

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

SB160

Question Serial No.

1587

Head: 122 - Hong Kong Police Force

Subhead (No. &
title):

Programme: 12202 - Prevention and Detection of Crime

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Police

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Has the Administration deployed any additional resources in 2008-2009 to prevent criminal damage to the publicity boards of and intimidation against political figures? If so, what are the details of the specific work and the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

The Police are committed to maintaining law and order in the community and protecting the personal safety of all members of the public (including politically exposed persons). The Police also attach great importance to cases concerning criminal damage to the publicity boards of "political figures" and offences of intimidation against "political figures". The Police will not tolerate any act of illegal damage or intimidation committed by any person against others. Generally speaking, the Police will designate an experienced investigation team to follow up such criminal intimidation cases so as to adopt more effective measures to detect the crime.

As regards the prevention work, the Police constantly remind patrol officers to pay special attention to such offences. They will take immediate actions to inhibit any intentional damage or intimidation and effect arrests. If there is evidence indicating that the personal safety of the person being intimidated is being threatened and the situation is appropriate, the Police will provide suitable protection to safeguard his/her personal safety.

To prepare for the 2008 Legislative Council Election, the Police have specifically set up a "Force Working Group On Electioneering Activities" to conduct studies on the handling of matters related to elections and review the measures in response to election complaints.

As this area of work falls under the overall Programme of "Prevention and Detection of Crime", the Police Force do not maintain a breakdown of its expenditure. The Police will allocate appropriate resources to prevent and detect such cases according to the actual situation.

Signature _____

Name in block letters TANG KING SHING

Post Title Commissioner of Police

Date 27 March 2008