

Audit Commission
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Disaster Relief Fund

Independent Auditor's Report
To the President of the Legislative Council

Opinion

I certify that I have examined and audited the financial statements of the Disaster Relief Fund set out on pages 58 to 63, which comprise the statement of assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2026, and the statement of receipts and payments for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information.

In my opinion, the financial statements of the Disaster Relief Fund are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Public Finance Ordinance (Cap. 2) and section 11(1) of the Audit Ordinance (Cap. 122).

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with section 12(1) of the Audit Ordinance and the Audit Commission auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of my report. I have fulfilled the independence and other ethical responsibilities in accordance with those standards. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Other information

The Director of Accounting Services is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises all the information included in the Accounts of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the year ended 31 March 2026 published by the Treasury, other than the financial statements and my auditor's report thereon.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

Director of Accounting Services' responsibilities for the financial statements

In accordance with section 16(1) of the Public Finance Ordinance, the Director of Accounting Services is responsible for the compilation and supervision of the accounts of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, for the management of accounting operations and procedures, and for ensuring that all regulations, directions or instructions made or given under the Public Finance Ordinance relating thereto and in respect of the safe custody of public moneys and its accounting are complied with.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Audit Commission auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Audit Commission auditing standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

— identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;

— obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Disaster Relief Fund's internal control; and

— evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used by the Director of Accounting Services.

I communicate with the Director of Accounting Services regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Prof. LAM Chi Yuen Nelson
Director of Audit

28 October 2026

Audit Commission
6th Floor, High Block
Queensway Government Offices
66 Queensway
Hong Kong

Disaster Relief Fund

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MARCH 2026
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

	Note	**2026** **$'000**	2025 $'000
Assets			
Investments with the Exchange Fund	**3**	**129,257**	126,666
Representing:			
Fund Balance			
Balance at beginning of year		**126,666**	34,510
Surplus for the year		**2,591**	92,156
Balance at end of year		**129,257**	126,666

Notes 1 to 6 form part of these financial statements.

Raymond NG
Director of Accounting Services
28 August 2026

Disaster Relief Fund

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

	Note	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Cash and bank balances at beginning of year		**-**	-
Receipts	**4**	**83,436**	177,145
Payments	**5**	**(80,845)**	(84,989)
Surplus for the year		**2,591**	92,156
Other cash movements	**6**	**(2,591)**	(92,156)
Cash and bank balances at end of year		**-**	-

Notes 1 to 6 form part of these financial statements.

Raymond NG
Director of Accounting Services
28 August 2026

Disaster Relief Fund

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars, unless otherwise stated)

1. Purpose and Legislation

The Disaster Relief Fund provides a ready mechanism for Hong Kong to respond swiftly to international appeals for humanitarian aid in relief of disasters that occur outside Hong Kong. It was established with effect from 1 December 1993 by a Resolution (hereinafter referred to as the Resolution) passed by the Legislative Council under section 29(1) of the Public Finance Ordinance (Cap. 2) on the same date.

2. Accounting Policy

The accounts of the Disaster Relief Fund are kept on a cash basis. Transactions are recorded when moneys are received or paid.

3. Investments with the Exchange Fund

(i) These are investments made under paragraph (i) of the Resolution.

(ii) The investments represent the cost of investments together with the investment income received in the year being reported.

