

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB173

(Question Serial No. 0268)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Ambulance Service
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

In 2018, among the ambulance calls received, how many actually turned out to be non-emergency cases? What was the expenditure incurred? Will the Department conduct a review on the misuse of ambulance services and consider, among others, the introduction of charges for the misuse of ambulance services or non-emergency calls to ensure the effective use of public resources?

Asked by: Hon LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey (LegCo internal reference no.: 54)

Reply:

The Fire Services Department (FSD) regularly conducts analyses of the emergency ambulance calls received so as to understand the use of the emergency ambulance service by the public. In the analysis conducted in 2017, about 2% of the approximately 10 000 randomly selected cases were found to have no obvious need for the emergency ambulance service. This revealed a continuous downward trend in the percentage of such cases as against 10.3%, 4.2%, 2.7% and 2.2% recorded in similar analyses in 2009, 2011, 2013 and 2015 respectively. The FSD did not conduct such an analysis in 2018.

The above figures show that the FSD's efforts in educating the public on the proper use of ambulance services in the past few years have yielded positive results. The FSD's revised estimated expenditure on ambulance services for 2018-19 is about \$1.9 billion. There is no separate estimate for the expenditure incurred in handling the type of cases mentioned above (i.e. cases with no obvious need for emergency ambulance services). To ensure the effective use of public resources, the FSD will continue to closely monitor the need for and the use of emergency ambulance service, and step up its efforts to convey the message of the proper use of ambulance services to the public through various channels.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB180

(Question Serial No. 0302)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Fire Protection and Prevention
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

It has been more than 2 years since the passage of the Fire Services (Amendment) Bill 2016, but the subsidiary legislation for the introduction of the Registered Fire Engineer Scheme is yet to be enacted. What plan does the Fire Services Department (FSD) have this year to expedite the implementation of the Scheme? In the meantime, does the FSD have sufficient resources and manpower for vetting the relevant building plans and applications for approval of fire service installations within a reasonable time?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chuen, Tony (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

Regarding the Registered Fire Engineer Scheme (the Scheme), the Fire Services (Amendment) Ordinance 2017 was enacted by the Legislative Council (LegCo) in March 2017, providing a basis for the making of subsidiary legislation (“the New Regulations”) for the Scheme. The Fire Services Department (FSD) consulted the trade on the implementation details of the Scheme from December 2017 to January 2018. The trade was generally in support of the Scheme. The FSD is now drawing up provisions for the New Regulations by making reference to the views from the trade. We aim to introduce the New Regulations to the LegCo for scrutiny within 2019.

The purpose of introducing the Scheme is to offer an additional option for applicants for licences of licensed premises with a view to facilitating business operation. Prior to the implementation of the Scheme, the FSD will ensure that sufficient resources and manpower are available for the provision of services for licence applications according to the existing mechanism and performance targets, such as fire safety risk assessment and certification services.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB170

(Question Serial No. 0330)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Fire Service
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

The Fire Services Department indicates that it will pursue the plan for procurement of fire appliances to support the Three-Runway System (3RS) at the Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA). In this connection, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. The types and numbers of fire appliances and equipment to be procured by the Department for the 3RS at the HKIA? What are their respective estimated expenditures?
2. Please elaborate on how those types of fire appliances and equipment will effectively assist the Department in performing such duties as firefighting and fire prevention at the 3RS at the HKIA.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Kin-por (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

1. To handle aircraft incidents and provide swift firefighting, rescue and emergency ambulance services at the Three-Runway System (3RS) at the Hong Kong International Airport, the Fire Services Department (FSD) will procure various types of fire appliances and operation tools and equipment to be provided on board for the additional fire services facilities, namely the Airside Fire Station at West Support Area, the Airside Fire Station at East Support Area and the Landside Fire Station-cum-Ambulance Depot. Such tools and equipment include, among others, heavy duty cutting and break-in equipment, detectors for gases and radiological, biological and chemical substances, and mobile mass decontamination shelters. The estimated costs for procurement of the fire appliances and equipment are about \$228 million and the cost breakdown is as follows:

<u>Airside Fire Station at West Support Area</u>		Estimated cost (\$m)
(i)	Two Rapid Intervention Vehicles	20.9
(ii)	Two Crash Fire Tenders	19.8
(iii)	Two Hose Foam Carriers	14.7
(iv)	One High Reach Extendable Turret	12.8
Sub-total:		68.2
<u>Airside Fire Station at East Support Area</u>		
(v)	Two Rapid Intervention Vehicles	22.5
(vi)	Two Crash Fire Tenders	20.0
(vii)	Two Hose Foam Carriers	15.9
(viii)	One High Reach Extendable Turret	13.5
(ix)	One Mobile Command Unit	10.0
Sub-total:		81.9
<u>Landside Fire Station-cum-Ambulance Depot</u>		
(x)	One First Intervention Vehicle	11.7
(xi)	One HazMat Tender	9.3
(xii)	One Decontamination Tender	12.4
(xiii)	One Bulk Foam Tender	11.1
(xiv)	One Hydraulic Platform	8.7
(xv)	One Major Pump	7.8
(xvi)	One Major Rescue Unit	6.0
(xvii)	One Turntable Ladder	10.9
Sub-total:		77.9
Total:		<u>228.0</u>

2. In support of the operation of the 3RS, the fire appliances listed in the table above will be procured by the FSD for handling aircraft incidents and other possible incidents at the airport. The main functions of the appliances are tabulated as follows:

Type of appliance	Main function
For the two Airside Fire Stations	
(a) Rapid Intervention Vehicle	The Rapid Intervention Vehicle provides a large quantity of fire extinguishing foam to tackle aircraft fire at its incipient stage within a specified response time in order to maintain a fire-free escape path for facilitating rescue and evacuating passengers as well as flight crews.
(b) Crash Fire Tender	The Crash Fire Tender carries a large amount of extinguishing agent to serve as a backup to the Rapid Intervention Vehicle for applying uninterrupted fire extinguishing foam to protect the evacuation path and attack the fire.
(c) Hose Foam Carrier	As a supporting aerodrome rescue and firefighting vehicle, the Hose Foam Carrier provides water and foam supplies to back up the Crash Fire Tender in

	aircraft firefighting and rescue operations.
(d) High Reach Extendable Turret	As a supporting aerodrome rescue and firefighting vehicle, the High Reach Extendable Turret pierces into the fuselage and discharges water, foam or fire extinguishing gas to tackle the cabin fire and fires at various heights of the aircraft, in particular high-mounted engines.
(e) Mobile Command Unit	The Mobile Command Unit serves as a fire incident field command centre during major fires or incidents with compartments for radio communication, incident scene surveillance and conference.
For the Landside Fire Station-cum-Ambulance Depot	
(f) First Intervention Vehicle	The First Intervention Vehicle performs prolonged firefighting operations, particularly in bulk oil storage areas.
(g) HazMat Tender	The HazMat Tender is equipped with a variety of equipment for handling hazardous materials (HazMat) incidents, such as advanced detectors for detecting and identifying HazMat, mitigation and containment tools for handling different kinds of HazMat leakage, different levels of chemical protection suits for HazMat technicians, etc. In HazMat incidents, the HazMat Tender will be turned out together with a Decontamination Tender. It will also convey HazMat specialists to the scene.
(h) Decontamination Tender	The Decontamination Tender is equipped with decontamination equipment, such as decontamination pools, solutions and tools for setting up a decontamination area at the scene of a HazMat incident. In HazMat incidents, the Decontamination Tender will be turned out together with the HazMat Tender. It will also convey HazMat specialists to the scene.
(i) Bulk Foam Tender	The Bulk Foam Tender provides a continuous supply of foam concentrate to the First Intervention Vehicle for prolonged firefighting operations requiring a large quantity of foam.
(j) Hydraulic Platform	The Hydraulic Platform is a standard initial fire appliance to be turned out for a building fire call for carrying out firefighting and rescue operations at a high level.

(k) Major Pump	The Major Pump is a standard initial fire appliance to be turned out for a building fire call for providing water supply for firefighting at the frontline.
(l) Major Rescue Unit	The Major Rescue Unit is a first strike fire appliance equipped with a wide variety of rescue equipment for conducting forced entry, search and rescue operations. Moreover, in HazMat incidents, the Major Rescue Unit will convey HazMat specialists to the scene.
(m) Turntable Ladder	The Turntable Ladder is a standard initial fire appliance to be turned out for a building fire call for conducting aerial rescue and preventing the spread of fire to neighbouring developments.

As for equipment, the FSD will procure the best equipment and operation tools of the highest firefighting and rescue standards for frontline personnel, which include, among others, heavy duty cutting and break-in equipment, detectors for gases and radiological, biological and chemical substances, and mobile mass decontamination shelters, for handling different types of incidents (e.g. those involving HazMat) at the 3RS to ensure the personnel's safety and efficiency during operations.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB174

(Question Serial No. 0793)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Fire Service
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

In respect of the provision of fire services, building fire calls will be met within graded response time of 6 minutes for built-up areas and 9 to 23 minutes for areas of more dispersed risk/isolated developments.

1. Please advise on the graded response time in respect of the provision of fire service for rural areas.
2. Please set out by district the details of the cases in the past 3 years in which fire service was provided to rural areas, in terms of their numbers, locations, response time and casualties.

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 42)

Reply:

1. The performance pledges of the Fire Services Department (FSD) on the provision of fire services in response to building fire calls are - (i) fire personnel will arrive at the fire scenes within 6 minutes for 92.5% of such calls in built-up areas; and (ii) fire personnel will arrive at the fire scenes within 9 to 23 minutes for 94.5% of such calls in areas of dispersed risk/isolated developments. Generally, for building fire calls in some rural areas that are of dispersed risk/isolated developments, fire personnel will arrive at the fire scenes within 9 to 23 minutes.
2. The data of building fire calls handled by the FSD for areas of dispersed risk/isolated developments (including some rural areas) in the past 3 years are as follows:

Year	2016	2017	2018
Number of building fire calls	3 551	2 869	2 956

Percentage of calls met within the graded response time (i.e. 9 to 23 minutes)	96.8%	96.7%	95.4%
Number of fatalities in the fires	3	2	1
Number of injuries in the fires	30	47	33

The FSD has not kept separate statistics on the relevant data in respect of fires in rural areas.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB175

(Question Serial No. 0794)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

The performance pledge and the target in respect of the provision of ambulance service are to answer emergency calls within the target response time of 12 minutes.

1. Are the performance pledge and the target applicable to rural areas? If not, what are the reasons? What is the response time for rural areas?
2. Please set out by district the details of the cases in the past 3 years in which the target response time of 12 minutes could not be met.
3. Please set out by district the details of the cases in the past 3 years in which ambulance service was provided to rural areas, in terms of their numbers, locations, response time and casualties.
4. The Fire Services Department will implement the Rapid Response Vehicle Scheme to enhance the delivery of paramedic ambulance service and quality assurance. Please set out the details of the Scheme, the implementation schedule, the establishment of staff and the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 43)

Reply:

1. to 3. The current performance pledge made by the Fire Services Department (FSD) in respect of emergency ambulance calls is to arrive at scene in 92.5% of the emergency ambulance calls within the target response time of 12 minutes. This performance pledge is applicable to all areas across the territory, including rural areas. In 2016, 2017 and 2018, the percentages of cases in which FSD's ambulance vehicles arriving at scene within the target response time of 12 minutes are 95.0%, 95.1% and 94.6% respectively, all of which were higher than our

performance pledge. The respective percentages for Hong Kong, Kowloon and New Territories regions are tabulated below:

	Hong Kong	Kowloon	New Territories
2016	95.0%	95.3%	94.7%
2017	95.8%	95.7%	94.4%
2018	96.0%	94.9%	93.8%

The FSD has not maintained the statistics for ambulance cases by rural areas and is therefore unable to provide the details of cases in which the target response time of 12 minutes could not be met.

