Follow-up to LegCo Manpower Panel meeting on 2 November 2001
Information Technology (IT) Assistant Courses

Purpose

This paper presents the basis for determining the number of training places in the IT Assistant Courses and the job vacancies recorded by the Labour Department in respect of IT vacancies as requested by the Manpower Panel.

Administration's response

2. The pilot ITAT course was run by the Vocational Training Council from February to May in 2000. There was an encouraging response as over 3,200 applicants competed for the 300 places offered. With the growth potential of the IT industry, we foresaw a need to train additional qualified IT assistants. The expansion of the training capacity to 1,000 for each of the following two years (2000/01 and 2001/02) took into consideration the demand for IT training as reflected by the number of applications for the pilot course. We will monitor the demand for training places under the programme.

3. The number of vacancies for IT posts registered with the Labour Department from January to October 2001 was 2 583. The breakdown by job title is as follows:

Job Title	No. of vacancies
Technician (Computer)	1 021
Engineer (Computer)	381
Programme / System Analyst	332
Network / System Administrator / Engineer	205
Web Page Designer / Programmer	175
Computer Operator	159
IT Assistant	129
Computer Graphic Designer	100
Project Officer / Assistant / Helper	41
IT Trainee	28
Electronic Data Processing Clerk	8
Web Administrator	4
Total	**2 583**

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