

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Ambulance Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

The Department indicated that it would continue to strengthen publicity activities to educate the public on the proper use of emergency ambulance services through the commissioning of an Ambulance Service Publicity Vehicle in 2013-14. What are the details and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Ambulance Service Publicity Vehicle (ASPV) was commissioned at the beginning of 2013. The Fire Services Department will deploy it to various communities and schools for roving exhibitions to introduce the public to the emergency ambulance service and educate them on the proper use of it. In 2013-14, the expenditure involved is estimated to be about \$400,000, including the costs for operating the ASPV and increasing or updating the game software and publicity facilities in the ASPV.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 26.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

SB234

Question Serial No.

4044

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Fire Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, the Administration has mentioned that the Fire Services Department will commission a new fire station with ambulance facilities at Kai Tak during 2013-14. What is the progress of the project and its expected completion date and commissioning date?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

The Fire Services Department is constructing a new fire station with ambulance facilities and an urban search and rescue equipment store at Cheung Yip Street, Kowloon Bay. The project is expected to be completed and commissioned in mid-2013.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 25.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Ambulance Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

It is estimated that the provision under Subhead 690 Town ambulances (block vote) for 2013-14 will increase by 10.8% over the estimate for 2012-13. In this regard, would the Administration

- a) provide the numbers of breakdowns of ambulances while attending calls and their percentage in the total number of calls attended in the past 5 years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-2010, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13);
- b) provide the average ages of the fleet in the past 5 years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-2010, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13);
- c) indicate in detail whether there is any plan for ambulance replacement in the future.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

- a) The respective numbers of breakdowns of ambulances while attending calls and their percentage in the total number of calls attended in the past 5 years are as follows:

Year	Number of breakdowns of ambulances while attending calls	Percentage in the total number of calls attended
2008	158	0.025%
2009	225	0.034%
2010	108	0.016%
2011	57	0.008%
2012	40	0.005%

- b) The average ages of the fleet in the past 5 years are as follows:

Year (Year-end)	Average age of the fleet (Number of years)
2008	8.4
2009	4.7
2010	2.2
2011	2.4
2012	2.2

- c) To maintain the age of ambulances at a healthy level and the overall reliability of the fleet, the Fire Services Department (FSD) has formulated an ambulance replacement plan. FSD proposes a provision of about \$87.75 million for 2013-14 for the replacement of 35 town ambulances, and for meeting part of the payment for the additional and replacement town ambulances approved in the previous financial years.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 25.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Ambulance Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Since the Fire Services Department implemented the Rapid Response Vehicle Scheme (the Scheme) in 2006, how effective has the Scheme been? What was the number of cases, the expenditure and the amount of manpower involved in the Scheme last year? The Department will continue the Scheme in 2013-14 to enhance the delivery of the paramedic ambulance service. What will be the estimated expenditure involved and will additional manpower or resources be required?

Asked by: Hon. CHUNG Kwok-pan

Reply:

The Fire Services Department (FSD) launched Rapid Response Vehicle (RRV) Scheme on 1 November 2006. Each RRV is manned by an Ambulance Officer. The main functions of the Scheme are to provide support to frontline ambulance personnel and perform service quality assurance duties to enhance frontline management and operational efficiency. As at the end of February 2013, the RRVs provided support for a total of 10 444 emergency calls, and conducted 6 888 field audits of emergency ambulance cases and 20 211 inspections.

In 2012, the 3 RRVs of FSD (involving 3 Ambulance Officers) provided support for a total of 1 362 emergency calls, and conducted 1 288 field audits of emergency ambulance cases and 3 151 inspections. The expenditure involved was about \$1.6 million. FSD considers the Scheme satisfactorily effective and will continue to implement it with the existing manpower in 2013-14. The estimated expenditure for the next year is approximately \$1.6 million.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 25.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

SB237

Question Serial No.

0522

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): 000 Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding the departmental records management work over the past 3 years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13):

1. Please provide information on the number and rank of officers designated to perform such work. If there is no officer designated for such work, please provide information on the number of officers and the hours of work involved in records management duties, and the other duties they have to undertake in addition to records management;
2. Please list in the table below information on closed programme and administrative records pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal:

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear meters of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

3. Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred to GRS for retention:

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

4. Please list in the table below information on records which have been approved for destruction by GRS:

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

1. The Fire Services Department (FSD) has established a records management programme according to the relevant guidelines on records management within the Government. The programme is overseen by Departmental Secretary (Principal Executive Officer) of the Headquarters with Chief Executive Officer serving as the Departmental Records Manager to co-ordinate the overall record management of FSD. Records management in various FSD Commands and units is undertaken by officers not below the rank of Executive Officer II or equivalent to ensure proper handling of records. The routine records management work, such as creation and collection of records, is generally performed by clerical staff posted to the units. Apart from records management, these officers are also required to perform other administrative and general clerical duties. FSD does not maintain a breakdown of the number of hours involved in records management work performed by these officers.
2. FSD has not maintained data on closed programme and administrative records pending transfer to GRS for appraisal over the past 3 years.
3. FSD has not transferred any record to GRS for retention over the past 3 years.
4. Information on records which have been approved for destruction by GRS over the past 3 years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13) is listed below:

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
Programme records	1958-2009	342 834 records with 649.85 linear metres	2010-2013	2-7 years	No
Administrative records	1964-2010	35 320 records with 541.81 linear metres	2010-2013	0-7 years	No

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 27.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

SB238

Question Serial No.

