

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

SB217

Question Serial No.

1515

Head: 30 Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Re-integration

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Correctional Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

As the success rates of drug addiction treatment centres (i.e. non-conviction and free from drugs in one year after discharge) remained on the low side in 2011 and 2012, will the Department allocate more resources and formulate new measures to enhance the success rates?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

A Drug Addiction Treatment Centre (DATC) case is considered successful if the supervisee is able to meet the requirements of “not relapsing to drug abuse” and “not having committed any offence against the laws of Hong Kong” during the statutory one-year supervision period after release. The success rates of DATC Programme are affected by a number of personal and social factors, which include the criminal conviction and drug abuse history of supervisees (such as the number of previous criminal convictions, the duration of drug abuse history and the nature of their offences, etc), the motivation and determination of supervisees to stay away from drugs, the support of the community and their family members, as well as the prevalence of drug problem in the community etc. The Administration has not set any targets for the success rates of DATC.

The purpose of post release supervision is to ensure supervisees comply with the requirements of supervision and help them reintegrate into the society through regular contacts, close supervision and timely intervention by supervising officers. Apart from failure to comply with the two requirements of “not relapsing to drug abuse” and “not having committed any offence against the laws of Hong Kong”, supervisees may also be recalled by supervising officers for violation of other requirements of supervision (such as refusal to provide urine sample, failure to meet with supervising officer at least once a month, etc). The purpose of the recall is to enable supervisees to receive further training and counselling before they commit offences or relapse to drug abuse again.

In recent years, the Correctional Services Department (CSD) has proactively implemented various new measures such as enhancing the pre-release re-integration orientation course and counselling services for inmates at DATC so as to strengthen their determination to stay away from drugs. Moreover, the CSD has enhanced monitoring the relapse problem of supervisees discharged from DATC, which include expediting the confirmatory tests to enable the early detection of drug-taking by supervisees and taking appropriate actions.

Name in block letters: SIN YAT KIN

Post Title: Commissioner of Correctional Services

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