4. The FSD launched the Rapid Response Vehicle (RRV) Scheme in November 2006. The RRVs provide round-the-clock service and each of them is manned by 1 Ambulance Officer who mainly provides support to frontline personnel and performs service quality assurance duties to enhance frontline management and operational efficiency. The number of RRVs was increased from 2 to 4 since the second quarter of 2018, and the RRVs are deployed to Pok Fu Lam Ambulance Depot, Wong Tai Sin Ambulance Depot, Tsuen Wan Ambulance Depot and Sheung Shui Ambulance Depot respectively. At present, the RRV Scheme involves a total of 19 Ambulance Officer posts. In 2018, the RRVs provided support for a total of 8 274 emergency calls, and conducted 8 548 field audits of emergency ambulance cases and 14 411 inspections.

Through the RRV Scheme, the FSD has strengthened its work on various fronts, including frontline management and support, operational efficiency, handling of major incidents, field auditing and inspection. The overall quality and efficiency of ambulance services have also been enhanced. In 2019-20, the estimated expenditure on the RRV Scheme is about \$12.23 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB176

(Question Serial No. 0795)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Fire Protection and Prevention, (3) Ambulance Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

In 2019-20, the Fire Services Department (FSD) will continue to implement a community education programme on cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of public access defibrillators.

1. Please set out the details of the programme, the implementation approach, the manpower and the estimated expenditure involved in this financial year.
2. What are the manpower and expenditure involved in FSD's publicity work featuring "Anyone"?
3. Please set out the details of the activities to promote "community cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillator (AED) educational lectures" attended by FSD's "Anyone". Please list the venues and the numbers of participants and provide a breakdown of the expenditure involved.
4. Please list the locations and the numbers of AED installed across the territory by district.
5. What are the manpower and expenses involved in installing an AED?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 44)

Reply:

1. The Fire Services Department (FSD) established the Community Emergency Preparedness Division (CEPD) on 2 October 2018 to promote ways and skills in community emergency preparedness through educational and promotional activities, with a view to further enhancing public awareness of emergency preparedness in a holistic manner, strengthening the public's response capability in the event of emergencies or contingencies and imparting knowledge to the public on

extinguishment and prevention of fire, self-help and helping others as well as escape and evacuation.

Regarding the community education programme on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of automated external defibrillator (AED), the FSD will continue to reach out to different age and community groups through various platforms (such as social media, training courses, advertisements, etc.) and keep up its efforts to organise, among others, the CPR Training Programme in Campus, the “Press to shock – Save a life” AED Course and the Community CPR Training Course.

The CEPD adopts various promotional strategies to publicise the message that “Anyone Can Save Lives” and “Dare to Do, Save a Life”, in a bid to educate more members of the public on CPR and the use of AED. Callers for emergency ambulance services are encouraged to follow FSD’s post-dispatch advice and provide timely first aid to patients before the arrival of ambulance crew at scene.

The CEPD comprises civil servants and non-civil service contract staff. The estimated number of staff in CEPD for 2019-20 is 82 while the expenditure on their remuneration and the various initiatives is about \$50 million. The FSD does not keep a separate breakdown of the manpower and expenditure involved in the promotion of CPR and the use of AED.

2. FSD intends to publicise the message that “Anyone Can Save Lives” through the character “Anyone”. Planned and coordinated by the CEPD, the entire publicity campaign featuring “Anyone” has been undertaken by CEPD staff, with no additional manpower or resources involved. The FSD does not keep separate statistics on the manpower and expenditure involved in the publicity work featuring “Anyone”.
3. As at end February this year, “Anyone” has attended a total of 6 educational lectures on CPR and AED. The dates, venues and numbers of participants of these lectures are as follows:

Date	Venue	No. of Participants
1.12.2018 (a.m.)	Fire and Ambulance Services Academy	140
1.12.2018 (p.m.)	Fire and Ambulance Services Academy	130
8.12.2018	Tai Po Community Centre	74
15.12.2018	Education Bureau Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre	214
23.1.2019	Central Government Offices	58
25.2.2019	The Legislative Council Complex	76
Total:		692

As the CEPD provided the staff and training equipment for organising the above lectures, no additional manpower or resources were required.

4. The FSD encourages owners and property management companies of various premises or buildings to install AEDs, so that there is an AED nearby for community use in case of cardiac arrest. The FSD does not keep the information on the locations and numbers of AED installed across the territory.

5. To the FSD's knowledge, the current market price of an AED ranges from around \$10,000 to \$20,000, depending on its brand, model and functions. An AED is a portable mobile device and no installation cost will be incurred.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB181

(Question Serial No. 0849)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (002) Allowances

Programme: (-) Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding the allocation of Disciplined Services Quarters (DSQs) to staff of the Fire Services Department (FSD), please provide the following information:

1. Please tabulate (i) the number of FSD staff allocated with DSQs and (ii) its percentage in the total number of FSD staff, in the financial year 2018-19.

(i) Number of staff allocated with DSQs	(ii) Percentage in the total number of FSD staff

2. Please tabulate (i) the projected number of FSD staff to be allocated with DSQs and (ii) its percentage in the total number of FSD staff, in the financial year 2019-20.

(i) Projected number of staff to be allocated with DSQs	(ii) Percentage in the total number of FSD staff

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 113)

Reply:

It is the Government's policy to provide Disciplined Services Quarters (DSQs) for married staff of disciplined services, subject to the availability of resources. The Fire Services Department (FSD) understands the grave concerns of disciplined services staff on the shortfall of DSQs, and is committed to expediting the progress of different DSQ projects so as to alleviate the shortfall.

1. (i) The number of FSD staff allocated with DSQs and (ii) its percentage in the total number of eligible disciplined services staff in the Department, as at 1 March 2019, are tabulated as follows:

(i) Number of disciplined services staff allocated with DSQs	(ii) Percentage in the total number of eligible disciplined services staff in the Department
4 102	69.0%

2. (i) The number of FSD staff to be allocated with DSQs as projected by the FSD and (ii) its percentage in the total number of eligible disciplined services staff in the Department, as at 31 March 2020, are tabulated as follows:

(i) Projected number of disciplined services staff to be allocated with DSQs	(ii) Percentage in the total number of eligible disciplined services staff in the Department
4 183	69.2%

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB172

(Question Serial No. 1094)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Fire Protection and Prevention
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Illicit fuelling activities are still commonly found in Hong Kong nowadays. A number of criminals even convert vans and pick-up trucks into mobile illicit fuel filling stations which are colloquially called “wet nurse vehicles”. Fuel spillage may lead to chain explosions, putting the lives of other road users at risk. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

1. The numbers of cases of illicit fuel filling stations being neutralised by the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) in the past 3 years.
2. The Anti-illicit Fuelling Activities Task Force set up by the Fire Services Department conducts joint operations with the C&ED and the Police against illicit fuel filling stations, but their operations have not been particularly effective. What are the reasons?
3. What are the manpower and expenditure involved in the Anti-illicit Fuelling Activities Task Force?

Asked by: Hon HO Kwan-yiu, Junius (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

1. According to the information provided by the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED), the number of cases of illicit fuel filling stations being neutralised by the C&ED in the past 3 years are as follows:

	2016	2017	2018
Number of cases	8	2	0

2. The Fire Services Department (FSD) has all along been committed to combating illicit fuelling activities. The Anti-illicit Fuelling Activities Task Force (the Task Force)

was set up in January 2015 to crack down on all forms of such activities through strategic planning. The Task Force has maintained close liaison with other law enforcement departments and mounted joint blitz operations with them from time to time to combat illicit fuelling activities. From 2016 to 2018, a total of 3 721 inspections targeted at those activities were carried out by the Task Force, among which 55 were joint operations with the C&ED and the Police, seizing approximately 1.23 million litres of fuel and instituting a total of 326 prosecutions pursuant to the Dangerous Goods Ordinance (Cap. 295), the Dangerous Goods (General) Regulations (Cap. 295B) and the Fire Services (Fire Hazard Abatement) Regulation (Cap. 95F).

The FSD will continue to work in close collaboration with other law enforcement departments in the fight against illicit fuelling activities to ensure the safety of members of the public.

3. The Anti-illicit Fuelling Activities Task Force of the FSD comprises 7 personnel from the Fire Stream and the expenditure on remuneration in 2019-20 is about \$4.9 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB171

(Question Serial No. 1185)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Fire Service, (2) Fire Protection and Prevention

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding marine fire prevention strategies, please advise on the following:

1. How long does it generally take for fireboats and fire speedboats to arrive at various typhoon shelters or bays from their respective berths? (Set out the time in Annex 1 and put a slash “/” for areas beyond the respective service areas of the vessels.)

Typhoon shelter/Bay	Fireboat No.								Fire speedboat
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Aberdeen West Typhoon Shelter									
Aberdeen South Typhoon Shelter									
Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter									
Cheung Chau Typhoon Shelter									
Kwun Tong Typhoon Shelter									
New Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter									
Sam Ka Tsuen Typhoon Shelter									
Shau Kei Wan Typhoon Shelter									
To Kwa Wan Typhoon Shelter									
Tuen Mun Typhoon Shelter									
Yim Tin Tsai Typhoon Shelter									
Tai O									
River Trade Terminal (Tuen Mun)									
Chai Wan Public Cargo Working Area									
Cafeteria Beach, Tuen Mun									

2. What were the establishment of staff and estimated expenditure involved in the fire prevention work for typhoon shelters in each of the past 3 years (from 2016-17 to 2018-19)?
3. What will be the establishment of staff and estimated expenditure involved in the fire prevention work for typhoon shelters in 2019-20?
4. What strategies does the Government have to expedite the arrival of fireboats and fire speedboats at the scenes of incidents in the future?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 70)

Reply:

1. The estimated journey times (in minutes) generally required for fire vessels, including fireboats and fire speedboats, to arrive at various typhoon shelters or bays within their main service areas from their respective stand-by berths are set out in the table below#:

Typhoon shelter/Bay	Fireboat No.								Fire speedboat
	1	2*	3	4	5	6 [@]	7*	8	
Aberdeen West Typhoon Shelter	/	/	/	1.5	/	/	/	/	19
Aberdeen South Typhoon Shelter	/	/	/	6	/	/	/	/	25
Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter	10	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	12
Cheung Chau Typhoon Shelter	/	/	3	/	/	/	/	/	29
Kwun Tong Typhoon Shelter	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	7	17
New Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter	20	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	3.5
Sam Ka Tsuen Typhoon Shelter	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	7	16
Shau Kei Wan Typhoon Shelter	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	8	16
To Kwa Wan Typhoon Shelter	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	8	12
Tuen Mun Typhoon Shelter	/	/	/	/	15	/	/	/	13
Yim Tin Tsai Typhoon Shelter	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	45	10
Tai O	/	/	/	/	46	/	/	/	5
River Trade Terminal (Tuen Mun)	/	/	/	/	10	/	/	/	8
Chai Wan Public Cargo Working Area	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	12	19
Cafeteria Beach, Tuen Mun	/	/	/	/	15	/	/	/	12

Note:

The actual time taken for a fire vessel to arrive at the scene of a marine fire is affected by various factors, for example, whether the vessel is engaged in other operations (including participation in regular navigation training, exercise and inspection, or attendance at another emergency incident, etc.) when the fire call is received, and the marine traffic, waves, currents, wind direction, visibility and so forth at the time of the incident. Generally speaking, when the Fire Services Department (FSD) receives a marine fire call, it will deploy at least 2 fireboats nearest to the incident scene for operation. In addition, fire stations in the vicinity will promptly deploy fire appliances to nearby piers, where fire personnel carrying light portable pumps and other firefighting equipment will board police launches or Marine Department (MD) vessels and head for the incident scene to provide support.

