The Government of the

Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Security Bureau

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(Translation)

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18 December 2014

Miss Betty MA Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central, Hong Kong

Dear Miss Ma,

Legislative Council Panel on Security Latest developments in the provision of rehabilitative services by the **Correctional Services Department**

The Panel on Security discussed at its meeting on 4 November 2014 the latest developments in the provision of rehabilitative services to persons in custody by the Correctional Services Department (CSD). This letter aims to provide the supplementary information requested by the Members.

CSD has all along been committed to providing a safe and humane environment and suitable rehabilitative services for persons in custody, which will facilitate their smooth re-integration into society after having served their sentences. The rehabilitative services offered by the Department include industries and vocational training, employment support and education, etc. In 2014-15, CSD's estimated expenditure for facilitating persons in custody to re-integrate into society is around \$900 million, which accounts for approximately 27% of CSD's total estimated expenditure.

Persons in custody who have completed vocational training and have been released upon completion of their sentences may choose to receive employment follow-up services provided by the respective training institutions for a period of six months on a voluntary basis. According to the information provided by the respective training institutions, the latter successfully contacted around 1 800 aforementioned rehabilitated persons for the provision of employment follow-up services in the past five years, and about 83% of them managed to secure a job within six months after release. Nonetheless, CSD does not have the data of all rehabilitated persons who have remained in employment after release, as persons in custody are free to choose whether to receive the follow-up services provided by training institutions and most of the persons in custody are not subject to statutory supervision after release.

According to the records in the past five years, the percentage of persons in custody who were admitted to penal institutions for the first time is around 57% and, on average, about 8 000 local adult persons in custody were released each year.

CSD will continue to actively review and enhance the various types of rehabilitative services and programmes in light of social changes and needs, and promote rehabilitation work to the community.

Yours sincerely,

signed
(Miss Heidi IP)
for Secretary for Security

c.c. CCS (Attn. Mr WOO Ying-ming)