4677

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

There is an increase in the provision under the two subheads of Minor plant, vehicles and equipment, and Town ambulances for 2013-14 as compared with that of last year. What are the criteria for determining the rate of increase? Please advise whether there are any acquired plants, vehicles and equipment that have been found under-equipped or require modification, and as a result could not be commissioned as scheduled in the past 3 years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13). If yes, what are the details? What is the number of items involved? Will the Administration evaluate whether it has been too conservative in making the estimate?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

The Fire Services Department (FSD) will submit funding proposal for acquiring new items or replacing the minor plant, vehicles and equipment as well as town ambulance according to its actual operational needs, and the service life and wear and tear of each type of plant, vehicles and equipment. Therefore the provision has not necessarily increased annually and there are no criteria for determining its rate of increase or decrease. In the past 3 years, there was no such case that the minor plant, vehicles and equipment and town ambulance acquired by FSD were under-equipped or required unexpected modification and as a result could not be commissioned as scheduled.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 25.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Fire Protection and Prevention

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

It is stated in the Matters Requiring Special Attention that inspection of pre-1973 composite/domestic buildings will be stepped up. What are the details? Will there be additional manpower or redeployment of staff to cope with the work? What will be the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

The Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance (Cap. 572) (the Ordinance), which commenced operation on 1 July 2007, aims at upgrading the fire safety standards of composite buildings and domestic buildings constructed before 1987. At present, the Fire Services Department (FSD) gives priority to the inspection of composite buildings constructed before 1973. In 2009, FSD created 38 time-limited posts with a view to expediting the inspection work. The existing plan is to complete the inspection of approximately 9 000 composite buildings constructed in or before 1987 by the end of 2015, followed by the inspection of about 3 000 domestic buildings. As at the end of February 2013, 6 041 out of the approximately 9 000 old composite buildings in Hong Kong have been inspected.

In 2012-13, FSD deployed a task force comprised of more than 170 members (including the 38 time-limited posts) to enforce the Ordinance and the Fire Safety (Commercial Premises) Ordinance (Cap. 502). The staff costs involved are about \$99 million.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 26.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Fire Protection and Prevention

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

It is stated in the Matters Requiring Special Attention that the Bureau will explore the feasibility of introducing third party certification on fire safety for buildings and licensed premises. What are the details? What is the amount of inspection and certification work of the Fire Services Department expected to be reduced and the expenditure to be saved with the introduction of the measure?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

To facilitate business, the Fire Services Department (FSD) has planned to introduce the Registered Fire Engineer (RFE) Scheme for implementation of Third Party Fire Safety Certification (the Scheme) and proposed that the Scheme should be started with licensed premises. Under the initial plan, licence applicants can choose to engage an RFE for fire risk assessment, formulating fire safety requirements, certifying compliance of fire service installations or ventilating systems with the requirements of FSD, and issuing Fire Safety Certificates for these premises, with a view to shortening the processing time for licence application.

FSD has engaged a consultant to conduct a Business Impact Assessment for the Scheme. Preliminary findings of the assessment show that the majority of stakeholders are in favour of the Scheme. FSD estimates that after the implementation of the RFE Scheme, some applicants will opt to use the services provided by RFE when applying for licences. Nevertheless, FSD will continue to provide relevant services to those who do not use such services. FSD is unable to estimate the impact of the Scheme on its operation and expenditure at this stage, as the Business Impact Assessment for the Scheme is still in progress and applicants will be free to choose the services provided by either FSD or third parties which suit their needs upon the implementation of the Scheme.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 26.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

SB241

Question Serial No.

4688

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Fire Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, it is stated that the Fire Services Department will procure a fireboat to replace the existing fireboat No. 7. What are the details? What is the expenditure involved? Please list the numbers of coastal waters fire calls received and casualties involved in each of the past 3 years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13).

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

The Fire Services Department (FSD) was granted a funding of \$85 million in 2012 to procure a new fireboat to replace the existing fireboat No. 7. The new fireboat will be equipped with enhanced navigational and operational features as well as marine fire-fighting and rescue equipment to meet the demand for marine fire-fighting and rescue services nowadays. The procurement work is in progress. The new fireboat is expected to be put into service at the end of 2014.

The numbers of fire calls received and casualties involved in Hong Kong waters in the past 3 years are as follows:

	2010	2011	2012
Number of vessel fire calls	46	39	43
Number of fatalities	0	0	1
Number of injuries	18	2	3

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 26.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

SB242

Question Serial No.

4689

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Fire Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, it is stated that a new fire station with ambulance facilities at Kai Tak will be commissioned. What are the specific service areas of that station? What will be the manning of the station and the annual expenditure to be incurred?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

The Fire Services Department is constructing a new fire station with ambulance facilities and an urban search and rescue equipment store at Cheung Yip Street, Kowloon Bay. It will provide fire-fighting, rescue and emergency ambulance services mainly for the Kai Tak Development Area (including the Cruise Terminal) and part of the adjacent areas, such as Kowloon Bay and Ngau Tau Kok.

