

**立法會**  
***Legislative Council***

LC Paper No. CB(2)164/11-12(08)

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**Panel on Security**

**Background brief prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat  
for the meeting on 1 November 2011**

**Creation of a permanent Administrative Officer Staff Grade C Post  
in the Narcotics Division**

**Purpose**

This paper provides background information relating to the creation of a permanent Administrative Officer Staff Grade C ("AOSGC") Post in the Narcotics Division ("ND") of the Security Bureau ("SB") and summarizes the discussions of the Legislative Council on the subject.

**Background**

2. Before 2008, there was only one permanent directorate post, i.e. the Commissioner for Narcotics ("C for N") responsible for the anti-drug policy portfolio. In view of the urgent need to reinvigorate the Administration's anti-drug efforts and enhance coordination of work among various bureaux/departments, non-government organizations ("NGOs") and stakeholders in the community for a proper response, the Administration resorted to an ad hoc and special arrangement since September 2007 to provide the necessary directorate support for C for N. A supernumerary AOSGC post was created under delegated authority from 3 September 2007 to 2 March 2008 to assist C for N in formulating and launching new initiatives and measures to strengthen the anti-drug policy and strategy. After then, the necessary directorate support was provided through the redeployment of existing manpower resources within the Government.

3. Having reviewed the efficacy of the ad hoc arrangements, the Administration concluded that they were not viable in the long term. The Task Force on Youth Drug Abuse ("the Task Force") considered that combating the

drug problem was not a short-term or time-limited exercise. The drug problem was considered a manifestation of more fundamental problems in society, such as problems of adolescent growth, family, and schooling among the young people, and problems of employment, drugs and crime more generally. The level of responsibility, experience and political awareness required exceeded the level normally expected of non-directorate officers. The Task Force recommended the creation of a permanent AOSGC post in ND to underpin C for N, in order to provide directorate support to combat the drug problem, and, in particular, to take forward the recommendations of the Task Force.

### **Deliberations of the Panel on Security and the Establishment Subcommittee of the Finance Committee**

4. The Panel on Security discussed the Administration's proposal to create a permanent post of AOSGC in ND of SB at its meeting on 2 December 2008.

5. Queries were raised over the need for creating a permanent post of AOSGC in ND. Members noted that the incumbent would, apart from taking up anti-drug work, be responsible for anti-money laundering ("AML") and counter-financing of terrorism ("CFT") matters. Members noted that the Administration had also proposed the creation of a supernumerary AOSGC post in the Financial Services Branch ("FSB") of the Financial Services and Treasury Bureau ("FSTB") to undertake the policy work in relation to the enhancement of the AML and CFT regime in Hong Kong for a period of 24 months commencing from January 2009. There were concerns about the possible overlapping of duties and responsibilities between the AOSGC post in ND and that in FSB.

6. According to the Administration -

- (a) as an ancillary to the anti-drug efforts, ND used to be charged with AML and CFT issues as well, which took up about 20% of C for N's resources in a normal year. Although the overall policy coordinating role had been transferred to FSTB in October 2008, the implementation of the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering's Recommendations in respect of the non-financial sectors, including lawyers, accountants, trust and company service providers, estate agents, dealers of precious stones and metals, and non-profit-making organizations, had remained with ND;

- (b) the responsibilities of ND in leading bureaux, departments and NGOs to develop strategies and resolve complex issues to deal with the drug abuse problem had been increasing. The Administration had critically examined whether the other existing directorate staff in SB had spare capacity to absorb the duties of the proposed post. As they were already fully committed to their existing workload, it was operationally not possible for them to take up the whole range of ND's duties without adversely affecting the discharge of their own schedule of duties; and
- (c) in view of the complexity of the issues, the sheer volume of work, and the high stakes involved, it was also not practicable for C for N to mobilize and coordinate effectively the efforts of various quarters in combating drugs without directorate support.

7. After considering the views of the Panel, the Administration subsequently revised its proposal to the creation of a supernumerary AOSGC post for a period of three years and submitted the proposal for consideration by the Establishment Subcommittee at its meeting on 14 January 2009.

8. Queries were raised over whether the creation of one directorate post in ND could bring about significant improvement to anti-drug work. There was a suggestion that the Administration should review the effectiveness of the work of the supernumerary AOSGC post after three years.

9. According to the Administration, it was not possible to resolve all the complicated issues involved in the problem of youth drug abuse with the creation of a directorate post in ND. However, the additional directorate support would help coordinate the efforts of relevant bureaux/departments, NGOs and the community to achieve the synergy effect of anti-drug initiatives. The work of the Task Force in 2008 had enhanced general understanding about anti-drug work in the community. It was opportune for ND to build on the support of the community to take forward and see through the various initiatives to tackle the drug abuse problem, and additional directorate support would be crucial for the work. The Administration would examine the effectiveness and continued need for the proposed post upon the end of the three year period.

10. As regards the evaluation of the continued need of the proposed AOSGC post after three years, concerns were raised as to whether performance indicators would be devised for assessing the effectiveness of ND's anti-drug work with the additional directorate support.

11. According to the Administration, the effectiveness of its anti-drug work could not be assessed merely by the reported number of cases of drug abuse. Although the overall reported number of cases had reduced in the past decade, young drug abusers had been increasing, and there were more and more "hidden" cases, which might be identified after the efforts on the anti-drug work were stepped up following the vigorous implementation of the Task Force's recommendations. In evaluating the effectiveness of the anti-drug work, reference would be made to a basket of indicators related to drug abuse in **Appendix I**.

