enhance intelligence sharing on newly emerged crimes, including cyber fraud and telecommunications fraud, thereby identifying and preventing cross-boundary crimes at an early stage.

²⁵ It means through engaging local organisations with community networks and experience in building management, assisting old buildings in the district to jointly appoint a single property management company for collective management of the buildings, so as to share the management costs and obtain daily building management services at a more affordable rate, thereby improving the living environment.

6.15 We will strengthen inter-departmental emergency coordination capabilities and community support mechanism. We will proactively and systematically step up regularised inspections on various public safety risks (in particular fire, flooding, typhoon, etc.) to identify potential hazards at source, thereby achieving “early identification, early warning, early response”. We will refine the complaint mechanism for public safety matters, and transform public concerns into an entry point of risk management, so as to enhance the overall sense of security in the community through inter-departmental collaboration. We will implement the “Emergency Responder Scheme” at the community level, and mobilise local organisations, voluntary groups, and residents’ committees to participate in training sessions and drills on emergency response, thereby enhancing the resilience of the whole community in disaster prevention and mitigation, building a “Safe Hong Kong”.

6.16 We will strengthen the development and management of the emergency planning system and refine the HKSAR’s emergency response mechanism under an overall safety and emergency response framework. We will comprehensively deepen Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao emergency response and rescue collaboration, and continuously enhance the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Emergency Response and Rescue Operational Plan, thereby developing a systematic Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area emergency response mechanism to enhance the capabilities for effecting joint disaster prevention, mitigation, and relief, as well as responding to major public emergencies.

Chapter 27 Enhance Public Governance Capabilities

Section 1 Enhance the Civil Service System

6.17 We have put the “patriots administering Hong Kong” requirement into practice. We will improve the civil service training management system and formulate government-wide training requirements. A regular cooperation mechanism for civil service training will be set up with relevant Mainland units, and close exchanges with relevant Mainland authorities will be maintained, with a view to strengthening the sense of “loving the country and Hong Kong” among civil servants, establishing the “people-oriented” philosophy of governance, deepening civil servants’ understanding of national strategies, and broadening their international perspectives. This will build a civil service that is highly committed, dares to innovate, and moves with the times.

6.18 We will enhance our governance structure and performance management. We will build up and reinforce the Heads of Department Accountability System, enhance the civil service performance appraisal system, promote a civil service management system that is fair in giving out rewards and meting out punishments, and duly recognise civil servants who have strong sense of commitment, embrace innovation, and excel in performance. We will continue to enhance the use of manpower resources and build a more versatile and streamlined civil service. We will exercise strict control over the civil service establishment, leveraging process digitalisation and application of AI, so that the existing workforce will focus on high-value strategic decision making and businesses, with a view to optimising the deployment and efficiency of manpower resources.

6.19 We will strive to build an efficient government. Through active recruitment and publicity, we will encourage talent with aspirations and commitment to join the Government. We will further entrench the people-oriented service ethos in the civil service and gear our civil servants up for undertaking a “dual role”, that is, while discharging their duties conscientiously, they should also be able to swiftly respond to major incidents by providing crucial support for cross-departmental response teams.

Section 2 Advance the Digitalisation and Intelligentisation of Public Administration

6.20 We will leverage AI technology to reform public administration. We will accelerate the implementation of AI projects by the Government and create more real-world application scenarios, with a view to enhancing the efficacy of public administration. We will deepen the development and use of data resources and enhance AI and data governance by requiring bureaux and departments to make good use of departmental data catalogues and support a wider application of the Consented Data Exchange Gateway to promote data sharing within the Government, thereby providing more public services that better serve the public and the business sector.

Table 42 Leveraging AI to Enhance Public Services

1. Applying digital tools and technologies in creating a platform of big data analytics to enhance public housing management

- Progressively develop and consolidate a digital centralised estate management platform for in-depth integration of digital technology into daily management, thereby re-engineering processes in relation to estate management and maintenance, etc. for enhancing both the overall quality and effectiveness of public housing management.
- Introduce the Internet of Things and smart sensor technologies in PRH estates to conduct real-time monitoring of key infrastructure and common spaces round-the-clock, promoting the adoption of a data-driven estate management model to create a more secure, convenient, and comfortable smart living environment for residents.

