

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB175

(Question Serial No. 3084)

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Re-integration

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Correctional Services (WOO Ying-ming)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

With the changes in the local economy, and the local consumer and labour markets amid the novel coronavirus epidemic, has the Correctional Services Department (CSD) made any corresponding adjustments to its market-oriented vocational training for persons in custody (PICs)? If yes, what are the specific details, including whether CSD will introduce new vocational training, appoint additional instructors and increase the expenses on vocational training for PICs?

Asked by: Hon YUNG Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 28)

Reply:

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) collaborates with various training bodies (including the Employees Retraining Board, the Construction Industry Council and the Vocational Training Council, etc.), having regard to the situation of the local employment market, to provide over 40 full-time and part-time vocational training courses with more than 1 400 training places for lawfully residing adult persons in custody (PICs) who are due for discharge within 24 months and eligible for employment to enrol on a voluntary basis and obtain recognised qualifications to enhance their employability and help them enrol in bridging or progressive courses in future with a view to facilitating their smooth re-integration into society after release. These courses cover a wide range of industries such as construction, business, food and beverage, retail, beauty care, transport, logistics, laundry services, computer application and environmental services, etc. In recent years, CSD has proactively introduced new courses on innovative skills and technologies, including 3D Designing and Printing Skills, Virtual Reality Logistics Management, Virtual Reality Welding and Virtual Reality Visual Merchandising and Retail Management. A course on Virtual Reality Interior Design will also be introduced this year.

For young PICs under the age of 21, CSD provides them with mandatory half-day education and half-day vocational training. About 20 vocational training programmes will be provided to them in 2021-22 covering the engineering, business and service industries, such as building

services, office and commercial practice, coffee making and latte art training, food and beverage service, interior design and 3D rendering, 3D printing skills and digital audio visual production, etc. New course elements such as computer animation design and 3D designing and printing, etc will be included.

In the light of the epidemic, CSD has introduced the anti-epidemic element into its existing cleansing training course, so as to enable PICs to acquire up-to-date skills and knowledge.

In 2021-22, CSD's estimated expenditure on vocational training for PICs is about \$30.29 million.

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