The new fire station will be equipped with 1 hydraulic platform, 1 major pump, 1 light rescue unit and 2 ambulances and manned by 70 fire personnel, 18 ambulance personnel and 1 Assistant Clerical Officer. The estimated annual expenditure to be incurred is about \$26 million.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 26.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Ambulance Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

How many ambulance calls received in 2012 were actually not a matter of emergency? What was the expenditure involved in such calls? Will the Department conduct any review in respect of the misuse of ambulance service so as to ensure effective use of public resources?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply:

In 2009, the Fire Services Department (FSD) conducted an analysis on emergency ambulance calls received to understand the use of the emergency ambulance service by the public. Of the about 10 000 randomly selected cases, approximately 10% reflected no obvious need for the service. In a similar analysis in 2011, such cases registered a drop to about 4.2%. FSD did not conduct such analysis in 2012. The revised estimated expenditure on ambulance service for 2012-13 is about \$1,280 million, but there is no separate estimate for the expenditure incurred by such cases. To ensure effective use of public resources, FSD will continue to closely monitor the need for and the use of the emergency ambulance service, and step up its efforts to convey the message of proper use of ambulance service to the public through various channels.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 26.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

SB244

Question Serial No.

3749

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

What are the details of the procurement of fire equipment in 2013-14 by the Fire Services Department? Please set out the number, the expenditure, the uses and the source of procurement of all plants, vehicles and equipment to be procured. How will the replaced plants, vehicles and equipment be disposed of? What is the average life span of the equipment to be procured? Please list the number, the expenditure, the uses and the source of procurement of all plants, vehicles and equipment required to be replaced in the past 3 years (up to 2012-13).

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

In 2013-14, the Fire Services Department (FSD) will propose a provision of \$18.22 million (block vote) for replacement or new minor plant, vehicles and equipment, and \$9.456 million of the sum is for meeting part of the payment for replacement and new items approved in previous financial years which has not been met due to procurement procedures. The remaining \$8.764 million is for meeting the payment for the new items expected to commence in 2013-14. Details are as follows:

Expenditure of new items in 2013-14

Minor plant, vehicles and equipment		Quantity	Yearly expenditure (\$)	Estimated average life span (year)	Use
1	New foam cannon	1 No.	1,278,000	12	Fire-fighting and rescue
2	Replacement village ambulance	1 No.	695,000	6	Emergency ambulance service
3	Replacement Logistic Support Appliance	1 No.	636,000	8	Fire-fighting and rescue
4	Replacement Workshop Van	3 Nos.	254,000	10	Logistic support
5	Replacement compartment fire behaviour training facilities	2 Nos.	2,331,000	2	Training
6	Replacement public address/call out system	7 Nos.	3,570,000	15	For use by Fire station/ Ambulance depot
Total :			8,764,000		

The details of the yearly expenditure on Subhead 661 in the past 3 financial years are as follows:

2012-13 (Revised estimate)

Minor plant, vehicles and equipment		Quantity	Yearly expenditure (\$)	Estimated average life span (year)	Use
1	Replacement Light Rescue Unit	6 Nos.	549,000	10	Fire-fighting and rescue
2	Replacement Mini Fire Van and Mini Rescue Track	3 Nos. each	1,090,000	8	Fire-fighting and rescue
3	Replacement rescue cushion	6 Nos.	1,106,000	10	Fire-fighting and rescue
4	Replacement Holmatro rapid intervention system	7 Nos.	1,290,000	10	Fire-fighting and rescue
5	Replacement Holmatro Deep Sea Diving Tool	4 Nos.	825,000	10	Fire-fighting and rescue
6	New mobile decontamination equipment	2 Nos.	1,189,000	10	Fire-fighting and rescue
7	New rescue equipment dedicated for use in Ngong Ping 360	1 No.	1,017,000	5	Fire-fighting and rescue
8	New rescue equipment dedicated for Ocean Park cable cars	1 No.	488,000	5	Fire-fighting and rescue
9	Replacement Hydraulic Platform engine	1 No.	466,000	10	Fire-fighting and rescue
10	Replacement Breathing Apparatus Pod component	1 No.	195,000	10	Fire-fighting and rescue
11	Replacement Mini Passenger Van dedicated for use on offshore islands	1 No.	162,000	6	Logistic Support
12	Replacement heavy vehicle brake tester	3 Nos.	100,000	10	For use by Workshops Division
13	Replacing electrical installation in a building	1 No.	600,000	12	For use by Fire Services Headquarters
14	Replacement air-conditioning system	1 No.	160,000	10	For use by Ambulance depot
15	Replacement hot and cold water pumps	1 No.	153,000	10	For use by Workshops Division
16	New mobile file cabinet	1 No.	172,000	10	For use by Fire Services Headquarters
17	New closed-circuit television system in elevator	1 No.	601,000	3 to 5	For use by Fire Services Headquarters
18	Upgrading closed-circuit television system	1 No.	1,040,000	3 to 5	For use by Fire Services Headquarters
Sub-total :			11,203,000		
Payment for items approved in previous financial years :			5,207,000		
Total :			16,410,000		

2011-12 (Actual expenditure)

Minor plant, vehicles and equipment		Quantity	Yearly expenditure (\$)	Estimated average life span (year)	Use
1	Replacement Rescue Hovercraft	1 No.	974,210	7	Fire-fighting and rescue
2	Replacement Holmatro rapid intervention system	7 Nos.	1,210,930	10	Fire-fighting and rescue
3	Replacement Holmatro Rescue Tool, Heavy Duty	1 No.	298,435	10	Fire-fighting and rescue
4	Replacement side-scan sonar	2 Nos.	1,086,000	10	Fire-fighting and rescue
5	Replacement underwater camera	2 Nos.	2,179,000	10	Fire-fighting and rescue