12. The proposed creation of a supernumerary AOSGC post was approved by the Finance Committee at its meeting on 13 February 2009.

### **Relevant papers**

13. A list of the relevant papers on the Legislative Council website is in **Appendix II**.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
26 October 2011

## Appendix I

政府總部 禁毒處  
香港金鐘道六十六號  
金鐘道政府合署高座三十樓



**NARCOTICS DIVISION  
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT**  
QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES,  
HIGH BLOCK, 30TH FLOOR,  
66 QUEENSWAY,  
HONG KONG

本處檔號 Our Ref.: **NDA/5/1/(08)**

來函檔號 Your Ref.:

傳真機 Fax: (852)-2810 1790/2521 7761

電話 Telephone: **2867 2746**

10 February 2009

Clerk to Establishment Subcommittee  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road  
Central  
(Attn: Miss Alice Cheung)

Dear Miss Cheung,

**Establishment Subcommittee**

**Follow-up to meeting on 14 January 2009**

I refer to your letter dated 14 January 2009 to the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury on the above subject.

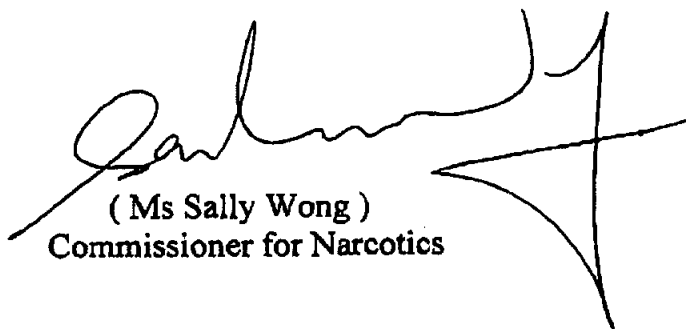
At the meeting of the Establishment Subcommittee on 14 January 2009, Members considered LC Paper No. EC(2008-09)14 and requested the Administration to provide information on performance indicators measuring the effectiveness of the anti-drug work and the implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force on Youth Drug Abuse (the Task Force), as a result of the creation of one supernumerary post of Administrative Officer Staff Grade C (D2) in the Narcotics Division of Security Bureau.

Youth drug abuse is a complex social issue that has implications on various fronts such as legal, healthcare, welfare and security. Suffice it to say that public policy work is not an exact science and the casual relationship between efforts put into an area and the results may not be established that readily. A host of relevant information has to be taken into account in assessing effectiveness. In this regard,

information on the general drug scene and the attainment of specific objectives we set for ourselves could be useful reference for assessing our anti-drug efforts.

We have therefore compiled a list of information at **Appendix** that may help assess the results of our anti-drug efforts to be led by the supernumerary directorate post in the next three years. As the Administration makes progress in implementing the Task Force recommendations, we may also provide more detailed information to the Panel on Security from time to time.

Yours sincerely,



( Ms Sally Wong )  
Commissioner for Narcotics

c.c. Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Attn: Mr Raistlin Lau)  
Secretary for the Civil Service (Attn: Mr Frankie Lui)

Internal

AA/S for S

PA/S for S

**Information on the specific objectives  
that are relevant in  
assessing the results of key anti-drug initiatives**

**Specific Objectives**

- Enhancement of a multi-disciplinary and integrated approach among schools, Counselling Centres for Psychotropic Substance Abusers, Substance Abuse Clinics and Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres to ensure a continuum of services and more effective service provision from identification, counselling, treatment to rehabilitation.
- Completion of a pilot scheme in selected magistracies by providing more focused, structured and intensive treatment programmes under close supervision of Probation Officers to enhance probation services for convicted drug offenders and evaluation of results to decide on the way forward.
- Conduct research and formulate a proposal on compulsory drug testing, with a view to conducting wide public consultation and, subject to public views, introduce a legislative proposal into the Legislative Council.
- Completion of a study on voluntary school-based drug testing and a pilot scheme, followed by a review and refinement of the scheme for general promotion in all schools.
- Completion of research to review the various methodologies for estimating the drug abusing population and, subject to its results, to apply any suitable method to Hong Kong to supplement the Central Registry of Drug Abuse (CRDA) and other statistics currently being collected.
- Completion of the two-year territory-wide campaign with the theme "No Drugs, No Regrets. Not Now, Not Ever" and assessment of results.
- Implementation of a Healthy School Policy with an anti-drug element in schools.

*Drug Scene*

- Trends of young drug abusers reported to the Central Registry of Drug Abuse (CRDA) (numbers, age, drugs abused, profile, etc).
- Trends of student drug abusers shown in the Student Surveys in 2008/09 and 2011/12 (numbers, age, drugs abused, profile, etc).
- Arrest figures in relation to drug offences and drug seizure figures.
- Admission figures of treatment and rehabilitation programmes.



**Relevant papers on the creation of  
a permanent Administrative Officer Staff Grade C Post  
in the Narcotics Division**

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>Paper</b>
Panel on Security	2.12.2008 (Item IV)	<u>Agenda</u> <u>Minutes</u>
Establishment Subcommittee of the Finance Committee	14.1.2009 (Item No. EC(2008-09)14)	<u>Agenda</u> <u>Minutes</u>
Finance Committee	13.2.2009 (Item No. FCR(2008-09)60)	<u>Agenda</u> <u>Minutes</u>