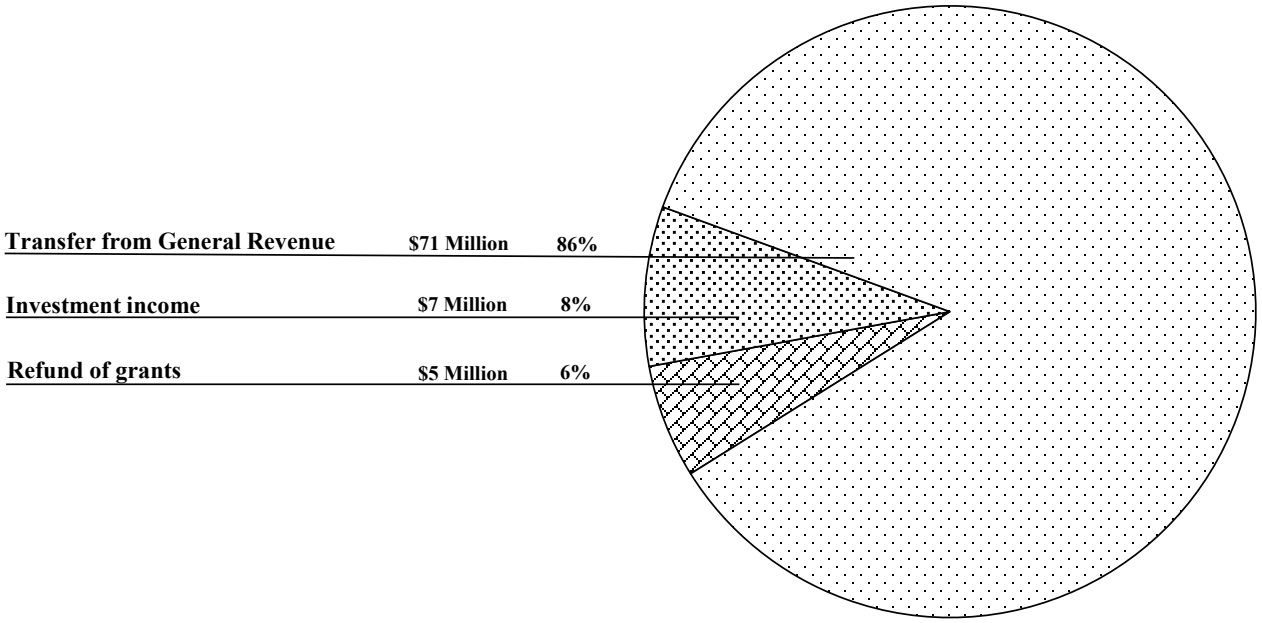
(iii) The investment income is calculated, in accordance with an arrangement entered into with the Hong Kong Monetary Authority in 2007, on the basis of the average annual investment return of the Exchange Fund's Investment Portfolio for the past six years or the average annual yield of three-year government bond (replacing the three-year Exchange Fund Notes with effect from 1 January 2016) for the previous year subject to a minimum of zero percent, whichever is the higher. The rate of return for the calendar year 2025 was 4.4% *(2024: 3.7%)*. The annual investment income is receivable on 31 December each year.

4. Receipts

	2026		2025
	Original Estimate $'000	**Actual $'000**	Actual $'000
Investment income			
Investments with the Exchange Fund	-	**6,733**	4,818
Others	-	**1**	1
	7,800	**6,734**	4,819
Transfer from General Revenue	71,000	**71,000**	165,000
Refund of grants	-	**5,702**	7,326
	78,800	**83,436**	177,145

