

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)1751/17-18(04)

Ref : CB2/PL/SE

Panel on Security

**Information note prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat
for the meeting on 10 July 2018**

**Police's handling of explosive objects and matters
requiring public attention**

The handling of explosive objects by the Police per se has not been discussed by the Panel on Security ("the Panel"). According to the Administration, the Police's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Bureau ("EODB"), established in 1972, is responsible for dealing with all unexploded ordnances in Hong Kong. It also supports the Police and other government departments in anti-terrorism actions relating to explosives.

2. In the context of discussing the subject "Preventing and tackling terrorist activities" at the Panel meeting on 6 June 2017, members noted with concern that when a bomb-like object was identified near Ocean Terminal in May 2017, many people were standing and watching outside the police cordon line, without awareness of the safety risks involved. Members considered that the Administration should provide the public with more information on the precautions when encountering similar incidents. Members were advised that the Security Bureau ("SB") had produced illustrated booklets teaching the public how to handle suspicious or emergency incidents, for example, ways to handle suspicious objects, suspected bombs and postal items containing suspicious powders/substances. Members may wish to note that the relevant information has been uploaded onto website of SB ([http://www.sb.gov.hk/eng/emergency/advice/Aide-Memoire%20of%20Suspicious%20Objects%20and%20Bombs%20\(Revised%20in%20July%202017\).pdf](http://www.sb.gov.hk/eng/emergency/advice/Aide-Memoire%20of%20Suspicious%20Objects%20and%20Bombs%20(Revised%20in%20July%202017).pdf)). The Police have also issued guidelines on the handling of bomb threats and searching in a booklet on "General Security of Premises and Personnel", which is available at: https://www.police.gov.hk/ppp_en/04_crime_matters/cpa/cpa_gsp.html.

3. According to the Administration, the Police would continue to instill among the public safety knowledge and anti-crime awareness through various social media, thereby enhancing their alertness and responsiveness to major dangerous incidents.

4. The Panel will discuss the Police's handling of explosive objects and matters requiring public attention at the meeting on 10 July 2018.

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4 July 2018