* Fireboats No. 2 and No. 7 are reserve fireboats, which mainly serve as substitutes for fireboats under maintenance and repair. They therefore do not have specific service areas.

@ Fireboat No. 6 is deployed at Tsing Yi Fireboat Station and is responsible for waters near Tsing Yi and Ma Wan, including the oil terminals, oil tanker berths, dockyards, etc. in Tsing Yi District. The typhoon shelters and bays listed above are not within its service area.

In addition, the FSD has 2 command boats and 8 speedboats stationed at the East and West Rescue Boat Berths of the airport. They are designated to handle incidents in the waters near the airport.

2. & 3. The firefighting, rescue and fire prevention education work in respect of typhoon shelters is mainly taken up by the personnel responsible for marine matters under the Marine and Diving Division of the FSD, with support from fire stations near the typhoon shelters. The FSD does not maintain separate statistics on the expenditure for fire prevention work for typhoon shelters. The establishment of the disciplined grade staff responsible for marine matters under the Marine and Diving Division of the FSD from 2016-17 to 2018-19 and in 2019-20 (estimate) is tabulated as follows:

Rank	Establishment			
Year (as at 31 March)	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (Estimate)
Senior Divisional Officer	1	1	1	1
Divisional Officer	1	1	2#	2
Assistant Divisional Officer	1	1	4#	4
Senior Station Officer/Station Officer	11	11	11	11
Principal Fireman	49	49	53 [^]	53
Senior Fireman	68	68	72 [^]	73 ⁺
Fireman	110	110	118 [^]	118

In 2018, the FSD conducted an internal review with a view to integrating and redistributing the management duties of the fire stations under the then Marine and Offshore Islands Division, in order to cope with the latest development of each district, meet the demand for emergency services and enhance service quality. Since 3 July 2018, the Division has been restructured and renamed as the Marine and Diving Division. Under the new structure, the 2 Divisional Officers and the 4 Assistant Divisional Officers of the Marine Unit, who were originally responsible for fire services provided by fireboats or fire stations of offshore islands respectively, will undertake the management of the disciplined grade staff of both fireboats and fire stations of offshore islands.

[^] To enhance the FSD's operational efficiency in the waters of Hong Kong, the procurement of 1 fast rescue vessel is underway. The establishment of the Marine and Diving Division has increased correspondingly in 2018-19, with the addition of 4 Principal Firemen, 4 Senior Firemen and 8 Firemen. The required personnel are now under training and will be immediately deployed to the new fast rescue vessel upon its commissioning.

⁺ 1 Senior Fireman will be added to the establishment of the FSD in 2019-20 to provide support for relevant government departments to handle marine pollution incidents in Hong Kong waters.

4. The FSD reviews from time to time its marine firefighting and rescue strategies in Hong Kong as well as the related equipment, and conducts risk assessments for different water areas, taking into account factors including the distribution of vessels, utilisation of shipping channels, existence of high-risk facilities at sea and along coastal areas, etc., in deciding the location of fireboat stations and deployment of fire vessels (e.g. fireboats and fire speedboats). The FSD is currently procuring 1 fast rescue vessel and 1 major fireboat for stationing in Sai Kung waters, so as to enhance the overall efficiency of its firefighting, ambulance services and emergency search and rescue operations in these waters.

The tendering process of the shipbuilding contract regarding the new fast rescue vessel had commenced on 21 December 2018 and the tender closing date is 10 May 2019. Bids will then be scrutinised by the MD. Separately, the FSD is liaising with the MD on the design and technical specifications of the new major fireboat, and the tendering process is expected to commence in 2019-20.

The FSD will continue to closely monitor the demand for marine emergency service and keep under review the relevant firefighting and rescue resources to meet operational needs.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB177

(Question Serial No. 2234)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Fire Protection and Prevention
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

What are the specific measures to enhance public awareness of community emergency preparedness as stated under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-2020? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 163)

Reply:

The Fire Services Department (FSD) established the Community Emergency Preparedness Division (CEPD) on 2 October 2018 to promote ways and skills in community emergency preparedness through educational and promotional activities, with a view to further enhancing public awareness of emergency preparedness in a holistic manner, strengthening the public's response capability in the event of emergencies or contingencies and imparting knowledge to the public on extinguishment and prevention of fire, self-help and helping others as well as escape and evacuation. The goal of the FSD is to educate members of the public in such a way that they are able to remain calm when they are caught in various emergency situations, such as having acute physical problems or finding themselves in a fire, a natural disaster or even under terrorist attack, so that they could save themselves as well as others.

The CEPD is responsible for formulating strategies on community emergency preparedness covering disaster preparedness, counter-terrorism preparedness, fire safety and community life support. The Division reaches out to different age and community groups through various platforms (such as social media, training courses, advertisements, etc.) to carry out publicity and educational work, thereby raising their awareness of emergency preparedness, strengthening their survival skills in emergencies, and enhancing their knowledge of, among others, fire safety, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of automated external defibrillator (AED).

Apart from the new initiatives above, the CEPD will make continued efforts to train volunteers from various sectors of the community to become Fire Safety Ambassadors and Building Fire Safety Envoys; organise various types of publicity activities on fire safety and ambulance services through coordination with other government departments and District Fire Safety Committees and liaison with various local bodies, including schools, building management companies, owners' corporations, centres for the elderly, etc.; and impart correct knowledge of fire prevention and ambulance services to members of the public through various channels, including FSD mobile applications, video-sharing websites, the Fire and Ambulance Services Education Centre, the Ambulance Service Education Vehicle and the Fire Safety Education Bus, etc..

Furthermore, the FSD will continue to organise, among others, the CPR Training Programme in Campus, the "Press to shock – Save a life" AED Course and the Community CPR Training Course. The Department will also adopt various promotional strategies to publicise the message that "Anyone Can Save Lives" and "Dare to Do, Save a Life", in a bid to educate more members of the public on CPR and the use of AED. Callers for emergency ambulance services are encouraged to follow FSD's post-dispatch advice and provide timely first aid to patients before the arrival of ambulance crew at scene.

The CEPD comprises civil servants and non-civil service contract staff. The estimated number of staff in CEPD for 2019-20 is 82 while the expenditure on their remuneration and the various initiatives is about \$50 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB178

(Question Serial No. 2795)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Fire Service, (3) Ambulance Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

When Hong Kong was struck by Super Typhoon Mangkhut in September last year, both fire and ambulance personnel worked round-the-clock to provide disaster relief support by, among others, handling fallen trees, clearing dangerous and obstructive objects on roads and saving those who were trapped. However, it was said that the supplies of rescue equipment and appliances, including ambulances and large rescue cushions, were tight at various fire stations and that rescue operations of the Fire Services Department (FSD) could only be conducted with limited resources. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

1. Has the FSD formulated any work plans for this year to enhance the capabilities of fire personnel and upgrade the equipment provided to them to cope with typhoon disasters? If yes, what are the details of the plans and the estimated expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?
2. Has the Government put in place any measures to ensure that FSD personnel are duly protected against typhoons of a similar magnitude in future?
3. While discharging the same duty of saving those in distress, fire personnel are remunerated on a pay scale inferior to that of police officers. Two years ago, Mr Clement CHEUNG Wan-ching, the then Secretary for the Civil Service, indicated that the Government would study the introduction of a separate pay scale for fire personnel and the provision of additional allowances for those engaged in dangerous duties and duties that require special skills. i) Has the Government earmarked any provision for dangerous duties allowances? If yes, please provide the data; if no, please give an account of the plan for introducing the allowances; ii) Please provide a progress update on the study on introducing a separate pay scale for fire personnel.

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

- 1.&2. The Fire Services Department (FSD) has acquired and stocked equipment and tools required for handling the vast majority of incidents taking place in Hong Kong according to the principle of prudent use of public money and relevant requirements stipulated by the Government. Besides, flexible arrangements have been made in procurement when unforeseen operational needs arise, in order to ensure the safety of frontline personnel and strengthen the Department's capabilities in handling the incidents. Regarding the acquisition and replacement of equipment, the FSD has earmarked about \$48 million in 2019-20 for acquiring supplies and equipment to meet the overall rescue needs.

To cope with the possibility of a more frequent occurrence of extreme weather (such as super typhoons or chilling weather etc.) in Hong Kong in the future, the FSD's Review Committee on Strategies for Rescue Operations for Extreme Weather reviews the adequacy of relevant training, tools and equipment to meet the operational needs arising from the possible increase in the frequency or severity of incidents caused by extreme weather. The Department will, with due regard to the recommendations of the Committee, enhance the provision of training, tools and equipment to frontline personnel for handling such incidents.

In addition, various new tools and equipment, including multi-function uniforms, personal floatation devices, extendable reach and rescue poles as well as light chainsaws etc., have been introduced for trial use by frontline personnel with a view to ensuring efficiency and protection during operations.

The FSD will also continue to review its various types of tools and equipment from time to time and keep abreast of the latest development in the market as well as the prevailing international standards of the relevant equipment. It will introduce suitable equipment for frontline fire personnel to ensure their safety and efficiency during operations in accordance with the principle of prudent use of public money and relevant Government requirements.

- 3.i) At present, job-related allowances are payable to eligible FSD personnel who are required to perform duties that are extraneous to their job descriptions or under special conditions, including underwater search and aquatic rescue, urban search and rescue, high angle rescue, mountain search and rescue and handling of hazardous materials, etc. A sum of about \$64 million has been earmarked for the relevant allowances in 2019-20.
- ii) The Chief Executive-in-Council decided in October 2018 that the Standing Committee on Disciplined Services Salaries and Conditions of Service (SCDS) should be invited to conduct a grade structure review for the disciplined services grades, and that the Standing Committee on Directorate Salaries and Conditions of Service should be invited to advise on the salaries and conditions of service of the heads of each of the disciplined services.

The FSD attaches great importance to the grade structure review. In this connection, the Steering Committee on Grade Structure Review and the Grade Structure Review Unit were set up in the Department in early December 2018 to coordinate the relevant work, and collate the views from members and frontline

management on issues such as grade structure, salary and benefits through various channels for submission of proposals to the SCDS.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB179

(Question Serial No. 2799)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Ambulance Service
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

It is mentioned under Programme (3) that ambulance service involves "... resuscitating or sustaining his life and reducing his suffering or distress". However, the administration of futile cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on patients who are close to death will prolong their dying process and increase their suffering and distress. In recent years, the Hospital Authority (HA) has allowed the making of "advance directives" by mentally competent and properly informed patients aged 18 and above to refuse life-sustaining treatment when they are in an end-stage condition and mentally incapable of making health care decisions, and the directives include, among others, do-not-attempt CPR. As the duty of resuscitating patients is stipulated in the guidelines for ambulance personnel, there have been sporadic cases where patients had to suffer from the pain from the administration of CPR despite having made an advance directive refusing it. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of:

1. the number of patients who were given CPR by ambulance personnel despite having made an advance directive on do-not-attempt CPR with the HA in the past 3 years, and the manpower involved; and
2. whether a study will be conducted on the feasibility of following the Guidelines on Do-Not-Attempt Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, which has been revised by the HA in recent years, by amending those outdated requirements pertaining to ambulance service, so as to minimise the suffering and distress of patients.

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 28)

Reply:

1. The Fire Services Department (FSD) has not maintained a record of the figures in respect of patients who have made an advance directive.

2. At present, the FSD has not instructed ambulance personnel to follow the Guidelines on Do-Not-Attempt Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (DNACPR Guidelines) of the Hospital Authority to withhold resuscitation or other first aid procedures on the patients concerned. Given FSD's mission is to save those in distress, FSD's current practice is to carry out CPR and all other relevant treatment procedures for patients in need, and convey them to the nearest hospitals for appropriate treatment in the shortest possible time.

