Head 13: Office of the Prime Minister
Total Allocation: $277,713,670

A summary of the Office of the Prime Minister’s Expenditure, Divisions and Projects
Financial Scrutiny Unit, Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
An electronic copy of this Guide can be found on the Parliament website: www.ttparliament.org

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About this Guide
This guide provides a summary of expenditure for the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) for the period 2014-2020. It provides Members of Parliament and stakeholders with an overview of the Office’s responsibilities. The primary purpose of this guide is to consolidate the information contained within the various Budget Documents pertaining to the Office of the Prime Minister, and provide readers with an analysis of same. This guide is based primarily on:

- the Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure;
- the Draft Estimates of Development Programme;
- the Public Sector Investment Programme; and
- the Auditor General’s Report on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the fiscal year 2018.
Head 13: Office of the Prime Minister
Departmental Overview

Mission
To provide unstinting support to the Prime Minister in executing his constitutional responsibilities to Trinidad and Tobago

Vision
To be the hallmark of excellence in the Public Service.

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) was established to assist the Prime Minister in executing his duties and responsibilities. This Office is not established by statute hence its business is largely dependent on the dictates of the Prime Minister. The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) provides administrative and other support to the Prime Minister and the Cabinet and is responsible for co-ordinating the implementation of decisions taken by the Prime Minister and the Cabinet in order to ensure and promote the effective and efficient conduct of the business of Government.

Prime Minister: The Honorable Dr. Keith Rowley, MP
Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister: The Honorable Stuart Young, MP
Minister of State in the Office of the Prime Minister (Gender and Child Affairs): The Honorable Ayanna Webster-Roy, MP

Permanent Secretary to the Prime Minister and Head of the Public Service: Mr. Maurice Suite
Permanent Secretary of the Office of the Prime Minister: Mr. Ian Ramdahin (Ag.)
Permanent Secretary of the Office of the Prime Minister Gender and Child Affairs: Ms. Jacqueline Johnson

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The Office of the Parliament is responsible for the following Business and Departments:

- Cabinet
- Citizen Facilitation
- Commissions of Enquiry
- Ecclesiastical Affairs
- Foreign Policy Oversight
- Gender and Child Affairs
- National AIDS Coordinating Committee (NACC)
- National Security Council
- Protocols of the State
- Sport and Culture Fund
- Central Administrative Services, Tobago (CAST)
- Civil Society Engagement
- Constitutional Matters
- Economic Advisory Board
- Freedom of Information
- Government Communications Oversight
- National Awards Committee
- Parliamentary Affairs
- Public Holidays

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Statutory Boards and Other Bodies

Children’s Authority

The principles which underpin the execution of the Children’s Authority’s functions – the promotion of and respect for children’s rights – are enshrined within the United Nations’ Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the UN Declaration and Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Consistent with these principles, a Package of Children’s Legislation initiated in 2000 formed the basis for the creation of the Children’s Authority. The pieces of legislation complement each other and provide for a robust system which brings Trinidad and Tobago in conformity with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The mandate of the Children’s Authority is derived directly from the legislation. As such, the organisation will be responsible for, *inter alia*:

- Receiving and investigating reports of mistreatment of children;
- Removing children from their homes where they are in imminent danger;
- Making applications to the Court for the protection and placement of children received into the care of the Authority;
- Establishing and maintaining places of safety, assessment and support centres, and reception centres;
- Establishing and operating a foster care system;
- Assuming conduct of the adoption process;
- Establishing standards for community residences, foster care and nurseries;
- Monitoring children’s community residences, foster care providers, and nurseries;
- Issuing and revoking licences for community residences and nurseries;
- Supporting the youth justice system;
- Providing assistance to the Counter-Trafficking Unit in respect of child victims; and

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3 Gazette No. 147 of 2018, November 22, 2018, page 1591
Maintaining complete records.