6	Replacement public address/call out system	6 Nos.	1,258,169	15	For use by Fire station/ Ambulance depot
7	Replacement oxygen transfer pump	1 No.	400,000	10	Logistic support
8	Replacement Computerized Fire Alarm Transmission System Interface System	1 No.	630,000	10	For use by Fire station
9	Replacement air-conditioning system	4 Nos.	1,663,440	10	For use by Fire station/ Workshops Division
10	Replacement air-conditioning system	1 No.	530,000	3	For use by Diving Base
Sub-total :			10,230,184		
Payment for items approved in previous financial years :			6,935,982		
Total :			17,166,166		

2010-11 (Actual expenditure)

Minor plant, vehicles and equipment		Quantity	Yearly expenditure (\$)	Estimated average life span (year)	Use
1	New Paramedic Equipment Tender	1 No.	700,000	9	Emergency ambulance service
2	New life detector	4 Nos.	1,180,000	10	Fire-fighting and rescue
3	Replacement ambulance landrover	2 Nos.	1,485,000	7	Emergency ambulance service
4	Replacement rescue cushion	2 Nos.	343,312	7	Fire-fighting and rescue
5	Replacement Holmatro rapid intervention system	1 No.	202,870	10	Fire-fighting and rescue
6	Replacement Holmatro Rescue Tool	1 No.	271,235	10	Fire-fighting and rescue
7	Replacement major portable pump	1 No.	150,795	10	Fire-fighting and rescue
8	Replacement daughter boat	2 Nos.	1,206,000	12	Fire-fighting and rescue
9	Replacement public address/call out system	10 Nos.	2,320,304	15	For use by Fire station/ Ambulance depot
10	Installation of compartment fire behaviour training facilities	1 No.	830,000	2	Training
11	Replacement 24-tonne-4-post lift	1 No.	269,000	10	For use by Workshops Division
12	Replacement air-conditioning system	3 Nos.	4,025,200	10	For use by Fire Services Headquarters
Sub-total :			12,983,716		
Payment for items approved in previous financial years :			5,459,812		
Total :			18,443,528		

In general, FSD does not designate any source of procurement for individual item of minor plant, vehicles and equipment. The Department procures and disposes of its replaced plant, vehicles and equipment according to the Stores and Procurement Regulations.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 25.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

SB245

Question Serial No.

3618

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Ambulance Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Under this Programme, the number of emergency calls has increased substantially for two consecutive years (2012 and 2013). Please provide the average number of working hours for ambulancemen at present. In 2013-14, the Fire Services Department will have a net increase of 54 posts and fill vacancies. Will it be adequate to cope with the work? Will the Department employ more staff? If yes, please provide the details; if not, please give the reasons.

Asked by: Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply:

The number of working hours for ambulancemen is currently 48 hours per week. In 2013-14, the Fire Services Department (FSD) will create 54 posts to meet the anticipated increasing demand for emergency ambulance service and enhance the efficiency, coordination and preparedness of the emergency ambulance service for festive events and major incidents. While there was an increase in the number of emergency ambulance calls by 0.04% and 5.71% in 2011 and 2012 respectively, the response time performance achieved in these two years were 93.5% and 93.2% respectively, which met the target in 92.5% of these calls. FSD will continue to monitor the change in demand for the emergency ambulance service and follow the existing procedures for requesting additional resources when necessary.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 25.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**Head: 45 Fire Services DepartmentSubhead (No. & title):Programme: (3) Ambulance ServiceControlling Officer: Director of Fire ServicesDirector of Bureau: Secretary for SecurityQuestion:

Under this Programme, the Fire Services Department will have a net increase of 54 posts and fill vacancies. Please provide information on the nature, ranks, salaries and job nature of these posts.

Asked by: Hon. LEE Kok-long, JosephReply:

Under this Programme, the Fire Services Department will have a net increase of 54 posts in 2013-14 to cope with the demand for emergency ambulance service. Details are as follows:

Rank	Number	Salary* (\$)	Job nature
Principal Ambulanceman Senior Ambulanceman	1 -1	398,040 -326,760	To be deployed to the ambulance facility of the fire station at Cheung Yip Street, Kowloon Bay scheduled for commission in mid-2013
Senior Ambulanceman Ambulanceman	10 20	3,267,600 4,722,000	To operate additional ambulance shifts to cope with the increasing demand for emergency ambulance service
Senior Ambulanceman Ambulanceman	8 16	2,614,080 3,777,600	To establish a Special Support Unit to enhance the efficiency, coordination and preparedness of the emergency ambulance service in festive events and major incidents
<i>Total:</i>	54	14,452,560	

* Calculated on the basis of relevant notional annual mid-point salary values in 2012-13.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAMPost Title: Director of Fire ServicesDate: 25.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

SB247

Question Serial No.

3620

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Ambulance Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Under this Programme, the estimated provision under Town ambulances (block vote) for 2013-14 for the procurement of new and replacement of ambulances represents an increase of \$8,548,000 over the revised estimate for 2012-13. Please provide the number of additional and replacement ambulances.

Asked by: Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply:

The Fire Services Department proposes a provision of about \$87.75 million for 2013-14 for the replacement of 35 town ambulances, and for meeting part of the payment for the additional and replacement town ambulances approved in the previous financial years.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 25.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Fire Protection and Prevention

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Since 2007, the Fire Services Department (FSD) has been enhancing fire safety of composite/domestic buildings according to the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance (Cap. 572).