The DNACPR Guidelines can be regarded as an advance directive. As announced in the 2018 Policy Address, to allow terminally-ill patients more options of their own treatment and care arrangements, the Government will consult the public in 2019 on arrangements of advance directives and the relevant end-of-life care. The FSD keeps an open mind towards the advance directive on DNACPR.

Subject to the outcome of the consultation and the follow-up considerations and studies of the Government, the FSD will review the operational guidelines as and when appropriate in light of the latest policies and legislation, and continue to actively participate in the relevant studies and discussions.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB169

(Question Serial No. 3187)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Fire Protection and Prevention
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding the licensing of storage or manufacture of Category 2 (other than liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)) to Category 10 dangerous goods, storage of timber and vehicles for conveyance of Category 2 (other than LPG) and Category 5 dangerous goods,

1. currently, how many vehicles across the territory have been issued with and are holding such licences? How many resources have been allocated for the regulatory work?
2. what are the safety requirements and codes of practice for the licensed vehicles? How many resources have been deployed for conducting inspections and what are the details?
3. what are the safety requirements for the licensed vehicles running on roads and how the regulatory work is carried out?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

1. As at 28 February 2019, the Dangerous Goods Division of the Fire Services Department (FSD) had issued a total of 552 licences to vehicles for conveyance of Category 2 dangerous goods (other than liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)) and 1 438 licences to vehicles for conveyance of Category 5 dangerous goods.

At present, a team of 4 staff in the Fire Stream in the Dangerous Goods Vehicle Section is designated to handle the work pertaining to dangerous goods vehicles, and the expenditure on remuneration for them is about \$2.17 million for 2018-19.

2. Upon receipt of applications for a dangerous goods vehicle licence, the FSD will, having regard to the type of vehicle involved and the categories of the dangerous

goods to be conveyed, draw up relevant fire safety requirements for licence applicants to comply with, including those for the design and testing of cargo compartments and vessels, as well as those pertaining to engines, fuel tanks, emergency engine stop devices, voltages, tyres, notices on the vehicles and fire extinguishers.

In general, the validity period of the licence is 12 months. When a licence is about to expire, the licensee is required to submit an application for licence renewal and obtain a pass in the vehicle inspection conducted by the FSD in order for the licence to be renewed. The relevant work is undertaken by the team in the Dangerous Goods Vehicle Section.

3. All licensed vehicles for conveyance of dangerous goods are required to be in continuous compliance with the relevant fire safety requirements in order to convey Category 2 (other than LPG) dangerous goods and/or Category 5 dangerous goods on land. The FSD will set up roadblocks in collaboration with the police from time to time in various districts across the territory to conduct random checks on dangerous goods vehicles to ensure that the vehicles comply with the relevant fire safety requirements specified.

If a dangerous goods vehicle suffers any damage stemming from a fire or any other accidents, the licensee must report the damage to the FSD in writing, and after the vehicle is repaired, make arrangements for the vehicle to undergo inspection by the FSD again in order for it to continue conveying dangerous goods. Apart from that, if the dangerous goods vehicle is suspected of breaching any dangerous goods legislation, the FSD may consider suspending its dangerous goods vehicle licence. Upon conviction, the FSD may revoke the licence and prohibit the vehicle from any further conveyance of dangerous goods.

In addition to the need for a licence for conveyance of dangerous goods, vehicles for this purpose are also required to pass the annual safety inspection by the Transport Department for certification of their roadworthiness.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB446

(Question Serial No. 3587)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Fire Service, (2) Fire Protection and Prevention

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding marine fire prevention strategies, please advise on the following:

1. How long does it generally take for fireboats and fire speedboats to arrive at various typhoon shelters or bays from their respective berths? (Set out the time in Annex 1 and put a slash "/" for areas beyond the respective service areas of the vessels.)

Typhoon shelter	Fireboat No.								Fire speedboat
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Aberdeen West Typhoon Shelter									
Aberdeen South Typhoon Shelter									
Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter									
Cheung Chau Typhoon Shelter									
Kwun Tong Typhoon Shelter									
New Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter									
Sam Ka Tsuen Typhoon Shelter									
Shau Kei Wan Typhoon Shelter									
To Kwa Wan Typhoon Shelter									
Tuen Mun Typhoon Shelter									
Yim Tin Tsai Typhoon Shelter									
Tai O									
River Trade Terminal (Tuen Mun)									
Chai Wan Public Cargo Working Area									
Cafeteria Beach, Tuen Mun									

2. What were the establishment of staff and estimated expenditure involved in the fire prevention work for typhoon shelters in each of the past 3 years (from 2016-17 to 2018-19)?
3. What will be the establishment of staff and estimated expenditure involved in the fire prevention work for typhoon shelters in 2019-20?
4. What are the Government's current strategies to expedite the arrival of fireboats and fire speedboats at the scenes of incidents?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 56)

Reply:

- The estimated journey times (in minutes) generally required for fire vessels, including fireboats and fire speedboats, to arrive at various typhoon shelters or bays within their main service areas from their respective stand-by berths are set out in the table below#:

Typhoon shelter/Bay	Fireboat No.								Fire speedboat
	1	2*	3	4	5	6 [@]	7*	8	
Aberdeen West Typhoon Shelter	/	/	/	1.5	/	/	/	/	19
Aberdeen South Typhoon Shelter	/	/	/	6	/	/	/	/	25
Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter	10	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	12
Cheung Chau Typhoon Shelter	/	/	3	/	/	/	/	/	29
Kwun Tong Typhoon Shelter	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	7	17
New Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter	20	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	3.5
Sam Ka Tsuen Typhoon Shelter	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	7	16
Shau Kei Wan Typhoon Shelter	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	8	16
To Kwa Wan Typhoon Shelter	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	8	12
Tuen Mun Typhoon Shelter	/	/	/	/	15	/	/	/	13
Yim Tin Tsai Typhoon Shelter	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	45	10
Tai O	/	/	/	/	46	/	/	/	5
River Trade Terminal (Tuen Mun)	/	/	/	/	10	/	/	/	8
Chai Wan Public Cargo Working Area	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	12	19
Cafeteria Beach, Tuen Mun	/	/	/	/	15	/	/	/	12

Note:

The actual time taken for a fire vessel to arrive at the scene of a marine fire is affected by various factors, for example, whether the vessel is engaged in other operations (including participation in regular navigation training, exercise and inspection, or attendance at another emergency incident, etc.) when the fire call is received, and the marine traffic, waves, currents, wind direction, visibility and so forth at the time of the incident. Generally speaking, when the Fire Services Department (FSD) receives a marine fire call, it will deploy at least 2 fireboats nearest to the incident scene for operation. In addition, fire stations in the vicinity will promptly deploy fire appliances to nearby piers, where fire personnel carrying light portable pumps and other firefighting equipment will board police launches or Marine Department (MD) vessels and head for the incident scene to provide support.

* Fireboats No. 2 and No. 7 are reserve fireboats, which mainly serve as substitutes for fireboats under maintenance and repair. They therefore do not have specific service areas.

@ Fireboat No. 6 is deployed at Tsing Yi Fireboat Station and is responsible for waters near Tsing Yi and Ma Wan, including the oil terminals, oil tanker berths, dockyards, etc. in Tsing Yi District. The typhoon shelters and bays listed above are not within its service area.

In addition, the FSD has 2 command boats and 8 speedboats stationed at the East and West Rescue Boat Berths of the airport. They are designated to handle incidents in the waters near the airport.

2. & 3. The firefighting, rescue and fire prevention education work in respect of typhoon shelters is mainly taken up by the personnel responsible for marine matters under the Marine and Diving Division of the FSD, with support from fire stations near the typhoon shelters. The FSD does not maintain separate statistics on the expenditure for fire prevention work for typhoon shelters. The establishment of the disciplined grade staff responsible for marine matters under the Marine and Diving Division of the FSD from 2016-17 to 2018-19 and in 2019-20 (estimate) is tabulated as follows:

Rank Year (as at 31 March)	Establishment			
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (Estimate)
Senior Divisional Officer	1	1	1	1
Divisional Officer	1	1	2#	2
Assistant Divisional Officer	1	1	4#	4
Senior Station Officer/Station Officer	11	11	11	11
Principal Fireman	49	49	53 [^]	53
Senior Fireman	68	68	72 [^]	73 ⁺
Fireman	110	110	118 [^]	118

In 2018, the FSD conducted an internal review aimed at integrating and redistributing the management duties of the fire stations under the then Marine and Offshore Islands Division, in order to cope with the latest development of each district, meet the demands for emergency services and enhance service quality. Since 3 July 2018, the Division has been restructured and renamed as the Marine and Diving Division. Under the new structure, the 2 Divisional Officers and the 4 Assistant Divisional Officers of the Marine Unit, who were originally responsible for fire services provided by fireboat stations or fire stations of offshore islands, will undertake the management of the disciplined grade staff of both fireboat stations and fire stations of offshore islands.

[^] To enhance the FSD's operational efficiency in the waters of Hong Kong, the procurement of 1 fast rescue vessel is underway. The establishment of the Marine and Diving Division has also been increased correspondingly in 2018-19, with the addition of 4 Principal Firemen, 4 Senior Firemen and 8 Firemen. The required personnel are now under training for immediate deployment to the new fast rescue vessel upon its commissioning.

⁺ 1 Senior Fireman will be added to the establishment of the FSD in 2019-20 to provide support for relevant government departments to handle marine pollution incidents in the waters of Hong Kong.

4. The FSD reviews from time to time its marine firefighting and rescue strategies in Hong Kong as well as the related equipment, and conducts risk assessments for different water areas, taking into account factors including the distribution of vessels, utilisation of shipping channels, existence of high-risk facilities at sea and along coastal areas, etc., in deciding the location of fireboat stations and deployment of fire vessels (e.g. fireboats and fire speedboats).

Every year, the fishing moratorium in the South China Sea and traditional festivals (such as the Lunar New Year, Ching Ming Festival, Tin Hau Festival, Mid-Autumn Festival and Chung Yeung Festival) often see an increase of fishermen berthing their fishing vessels at major typhoon shelters, causing an increase in fire risks. In view of the above, the FSD now adopts corresponding measures during the aforementioned periods, including the deployment of 2 fire speedboats with firefighting equipment at the temporary deployment points located near the Tuen Mun Typhoon Shelter and Shau Kei Wan Typhoon Shelter respectively for stand-by duties, so as to cope with the increase of fire risks in these areas during such periods.

Besides, the FSD is currently procuring 1 fast rescue vessel and 1 major fireboat for stationing in Sai Kung waters, so as to enhance the overall efficiency of its firefighting, ambulance services and emergency search and rescue operations in these waters.

The tender process of the shipbuilding contract regarding the new fast rescue vessel had commenced on 21 December 2018 and the tender closing date is 10 May 2019. Bids will be scrutinised by the MD. Separately, the FSD is now liaising with the MD on the design and technical specifications of the new major fireboat, and the tender process is expected to commence in 2019-20.

The FSD will continue to closely monitor the demand for marine emergency service and keep under review the relevant firefighting and rescue resources to meet operational needs.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB452

(Question Serial No. 3662)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Fire Service
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

1. Please tabulate the numbers of duty and maintenance hours for Fireboats No. 1 to No. 8 in 2018-19.
2. Please provide the progress and budget updates on: the replacement of Fireboat No. 2, Fireboat No. 7 and 2 diving support speedboats, as well as the acquisition of 1 major fireboat and 1 fast rescue vessel.
3. Please provide the progress and budget updates (if any) on the replacement of Command Boats No. 1 and No. 2.

