

Index Page

Replies to initial and supplementary questions raised by Legislative Council Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2026-27

Director of Bureau : Director of Administration
Session No. : 6

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
CSO015	3580	YIU Pak-leung	142	(2) Government Records Service
S-CSO001	SV008	CHAN Pok-chi	142	(2) Government Records Service

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CSO015

(Question Serial No. 3580)

Head: (142) Government Secretariat: Offices of the Chief Secretary for Administration and the Financial Secretary

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Government Records Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Administration (Mrs Millie NG)

Director of Bureau: Director of Administration

Question:

1. The estimate for the Government Records Service (GRS) in 2026-27 is 13.5% lower than that in 2025-26. What are the reasons for this reduction?
2. Please provide in table form the types and details of archival records procured from other places by the Government in 2025-26. Additionally, has the Government earmarked any provision for the procurement of archival records relating to Hong Kong from other places in 2026-27?
3. What plans does the Government have to promote Hong Kong's unique characteristics through and by making good use of the resources of the GRS?

Asked by: Hon YIU Pak-leung (LegCo internal reference no.: 48)

Reply:

1. The estimate for the Government Records Service (GRS) in 2026-27 is lower than that in 2025-26. This is mainly due to the anticipated decrease in general departmental expenses and the deletion of the relevant posts upon completion of individual projects.
2. To enrich its holdings, the GRS has been procuring copies of archival records relating to Hong Kong from archival institutions in various regions (including overseas and the Mainland). In 2025-26, the GRS procured copies of 250 archival records including files, photographs and maps concerning Hong Kong's landscape, infrastructure, public health, etc., from The National Archives of the United Kingdom.

The GRS has earmarked \$70,000 in 2026-27 for the procurement of copies of archival records relating to Hong Kong from the archival institutions of other places in order to enrich its holdings.

3. The GRS organises exhibitions, seminars, workshops, group visits and other educational activities regularly to promote the documentary heritage of Hong Kong. Details of the GRS' public education and publicity programmes scheduled for 2026-27 are set out below:

- (a) organise around 30 onsite or online group visits to the GRS with an estimated number of more than 2 000 participants;
- (b) conduct around 3 onsite or online educational talks or workshops for teachers and students, facilitating them to use the archival records kept by the GRS to conduct researches;
- (c) co-organise academic seminars with tertiary institutions, and organise workshops for those participating in the academic seminars;
- (d) organise an annual thematic exhibition cum roving exhibitions and set up an online Reference Resources Page to help the public better understand, appreciate and utilise the local documentary heritage and archival records kept by the GRS;
- (e) continue to enrich the online Educational Resources Portal to enable more people to view the archival holdings and information therein. Frequently used and popular holdings will be digitised for more convenient access; and
- (f) continue to enrich the content of the Public Records Office Facebook page (fb.com/grs.publicrecordsoffice) to attract more online viewers to like, follow and share the page and posts, so as to strengthen connection and interaction with the public.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-CSO001

(Question Serial No. SV008)

Head: (142) Government Secretariat: Offices of the Chief Secretary for Administration and the Financial Secretary

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Government Records Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Administration (Mrs Millie NG)

Director of Bureau: Director of Administration

Question:

Further to Reply Serial No. CSO015 –

Will the Government provide information to explain whether the copies of archival records relating to Hong Kong procured by the Government Records Service from archival institutions in various regions cover areas related to the development of oyster rafts in Hong Kong waters (including the history, registration, planning, etc.)? If so, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Pok-chi

Reply:

The Government Records Service (GRS) is mainly responsible for the formulation and implementation of government records management policies and programmes. It also strives to assist bureaux/departments in identifying records of archival value and arranging the transfer of such archival records to its Public Records Office (PRO) for permanent retention and public access. The archival holdings of the GRS also include private records and personal manuscripts acquired through records appraisal, as well as purchase of copies of archival records from overseas archives.

Through a keyword search by using the terms “蠔” and “oyster” in its archival holdings, GRS identified some archival records with contents relating to the development of oyster rafts in Hong Kong waters and the oyster farming industry of Hong Kong, for instance, matters concerning the issuance of oyster bed licences, the leasing and disposal of oyster beds, the development of the oyster farming industry and related industries, etc. These archival records are kept in the PRO of the GRS, which also provides a Search Room for public access. For details on access to the archival holdings of the GRS, please visit the website at https://www.grs.gov.hk/en/access_our_holdings.html.

- End -