Sport and Culture Board of Management

The Sport and Culture Fund was established by Act No. 31 of 1988 with amendments articulated in Act. No. 25 of 1993. The purpose of the Fund, as stated in Section 4 of the Act is as follows:

- To facilitate the provision of sporting and cultural facilities;
- To enable grants and loans to be made to deserving individuals, groups and organisations according to criteria prescribed by the Board;
- To undertake any other activity related to Sport and Culture; and
- To undertake or do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above purposes

The goals and objectives of the Fund are:

- To encourage and to facilitate the promotion of excellence in Sport and Culture by individuals and organisations involved in activities related thereto;
- To assist in the nurturing and development of human and technical resource capabilities in Sport and Culture;
- To encourage self-reliance of groups, associations and individuals;
- To facilitate the provision and upgrading of facilities for sporting and cultural activities; and
- To facilitate the promotion of research and development and to determine the feasibility of undertaking projects relating to Sport and Culture.

The Board will from time to time determine priority areas which it may wish to pursue in the development of Sport and Culture. Such priority areas include but are not limited to:

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1. Groups
   - Community Development – Cultural and Sporting activities beneficial to wider community
   - Training and Development in areas of Sport and Culture
   - Facilities – Construction of buildings to facilitate Sporting and Cultural activities

2. Individuals
   - Education
   - Youth
   - National Development

Assistance will be given solely in the form of grants as deemed appropriate by the Board. Funding is received from the Instant Lottery Surplus of the National Lotteries Control Board, a Board established under Section 3 of the National Lotteries Act. The Instant Lottery Surplus is the amount realised after defraying all the expenses and payments of prize money from the proceeds received from each instant lottery – Scratch game.
Deposit Accounts

6.57. The Financial Instructions 1965, Part XIII, paragraph 212 (2) states, “Departments shall prepare a reconciliation statement with details of the composition of the balance and such statement shall fully explain any difference between the departmental and Comptroller of Accounts balances of the account.” Reconciliation Statements of Deposit Accounts and/or supporting analyses of balances where necessary were not received as shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry/Department</th>
<th>Number of Accounts Held</th>
<th>Number of Accounts Submitted</th>
<th>Number of Accounts not submitted to AGD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office of the Prime Minister</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.59. Reconciliation Statements received by the Auditor General in respect of balances held on Deposit Accounts as at 30th September, 2018 revealed that the following remained on deposit for periods in excess of three years and no authority by the Comptroller of Accounts was seen to retain the monies in these Deposit Accounts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry/Department</th>
<th>No. of Accounts</th>
<th>Value ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office of the Prime Minister</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Key Statement from 2018 Standing Finance Committee Debate

During the reading of the Appropriation (Financial Year 2018) Bill, 2018, the following statements were made in relation to the emphases of the Office of the Prime Minister for fiscal year 2018/2019:

“Some of the major accomplishments for fiscal 2017/2018 include:

- The laying of the national policy for gender and development in the Parliament;
- The completion of the First Draft of the National Child Policy and the advancement of the National Children’s Registry to phase 2, the building stage;
- The commissioning of the Tobago Assessment Centre and the Tobago Child Support Centre;
- The completed construction handover of the South Regional Office and Assessment Centre and the completion of the Chaguanas Assessment Centre for the operations of the Children’s Authority of the Trinidad and Tobago;
- The commissioning of the male transitional home which is fully operational and currently accommodates 11 young men;
- The initiation of the prevention mapping process for HIV and AIDS to determine where gaps in the prevention of response lie, and support the prevention scale up that is required to reduce the impact of HIV and AIDS, and other STIs within the population;
- The development of the HIV and AIDS sustainability plan which will provide strategic guidance to the agencies involved in the response in the 2018 – 2019 period;
- The advancement of the counter-terrorism strategy which was approved by the National Security Council in the second half of 2017. The Secretariat facilitated this process by hosting meetings and 234 Appropriation (Financial Year – 2019) Bill, 2018 2018.10.12 Standing Finance Committee (cont’d) UNREVISED drafting the strategy on the request of the Ministry of National Security; and
- The advancement of the think tank project by the National Security Council.

http://www.ttparliament.org/legislations/hh20181012SFC.pdf
The outlook for 2019, with the momentum gained in 2017/2018, it is envisaged that the high level of success will continue in 2019. Projects and programmes that are set for implementation, or will continue in the new fiscal year include:

- The completion of the National Child Policy;
- The establishment of the National Children’s Registry;
- Further enhancement of all children’s home to ensure that children receive the individual care they need and their rights are preserved, full operationalization of all the facilities where construction has been completed and the facilities handed over;
- Construction of additional facilities, including the Josephine Shaw transitional home to house our nation’s children who are in need of institutional care;
- Advancement of the refurbishment and construction activities under historical buildings;
- Commencement of research studies on the following areas, one, mothers as perpetrators and, two, factors responsible for the hyper sexualized behaviour of our children;
- The commissioning of two domestic violence shelters. These two facilities were handed over in September and we have since advertised with NGOs to partner with Government to manage these facilities;
- Expansion of the central registry on domestic violence;
- Approval and implementation of the HIV and AIDS strategic plan; and
- Submission of the National HIV and AIDS STI Policy to Cabinet.”

- Minister of State in the Office of the Prime Minister
Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) fiscal year 2019 Achievements

Administration

**Historical Buildings**

The restoration of historical buildings is important, as these monuments are reflections of Trinidad and Tobago’s rich history. As such, a total of $25.4 million was utilised for the following:

- renovation of the Prime Minister’s Residence in Tobago including roof refurbishment, electrical and plumbing work at the main residence and multipurpose/security building;
- settlement of outstanding commitments for the restoration of Stollmeyer’s Castle;
- removal of asbestos at Mille Fleur Building;
- continuation of restoration of President’s House including structural retrofitting, construction of service trench and equipment plinths, installation of lifts and construction of an electrical room; and
- Restoration of Whitehall to accommodate the Office of the Prime Minister.

**Social Development**

**Child Development**

➢ To protect our children against various forms of abuse and neglect, the following initiatives were undertaken:

- The National Children’s Registry (NCR) – this database will collect information on all children (persons under the age of 18) in Trinidad and Tobago and allows for the sharing of essential information and informed decision making that will

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assist in national planning. The OPM commenced the procurement process for the selection of a vendor for the supply of an electronic data management system and the development of the software to operate the NCR.

- A National Child Policy - a total of six (6) public consultations were held on the Draft National Child Policy at various locations which included the UWI Conference Centre, Naparima Boys College, City Hall in San Fernando and Tobago to obtain feedback from stakeholders for incorporation into the final policy.
- A National Baseline Survey on Attitudes towards Child Abuse – commenced in fiscal 2019 by the Children’s Authority of Trinidad and Tobago.

- The Children’s Authority officially opened the Tobago Regional Assessment Centre in May 2019. This Centre is located at Pascal Village Street Extension along the Claude Noel Highway, Tobago, where children in need of care and protection will be evaluated by a professional and multi-disciplinary team in order to develop guided interventions.

**Gender Affairs**

- The property known as Josephine Shaw House located at 131-133 Henry Street, Port of Spain was demolished in fiscal 2019. A new three-storey transitional facility will be constructed for single women transitioning to living independently
Supplementation of Appropriation for the fiscal year 2019

During fiscal 2019, it was necessary to have a Supplementation of Appropriation of resources to fund urgent and critical Recurrent and Capital Expenditure in areas where insufficient or no allocation was provided. The source of these additional funds was the Consolidated Fund.

The Office of the Prime Minister requested and was granted the following supplementations:

Recurrent Expenditure - $12,000,000

- 04/005/03 – Contribution to Non-Profit Institutions (Children’s Homes) - $6,000,000
  The sum is required to contribute to non-profit institutions that would facilitate the payment per child system, where children and community residences are given financial support for their psychosocial and other needs. The children that would be at the private residences will be placed there through the Children’s Authority, to date, there are 489 children at the 36 different community residences who will benefit from the programme.

- 04/007/03 – Children’s Authority - $6,000,000
  The sum is required to pay salaries of the Children’s Authority and operational costs for three new facilities; Chaguanas Assessment Centre, Tobago Assessment Centre, the Place of Safety in Tobago. At present, 225 persons are employed by the Authority, with the supplementation we will be recruiting 68 additional new positions. That would be for the Chaguanas Assessment Centre, the Tobago Assessment Centre, as well as the Place of Safety in Tobago. Additionally, last year we would have opened up an assessment centre in Sangre Grande and St. Madeleine.