- (a) Please provide information on the expenditures involved and details of the work in 2011-12 and 2012-13.
- (b) Is there any plan to engage professionals or provide other means to assist property owners with difficulties in carrying out fire safety improvement works?
- (c) What are the respective numbers of fire safety directions issued by FSD to buildings under the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance since 2007 by District Council districts; the number of old buildings involved which are over 30 years old; the respective numbers of directions that have been fully complied with, as well as those that have been issued for 1 to less than 2 years, 2 to less than 3 years, 3 to less than 4 years, 4 to less than 5 years and more than 5 years but have not been complied with; the number of prosecutions instituted in the past 5 years (2008 to 2012); and the penalties generally imposed on the convicted persons?

Asked by: Hon. LEE Wai-king, Starry

Reply:

- (a) In each of 2011-12 and 2012-13, FSD deployed a task force comprised of more than 170 members to enforce the Fire Safety (Commercial Premises) Ordinance (Cap. 502) and the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance (Cap. 572). The purpose of the former Ordinance is to enhance fire safety of prescribed commercial premises and old specified commercial buildings, while the latter aims to enhance that of old domestic and composite buildings. The staff costs involved in the 2 years are about \$94 million and about \$99 million respectively.
- (b) If property owners encounter technical difficulties when carrying out fire safety improvement works, fire services personnel tasked to enforce the aforesaid 2 ordinances are ready to meet them or the registered Fire Service Installation Contractors they engage, and explain to them the requirements of the fire safety directions issued under the ordinances and assist them in solving possible problems of the improvement works. In addition, to assist owners of private buildings in maintaining and repairing their buildings, the Buildings Department, the Hong Kong Housing Society and the Urban Renewal Authority have been providing financial assistance to property owners in need under various schemes, including the Building Safety Loan Scheme, Integrated Building Maintenance Assistance Scheme and Building Maintenance Grant Scheme for Elderly Owners. Fire safety improvement works pertaining to the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance have been included in the list of works eligible for subsidies or loans under these schemes. The application procedures of these schemes

have also been streamlined. Owners may make applications under multiple schemes by completing a set of application forms under the Integrated Building Maintenance Assistance Scheme. FSD refers cases of buildings without owners' corporations to the respective District Offices, which will assist owners in establishing owners' corporations to achieve a better co-ordination of improvement works.

- (c) As at 28 February 2013, FSD has issued a total of 79 369 fire safety directions under the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance to owners and occupants of 3 358 old composite buildings, 3 278 of which are over 30 years old. A breakdown by District Council districts of the number of buildings to which fire safety directions have been issued is as follows:

District Council districts	Number of buildings to which fire safety directions have been issued
Central and Western District	294
Wan Chai	295
Eastern District	265
Southern District	39
Yau Tsim Mong	881
Sham Shui Po	581
Kowloon City	454
Wong Tai Sin	108
Kwun Tong	64
Tsuen Wan	93
Tuen Mun	7
Yuen Long	98
North District	91
Tai Po	43
Sai Kung	1
Sha Tin	7
Islands	4
Kwai Tsing	33
Total	3 358

Out of a total of 79 369 fire safety directions issued by FSD, 20 496 (about 26%) have been complied with. The number of the remaining directions that have not been complied with is as follows:

Length of time since the fire safety directions were issued	Number of directions that have not been complied with
5 to 6 years	2 503
4 to 5 years	3 308
3 to 4 years	11 586
2 to 3 years	13 181
1 to 2 years	14 763
Within 1 year	13 532
Total	58 873

From 2008 to 2012, FSD instituted 38 prosecutions against property owners and/or occupants who did not comply with the fire safety directions. The relevant hearings had been completed and the convicted persons had been imposed a fine ranging from \$700 to \$8,200. In addition, the court also issued fire safety compliance orders to some of the convicted persons and owners' corporations, which required them to fully comply with the directions before the expiry of such orders.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 25.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

SB249

Question Serial No.

5014

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Ambulance Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding the Fire Services Department's plan to acquire a computer system for the provision of post-dispatch advice to emergency ambulance service callers, what are the details and the timetable? What is the estimated expenditure? What is the expected performance of the system when put into operation?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

Since May 2011, the Fire Services Department (FSD) has been providing simple post-dispatch advice to callers requesting emergency ambulance service on a number of common injuries and sicknesses (such as bleeding, fracture or dislocation, burn and convulsion) to help stabilise the conditions of the patients. The computer system that FSD is planning to acquire will be installed with an internationally-accredited questioning protocol software, by which we may identify more complicated and a wider range of conditions (such as severe injuries and cardiac arrest) and provide more detailed and appropriate post-dispatch advice to callers, thereby improving patients' condition and survival rate before arrival of ambulance crew. FSD intends to consult the Panel on Security on the acquisition plan later this year. The estimated expenditure of the project is approximately \$38 million.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 26.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 45 Fire Services DepartmentSubhead (No. & title):Programme:Controlling Officer: Director of Fire ServicesDirector of Bureau: Secretary for SecurityQuestion:

The Fire Services Department estimates that in 2013-14, there will be an increase of 165 non-directorate posts. In this regard, would the Administration please provide the following information:

- the number of posts to be deleted and created by the Department by Programme, rank and function;
- the establishment and strength in 2012-13 and 2013-14 (estimated figures) under each Programme by rank.