2. Leveraging information technology to enhance safeguarding mechanisms and monitoring tools for optimal utilisation of PRH resources

- Adopt multi-pronged measures, including optimising the allocation of PRH units and facilitating transition to subsidised home ownership, etc., to encourage PRH tenants who have the means to move up the housing ladder and achieve home ownership, thereby increasing the turnover rate of PRH units to benefit more households in need.
- Leveraging information technology and data analytics to step up surveillance for combating PRH abuse to ensure that every PRH unit is allocated to those in greatest need, thereby safeguarding a fair, rational, and sustainable public resource allocation system.

3. Introducing new technologies to consolidate smart enforcement

- Leverage new technologies such as AI, big data, drones, and robotics, etc. to enhance work efficiency and efficacy of law enforcement agencies, build a more robust network to prevent and combat crime, and effectively carry out immigration control, while promoting clearance facilitation, thereby delivering better policing as well as customs and immigration services to the public, and consolidating safeguards for public order.

6.21 We will empower integration of processes through digital intelligence to build an efficient and co-ordinated smart government. We will promote wider adoption of the “digital-first” principle in government processes, while strengthening the cloud infrastructure and common data platforms of the Government. We will expand the digital identity functions and one-stop e-services powered by “iAM Smart” and the Digital Corporate Identity (CorpID) Platform. We will expedite the application of AI and I&T in a safe and orderly manner within the Government to holistically enhance the efficiency and accuracy of decision-making support and public service delivery. In the meantime, we will encourage local R&D in and practical application of more innovative solutions with respect to “Smart Mobility” and “Smart Living”. We will also continue to promote the open data policy to actively provide data for the public through the Open Data Portal, thereby creating conditions conducive to smart city development.

Table 43 Empowering Process Integration through Digital Intelligence

- 1. Strengthening the role of “iAM Smart” as a one-stop mobile gateway for the public**
 - Continue to integrate e-government services into the single platform of “iAM Smart”, which, coupled with the functions such as “mini programme” mode, digital documents, and “AI Assistant”, etc., helps ensure “single portal for online government services”, and continuously extend their application scenarios to public and private organisations, such as healthcare, property management and cross-boundary services.
- 2. CorpID**
 - Fully develop CorpID into a key infrastructure for Hong Kong’s digital economy, providing all corporations with a unified and trustworthy framework with respect to digital identity and authorisation. It is expected that all corporate-related digital government services and government forms will support the use of CorpID within 2028.

Chapter 28 Deepen Institutional Reforms

Section 1 Reform the Public Governance Implementation Mechanism

6.22 We will ensure effective implementation of policy measures. Various bureaux, departments, and relevant organisations will formulate specific work that are practicable, assessable, and subject to accountability. By coordinating resources and enhancing communication, we will rationalise critical workflows across different policy areas, departments, and procedures, so as to delineate clearly the division of work and responsibilities. In the light of specific policy requirements and objectives, we will endeavour to enhance procedures, workflows, coordination mechanisms, and allocation of resources. By streamlining arrangements and adopting a result-oriented approach, we will take forward policies and key tasks more effectively.

Section 2 Reinforce Public Integrity as the Bedrock of Our Society

6.23 We will step up law enforcement efforts and continue to combat various types of corruption offences. We will spare no effort in investigating corruption and misconduct in public and private organisations with zero tolerance. We will deepen corruption prevention work, promote the better use of technology to strengthen internal supervision, refine power delegation, and upgrade operational management frameworks. Corruption prevention services will be provided for private organisations and non-governmental organisations to enhance governance quality. In the meantime, we will reinforce integrity education, build a solid foundation for corruption prevention, and foster an integrity culture.

6.24 We will expand international and regional collaboration to showcase Hong Kong's strengths. We will enhance the strategic function of the Hong Kong International Academy Against Corruption and coordinate the establishment of a high-level regional anti-corruption hub. We will deepen exchanges and cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as well as anti-corruption agencies worldwide. We will sign memoranda of understanding with anti-corruption agencies of more countries and regions, delivering Hong Kong solutions in global anti-corruption efforts and sharing the experience of the Independent Commission Against Corruption, so as to tell good stories of Hong Kong in fighting corruption.