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The Ministry’s total allocation as a percentage of the National Budget for the period 2014 to 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Allocation</th>
<th>National Budget</th>
<th>Percentage of National Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$238,509,663</td>
<td>$65,020,886,424</td>
<td>0.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$611,021,031</td>
<td>$61,966,922,675</td>
<td>0.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$215,588,876</td>
<td>$56,573,913,053</td>
<td>0.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$205,257,510</td>
<td>$54,883,153,410</td>
<td>0.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$241,032,641</td>
<td>$54,211,726,813</td>
<td>0.44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$247,157,200</td>
<td>$54,149,378,860</td>
<td>0.46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$277,713,670</td>
<td>$58,058,338,392</td>
<td>0.48%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Total allocation for the Office of the Prime Minister as a percentage of the National Budget illustrated an increase in the allocation by **0.02%** between fiscal years 2019 and 2020.

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10 For the Fiscal Years 2014-2018, actual figures were used to calculate the total allocation. However, estimates were used to calculate the total allocation for the Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020.

11 Total Allocation for the Office of the Prime Minister = Recurrent Expenditure + Consolidated Fund

12 The National Budget = Total Recurrent Expenditure + Total Development Programme Consolidated Fund
Where the Ministry spends its money

2020 Estimates of Expenditure

The budget allocation of $402,331,670 for the Office of the Prime Minister is comprised of:

- The Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure in the sum of $269,261,670;
- The Draft Estimates of Development Programme in the sum of $133,070,000:
  - Consolidated Fund in the sum of $8,452,000; and
  - Infrastructure Development Fund\(^\text{13}\) of the sum of $124,618,000.

The Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure include:

- 01 Personnel Expenditure - $27,337,210;
- 02 Goods and Services - $87,258,470;
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases - $1,533,900; and
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies - $153,132,090.

The Office of the Prime Minister’s:

- Recurrent Expenditure as a percentage of the total Recurrent Expenditure is 0.49%;
- Consolidated Fund as percentage of the total Consolidated Fund is 0.33%; and
- Infrastructure Development Fund allocation as a percentage of the total Infrastructure Development Fund is 4.65%.

\(^{13}\) Head 18 - Ministry of Finance, Sub-Head 04 – Current Transfers and Subsidies, Sub-Item 11- Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF) (Infrastructure Development Fund allocation is part of the Ministry of Finance allocation for the financial year. Therefore, the total recurrent expenditure for the Office of the Prime Minister does not include the IDF funding.)
### Summary of Recurrent Expenditure for the Period 2014-2020

#### Office of the Prime Minister

### Summary of Recurrent Expenditure for the Period 2014-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01 Personnel Expenditure</td>
<td>$24,823,745</td>
<td>$33,255,551</td>
<td>$28,437,980</td>
<td>$24,772,774</td>
<td>$21,802,369</td>
<td>$22,624,200</td>
<td>$27,337,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02 Goods and Services</td>
<td>$208,010,719</td>
<td>$218,955,948</td>
<td>$103,002,379</td>
<td>$69,003,413</td>
<td>$73,750,820</td>
<td>$68,282,700</td>
<td>$87,258,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03 Minor Equipment Purchases</td>
<td>$1,816,086</td>
<td>$1,693,076</td>
<td>$2,289,742</td>
<td>$11,547</td>
<td>$230,370</td>
<td>$98,700</td>
<td>$1,533,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04 Current Transfers and Subsidies</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$123,077,747</td>
<td>$78,801,786</td>
<td>$98,495,245</td>
<td>$140,084,406</td>
<td>$152,953,900</td>
<td>$153,132,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Allocation</td>
<td>$234,650,550</td>
<td>$376,982,322</td>
<td>$212,531,887</td>
<td>$192,282,979</td>
<td>$235,867,965</td>
<td>$243,959,500</td>
<td>$269,261,670</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Analysis of Summary of Expenditure

Recurrent Expenditure refers to the payments for expenses which are incurred during the day-to-day operations of the Ministry for Personnel Expenditure, Goods and Services, Minor Equipment Purchases and Current Transfers and Subsidies. Recurrent Expenditure for Fiscal Year 2020 is $269,261,670.