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

1. Fireboats No. 1 to No. 8 perform a range of duties while not under maintenance, which include attending vessel fires or rescue operations, undertaking regular drills, promoting public education on vessel fire prevention, conducting inspections and navigation training in the waters they serve, or on standby duty. The maintenance time of each fireboat in 2018-19 is as follows:

Fireboat	Maintenance time (no. of days)
	2018-19 (as at 11 March 2019)
Fireboat No. 1 (Elite)	72.5
Fireboat No. 2#	4.5*
Fireboat No. 3	3.5*
Fireboat No. 4	46
Fireboat No. 5	50
Fireboat No. 6 (Excellence)	0.5*

Fireboat No. 7#	28
Fireboat No. 8	52

Fireboats No. 2 and No. 7 are reserve fireboats, which are deployed for duty when required or serve as substitutes for fireboats under annual inspection and maintenance.

* No slipping for major routine maintenance and inspection is required for Fireboats No. 2, No. 3 and No. 6 in 2018-19.

2.&3. The progress and budget for the replacement of Fireboat No. 2, Fireboat No. 7 and 2 diving support speedboats, the acquisition of 1 major fireboat and 1 fast rescue vessel, as well as the replacement of Commands Boats No. 1 and No. 2 are set out below:

Replacement and acquisition of fire vessels	Budget (\$m)	Progress
Replacement of Fireboat No. 2	97.5	The Fire Services Department (FSD) is liaising with the Marine Department (MD) on the design and technical specifications of the replacement Fireboat No. 2.
Replacement of Fireboat No. 7	98.26	The construction of the new fireboat is underway and expected to be completed in November 2019.
Replacement of 2 diving support speedboats	32	The speedboats were put into service in November 2018.
Acquisition of 1 major fireboat	125	The FSD is liaising with the MD on the design and technical specifications of the new major fireboat.
Acquisition of 1 fast rescue vessel	40	The tender invitation, which has commenced in December 2018, will be closed in May 2019.
Replacement of Commands Boats No. 1 and No. 2	240	The FSD is liaising with the MD on the design and technical specifications of the two replacement Command Boats, and will engage a consultant to prepare the technical specifications of the Command Boats in 2019.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB454

(Question Serial No. 4080)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Ambulance Service
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

1. There will be an increase of 116 posts under the Programme of Ambulance Service in the Fire Services Department in 2019-20. Please list, by rank and function, the numbers of posts to be deleted and created under the Programme, as well as the establishment, strength, wastage and number of retirees of each rank under the Programme in 2018-19 and 2019-20 (estimated figures).
2. Please provide the figures on the meal break situation of ambulancemen in the past 3 years, including the percentage of ambulancemen who were able to take a continuous 30-minute meal break during the designated period, and the percentage of ambulancemen who were unable to take a continuous 30-minute meal break during the designated period and whose compensatory meal breaks were interrupted for at least one time.
3. The Bureau will continue to explore the long-term arrangements for the provision of emergency ambulance service this year. Will this include measures to improve the meal break situation of frontline ambulancemen? Will the Bureau give thought to extending the meal break duration of ambulancemen to 45 minutes? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (LegCo internal reference no.: 49)

Reply:

1. The establishment and strength under Programme (3) Ambulance Service of the Fire Services Department (FSD) in 2018-19 and 2019-20 are tabulated below:

	2018-19		2019-20	
	Establishment	Strength*	Establishment (Estimate)	Strength
Ambulance	3 089	2 963	3 179	The estimated strength

	2018-19		2019-20	
	Establishment	Strength*	Establishment (Estimate)	Strength
Stream Civilian, technical and other grades	71	56	71	of various grades for 2019-20 is not available as the number of staff varies from time to time
Total:	3 160	3 019	3 250	

*Strength as at 1 March 2019 (including staff members on pre-retirement leave)

There will be a net increase of 116 posts in the FSD for 2019-20, which includes an increase of 90 posts under Programme (3) Ambulance Service. The 90 new posts to be created and the reasons for their creation are tabulated below:

Programme	Rank	No. of posts	Reason
Programme (3) Ambulance Service	Senior Ambulanceman	28	To operate additional ambulance shifts so as to further strengthen the ambulance service.
	Ambulanceman	57	
	Principal Ambulanceman	5	To provide additional manpower to serve as Ambulance Controllers at North Lantau Hospital, Tin Shui Wai Hospital, Pok Oi Hospital, Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital and Tseung Kwan O Hospital.
	Total:	90	

Staff members of the FSD are subject to posting from time to time, and the posting may involve inter-programme transfers. The overall wastage in the Ambulance Stream and civilian, technical and other grades in the FSD (including Programmes (1), (2) and (3)) in 2018-19 and the estimated wastage in 2019-20 are tabulated below:

Type of wastage	No. of persons					
	2018-19			2019-20 (Estimate)		
	Ambulance Stream	Civilian, technical and other grades	Total	Ambulance Stream	Civilian, technical and other grades	Total
Retirement	86	31	117	87	36	123
Exit for other reasons [@]	51	63	114	Not predictable		
Total:	137	94	231	87	36	123

@:Such as resignation and transfer to other grades

- To achieve a more effective deployment of manpower and further enhance the meal break arrangements for ambulancemen, the FSD has been using a statistical computer programme since July 2014 to systematically gauge the situation and collect detailed statistics on the actual duration of meal breaks taken by the ambulancemen in each

ambulance within the designated period for reference purposes. The meal break situation of frontline ambulancemen in the past 3 years is set out as follows:

Year	Percentage of cases in which a continuous meal break of at least 30 minutes was taken	Number of cases in which a compensatory meal break was interrupted
2015-16	97.07%	0
2016-17	97.70%	0
2017-18	97.81%	0

3. As for the proposed extension of meal break duration of ambulancemen in the daytime from 30 minutes to 45 minutes, a preliminary assessment conducted by the FSD showed that the proposed arrangement might result in a decrease in the percentage of ambulance personnel who would be able to take a continuous meal break. Moreover, the extension of lunch break duration of ambulance personnel might lead to an increase in cross-district deployment of ambulances, thereby affecting the standard of emergency ambulance services. In view of the wide implications of the proposal, the FSD needs to keep in view the effectiveness and data of the existing measures for a period of time before it can evaluate and explore other feasible measures to further improve the meal break situation of frontline ambulance personnel.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB462

(Question Serial No. 4106)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational Expenses

Programme: (2) Fire Protection and Prevention, (3) Ambulance Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding the publicity and education efforts of the Department, please inform this Committee of the operational expenses on the Hong Kong Fire Services Department Youtube Channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMpoLAdVSuHNzd_FDpiRexA) and the Hong Kong Fire Services Department Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/hkfsd.gov.hk>), including video production, marketing, daily operation, etc. in the past year.

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 89)

Reply:

The Fire Services Department (FSD) integrated the former Community Relations Section of the Fire Safety Command and the Community Relations Unit of the Ambulance Command into the Community Emergency Preparedness Division (CEPD) through internal deployment of resources, with a view to pooling the manpower resources for enhancing the promotion and public education work. The CEPD was established on 2 October 2018. Currently, there are 18 staff responsible for the production of relevant promotional and educational materials and the management of the FSD's social media platforms, including the Hong Kong Fire Services Department Youtube Channel and the Hong Kong Fire Services Department Facebook Page.

The FSD manages the above platforms with its existing resources, and does not maintain separate statistics on the relevant expenditure.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB453

(Question Serial No. 4296)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Fire Protection and Prevention
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding the fire safety inspections of the Fire Services Department (FSD), will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

In comparison to 2017, the numbers and circumstances of inspections in 2018 remain more or less the same, but the number of Fire Hazard Abatement Notices issued fell substantially by about 30%. Does it imply that the inspections conducted by the FSD are effective? If no, what are the reasons for the fall?

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 51)

Reply:

The personnel of various units under the 3 Operational Fire Commands, the Fire Safety Command and the Licensing and Certification Command of the Fire Services Department (FSD) inspect different types of buildings under their respective scopes of work, and take enforcement actions related to, among others, fire service installations and equipment, means of escape, ventilating systems, the storage of dangerous goods and the fire safety of licensed premises in these buildings. If any breaches of the Fire Services (Fire Hazard Abatement) Regulation (Cap. 95F) are identified during inspections by personnel of the FSD, the Department will institute prosecutions against, or issue Fire Hazard Abatement Notices (FHANs) to, the person(s) concerned in accordance with the Regulation. The fall in the number of FHANs issued by the FSD from 12 539 in 2017 to 8 777 in 2018 is largely attributed to the enforcement actions taken against mini-storages, which have gradually yielded positive results. The details are as follows:

The blaze in the mini-storages at Amoycan Industrial Centre in June 2016 has exposed the safety hazards prevalent in these premises. Since July the same year, the FSD has mounted joint departmental enforcement operations with the Buildings Department, the Lands Department and the Labour Department. Regarding the fire hazards in mini-storages, the FSD issued FHANs to the persons-in-charge of mini-storages pursuant to the Fire Services

(Fire Hazard Abatement) Regulation and required the operators to undertake improvement works to abate such hazards.

As at end 2017, the FSD has inspected around 800 mini-storages across the territory and identified nearly 2 800 fire hazards. The FSD issued FHANs to the persons-in-charge of such mini-storages, requiring that the fire hazards be abated within specified periods. This explains the notable increase in the number of FHANs issued by the FSD in 2017.

As the FSD had already issued FHANs to the persons-in-charge of the majority of mini-storages across the territory in the second half of 2016 and in 2017, a fall was recorded in the number of FHANs issued in 2018 as compared to 2017.

As at 28 February 2019, the FSD has issued FHANs in respect of 855 mini-storages with 2 978 fire hazards identified, among which 1 741 (about 60%) have been abated, and 110 mini-storages are now free of fire hazards. Furthermore, with improvement works now underway in more than 200 mini-storages, it is expected that many more mini-storages will fully comply with the fire safety requirements stipulated in the FHANs. This points to the fact that the enforcement actions have gradually yielded positive results.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB455

(Question Serial No. 4471)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Fire Protection and Prevention
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding the continued efforts to pursue legislative work to improve the fire safety of old industrial buildings as mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20, the Government pointed out in last year's reply to this Committee that 24 posts were created under the programme area of Fire Protection and Prevention for stepping up inspection and enforcement efforts in industrial buildings; undertaking preparatory work for the legislation for upgrading the fire safety standards of old industrial buildings; and handling complaints about the fire safety of various types of buildings (Reply Serial No.: SB496). Please provide the following information:

1. The expenditure and manpower involved in the inspections of industrial buildings conducted by the Fire Services Department in 2018-19.
2. The total numbers of inspections and prosecutions in 2018-19.
3. The numbers of various types of complaints about fire safety of industrial buildings in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 110)

Reply:

1. The personnel of various units under the 3 Operational Fire Commands, the Fire Safety Command and the Licensing and Certification Command of the Fire Services Department (FSD) inspect different types of buildings (including industrial buildings) under their respective scopes of work, and take enforcement actions related to, among others, fire service installations and equipment, means of escape, ventilating systems, storage of dangerous goods and the fire safety of licensed premises in these buildings. The additional 24 posts created by the FSD in 2017-18 under Programme (2) - Fire Protection and Prevention were not only for stepping up inspection and enforcement efforts in industrial buildings, but also for undertaking preparatory work for the

legislation for upgrading the fire safety standards of old industrial buildings, and handling complaints about the fire safety of various types of buildings. The expenditure on the remuneration for these posts in 2018-19 was about \$17.75 million.

As mentioned above, various units of the FSD are responsible for the inspection of industrial buildings. The FSD does not maintain separate statistics on the expenditure or manpower involved in the inspection of industrial buildings.