Disaster Relief Fund

Analysis of Receipts for the year ended 31 March 2026



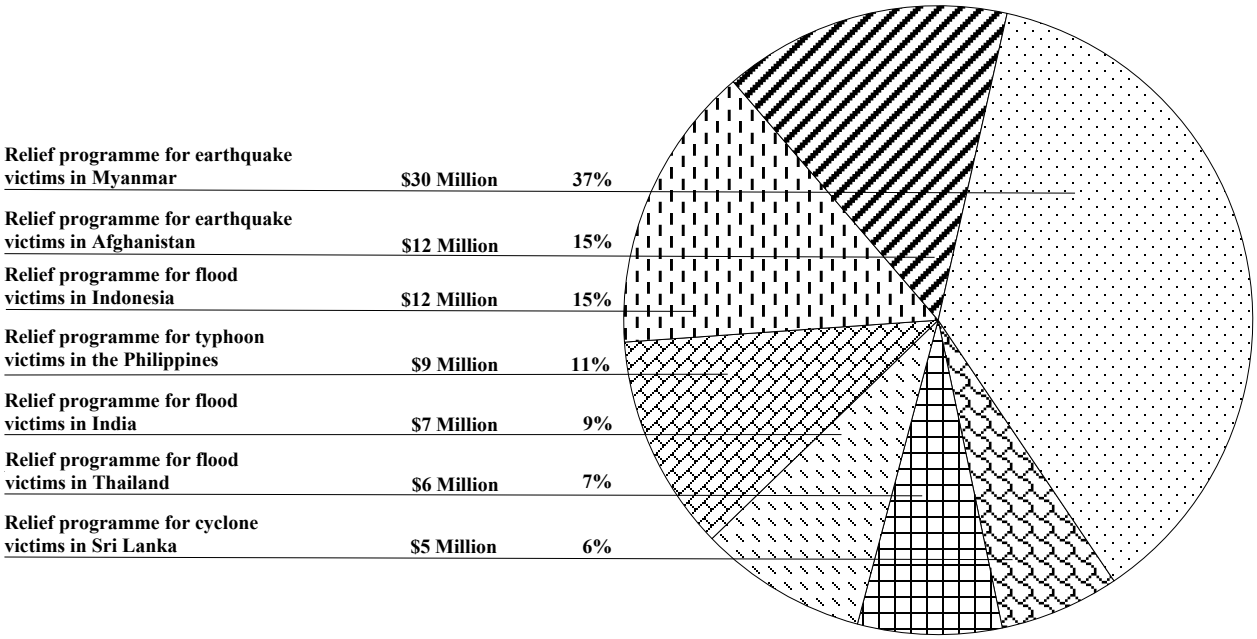
Total Receipts
$83 Million

5. Payments

	2026		2025
	Original Estimate $'000	**Actual $'000**	Actual $'000
Relief programmes for			
earthquake victims in Myanmar	-	**29,985**	-
earthquake victims in Afghanistan	-	**12,181**	-
flood victims in Indonesia	-	**11,638**	-
typhoon victims in the Philippines	-	**9,210**	-
flood victims in India	-	**6,588**	-
flood victims in Thailand	-	**6,000**	-
cyclone victims in Sri Lanka	-	**5,243**	-
flood victims in the Mainland	-	-	32,130
cyclone victims in Bangladesh	-	-	13,252
flood victims in Nepal	-	-	9,886
typhoon victims in Vietnam	-	-	8,152
earthquake victims in the Mainland	-	-	6,107
flood victims in Myanmar	-	-	5,507
flood victims in Kenya	-	-	4,378
flood victims in Brazil	-	-	3,905
earthquake victims in Nepal	-	-	1,672
	-	**80,845**	84,989

Disaster Relief Fund

Analysis of Payments for the year ended 31 March 2026



Total Payments
$81 Million

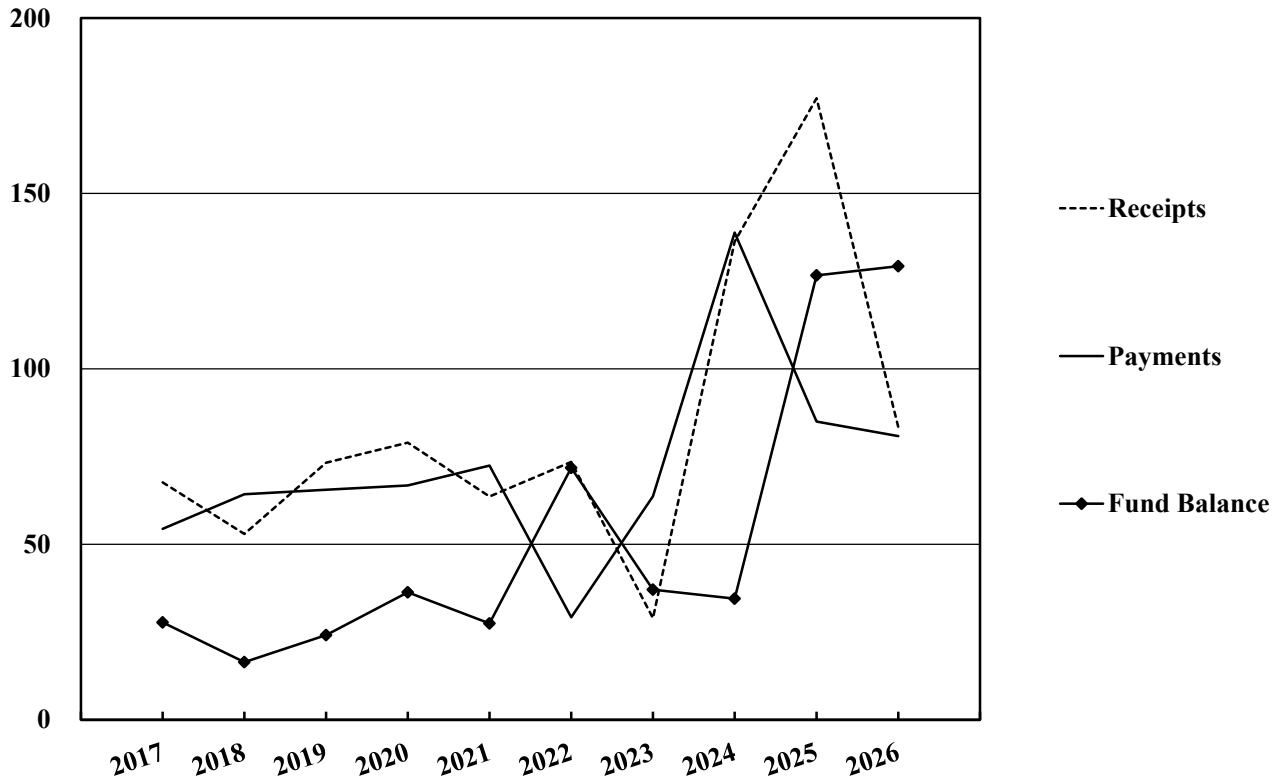
6. Other Cash Movements

These are cash movements arising from changes in other assets and liabilities:

	2026	2025
	$'000	$'000
Increase in Assets		
Investments with the Exchange Fund	**2,591**	92,156

Disaster Relief Fund

Receipts, Payments and Fund Balance for the years ended 31 March 2017 to 2026



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