Section 3 Strengthen the District Governance System

6.25 We will enhance the district governance structure with strengthened coordination. We will refine the high-level coordination mechanism for the Steering Committee on District Governance and the Task Force on District Governance to coordinate the work of various bureaux and relevant departments on all fronts, with a view to proactively and efficiently addressing district governance issues of community concern, while ensuring the consistent and effective implementation of policy measures. We will also strengthen District Officers' capabilities in discharging their duties as the top representatives of the HKSAR Government at the district level by enhancing their coordination and execution capabilities.

6.26 We will enhance the efficacy of district governance by bolstering the support and resource assurance mechanisms. We will deepen the collaboration of the "troika" of district governance, i.e. District Councils, Care Teams, and the "three district committees"²⁶, and strengthen the mechanism for reaching out to residents and collecting their views to address their concerns and problems, so as to uphold the ethos of "actively responding to the people's aspirations". In recruiting and grooming talent for district governance, we will adhere to the principle of selecting the best candidates who are both able and virtuous so as to build a well-structured, diverse, and inclusive district governance team and talent pool.

26 It refers to the Area Committees, the District Fight Crime Committees, and the District Fire Safety Committees.

Part 7

Strengthen the Institutional Safeguards for Effective Implementation of the Five-Year Plan

7.1 We will strive to enhance governance efficacy of the HKSAR to ensure the effective implementation of Hong Kong's Five-Year Plan. By further refining our governance philosophy, adopting a more proactive and pragmatic approach, enhancing the coordination mechanism within the HKSAR Government, and strengthening collaboration across bureaux and departments, we will more effectively take forward and implement major works projects and policies, while enhancing policy continuity. We will better leverage the two-pronged approach of "effective market" and "capable government", while fully stimulating enthusiasm, initiative, and creativity from all walks of life in society to participate in and monitor the Five-Year Plan, ensuring the effective implementation of various tasks thereunder.

7.2 To strengthen the implementation mechanism, we will establish a framework where "Five-Year Plan leads, Policy Address implements, Budget supports, annual report gives accounts", so as to advance each task in an orderly manner. We will also delineate division of labour and conduct dynamic monitoring, mid-term assessment, as well as final reporting.

7.3 The Policy Address delivered by the Chief Executive each year will serve as an annual work plan for implementing the Five-Year Plan. By adhering to the strategic directions and requirements laid down in the Five-Year Plan, the annual Policy Address will set out key tasks as well as specific policy initiatives and projects, thereby translating medium- and long-term objectives into operable and assessable tasks broken down by phase. The implementation of the Five-Year Plan will be monitored, assessed and checked regularly, with mid-term adjustments to be made in light of actual circumstances.

7.4 The Budget will provide solid resource support for the implementation of the Five-Year Plan and the annual Policy Address through various financial arrangements, public expenditures, and other arrangements facilitating the play of market forces. We will, on the principle of safeguarding the financial sustainability of the HKSAR Government, ensure sufficient funding support for strategic projects and sustained financial commitment in key areas.

7.5 The Chief Executive will report to the President of the People's Republic of China and the Central Government on the implementation of the Five-Year Plan in the context of the annual duty visit to review its progress of implementation. By comparing against the objectives and indicators set out in the Five-Year Plan, we will be able to methodically assess our performance and contemplate improvements, so as to constantly strengthen the efficacy of the Five-Year Plan.

Concluding Remarks

With the support of the Central Government, the HKSAR Government formulated the first Five-Year Plan for Hong Kong in less than a year. The Five-Year Plan is of monumental significance. Not only is it an action agenda for Hong Kong to better integrate into and serve the overall national development, but also the strategic plan gearing up Hong Kong to capitalise on the aggregate advantages arising from the national and international opportunities, as well as a sustained pathway to enhancing social well-being. It is the blueprint for Hong Kong's economic and social development, a reform as well as a pivotal milestone for Hong Kong's new journey "from stability to prosperity".

Hong Kong's Five-Year Plan dovetails with national strategies, consolidating and enhancing Hong Kong's existing strengths, strengthening emerging industries, and promoting the diversified development of industries, so as to provide more opportunities for our citizens, especially our young people. The Five-Year Plan drives Hong Kong's high-quality development and allows us to continuously improve people's livelihood, taking on people's ever-growing needs for a better life as our fundamental objective.

We will stay committed to the "people-oriented" ethos, strive relentlessly to sustain economic development and enhance social well-being, so as to build a better Hong Kong!

