

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**SB173****(Question Serial No. 1137)**

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Re-integration

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Correctional Services (SIN Yat-kin)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

This question originates from: Estimates on Expenditure Volume 1 Page 136

Question (Member Question No. 82):

Regarding the Drug Addiction Treatment Programme of the Correctional Services Department in 2013-14, will the Administration inform this Committee of:

1. the figures of service users who have received drug addiction treatment service and been categorised as non-conviction and free from drugs in one year after discharge by drug addiction treatment centres, age and gender;
2. whether the Department will set a higher service indicator for the drug addiction treatment centres in 2014-15? If yes, what are the details? What will be the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. In 2012, the total number of persons in custody who were released from Drug Addiction Treatment Centre (DATC) and 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 was 553, and the success rate was 46.8%. The breakdown is as follows:

Institutions	Inmates	No. of related cases
Hei Ling Chau Addiction Treatment Centre	Adult male drug abusers ¹	346
Lai Sun Correctional Institution	Young male drug abusers ²	102
Nei Kwu Correctional Institution	Adult female drug abusers	83
Nei Kwu Correctional Institution	Young female drug abusers	22
Total		553

¹ Adult drug abusers refer to drug abusers over 21 years old.

² Young drug abusers refer to drug abusers aged 14 to under 21 years old.

2. A 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 re-integrate into 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, 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, it has stepped up spot check and surveillance of drug testing procedures of supervisees.