- Recurrent Expenditure (Revised) for Fiscal Year 2019 was $243,959,500. Comparing this figure with Fiscal Year 2020, there is an increase of $25,302,170 or 10.4%.

- The largest portion of the allocation has gone to Sub-Head 04 Current Transfers & Subsidies over the period 2017-2020. Comparing 2019 to 2020 there was an increase of $178,190 or 0.11%.

- Minor Equipment Purchases received the lowest portion of the total allocation over the period 2014 to 2020. Comparing 2019 to 2020, there was an increase of $1,435,200.

- Goods and Services received the second largest portion of the allocation over the period 2017-2020. However, this allocation experienced an increase in the allocation of $18,897,770 or 27.8% in fiscal 2020 compared to fiscal 2019.

- The actual/estimated expenditure for the four (4) Sub-Heads has been fluctuating over the seven (7) year period, from a low of $192,381,979 in 2017 to a high of $376,982,322 in 2015.
2018 Actual

- 01 Personnel Expenditure: 60%
- 02 Goods and Services: 31%
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases: 0%
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies: 9%

2019 Revised Estimates

- 01 Personnel Expenditure: 63%
- 02 Goods and Services: 28%
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases: 0%
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies: 9%
The allocation of staff expenditure for fiscal year 2020 is $42,737,910 which is an increase of approximately 20.8% from the last fiscal year 2019. The diagram below provides a breakdown of all expenditure related to staff and pay for 2018-2020.

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Unique Expenditure to the Office of the Prime Minister

Gender Affairs Division

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Revised Estimate</th>
<th>2020 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01 Personnel Expenditure</td>
<td>$129,703</td>
<td>$66,800</td>
<td>$131,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02 Goods and Services</td>
<td>$893,282</td>
<td>$1,140,100</td>
<td>$1,794,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Allocation</td>
<td>$1,022,985</td>
<td>$1,206,900</td>
<td>$1,925,980</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Expenses of the Prime Minister’s Establishment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>$33,013,894</td>
<td>$21,061,457</td>
<td>$6,299,732</td>
<td>$10,111,953</td>
<td>$10,845,472</td>
<td>$9,000,000</td>
<td>$9,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### National Security Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$107,545,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$93,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$93,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$29,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$42,250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$42,080,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$42,294,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Summary of Development Programme Expenditure for the period 2014-2020

Development Programme is capital expenditure aimed at improving and enhancing development in different areas of Trinidad and Tobago which includes; human resources, economic and social development.

The allocation of $133,070,000 for development programmes and projects for fiscal year 2020 are presented in two parts as follows:

- Funds disbursed directly from the Consolidated Fund = $8,452,000 and represent (6.35%) of the total development programme allocation to the Ministry; and
- Funds disbursed from the Infrastructure Development Fund = $124,618,000 and represent (93.65%) of the total development programme allocation to the Ministry.
## Summary of Development Programme Expenditure for the period 2014-2020

### Table: Development Expenditure by Category for 2014-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>004 Social infrastructure (CF)</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$3,056,989</td>
<td>$24,418</td>
<td>$4,411,593</td>
<td>$2,787,200</td>
<td>$8,452,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005 Multi-Sectoral and Other Services (CF)</td>
<td>$3,859,113</td>
<td>$234,038,709</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,670,150</td>
<td>$753,083</td>
<td>$410,500</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004 Social infrastructure (IDF)</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$9,650,015</td>
<td>$7,068,101</td>
<td>$885,923</td>
<td>$22,243,653</td>
<td>$43,618,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005 Multi-sectoral and Other Services (IDF)</td>
<td>$3,971,087</td>
<td>$8,635,281</td>
<td>$5,502,847</td>
<td>$13,204,896</td>
<td>$20,322,534</td>
<td>$25,431,618</td>
<td>$81,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$7,830,200</td>
<td>$242,673,990</td>
<td>$18,209,851</td>
<td>$21,967,565</td>
<td>$26,373,133</td>
<td>$50,872,971</td>
<td>$133,070,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Graph: Development Expenditure by Year for 2014-2020