Asked by: Hon. POON Siu-pingReply:

- The Fire Services Department will have a net increase of 165 non-directorate posts in 2013-14. Details are as follows:

Programme	Rank	Number	Function
Programme (1) Fire Service	Assistant Divisional Officer	1	To be deployed to the fire station at Cheung Yip Street, Kowloon Bay scheduled for commission in mid-2013
	Senior Station Officer/Station Officer	-1	
	Principal Fireman	4	
	Senior Fireman	11	
	Fireman	47	
	Assistant Clerical Officer	1	To man additional fire appliances at Tsim Tung Fire Station and Shun Lee Fire Station to enhance efficiency of rescue and firefighting operations
Programme (3) Ambulance Service	Principal Fireman	7	
	Senior Fireman	7	
	Fireman	14	
	Assistant Clerical Officer	20	To strengthen clerical support for local fire stations
	Principal Ambulanceman	1	
	Senior Ambulanceman	-1	
	Senior Ambulanceman	10	
	Ambulanceman	20	To operate additional ambulance shifts to cope with the increasing demand for emergency ambulance service
	Senior Ambulanceman	8	
	Ambulanceman	16	To establish a Special Support Unit to enhance the efficiency, coordination and preparedness of the emergency ambulance service in festive events and major incidents
Total:		165	

b) The establishment and strength of various grades in 2012-13 are set out as follows:

Grade	Programme 1		Programme 2		Programme 3		Total	
	Establishment	Strength*	Establishment	Strength*	Establishment	Strength*	Establishment	Strength*
Fire stream	6 200	6 092	314	345	0	1	6 514	6 438
Ambulance stream	8	25	0	5	2 764	2 743	2 772	2 773
Civilian, technical and other grades	418	400	192	181	69	61	679	642
Total:	6 626	6 517	506	531	2 833	2 805	9 965	9 853

* Strength as at 1 March 2013 (including staff members on pre-retirement leave)

The estimated establishment of various grades in 2013-14 is set out as follows:

Grade	Programme 1	Programme 2	Programme 3	Total
Fire stream	6 290	314	0	6 604
Ambulance stream	8	0	2 818	2 826
Civilian, technical and other grades	439	192	69	700
Total:	6 737	506	2 887	10 130

The estimated strength of various grades for 2013-14 is not available as the number of staff members varies from time to time.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 25.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Ambulance Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

It has been six years since the Fire Services Department implemented the Rapid Response Vehicle Scheme (the Scheme). In this regard, please provide the following information:

- a) the performance indicators of the Scheme;
- b) whether the Administration will consider regularising the Scheme;
- c) whether the Administration has reviewed the effectiveness of the Scheme? If yes, how is it? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. POON Siu-ping

Reply:

a) The Fire Services Department (FSD) launched the Rapid Response Vehicle Scheme (the Scheme) on 1 November 2006. The main functions of the Scheme are to provide support to frontline ambulance personnel and service quality assurance to enhance frontline management and operational efficiency. FSD has not developed any specific performance indicator for the Scheme but has been closely monitoring its operation. As at the end of February 2013, the Rapid Response Vehicles have provided support for 10 444 emergency calls, conducted 6 888 field audits of emergency ambulance cases and 20 211 inspections.

b) and c) FSD has been closely monitoring and reviewing the operation of the Scheme from time to time. FSD has found it effective in improving the overall ambulance service quality and will therefore continue its implementation.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 25.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

SB252

Question Serial No.

2539

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Ambulance Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Under this Programme, the current target of the Fire Services Department for the key performance measures in respect of ambulance service is “emergency calls answered within the target response time of 12 minutes”. In this regard, would the Administration provide the following information:

- a) whether the response time is measured from the time the emergency call is received until the time the Fire Services first responders; or the ambulance motorcycle; or the ambulance fleet arrives at the scene; or there are other yardsticks for measuring the response time;
- b) the respective percentage of emergency calls to which the first responders, the ambulance motorcycle and the ambulance fleet could reach the scene within 12 minutes in 2012-13.

Asked by: Hon. POON Siu-ping

Reply:

- a) The “response time” for emergency ambulance service is the interval between the time of call and the arrival of the ambulance vehicle at the street level of the scene. Ambulance vehicles mainly refer to ambulances, including ambulance motorcycles and rapid response vehicles, but fire appliances carrying first responders are excluded.
- b) A total of 93.2% of emergency ambulance calls were answered by ambulance vehicles within the target response time of 12 minutes in 2012. The respective percentage of emergency calls to which different types of ambulance vehicles could respond within 12 minutes is as follows:

Ambulance: 92.5%

Ambulance motorcycle: 84.6%¹

Rapid response vehicle: 94.4%

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM
Post Title: Director of Fire Services
Date: 28.3.2013

¹ Ambulance motorcycles were deployed mostly due to traffic congestion. The percentage of emergency calls to which the ambulance motorcycle could respond within 12 minutes was therefore relatively lower.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 45 Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Ambulance Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

The Fire Services Department (FSD) plans for the acquisition of a computer system for the provision of post-dispatch advice to callers requesting emergency ambulance service. In this regard, would the Administration provide the following information:

- a) When will the Department acquire the computer system and what will be the expenditure involved in 2013-14?
- b) What will be the specific differences between the service with the aid of the computer system to be acquired and the existing one?
- c) Will the computer system be used for both Fire Service and Ambulance Service, or exclusively for the latter?

