

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3444)

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:

The Financial Secretary mentioned in paragraph 148 of the 2015-16 Budget Speech that he had “asked all policy bureaux...to achieve more efficient use of resources through re-engineering and re-prioritising” and “launched the ‘0-1-1’ envelope savings programme to reduce operating expenditure by a total of two per cent over the next three financial years. Resources saved will be re-allocated for new services.” Please inform this Committee of the implementation of the “0-1-1” envelope savings programme by the Correctional Services Department in 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18, the services affected by the programme and details of the expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (Member Question No. 110)

Reply:

The “0-1-1” envelope savings programme is a fiscal planning tool used by the Government to encourage policy bureaux and departments to enhance productivity more effectively through re-engineering and re-prioritising of work. Thus, more resources can be saved and redeployed internally to enhance the existing services and introduce new public services.

In this connection, the Correctional Services Department (CSD) will implement measures for re-engineering and re-prioritising of work. Examples are as follows-

- (a) CSD has been keeping a close watch on changes in the size and composition of the penal population and deploy resources flexibly to cater for the custodial and rehabilitation needs of persons in custody (PICs). On this basis, CSD has been implementing various improvement measures, including the swapping of functions of individual institutions where practicable, the conversion and upgrading of correctional institutions, etc. In early January 2016, adult PICs with higher security risk were transferred from Hei Ling Chau Addiction Treatment Centre to Lai Sun Correctional Institution in which they were detained in a separate area. The manpower saved

under this scheme has been redeployed to other institutions or sections to alleviate the existing manpower shortfall; and

- (b) In respect of computerization proposals, the E-learning platform to be developed by CSD would provide self-learning programmes and study materials via computers and mobile devices to facilitate staff development. The project estimate is \$2.78 million and the project is expected to complete in early 2017. In addition, the staff duty management system to be developed by CSD would integrate the processes of allocation and record of duties. The project estimate is \$8.93 million and the project is expected to complete at the end of 2018. The development of the above platform/system would enhance efficiency, hence improving the existing services, and the resources could be allocated to areas of higher priorities.

Indeed, the estimate for CSD for 2016-17 is higher than that for 2015-16 by 1%, reflecting that efficiency savings achieved through the “0-1-1” programme and new resources have been allocated to CSD for delivering new/improved services.

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