The graph above illustrates the development expenditure by year for the period 2014-2020, categorically displayed for social infrastructure and multi-sectoral and other services. The expenditure figures are depicted across different years, showing trends and actual versus estimated expenditures.
Public Sector Investment Programme 2020 Projections

Administration

Historical Buildings

- The programme for the Restoration of Historical Buildings will be provided with an allocation of $69.0 million to undertake the following:
  - restoration of President’s House to preserve the historical attributes of the building and provide safe, secure and functional accommodation for the President and staff;
  - restoration of Mille Fleurs to its original state to include a public museum, heritage library, storage area for antiques, public bathrooms, cafeteria, and a shop for visitors;
  - payment of outstanding commitments for the completion of the Whitehall Building; and
  - refurbishment of the Prime Minister’s Residence in Tobago.

Social Development

In keeping with Government’s theme of “Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset”, efforts will be made to ensure that investments will focus on the welfare and wellbeing of citizens and the improvement of their living standards. In light of this, the undermentioned projects within the Office of the Prime Minister have been designed to achieve these outcomes.

Child Development

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The Children’s Authority of Trinidad and Tobago will embark on a research project entitled ‘An Assessment of the Existing Systems and Facilities Used to Treat At-Risk Youths Living with Mental Illness in Trinidad and Tobago’. The data will inform the national policy development and strategies to mitigate the symptoms and issues that at-risk youth, who are living with mental illnesses are subjected to.

The Children’s Authority of Trinidad and Tobago is required to provide support to the Juvenile Justice System of Trinidad and Tobago through assessments of Children in Need of Supervision (CHINS) and children in conflict with the law. As such, the Authority will seek to customize and outfit two (2) places of safety for CHINS to accommodate 10 females and 15 males. Additionally, training will be provided to the staff and service providers to develop the skills needed to handle the demands of dealing with CHINS.

**Refurbishment of Two Safe Houses**

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) is the line Ministry responsible for the implementation of the National Policy on Gender and Development. One of the major issues identified in the policy is that of domestic violence. As a result, the Office has the responsibility of providing secure accommodation for parents and their children who experience domestic violence. An allocation of $0.8 million will be provided to complete the renovation of properties located in San Fernando to provide a safe haven for victims of domestic violence.
Noteworthy Development Programme Estimates in 2017-2020

The table below lists the projects that have been noted due to uncharacteristic variances in estimates for funding: 16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item No.</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>2017 Actual</th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Revised Estimates</th>
<th>2020 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F010 (IDF)</td>
<td>Restoration of President’s Residence</td>
<td>2,206,685</td>
<td>9,930,821</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>30,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F012 (IDF)</td>
<td>Cabildo Retrofit</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Status of New Projects from Financial Year 2017

For the financial year 2017, the following new projects were scheduled for implementation under the Office of the Prime Minister, and as such require further inquiry on the progress of completion:\(^\text{17}\):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item No.</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>2017 Actual</th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Revised Estimates</th>
<th>2020 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0004-14-C084</td>
<td>Refurbishment of two Safe Houses</td>
<td>8,398</td>
<td>238,829</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>790,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-14-C085</td>
<td>Customisation and Outfitting of an Assessment Center in Tobago</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,060,560</td>
<td>2,220,900</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDF-13-004-14-C010</td>
<td>Refurbishment of the Salvation Army-Josephine Show House</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>759,709</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDF-13-005-06-F011</td>
<td>Construction of Prime Minister’s (Tobago) Residence</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6,371,229</td>
<td>3,937,742</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Status of New Projects from Financial Year 2018

For the financial year 2018, the following new projects were scheduled for implementation under the Office of the Prime Minister, and as such require further inquiry on the progress of completion\textsuperscript{18}:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item No.</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Revised Estimates</th>
<th>2020 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09-004-14-C99\textsuperscript{19}</td>
<td>Child Justice Assessment Centre</td>
<td>nil</td>
<td>nil</td>
<td>nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-004-14-C100\textsuperscript{20}</td>
<td>Juvenile Justice Implementation</td>
<td>nil</td>
<td>nil</td>
<td>nil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


\textsuperscript{19} This line item is no longer included as an item for allocation in the consolidated fund of the Development Programme.