2. In 2018, the FSD conducted a total of 12 844 inspections of industrial buildings and instituted a total of 148 prosecutions against fire safety-related irregularities, which included 126 cases of contravention of the Fire Services (Fire Hazard Abatement) Regulation (Cap. 95F) and 22 cases of contravention of the Dangerous Goods Ordinance (Cap. 295).
3. The numbers of complaints about fire hazards in industrial buildings received by the FSD in the past 3 years, including complaints about suspected contravention of the Fire Services (Fire Hazard Abatement) Regulation, the Fire Service (Installations and Equipment) Regulations (Cap. 95B) and the Dangerous Goods Ordinance, are set out in the table below:

Type of complaints received	2016	2017	2018
Suspected contravention of the Fire Services (Fire Hazard Abatement) Regulation	1 802	1 574	1 728
Suspected contravention of the Fire Service (Installations and Equipment) Regulations	182	191	128
Suspected contravention of the Dangerous Goods Ordinance	131	84	72
Total:	2 115	1 849	1 928

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB456

(Question Serial No. 4473)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Fire Service
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

As stated under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20, the Government will continue to monitor the construction of fire services facilities to support the Three-Runway System (3RS) at the Hong Kong International Airport and will procure fire appliances for the 3RS. In this connection, please provide further information on the following:

1. Progress of the construction of fire services facilities for the 3RS;
2. Details and schedules of each of the projects of fire services facilities for the 3RS and the manpower and expenditures involved; and
3. Details of the procurement of fire appliances for the 3RS and the expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 112)

Reply:

1. & 2. To cope with aircraft incidents and to provide swift firefighting, rescue and emergency ambulance services at the Three-Runway System (3RS) at the Hong Kong International Airport, the Fire Services Department (FSD) will construct the following fire services facilities:
 - (a) Facilities in the West Support Area scheduled for commissioning in 2022:
 - (i) An airside fire station with a 9-bay appliance room;
 - (ii) A speed boat launching facility; and
 - (iii) A decontamination facility.
 - (b) Facilities in the East Support Area scheduled for commissioning by the end of 2024:

- (i) An airside fire station with a 9-bay appliance room; and
 - (ii) A landside fire station-cum-ambulance depot with a 7-bay appliance room; and
- (c) An underground cable duct system linking the above facilities with the existing fire services facilities as well as the proposed and existing Air Traffic Control towers.

The design and construction of the aforesaid projects will be entrusted to the Airport Authority Hong Kong, and it is expected that the project works will commence in 2019.

The construction cost of the proposed projects is estimated to be about \$2.606 billion in money-of-the-day prices.

The FSD will apply for resources according to the established procedures in due course in order to provide the manpower required for the operation of the new fire services facilities to be built for the 3RS.

3. Apart from constructing the aforesaid fire services facilities, the FSD will also procure the fire appliances listed below to tie in with the operation of the 3RS. The cost is estimated at about \$228 million and a cost breakdown is as follows:

<u>Airside Fire Station at West Support Area</u>	Estimated cost (\$m)
(i) 2 Rapid Intervention Vehicles	20.9
(ii) 2 Crash Fire Tenders	19.8
(iii) 2 Hose Foam Carriers	14.7
(iv) 1 High Reach Extendable Turret	12.8
Sub-total:	68.2
<u>Airside Fire Station at East Support Area</u>	
(v) 2 Rapid Intervention Vehicles	22.5
(vi) 2 Crash Fire Tenders	20.0
(vii) 2 Hose Foam Carriers	15.9
(viii) 1 High Reach Extendable Turret	13.5
(ix) 1 Mobile Command Unit	10.0
Sub-total:	81.9
<u>Landside Fire Station-cum-Ambulance Depot</u>	
(x) 1 First Intervention Vehicle	11.7
(xi) 1 HazMat Tender	9.3
(xii) 1 Decontamination Tender	12.4
(xiii) 1 Bulk Foam Tender	11.1
(xiv) 1 Hydraulic Platform	8.7
(xv) 1 Major Pump	7.8
(xvi) 1 Major Rescue Unit	6.0
(xvii) 1 Turntable Ladder	10.9
Sub-total:	77.9
Total:	<u>228.0</u>

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB457

(Question Serial No. 4474)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

What were the numbers of fire drills, fire safety talks, seminars, exhibitions and meetings organised as well as operational visits made by the Fire Services Department in each of the past 3 years?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 113)

Reply:

To enhance the knowledge of the general public on fire safety, the Fire Services Department (FSD) has maintained liaison with schools, property management companies and different local organisations and groups for organising various types of promotional activities on fire safety.

The numbers of fire drills, fire safety talks, seminars, exhibitions and meetings organised as well as operational visits made by the FSD over the past 3 years are as follows:

	2016	2017	2018
Fire drills	1 282	1 297	1 511
Fire safety talks	2 644	2 041	1 954
Seminars	11	11	10
Exhibitions	8	8	4
Meetings	42	69	85
Operational visits	14 245	15 550	16 961

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB458

(Question Serial No. 4475)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Fire Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of the number of existing fire appliances of the Fire Services Department by age and type.

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 114)

Reply:

A breakdown of the number of fire appliances of the Fire Services Department by age and type as at 1 March 2019 is tabulated as follows:

Age of fire appliances	No. of fire appliances	
	Frontline fire appliances*	Other supporting appliances#
Less than 5 years	82	75
5 to less than 10 years	92	15
10 to 15 years	46	17
More than 15 years	52	39
Total:	272	146

* Frontline fire appliances generally include Hydraulic Platform, Major Pump, Major/Light Rescue Unit, Turntable Ladder/Aerial Ladder Platform/Snorkel, and airport rescue and firefighting vehicles.

Other supporting appliances include Foam Tender, Hose Layer, HazMat Tender, Lighting Tender, Mobile Command Unit, Rescue Tender, Incident Safety Vehicle, Compartment Fire Specialists Carrier, High Angle Rescue Team Support Vehicle, etc.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB459

(Question Serial No. 4476)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of work injuries and fatalities by rank in the Fire Services Department (FSD) in the past 3 years and their respective percentages in the total number of staff at that particular rank. Please also provide details of the actions taken by the FSD to prevent work injuries and promote occupational safety and health.

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 115)

Reply:

The Fire Services Department (FSD) recorded a total of 505 work injury cases in the past 3 years, and a breakdown of the figures by rank is as follows:

	2016	2017	2018
Assistant Divisional Officer	3(1.82%)	-	1(0.61%)
Senior Station Officer/Station Officer (Operational)	4(0.55%)	4(0.48%)	10(1.22%)
Principal Fireman (Operational/Marine)	6(0.93%)	5(0.72%)	7(0.95%)
Senior Fireman (Operational/Marine)	10(0.92%)	8(0.61%)	13(0.93%)
Fireman (Operational/Marine)	58(1.58%)	56(1.52%)	59(1.61%)
Ambulance Officer	-	1(0.87%)	-
Principal Ambulanceman	5(1.78%)	5(1.73%)	4(1.42%)
Senior Ambulanceman	31(4.75%)	18(2.71%)	27(3.88%)
Ambulanceman	56(3.10%)	44(2.41%)	49(2.67%)
Principal Fireman (Workshops)	-	1(0.14%)	-
Fireman (Workshops)	-	2(0.05%)	-
Assistant Building Services	-	1(3.03%)	-

Inspector			
Clerical Officer	1(3.33%)	-	-
Assistant Clerical Officer	1(0.40%)	2(0.81%)	-
Cook	3(8.11%)	5(14.71%)	2(6.67%)
Workman II	-	1(4%)	2(8.7%)

Remark:

() Figure in brackets denotes the percentage of the total number of FSD staff at that rank in the year.

Among the above cases, 2 fatal work injury cases were recorded in 2016, which involved 1 Senior Station Officer (Operational) and 1 Senior Fireman (Operational/Marine), representing 0.14% and 0.09% of the staff at the respective ranks in that year. In addition, 2 fatal work injury cases were recorded in 2017, which involved 1 Principal Fireman (Operational/Marine) and 1 Fireman (Operational/Marine), representing 0.14% and 0.03% of the staff at the respective ranks in that year.

The firefighting and rescue services provided by the FSD involve high risk operations. The FSD has always attached utmost importance to the training and safety of frontline personnel and is committed to enhancing their live-fire and rescue training. Besides arranging for its personnel to take part in exchanges and training with the fire departments of other jurisdictions from time to time, the FSD provides frontline fire personnel with various kinds of live-fire and rescue training, including training in compartment fire behaviour, simulated live-fire scenarios and technical rescue, etc., to enable them to maintain a high level of performance in terms of operational efficiency, firefighting knowledge and rescue techniques, as well as to further enhance operational safety of frontline fire personnel.

As regards equipment, the FSD provides frontline personnel with the best equipment and protective clothing, as well as operation tools of the highest rescue standards for handling different types of incidents to ensure their safety and efficiency during operations. The existing firefighting equipment of the Department is comparable to that of the fire brigades in other advanced countries/regions around the world.

In April 2008, the FSD established the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Unit to facilitate the formulation of a better “safety management system”. In respect of the prevention of work injuries and the promotion of OSH, the Department has taken an array of measures which include actively arranging OSH training with the Occupational Safety and Health Council; conducting quarterly safety inspections at workplaces; refining the investigation procedures for work injury cases; reviewing the guidelines for wearing personal protective equipment; and stepping up campaigns for the promotion of OSH. Furthermore, the OSH Unit has designed internal online courses on manual handling operations as well as heat stress prevention, with a view to reinforcing FSD members’ understanding of OSH culture.

To help members dissipate heat accumulated in their bodies and prevent overheating during firefighting and rescue operations, and to stave off hypothermia when engaging in rescue operations in cold weather, the FSD has since 4 July 2016, in the event of No. 3 or above alarm fires or long hours of firefighting or rescue operations, set up rest areas near the

incident scenes. Equipment for cooling and keeping warm, drinks as well as other supplements are provided at rest areas for frontline members to take some rest and restore energy after working for a period of time.

The FSD established 4 Incident Safety Teams in October 2017. The teams mainly perform safety audits at the scene of the incident, such as reviewing whether proper safety measures have been taken by frontline personnel at fires or major incidents and, if necessary, advising incident commanders on risk assessment at the scenes, with the aim of enhancing the safety of frontline personnel during operations.

The Department will continue to review its different types of tools and equipment from time to time and keep abreast of the latest development in firefighting equipment. It will introduce suitable equipment for frontline personnel to ensure their operational safety and efficiency during operations in accordance with the principle of prudent use of public money and relevant Government requirements.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB460

(Question Serial No. 4477)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Fire Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of the numbers of existing fire appliances and ambulance vehicles at each fire station of the Fire Services Department (FSD) by type and age. What is the plan, if any, for the FSD to replace aging fire appliances and ambulance vehicles? Please give a breakdown of the replacement costs involved.

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 116)

Reply:

The Fire Services Department (FSD) is committed to ensuring that its fire appliances and ambulance vehicles are in an immediate state of readiness to respond to emergency calls at all times. When devising the procurement plans of its appliances and vehicles, the FSD takes into consideration factors such as, among others, the types of appliances and vehicles, their expected serviceable life, maintenance costs, replacement costs and fault rates.

A breakdown of the numbers of fire appliances in the FSD by age and regional distribution in Hong Kong, Kowloon, the New Territories and the Fire and Ambulance Services Academy (FASA) as at 1 March 2019 is tabulated as follows:

Age of fire appliances@	Number of fire appliances	
	Frontline fire appliances*	Other supporting appliances#
Less than 5 years	82	75
5 to 10 years	92	15
10 to 15 years	46	17
Above 15 years	52	39
Total: (distribution by region^)	272 (Hong Kong: 64 Kowloon: 75 New Territories: 124 FASA: 9☆)	146 (Hong Kong: 58 Kowloon: 26 New Territories: 50 FASA: 12☆)

@ The serviceable life of frontline fire appliances and other supporting appliances ranges from 10 to 15 years and from 5 to 15 years respectively.