Asked by: Hon. POON Siu-ping

Reply:

- a) FSD is planning for the acquisition of a computer system to provide more detailed and appropriate post-dispatch advice to callers requesting emergency ambulance service. We intend to consult the Panel on Security on the acquisition plan later this year.
- b) Since May 2011, FSD has been providing simple post-dispatch advice to callers requesting emergency ambulance service on a number of common injuries and sicknesses (such as bleeding, fracture or dislocation, burn and convulsion etc.) to help stabilise the conditions of patients. With an internationally-accredited questioning protocol software, the proposed computer system may identify more complicated and a wider range of conditions, such as severe injuries and cardiac arrest, and then provide more detailed and appropriate post-dispatch advice to callers, thereby improving patients' condition and survival rate before arrival of ambulance crew.
- c) The computer system will mainly serve callers requesting emergency ambulance service. For cases of fire calls involving anyone feeling unwell, FSD also deploys ambulances and provides post-dispatch advice.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 26.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**Head: 45 Fire Services DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): 000 Operational ExpensesProgramme:Controlling Officer: Director of Fire ServicesDirector of Bureau: Secretary for SecurityQuestion:

Regarding the engagement of agency workers, please provide the following information:

	2012-13 (the latest position)
Number of contracts engaging employment agencies	()
Contract sum paid to each employment agency	()
Total amount of commission paid to each employment agency	()
Length of contract for each employment agency	()
Number of agency workers	()
Responsibilities of the positions held by agency workers	
Monthly salary range of agency workers	
• \$30,001 or above	()
• \$16,001 - \$30,000	()
• \$8,001 - \$16,000	()
• \$6,501 - \$8,000	()
• \$6,240 - \$6,500	()
• below \$6,240	()
Length of service of agency workers	
• over 15 years	()
• 10 to 15 years	()
• 5 to 10 years	()
• 3 to 5 years	()
• 1 to 3 years	()
• less than 1 year	()
Percentage of agency workers among the total number of staff in the Department	()
Percentage of payments to employment agencies among the total staff costs of the Department	()
Number of workers with remunerated meal break	()
Number of workers without remunerated meal break	()
Number of workers on five-day week	()
Number of workers on six-day week	()

() Change in percentage as compared with the same period in 2011-12

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

	2012-13 (As at 31.3.2013)
Number of contracts engaging employment agencies	3 (0%)
Contract sum paid to each employment agency	\$1,628,000 (-45.5%) [Estimated full-year cost]
Total amount of commission paid to each employment agency	Information on commission is not available
Length of contract for each employment agency	9 months
Number of agency workers	48 persons (-22.6%)
Responsibilities of the positions held by agency workers	Clerical service
Monthly salary range of agency workers <ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$30,001 or above• \$16,001 - \$30,000• \$8,001 - \$16,000• \$6,501 - \$8,000• \$6,240 - \$6,500• below \$6,240	- - 31 (Note) 17 (-72.6%) - -
Length of service of agency workers <ul style="list-style-type: none">• over 15 years• 10 to 15 years• 5 to 10 years• 3 to 5 years• 1 to 3 years• less than 1 year	The employment contracts were entered into between the employment agencies and their employees. The Fire Services Department does not keep such information.
Percentage of agency workers among the total number of staff in the Department	0.5% (-28.6%)
Percentage of payments to employment agencies among the total staff costs of the Department	0.04% (-55.6%)
Number of workers with remunerated meal break	48 (-22.6%)
Number of workers without remunerated meal break	0 (-)
Number of workers on five-day week	48 (-22.6%)
Number of workers on six-day week	0 (-)

() Change in percentage as compared with the same period in 2011-12

Note: In the same period of 2011-12, no agency worker was at the salary range of \$8,001 - \$16,000.

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 26.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**Head: 45 Fire Services DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): 000 Operational ExpensesProgramme:Controlling Officer: Director of Fire ServicesDirector of Bureau: Secretary for SecurityQuestion:

Regarding the engagement of outsourced workers, please provide the following information:

	2012-13 (the latest position)
Number of outsourced service contracts	()
Total payments to outsourced service providers	()
Length of contract for each outsourced service provider	()
Number of outsourced workers engaged through outsourced service providers	()
Responsibilities of the positions held by outsourced workers (e.g. customer service, property management, security, cleansing and information technology)	
Monthly salary range of outsourced workers	
• \$30,001 or above	()
• \$16,001 to \$30,000	()
• \$8,001 to \$16,000	()
• \$6,501 to \$8,000	()
• \$6,240 to \$6,500	()
• below \$6,240	()
Length of service of outsourced workers	
• over 15 years	()
• 10 to 15 years	()
• 5 to 10 years	()
• 3 to 5 years	()
• 1 to 3 years	()
• less than 1 year	()
Percentage of outsourced workers among the total number of staff in the Department	()
Percentage of payments to outsourced service providers among the total staff costs	()

of the Department	
Number of workers with remunerated meal break	()
Number of workers without remunerated meal break	()
Number of workers on five-day week	()
Number of workers on six-day week	()