\textsuperscript{20} This line item is no longer included as an item for allocation in the consolidated fund of the Development Programme.
Status of New Projects from Financial Year 2019

For the financial year 2019, the following new projects were scheduled for implementation under the Office of the Prime Minister, and as such require further inquiry on the progress of completion:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item No.</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>2019 Revised Estimates</th>
<th>2020 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>004-14-C101</td>
<td>Case Management Database Software</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-14-C102</td>
<td>Information Systems Disaster Recovery</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-14-C103</td>
<td>Records Management Systems – Phase 1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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New Projects for the Financial Year 2020
The new projects that received funding in the 2020 financial year:\n
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item No.</th>
<th>Development Programme 2019 Projects</th>
<th>2020 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>004-14-C104</td>
<td>Establishment of Two Reception Centres</td>
<td>3,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-14-C105</td>
<td>National AIDS Coordinating Committee Secretariat – Survey on HIV, IDS, STI’s etc.</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-14-C106</td>
<td>Finalization, Launch and Dissemination of the National HIV and AIDS Policy</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004-14-C107</td>
<td>Establishment of Drug Rehabilitation Centres</td>
<td>502,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F014(IDF)</td>
<td>Construction of Baptist Cathedral</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F015(IDF)</td>
<td>San Fernando Waterfront Re-development Project</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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## Committee Inquires Related to the Office of the Prime Minister

Reports from the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights Equality and Diversity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inquiry</th>
<th>Report Status</th>
<th>Ministerial Response</th>
<th>Key Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Report on an inquiry into the Support Programs and Services for</td>
<td>Report Laid</td>
<td>Presented</td>
<td>- The Office of the Prime Minister to commission local research on the impact on primary and secondary school children, whose parent or guardian was the victim or perpetrator of a violent offence including the collection of data from the prison population.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>children whose parent or guardian was the perpetrator or victim of a</td>
<td>HOR: 09.09.2016</td>
<td>HOR: 06.01.2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- The employment of additional research staff and funding to the Children’s Authority to advance its research priorities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Report on an inquiry into the Treatment of Child Offenders at the</td>
<td>Report Laid</td>
<td>Presented</td>
<td>- Priority be placed on the creation of a long term solution for placement and rehabilitation of female child offenders.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Training Centre, St. Michael’s Interim Rehabilitation Centre for</td>
<td>HOR: 03.02.2017</td>
<td>HOR: 21.04.2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Male Offenders and St. Jude’s Interim rehabilitation Centre for</td>
<td>SENATE: 31.01.2017</td>
<td>SENATE: 25.04.2017</td>
<td>- The Office of the Prime Minister treat with the five (5) outstanding recommended works and conducts an assessment of works yet to be completed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Female Offenders.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Report on an inquiry into the Systems in Place to Protect</td>
<td>Report Laid</td>
<td>Presented</td>
<td>- The Office of the Prime Minister seek additional funding to address the infrastructural deficits at the Community Residences and Rehabilitation Centres.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children from Abuse.</td>
<td>HOR: 02.06.2017</td>
<td>HOR: 08.09.2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SENATE:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report Title</td>
<td>Report Laid</td>
<td>Presented</td>
<td>Details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventh Report on an Inquiry into the Status of the Implementation of the recommendations of the 2015 Report of the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Diversity, the Environment and Sustainable Development on the Examination of Programmes and Services which provide Support to Victims of Domestic Violence</td>
<td>Report Laid</td>
<td>Presented</td>
<td>The Office of the Prime Minister increase the funding to the Children’s Authority to allow for increased child abuse programmes and services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eighth Report on an inquiry into the Examination of the Perceived Inequality Faced by Single Fathers in Trinidad and Tobago With Specific Focus on Custody Matters, Policies and Access to Programmes and Services</td>
<td>Report Laid</td>
<td>Presented</td>
<td>The MSDFS and OPM create a co-ordinating body in the form of a Committee with representatives from the TTPS, MSDFS, OPM and shelters and the Inter-Ministerial Committee be commenced by September 2018.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HOR: 16.03.2018</td>
<td>HOR: 13.03.2018</td>
<td>The vacancies in the Gender Affairs Unit, OPM be filled by September 2018.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The OPM, MSDFS and VWSU adjust its outreach public sensitization strategies for programmes/services to target male single parents as one of its audiences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The OPM commence expansion of the National Registry on Gender-based Violence to include data on all other gender related matters by December 2018 in order to inform the development of policies and the reformation of legislations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The OPM, MSDFS, and the VWSU develop programmes or revise existing programmes and services to address the unique needs of single parents.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Recent Legislative Development

