

For Information

**Legislative Council Panel on Public Service**

**The Government's Response to the Issues  
Raised by the Panel at the Meeting on 18 March 2019**

At the meeting of the Panel on Public Service held on 18 March 2019, the Government was requested to provide a breakdown of the number of unapproved applications under the final extension of service of serving civil servants beyond retirement age by bureaux/departments (B/Ds), including the information of the ranks of the staff involved and the reasons for rejection.

**The Government's Response**

2. The revised arrangements for processing applications for final extension of service, including raising the maximum period from 90 days to 120 days and suitably relaxing the approval criteria, have taken effect since 25 February 2016. As at 24 February 2019, i.e. three years after implementation of the revised arrangements, 8 725 applications were received by B/Ds, involving about 250 grades (i.e. a majority of civil service grades) and nearly 500 ranks. Among them, 8 179 applications (94%) had been processed. Out of the processed applications, 6 318 applications were approved (approval rate of 77%) and the remaining 1 861 applications (23%) were rejected. A breakdown of the number by B/Ds is set out at Annex.

3. In considering an application, approval criteria include satisfactory performance, conduct and physical fitness of the officer concerned, and no undue promotion blockage. There should also be genuine and operational needs, need to retain valuable experience/expertise or to facilitate succession planning. The authority to approve or reject these applications has been delegated to Heads of Department/Heads of Grade. They will assess the applications in accordance with the relevant criteria and guidelines. The Civil Service Bureau has not collected any information on the reasons for rejection of individual applications.

Civil Service Bureau  
April 2019

**Applications for Final Extension of Service**

<b>Bureau / Department / Office</b>	<b>Number of Applications (25 February 2016 – 24 February 2019)</b>		
	<b>Received</b>	<b>Processed</b>	
		<b>Approved</b>	<b>Rejected</b>
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	131	121	4
Architectural Services Department	37	6	31
Audit Commission	4	3	1
Auxiliary Medical Service	3	2	1
Buildings Department	73	72	0
Census and Statistics Department	18	4	12
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office and Financial Secretary's Office	1	0	1
Civil Aid Service	6	4	2
Civil Aviation Department	10	7	2
Civil Engineering and Development Department	154	127	14
Civil Service Bureau	1 124	978	27
Commerce and Economic Development Bureau	2	2	0
Companies Registry	2	2	0
Correctional Services Department	124	42	82
Customs and Excise Department	281	125	130
Department of Health	186	154	15
Department of Justice	11	11	0
Development Bureau	9	8	0
Drainage Services Department	58	47	7

Bureau / Department / Office	Number of Applications (25 February 2016 – 24 February 2019)		
	Received	Processed	
		Approved	Rejected
Education Bureau	139	110	12
Efficiency Office	4	2	0
Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	59	2	55
Environmental Protection Department	75	57	14
Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau	1	1	0
Fire Services Department	493	431	42
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	1 003	618	301
Government Flying Service	17	17	0
Government Laboratory	6	5	1
Government Logistics Department	300	220	74
Highways Department	120	89	20
Home Affairs Department	14	12	0
Hong Kong Monetary Authority	2	2	0
Hong Kong Observatory	5	5	0
Hong Kong Police Force	1 657	1 164	487
Hongkong Post	307	223	60
Housing Department	519	441	30
Immigration Department	408	322	33
Information Services Department	6	6	0
Inland Revenue Department	24	20	4
Innovation and Technology Commission	5	5	0
Invest Hong Kong	1	1	0

Bureau / Department / Office	Number of Applications (25 February 2016 – 24 February 2019)		
	Received	Processed	
		Approved	Rejected
Judiciary	33	33	0
Labour Department	10	2	6
Land Registry	3	1	2
Lands Department	174	110	38
Legal Aid Department	7	6	1
Leisure and Cultural Services Department	436	291	123
Marine Department	108	79	23
Office of the Communications Authority	3	1	2
Office of the Government Chief Information Officer	31	20	7
Planning Department	14	9	5
Radio Television Hong Kong	3	3	0
Rating and Valuation Department	12	4	7
Security Bureau	1	1	0
Social Welfare Department	113	43	65
Transport and Housing Bureau	1	1	0
Transport Department	11	1	10
Treasury	19	19	0
Water Supplies Department	347	226	110
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 725</b>	<b>6 318</b>	<b>1 861</b>