

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB127

(Question Serial No. 1758)

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Re-integration

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Correctional Services (WONG Kwok-hing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) provides psychological and counselling services for persons in custody (PICs) and those under supervision after release. In this regard, would the Department inform this Committee of:

- a) the number of staff and their posts in CSD assigned to provide psychological and counselling services for PICs and those under supervision after release. Among them, how many have received professional training on in-depth counselling?
- b) the numbers of PICs in correctional institutions and residents of half-way houses receiving psychological treatment, psychiatric treatment and counselling services under the Prison Programme, Training Centre Programme, Detention Centre Programme, Rehabilitation Centre Programme, Drug Addiction Treatment Centre Programme, Post-Release Supervision Scheme, Conditional Release Scheme and Release Under Supervision Scheme, and the numbers of times they received those treatments in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ling-lai, Lillian (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

a) The posts and numbers of staff in the Psychological Services Section (PSS) of the Correctional Services Department (CSD) assigned to provide psychological and counselling services for persons in custody (PICs) and those under supervision after release are tabulated below (as at 3 March 2023):

Post	Number of staff
Senior Clinical Psychologist	2
Clinical Psychologist	15
Other staff in PSS	31

All of the Clinical Psychologists possess a master's degree or above in clinical psychology while other staff in PSS have received relevant on-the-job training.

b) The figures on psychological services provided to PICs and residents of half-way houses by PSS of CSD in the past 3 years are tabulated below:

Psychological services^{Note 1}			
Service recipient	Number of times		
	2020	2021	2022
● PICs under the Prison Programme	22 889	24 336	17 957
● PICs under the Training Centre Programme/ Detention Centre Programme/ Rehabilitation Centre Programme/ Drug Addiction Treatment Centre Programme	3 173	3 432	3 389
● PICs under the Post-Release Supervision Scheme, Conditional Release Scheme and Release Under Supervision Scheme, and residents of half-way houses	547	568	430
Total	26 609	28 336	21 776

Note 1 : Psychological services include therapies, counselling and assessment.

CSD maintains only the numbers of times of psychological services received by PICs, but does not maintain information on the number of service recipients. Besides, CSD does not maintain statistics on PICs receiving psychiatric treatment and counselling services.

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