

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB481

(Question Serial No. 5236)

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Prison Management

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Correctional Services (YAU Chi-chiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

What is the provision involved for minors in custody to receive formal secondary diploma education in 2016-17? What was the number of minors in custody being subsidised for receiving secondary education (the "3-3-4" curriculum or the Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination (HKCEE)) and the provisions required in the past 5 years? Also, what is the number of minors in custody who had not been arranged by the Department to receive formal secondary education (the "3-3-4" curriculum or HKCEE)?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung (Member Question No. 300)

Reply:

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) provides formal education for young persons in custody and the subjects are taught by qualified teachers. The estimated expenditure on education for all persons in custody in 2016-17 is about \$35.9 million, which will be mainly used on young persons in custody. The relevant expenditures in the past 5 years are as follows:

Year	Expenditure on Education
2015-16	\$34.3 million (Revised estimate)
2014-15	\$34.3 million (Actual expenditure)
2013-14	\$31.7 million (Actual expenditure)
2012-13	\$30.6 million (Actual expenditure)
2011-12	\$29.6 million (Actual expenditure)

The numbers of enrolments of young persons in custody who received education provided by CSD between 2011 and 2015 are as follows:

Year	Number of Enrolments of Young Persons in Custody who Received Education
2015	625
2014	745
2013	1 082
2012	1 108
2011	1 269

Given the decrease in the overall young penal population in the past 5 years, there was a corresponding decrease in the number of young persons in custody receiving education. The above figures do not include the detainees of detention centre, young detainees of rehabilitation centres receiving the second phase of training, who need to work or attend classes outside, and young persons in custody under remand. The detainees of detention centre have to receive other forms of training in accordance with the Detention Centres Ordinance (Cap 239), and young persons in custody under remand generally have a shorter period of custody. Nevertheless, CSD will provide suitable educational services for them having regard to their individual needs.

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