* Frontline fire appliances generally include Hydraulic Platform, Major Pump, Major/Light Rescue Unit, Turntable Ladder/Aerial Ladder Platform/Snorkel, and airport rescue and firefighting vehicles.

Other supporting fire appliances include Foam Tender, Hose Layer, HazMat Tender, Lighting Tender, Mobile Command Unit, Rescue Tender, etc.

^ There are 26 fire stations in the Hong Kong region, 21 in Kowloon and 35 in the New Territories.

☆ The fire appliances at the FASA are mainly used for training purposes and by members of the specialised teams stationed at the FASA.

In 2019-20, the FSD will replace the following fire appliances:

Type of fire appliances	Number of appliances	Estimated project cost (\$million)	Estimated expenditure in 2019-20 (\$million)
Crash Fire Tender R22	1	10.5	1.05
Crash Fire Tender R42	1	10.5	1.05
Fire Motorcycle	3	1.64	1.09

A breakdown of the numbers of ambulance vehicles in the FSD by age and regional distribution in Hong Kong, Kowloon, the New Territories and the FASA as at 1 March 2019 is tabulated as follows:

Age of ambulance vehicles@	Number of ambulance vehicles	
	Frontline ambulances*	Other supporting vehicles#
Less than 3 years	154	39
3 to 5 years	95	26
5 to 7 years	112	1
Above 7 years	9☆	0
Total: (distribution by region^)	370 (Hong Kong: 66 Kowloon: 125 New Territories: 177 FASA: 2 ⁺)	66 (Hong Kong: 14 Kowloon: 26 New Territories: 25 FASA: 1 ⁺)

@ The serviceable life of frontline ambulances and other supporting vehicles ranges from 6 to 7 years and from 5 to 12 years respectively.

* Frontline ambulances include Town Ambulance, Light Ambulance, Cross Country Ambulance and Village Ambulance.

Other supporting vehicles include Emergency Medical Assistant Motorcycle, Mobile Casualty Treatment Centre, Paramedic Equipment Tender, Rapid Response Vehicle and Hospital Transfer Ambulance.

^ There are 7 ambulance depots in the Hong Kong region, 14 in Kowloon and 19 in the New Territories.

☆ The 9 frontline ambulances will be replaced in 2019.

+ The ambulance vehicles at the FASA are mainly used for training purposes.

In 2019-20, the FSD will replace the following ambulance vehicles:

Type of ambulance vehicles	Number of ambulance vehicles	Estimated project cost (\$million)	Estimated expenditure in 2019-20 (\$million)
Town Ambulance	50	91.8	61.2
Emergency Medical Assistant Motorcycle	5	1.42	0.94

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB461

(Question Serial No. 4478)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Ambulance Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Please provide the following information about the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20:

1. The details of the implementation of a community education programme to provide training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) to the public in each of the past 3 years, and the manpower and expenditure involved.
2. The manpower and expenditure involved in promoting CPR and the use of automated external defibrillator (AED) in each of the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 117)

Reply:

- 1.&2. The details of the training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of automated external defibrillator (AED) provided by the Fire Services Department (FSD) to the public in the past 3 years are as follows:

Training	Target group	No. of hours	Content of training
Community CPR Training Course	Members of the public	2	CPR basics and an introduction to the use of AED, with a practice session on CPR.
CPR Training Programme in Campus (Launched in April 2017)	Teachers and students from tertiary institutions and secondary schools	2	

Educational lecture on CPR and AED (Launched in June 2017)	Members of the public, government departments, public bodies and large-scale organisations, etc.	2	A talk on CPR and the use and application procedures of AED, with an experience session for interested participants to try performing CPR.
“Press to shock– Save a life” AED Course (Launched in August 2017)		4	CPR and the use, application procedures and points-to-note of AED. The course is conducted in groups and in the form of CPR and AED scenario practices to allow every participant to go through the entire process of handling sudden cardiac arrest cases.

The aforesaid activities were undertaken by the Community Relations Unit (CRU) of the Ambulance Command of the FSD until the end of September 2018. The expenditure on remuneration and activities in the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Manpower involved	Expenditure on remuneration and activities
2016-17	8 staff from the CRU of the Ambulance Command	About \$2.72 million
2017-18	10 staff from the CRU of the Ambulance Command	About \$3.19 million
2018-19 (April to September)*	16 staff from the CRU of the Ambulance Command	About \$3.04 million

* The FSD established the Community Emergency Preparedness Division (CEPD) on 2 October 2018 to promote ways and skills in community emergency preparedness through educational and promotional activities, with a view to further enhancing public awareness of emergency preparedness in a holistic manner, strengthening the public’s response capability in the event of emergencies or contingencies and imparting knowledge to the public on extinguishment and prevention of fire, self-help and helping others as well as escape and evacuation.

Regarding the community education programme on CPR and the use of AED, the FSD will continue to reach out to different age cohorts and community groups through various platforms (such as social media, training courses, advertisements, etc.) and keep up its efforts to organise the aforesaid training activities. The CEPD will also adopt various promotional strategies to publicise the message that “Anyone Can Save Lives” and “Dare to Do, Save a Life”, in a bid to educate more members of the public on CPR and the use of AED.

The manpower of the CRU of the Ambulance Command has been absorbed into the CEPD subsequent to its establishment. The estimated number of staff in CEPD for 2019-20 is 82 while the expenditure on their remuneration and on the various initiatives is about \$50 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB450

(Question Serial No. 4802)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Ambulance Service
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Will the Department set out how the community education programme for members of the public on cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of defibrillators will be implemented? Please list the target groups, projected numbers of participants and costs of various initiatives under the programme.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wing-hang, Dennis (LegCo internal reference no.: 97)

Reply:

The Fire Services Department (FSD) established the Community Emergency Preparedness Division (CEPD) on 2 October 2018 to promote ways and skills in community emergency preparedness through educational and promotional activities, with a view to further enhancing public awareness of emergency preparedness in a holistic manner, strengthening the public's response capability in the event of emergencies or contingencies and imparting knowledge to the public on extinguishment and prevention of fire, self-help and helping others as well as escape and evacuation.

Regarding the community education programme on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of automated external defibrillator (AED), the FSD will continue to reach out to different age and community groups through various platforms (such as social media, training courses, advertisements, etc.) and keep up its efforts to organise, among others, the Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Training Programme in Campus, the "Press to shock – Save a life" Automated External Defibrillator Course and the Community Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Training Course.

The CEPD adopts various promotional strategies to publicise the message that "Anyone Can Save Lives" and "Dare to Do, Save a Life", in a bid to educate more members of the public on CPR and the use of AED. Callers for emergency ambulance services are encouraged to follow FSD's post-dispatch advice and provide timely first aid to patients before the arrival of ambulance crew at scene.

The CEPD comprises civil servants and non-civil service contract staff. The estimated number of staff in CEPD for 2019-20 is 82 while the expenditure on their remuneration and on the various initiatives is about \$50 million. The FSD does not keep a separate breakdown of the manpower and expenditure involved in the promotion of CPR and the use of AED.

The major courses/training programmes on CPR and the use of AED offered by the FSD in 2019-20, and their target groups and projected numbers of participants are tabulated below:

Course/Training Programme	Target Group	Projected Number of Participants
Community Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Training Course	Members of the public	600
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Training Programme in Campus	Teachers and students from tertiary institutions and secondary schools	4 000
Educational Lectures on CPR and AED	Members of the public, government departments, public bodies and large-scale organisations, etc.	1 000
“Press to shock – Save a life” Automated External Defibrillator Course		8 000

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB451

(Question Serial No. 4803)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Fire Protection and Prevention

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

1. Please list the numbers of fire safety inspections conducted in commercial premises and composite buildings in the 18 District Council districts across the territory.
2. Please list the numbers of Fire Safety Directions issued to composite buildings in the 18 District Council districts across the territory.
3. Please list the numbers of Fire Safety Directions that have been complied with/discharged among those issued to composite buildings in the 18 District Council districts across the territory.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wing-hang, Dennis (LegCo internal reference no.: 96)

Reply:

1. The numbers of inspections of prescribed commercial premises, specified commercial buildings and composite buildings in enforcing the Fire Safety (Commercial Premises) Ordinance (Cap. 502) and the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance (Cap. 572) conducted by the Fire Services Department (FSD) in the past 5 years are tabulated below:

Premises/Buildings	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Prescribed commercial premises and specified commercial buildings*	11 705	6 409	4 357	6 526	3 912
Composite buildings^	36 249	54 294	53 652	62 252	61 091
Total	47 954	60 703	58 009	68 778	65 003

* The prescribed commercial premises and specified commercial buildings under the Fire Safety (Commercial Premises) Ordinance (Cap. 502).

^ The composite buildings under the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance (Cap. 572).

The FSD does not maintain the statistics on the above inspections by District Council district.

2. Since the implementation of the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance and up to end February 2019, the FSD has issued a total of 175 112 Fire Safety Directions (FS Directions) to the owners and occupiers of 7 302 composite buildings. A breakdown of the number of buildings issued with FS Directions by District Council district is tabulated below:

District Council district	No. of buildings issued with FS Directions
Central and Western	821
Wan Chai	669
Eastern	521
Southern	173
Yau Tsim Mong	1 544
Sham Shui Po	1 027
Kowloon City	860
Wong Tai Sin	220
Kwun Tong	183
Tsuen Wan	264
Tuen Mun	59
Yuen Long	312
North	263
Tai Po	188
Sai Kung	12
Sha Tin	55
Islands	42
Kwai Tsing	89
Total	7 302

The FSD does not keep a breakdown of the number of FS Directions issued by District Council district.

3. Of the 175 112 FS Directions issued by the FSD, 63 636 have been complied with or discharged. The FSD does not keep a breakdown of the number of FS Directions complied with or discharged by District Council district.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB447

(Question Serial No. 4912)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

1. In the past three years, what were the total numbers of school group visits to, and outreaching activities to schools by, the Fire Services Department (FSD)? Please provide the information in the following table:

Year	Number of school group visits to the FSD				Number of outreaching activities to schools			
	Kindergarten	Primary school	Secondary school	Special school	Kindergarten	Primary school	Secondary school	Special school
2018								
2017								
2016								

2. In each of the past three years, how many requests for school group visits were received by the FSD in total? What were the common reasons for a request by school to be rejected, if any?
3. In each of the past three years, how many requests for outreaching activities to schools were received by the FSD in total? What were the common reasons for a request by school to be rejected, if any?

Asked by: Hon IP Kin-yuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 166)

Reply:

The Fire Services Department (FSD) welcomes persons aged 6 or above to visit fire stations or ambulance depots. Requests for visits to fire stations or ambulance depots will be processed and student visitors will be received, provided that the FSD's emergency services will not be affected. The FSD does not maintain separate statistics on the numbers of student visits to fire stations or ambulance depots.