() *Change in percentage as compared with the same period in 2011-12*

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

	2012-13 (as at 31.3.2013)
Number of outsourced service contracts	10 (-23.1%)
Total payments to outsourced service providers	\$36,891,000 (+5.3%) [Estimated full-year cost]
Length of contract for each outsourced service provider	Varies from 12 to 36 months
Number of outsourced workers engaged through outsourced service providers	The number of workers is determined by outsourced service providers according to the service required. The Fire Services Department (FSD) does not have information about the total number of these workers.
Responsibilities of the positions held by outsourced workers (e.g. customer service, property management, security, cleansing and information technology)	Security, cleansing, general services, catering and professional/technical services.
Monthly salary range of outsourced workers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$30,001 or above • \$16,001 to \$30,000 • \$8,001 to \$16,000 • \$6,501 to \$8,000 • \$6,240 to \$6,500 • below \$6,240 	Monthly salary of outsourced workers is agreed between the service providers and their employees in the employment contracts. FSD does not have detailed information about the monthly salary of outsourced workers. If the service contract is mainly related to the employment of non-skilled workers, the monthly salary paid by outsourced services providers to these workers must not be lower than the statutory minimum wage with 1 paid rest day per week.
Length of service of outsourced workers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • over 15 years • 10 to 15 years • 5 to 10 years • 3 to 5 years • 1 to 3 years • less than 1 year 	The length of employment of outsourced workers is not specified in the contract in the procurement of outsourced services by Government departments. In engaging outsourced services, FSD mainly focuses on whether the service provider can fulfill the service requirements set out in the contract. FSD does not have such information.
Percentage of outsourced workers among the total number of staff in the Department	The number of outsourced workers is determined by the service providers according to the service required. FSD does not have information about the

	total number of these workers.
Percentage of payments to outsourced service providers among the total staff costs of the Department	1.0% (0%)
Number of workers with remunerated meal break Number of workers without remunerated meal break	Whether meal breaks are paid or not is agreed between the outsourced service providers and their employees. FSD does not keep such information.
Number of workers on five-day week Number of workers on six-day week	The number of working days per week is agreed between the outsourced service providers and their employees when they enter into employment contracts. FSD does not keep such information.

() Change in percentage as compared with the same period in 2011-12

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 26.3.2013

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**Head: 45 Fire Services DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): 000 Operational ExpensesProgramme:Controlling Officer: Director of Fire ServicesDirector of Bureau: Secretary for SecurityQuestion:

Regarding the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff, please provide the following information:

	2012-13 (the latest position)
Number of NCSC staff	()
Responsibilities of positions held by NCSC staff	
Payroll costs of NCSC staff	()
Monthly salary range of NCSC staff	
• \$30,001 or above	()
• \$16,001 to \$30,000	()
• \$8,001 to \$16,000	()
• \$6,501 to \$8,000	()
• \$6,240 to \$6,500	()
• below \$6,240	()
Length of service of NCSC staff	
• over 15 years	()
• 10 to 15 years	()
• 5 to 10 years	()
• 3 to 5 years	()
• 1 to 3 years	()
• less than 1 year	()
Number of staff converted to civil servants	()
Number of staff who failed to be converted to civil servants	()
Percentage of NCSC staff among the total number of staff in the Department	()
Percentage of staff costs of NCSC staff among the total staff costs of the Department	()
Number of staff with remunerated meal break	()
Number of staff without remunerated meal break	()
Number of staff working on five-day week	()
Number of staff working on six-day week	()
Number of staff applying for paternity leave	()
Number of staff granted approval for paternity leave	()

() Change in percentage as compared with the same period in 2011-12

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

	2012-13 (As at 31-12-2012)
Number of NCSC staff	59 (-29.8%)
Responsibilities of positions held by NCSC staff	These positions are responsible for duties relating to telecommunications and information technology, administrative and clerical work, project management, project assistance, etc.
Payroll costs of NCSC staff	About \$13,620,000 (-3.4%)
Monthly salary range of NCSC staff <ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$30,001 or above• \$16,001 to \$30,000• \$8,001 to \$16,000• \$6,501 to \$8,000• \$6,240 to \$6,500• below \$6,240	<div>15 (+50%)</div> <div>5 (-50%)</div> <div>39 (-39.1%)</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>
Length of service of NCSC staff <ul style="list-style-type: none">• over 15 years• 10 to 15 years• 5 to 10 years• 3 to 5 years• 1 to 3 years• less than 1 year	<div>0 (-)</div> <div>2 (+100%)</div> <div>12 (+9.1%)</div> <div>1 (-50%)</div> <div>31 (+210%)</div> <div>13 (-78.3%)</div>
Number of staff converted to civil servants	[There is currently no mechanism to convert NCSC staff to civil servants.]
Number of staff who failed to be converted to civil servants	[There is currently no mechanism to convert NCSC staff to civil servants.]
Percentage of NCSC staff among the total number of staff in the Department	0.59% (-30.6%)
Percentage of staff costs of NCSC staff among the total staff costs of the Department	0.36% (-12.2%)
Number of staff with remunerated meal break	59 (-29.8%)
Number of staff without remunerated meal break	0 (-)
Number of staff working on five-day week	59 (-29.8%)
Number of staff working on six-day week	0 (-)
Number of staff applying for paternity leave	1 (+100%)
Number of staff granted approval for paternity leave	1 (+100%)

() Change in percentage as compared with the same period in 2011-12

Name in block letters: CHAN CHOR KAM

Post Title: Director of Fire Services

Date: 26.3.2013