### Acts of Parliament

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Act No.</th>
<th>Short Title</th>
<th>Related Bill</th>
<th>Date of Assent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 of 2018</td>
<td><strong>The Miscellaneous Provisions (Supreme Court of Judicature and Children) Act, 2018</strong></td>
<td>Progression</td>
<td>9-Oct-2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 15 of 2018 | The Miscellaneous Provisions (Supreme Court of Judicature and Children) Bill, 2018 seeks to streamline the processes in relation to the treatment of children and children matters. The Bill seeks to amend the following Acts:  
• The Interpretation Act, Chap. 3:01  
• The Supreme Court of Judicature Act, Chap. 4:01  
• The Summary Courts Act, Chap. 4:20  
• The Bail Act, Chap. 4:60  
• The Administration of Justice (Deoxyribonucleic Acid) Act, Chap. 5:34  
• The Legal Aid and Advice Act, Chap. 7:07  
• The Child Rehabilitation Centre Act, Chap. 13:05  
• The Family Law (Guardianship of Minors, Domicile and Maintenance) Act, Chap. 46:08  
• The Children Act, Chap. 46:01  
• The Children’s Community Residences, Foster Care and Nurseries Act, Chap. 46:04  
• The Children’s Authority Act, Chap. 46:10  
• The Family and Children Division Act, 2016 | | |
| 8 of 2017 | The Bill seeks to amend the following Acts:  
• The Marriage Act, Chapter 45:01;  
• The Muslim Marriage and Divorce Act, Chapter 45:02; | | |
The Hindu Marriage Act, Chapter 45:03; The Orisa Marriage Act, Chapter 45:04; and The Matrimonial Proceedings and Property Act, Chapter 45:51. The Bill also seeks harmonize the aforementioned marriage statutes across the board by:

- raising the legal age of marriage to eighteen (18) years;
- repealing any parental consent for a marriage;
- creating an offence where it is illegal to solemnise a marriage of a person who is under the age of eighteen years, and
- extending the hours in which a marriage can be solemnised; 23

6 of 2016 The Family and Children Division Act
The Bill seeks to make jurisdiction for all family matters and children matters exercisable in a Division of the High Court to be called the Family and Children Division and to make provision for matters connected therewith24.

Subsidiary Legislation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date Laid</th>
<th>Senate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>The Children's Community Residences (Children's Homes) Regulations, 2018</td>
<td>09.03.2018</td>
<td>13.03.2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>The Children's Community Residences (Rehabilitation Centres) Regulations, 2018</td>
<td>09.03.2018</td>
<td>13.03.2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>The Children Court Rules, 2018</td>
<td>23.03.2018</td>
<td>20.03.2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


General Useful Information

- Office of the Prime Minister, Jamaica: http://opm.gov.jm/
- The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Australia: https://www.dpmc.gov.au/
- Office of the Prime Minister, Dominica: http://www.opm.gov.dm/
- Office of the Prime Minister, St Lucia: http://opm.govt.lc/
- Office of the Prime Minister, St Vincent and the Grenadines: http://www.pmoffice.gov.vc/pmoffice/