Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2018-19

Reply Serial No.

SB269

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1967)

Head: (27) Civil Aid Service

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Civil Aid Service

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Chief Staff Officer, Civil Aid Service (CHEUNG Tat-yin)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

In 2018-19, how many Civil Aid Service staff members and auxiliary officers will be offered local and overseas disaster and mountain search and rescue training conducted by professional bodies? What will be the administrative expenses involved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 5)

Reply:

The Civil Aid Service (CAS) attaches great importance to its search and rescue capability for disaster and mountain accidents. Therefore, in 2018-19, 10 staff members and volunteers will be arranged to join various local and overseas disaster and mountain search and rescue training courses. The related administrative expenses will be about \$216,000.

SB268

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3284)

Head: (27) Civil Aid Service

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Civil Aid Service

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Chief Staff Officer, Civil Aid Service (CHEUNG Tat-yin)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding the provision of sign language interpretation services in the past 5 years, will your department inform this Committee of the following:

- 1. Whether sign language interpretation services have been provided. If yes, the frequency, occasions and causes for providing sign language interpretation services in each year;
- 2. Further to the above question, the number of sign language interpreters involved in each year, their pay and the organisations to which they belonged; the total expenditure involved in each year; and
- 3. Whether your department will consider allocating more resources to improve the services for communicating with the deaf and/or persons with hearing impairment in the future. If yes, what are the details (including measures, manpower and expenditure involved and the timetable, etc.)? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 56)

Reply:

The Civil Aid Service (CAS) currently does not provide sign language interpretation services in its day-to-day operations. Nonetheless, if such a need arises in the future, the CAS will consider individual circumstances and arrange the relevant services for those in need.

SB524

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5143)

<u>Head</u>: (27) Civil Aid Service

Subhead (No. & title): ()

<u>Programme</u>: (1) Civil Aid Service

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Chief Staff Officer, Civil Aid Service (CHEUNG Tat-yin)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

What is the number of various services provided by the Civil Aid Service in each of the past 4 years?

Item	Type of	2014			2015			2016			2017		
	Service	Number	Man-	Expenditure									
			hour			hour			hour			hour	
1	Mountain												
	search and												
	rescue												
2	Countryside												
	fire fighting												
3	Typhoons,												
	flooding,												
	mudslip												
	and others												
4	Crowd												
	management												
	and other												
	civic duties												

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 198)

Reply:

The numbers of occasions of various services being provided by the Civil Aid Service (CAS) in the past 4 years are as follows:

Item	Type of Service	2014	2015	2016	2017	
		Number	Number	Number	Number	
1	Mountain search and rescue	118	133	109	96	
2	Countryside fire fighting	15	15	19	51	
3	Typhoons, flooding, mudslip and others	3	2	2	10	
4	Crowd management and other civic duties	198	211	205	234	

The above services are part of the normal duties of the CAS. The CAS utilised its existing resources to provide the above services. No additional expenditure was involved.

Reply Serial No.

SB525

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5144)

<u>Head</u>: (27) Civil Aid Service

Subhead (No. & title): ()

<u>Programme</u>: (1) Civil Aid Service

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Chief Staff Officer, Civil Aid Service (CHEUNG Tat-yin)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

The Civil Aid Service (CAS) has adjusted its target for providing full-time and part-time training for CAS members through the CAS Training School from 65 000 to 72 000 man-hours from 2018 onwards in view of the increase in the number of new recruits and the provision of more training. However, the number of actual man-hour spent in both 2016 and 2017 exceeded the new target, reaching 74 000 and 89 000 respectively. In this connection, will your department inform this Committee:

- (1) of the criteria and method of calculation adopted for increasing the number of target man-hour;
- (2) of the additional operational expenses involved in each of the past 5 years arising from the number of actual man-hour of this item exceeding its target (in table form)?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 199)

Reply:

- (1) The CAS sets its target training hours, estimated number of training courses and estimated number of trainees according to the proposals of training needs submitted by regions/units each year to maintain members' operational expertise and effectiveness, equip members with the skills and knowledge required for promotion and provide basic training to new recruits of that year.
- (2) Due to greater demand in training for new recruits and hiking safety, the number of man-hour spent on training by the CAS in 2017 exceeded its target. The CAS utilised its existing resources to provide the above training to its members. No additional expenditure was involved.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2018-19

Reply Serial No.

SB526

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5482)

Head: (27) Civil Aid Service

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Civil Aid Service

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Chief Staff Officer, Civil Aid Service (CHEUNG Tat-yin)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

The establishment of the Civil Aid Service is 103 permanent posts. It is expected that there will be an increase of 2 posts in 2018-19. Please inform this Committee:

- (1) of the ranks of the posts to be created;
- (2) of the implications on the operating expenses arising from the creation of the posts.

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 190)

Reply:

- (1) The ranks of the 2 posts to be created in the Civil Aid Service (CAS) in 2018-19 are Operations and Training Officer and Operations and Training Assistant.
- (2) The creation of the above posts will involve an additional expenditure of about \$700,000 in the CAS in 2018-19.