Regarding outreaching activities to schools, the numbers of such requests received by the FSD in the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of requests for outreaching activities to schools
2018	5 614
2017	4 759
2016	3 797

In general, the FSD will not reject any requests for outreaching activities to schools. However, the number of such activities that can actually be carried out is subject to the availability of resources. The numbers of outreaching activities to school arranged by FSD for the purposes of promoting fire safety and the proper use of ambulance service as well as providing training courses on cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automated external defibrillators, etc. are tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of outreaching activities to schools			
	Kindergarten	Primary school	Secondary school	Special school
2018	5 447	58	103	6
2017	4 606	68	82	3
2016	3 718	55	20	4

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB445

(Question Serial No. 4974)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Fire Service
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding the protection of life and property in case of calamities, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

1. The number of turnout in response to the impacts of typhoon Mangkhut in September 2018 and the expenditure involved.
2. The estimated number of turnout in response to the increasing number of calamities caused by extreme weather, and the manpower and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

1. During the passage of Super Typhoon Mangkhut (which refers to the period from the issue of Strong Wind Signal No.3 on 15 September 2018 to the issue of Standby Signal No.1 on 17 September 2018 by the Hong Kong Observatory), the Fire Services Department (FSD) had handled a total of 587 fire calls, 1 241 special service calls and 3 768 emergency ambulance calls. During the aforesaid period, apart from a total of some 2 300 frontline personnel (about 1 400 Fire Stream staff and 900 Ambulance Stream staff) who were on normal shift duties, some 150 personnel (including members of the Tactical Support Unit, the High Angle Rescue Team, the Mountain Search and Rescue Team, the Urban Search and Rescue Team and the Special Support Unit of the Ambulance Stream, etc.) were specially deployed every day to deal with the emergencies caused by Mangkhut. As all the emergency calls received during the passage of Mangkhut were handled by personnel deployed from various operation units and the aforesaid teams of the FSD, no additional expenditure was involved.
2. To cope with the possibility of a more frequent occurrence of extreme weather (such as super typhoons or chilling weather etc.) in Hong Kong in future, the FSD has

formed the Review Committee on Strategies for Rescue Operations for Extreme Weather to review the adequacy of the relevant training, tools and equipment to meet the operational needs arising from the possible increase in the frequency or severity of incidents caused by extreme weather. If, after review, it is considered necessary to increase the manpower and/or expenditure to deal with the growing number of disasters caused by extreme weather, the FSD will seek additional resources according to the established procedures to tie in with the overall rescue strategy.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB442

(Question Serial No. 6010)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (-) Not specified
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

In respect of the work on the Code on Access to Information (the Code), would the Government advise this Committee of the following:

- For requests for information made under the Code and met in part by the Fire Services Department (FSD), please set out in table form (i) the information requested, (ii) the reasons for meeting the requests in part, and (iii) the approach adopted to handle the requests.

Year

(i) Information requested for requests met in part	(ii) Reasons for meeting the requests in part	(iii) Approach adopted to handle the requests

- For requests for information made under the Code and refused by the FSD, please set out in table form (i) the information requested, (ii) the reasons for refusing the requests, and (iii) the approach to handle the requests.

Year

(i) Information requested for refused requests	(ii) Reasons for refusing the requests	(iii) Approach adopted to handle the requests

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 196)

Reply:

Of the requests for information made under the Code on Access to Information received by the Fire Services Department (FSD) from January to September 2018, only one was refused by the FSD to disclose the information requested.

In the aforementioned case, the FSD refused to provide the applicant with the Fire Hazard Abatement Notice issued to a building on the grounds that the requested information involved third party information under paragraph 2.14 of the Code on Access to Information.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB443

(Question Serial No. 6056)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Ambulance Service
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of last year's expenditure on the implementation of the community education programme on cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automated external defibrillator by the Fire Services Department and the estimated expenditure of the programme for 2019-20. Please also provide an assessment of the effectiveness of the programme.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 300)

Reply:

The Fire Services Department (FSD) established the Community Emergency Preparedness Division (CEPD) on 2 October 2018 to promote ways and skills in community emergency preparedness through educational and promotional activities, with a view to further enhancing public awareness of emergency preparedness in a holistic manner, strengthening the public's response capability in the event of emergencies or contingencies and imparting knowledge to the public on extinguishment and prevention of fire, self-help and helping others as well as escape and evacuation.

Prior to the establishment of the CEPD, the Community Relations Unit (CRU) of the Ambulance Command was responsible for the implementation of the community education programme on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of automated external defibrillator (AED) as well as the promotion and publicity of emergency ambulance services. The expenditure on remuneration and activities for 2018-19 (as at the end of September 2018) is about \$3.04 million.

The manpower of the CRU of the Ambulance Command has been absorbed into the CEPD subsequent to its establishment. The estimated number of staff in CEPD for 2019-20 is 82 while the expenditure on their remuneration and on the various initiatives is about \$50 million.

As regards the effectiveness of the programme, in addition to the Community CPR Training Course which is already available, the FSD has launched various training programmes on CPR and the use of AED since 2017, including the CPR Training Programme in Campus, the educational lectures on CPR and AED, and the “Press to shock–Save a life” AED Course, with a growing number of participants. The numbers of educational courses on CPR and the use of AED and the number of persons trained in the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

	Number of courses (Number of persons trained)		
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (As at 28 February 2019)
Community CPR Training Course	41 (678)	34 (582)	19 (307)
CPR Training Programme in Campus	Not applicable#	75 (4 197)	94 (4 643)
Educational lectures on CPR and AED	Not applicable*	39 (2 733)	105 (5 282)
“Press to shock–Save a life” AED Course	Not applicable@	50 (1 040)	286 (6 628)

The Programme was launched in April 2017.

* The lectures were launched in June 2017.

@ The Course was launched in August 2017.

Besides, the CEPD’s strategies for promoting CPR and the use of AED (including using the iconic character “Anyone” to publicise the message that “Anyone Can Save Lives”) have successfully attracted more public attention to emergency preparedness.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB444

(Question Serial No. 6195)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (603) Plant, vehicles and equipment
Programme: (-) Not specified
Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

What are the estimated expenditures and work plans in respect of the new items “one replacement crash fire tender”, “one replacement crash fire tender”, “acquisition of a high reach extendable turret for the Airside Fire Station (West Support Area) for Three-Runway System” and “acquisition of two rapid intervention vehicles for the Airside Fire Station (West Support Area) for Three-Runway System” in the next financial year? Why is the funding for the above items sought from the Legislative Council (LegCo) in the context of the Appropriation Bill 2019, rather than being sought separately from the Finance Committee of the LegCo?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 3013)

Reply:

To handle aircraft incidents or other possible incidents at the airport and to support the operation of the Three-Runway System (3RS) at the Hong Kong International Airport, the Fire Services Department proposes to replace and procure the following appliances:

New items in 2019-20	Approved commitment (\$)	Estimated expenditure for 2019-20 (\$)
1 replacement Crash Fire Tender R22	10,496,000	1,050,000
1 replacement Crash Fire Tender R42	10,496,000	1,050,000
Acquisition of 1 High Reach Extendable Turret for the Airside Fire Station (West Support Area) for 3RS	12,775,000	852,000
Acquisition of 2 Rapid Intervention Vehicles for the Airside Fire Station (West Support Area) for	20,892,000	1,393,000

It is not a new arrangement to include in the draft Estimates funding proposals for creating commitments or increasing expenditure ceilings of approved commitment items under the General Revenue Account for scrutiny and approval by the Legislative Council in the context of the Appropriation Bill. The Government explained the relevant arrangements to the Finance Committee in early 2015. We have also included the necessary provision for this proposal under the respective head and sub-head of expenditure, as well as provided appropriate information in the Controlling Officer's Report for Members' consideration.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB448

(Question Serial No. 6478)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

What are the details of the training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation for members of the public under the community education programme by the 18 districts over the territory in the past 3 years? What were the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 457)

Reply:

The details of the training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of automated external defibrillator (AED) provided by the Fire Services Department (FSD) to the public in the past 3 years are as follows:

Training	Target group	No. of hours	Content of training
Community CPR Training Course	Members of the public	2	CPR basics and an introduction to the use of AED, with a practice session on CPR.
CPR Training Programme in Campus (Launched in April 2017)	Teachers and students from tertiary institutions and secondary schools	2	
Educational lectures on CPR and AED (Launched in June 2017)	Members of the public, government departments, public bodies and large-scale organisations, etc.	2	A talk on CPR and the use and application procedures of AED, with an experience session for interested participants to try performing CPR.
“Press to shock–Save a life” AED Course (Launched in August 2017)		4	CPR and the use, application procedures and points-to-note of

			AED. The course is conducted in groups and in the form of CPR and AED scenario practices, so as to allow every participant to go through the entire process of handling sudden cardiac arrest cases.
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The FSD does not maintain separate statistics on the aforesaid training activities by the 18 districts in the territory.

The aforesaid activities were undertaken by the Community Relations Unit (CRU) of the Ambulance Command of the FSD until the end of September 2018. The expenditure on remuneration and activities in the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Manpower involved	Expenditure on remuneration and activities
2016-17	8 staff from the CRU of the Ambulance Command	About \$2.72 million
2017-18	10 staff from the CRU of the Ambulance Command	About \$3.19 million
2018-19 (April to September)*	16 staff from the CRU of the Ambulance Command	About \$3.04 million

* The FSD established the Community Emergency Preparedness Division (CEPD) on 2 October 2018 to promote ways and skills in community emergency preparedness through educational and promotional activities, with a view to further enhancing public awareness of emergency preparedness in a holistic manner, strengthening the public's response capability in the event of emergencies or contingencies and imparting knowledge to the public on extinguishment and prevention of fire, self-help and helping others as well as escape and evacuation.

Regarding the community education programme on CPR and the use of AED, the FSD will continue to reach out to different age cohorts and community groups through various platforms (such as social media, training courses, advertisements, etc.) and keep up its efforts to organise the aforesaid training activities. The CEPD will also adopt various promotional strategies to publicise the message that "Anyone Can Save Lives" and "Dare to Do, Save a Life", in a bid to educate more members of the public on CPR and the use of AED.

The manpower of the CRU of the Ambulance Command has been absorbed into the CEPD subsequent to its establishment. The estimated number of staff in CEPD for 2019-20 is 82 while the expenditure on their remuneration and on the various initiatives is about \$50 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB449

(Question Serial No. 6491)

Head: (45) Fire Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services (LI Kin-yat)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Please specify the numbers and details of any visits to various District Councils (DCs) made and any district activities attended by the Director of Fire Services in the past 2 years.

District	DC Meetings Attended	District Visits Made	Community Activities Attended	Government Activities Attended
Central and Western	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Eastern	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Southern	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Wan Chai	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Kowloon City	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Kwun Tong	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Sham Shui Po	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Yau Tsim Mong	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Wong Tai Sin	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Islands	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Kwai Tsing	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:

District	DC Meetings Attended	District Visits Made	Community Activities Attended	Government Activities Attended
North	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Sai Kung	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Sha Tin	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Tai Po	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Tsuen Wan	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Tuen Mun	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Yuen Long	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 471)

Reply:

From time to time, the Director of Fire Services (DFS) conducts visits to various District Councils (DCs) or meets with DC members visiting the Fire and Ambulance Services Academy (FASA) to brief them on the latest information and development of the Fire Services Department (FSD) and to exchange views on such matters as fire and emergency ambulance services, promotion and public education on fire prevention in the relevant districts. The dates of meeting and the DCs involved in the past 2 years are tabulated as follows:

District Council	Date of Meeting
The DFS' visit to Central and Western DC	16 March 2017
Yau Tsim Mong DC's visit to FASA	4 May 2017
Southern DC's visit to FASA	14 June 2017
The DFS' visit to Tai Po DC	7 September 2017
Sai Kung DC's visit to FASA	20 November 2017
Kwun Tong DC's visit to FASA	18 April 2018
Sha Tin DC's visit to FASA	23 May 2018
Kowloon City DC's visit to FASA	12 June 2018
Tsuen Wan DC's visit to FASA	9 October 2018
Tuen Mun DC's visit to FASA	14 November 2018
Islands DC's visit to FASA	22 November 2018

Besides, the DFS also attends district activities from time to time to foster relationship with members of the local community, so as to better understand residents' views on the fire and emergency ambulance services of the respective districts. Nonetheless, the FSD does not

maintain separate statistics on the visits made or the aforesaid activities attended by the DFS.

- End -