

Head 23 — AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICE

Controlling officer: the Chief Staff Officer of the Auxiliary Medical Service will account for expenditure under this Head.

Estimate 2019–20 **\$107.3m**

Establishment ceiling 2019–20 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 98 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2019 and as at 31 March 2020 **\$35.0m**

In addition, there will be an estimated one directorate post as at 31 March 2019 and as at 31 March 2020.

Controlling Officer's Report

Programme

Auxiliary Medical Service

This programme contributes to Policy Area 9: Internal Security (Secretary for Security).

Detail

	2017–18 (Actual)	2018–19 (Original)	2018–19 (Revised)	2019–20 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	94.3	100.8	103.7 (+2.9%)	107.3 (+3.5%)
				(or +6.4% on 2018–19 Original)

Aim

2 The aim is to augment the existing medical and health services for maintaining the health care and well-being of the territory, especially in times of emergency, having regard to internal security considerations.

Brief Description

3 The Auxiliary Medical Service (AMS) is responsible for providing volunteer medical services to assist the Department of Health, the Hospital Authority and the Fire Services Department during emergency situations, as well as supplementary volunteer medical services to government departments and outside agencies during peace time. It also provides paramedic training to disciplined services staff and other appropriate civil servants to enhance their operational efficiency and effectiveness.

4 In 2018–19, the Department continued to provide an effective volunteer medical service to complement the regular services of various government departments and outside agencies. During the year, the following services were provided to meet demands:

- non-emergency ambulance transfer service to clients referred by Department of Health clinics, Hospital Authority clinics, Social Welfare Department institutions and private hospitals;
- manning of first aid posts at public functions and country parks;
- certificate courses on paramedic training and short courses on first aid for civil servants;
- manning 19 methadone clinics for Department of Health, and providing clinical service to this category of patients;
- life-guard services for the Leisure and Cultural Services Department;
- training for the AMS volunteers in connection with various contingency plans related to internal security; and
- through AMS Cadet Corps which has 2 071 cadets as at 31 December 2018, providing youth aged between 12 and 17 specific training in discipline and skills, and an orientation towards civic duty.

Head 23 — AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICE

5 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target man-hour	2017 (Actual)	2018 (Actual)	2019 (Plan)
general regular training	240 000	202 805	199 415	240 000
recruit training	28 000 ^Ψ	26 040	24 949	28 000
centralised training	30 000 [§]	28 696	29 603	30 000
civil service training	152 000	165 307	159 108	152 000
supplementary services	243 000	262 682	239 159	243 000
non-emergency ambulance transfer service	63 000	62 051	53 312	63 000
cadet induction training	23 000	19 252	20 448 [#]	23 000
cadet general regular training	130 000	126 522	132 440	130 000
cadet centralised training	55 000	51 815	56 759	55 000
cadet exercise and visit	55 000	49 836	55 342	55 000

Ψ The target is adjusted from 31 600 to 28 000 man-hours from 2019 onwards in view of the decrease in the number of AMS new recruits.

§ The target is adjusted from 35 000 to 30 000 man-hours from 2019 onwards since AMS has reorganised the contents of centralised training programme by re-categorising and re-arranging part of the training courses.

The total number of new cadets recruited was 639.

Indicators

	2017 (Actual)	2018 (Actual)	2019 (Estimate)
emergency services			
no. of man-hours for emergency duties (serious traffic accidents, disastrous fires, typhoons, rainstorms and major epidemics)	8 866 ^μ	4 844 ^Ω	4 500
no. of occasions of call-outs/operations in emergency duties	2	9	10
members attending regular training	4 368	4 268	4 450
new members recruited	520 ^Φ	416 ^ε	420^ε
new cadets recruited	599	639	700^Δ
members attending centralised training	4 425	4 719	4 500
civil servants attending paramedic training			
first aid qualifying course	6 305	6 164	6 000
other certificate/short courses	1 765	2 347	1 800
supplementary services			
response to ambulance calls	1 091	585	1 100
coverage at public functions	2 498	2 567	2 400
cases treated on country park duty	3 409	2 752	3 600
response to non-emergency ambulance transfer requests	12 727	10 695	14 000

μ The figure included five typhoon manning operations in 2017.

Ω The figure included one typhoon manning operation in 2018.

Φ The figure included additional cadet supervisors recruited due to expansion of size of cadet corps.

ε A scheme to extend the retirement age of members was introduced in 2018.

Δ The figure includes 400 new recruits due to expansion of size of cadet corps and 300 replacements due to graduation and resignation.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019–20

6 During 2019–20, the Department will:

- enhance the volunteers' operational efficiency and emergency preparedness for infectious disease pandemic;
- provide paramedic training to cope with infectious disease prevention and control;
- continue to recruit members to the cadet corps with the ultimate goal of recruiting a force of 3 000 cadets; and
- provide decontamination training to AMS members on proper response to nuclear emergencies at various discharge points and contact points in remote areas as well as monitoring centres territory-wide.

Head 23 — AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICE

ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

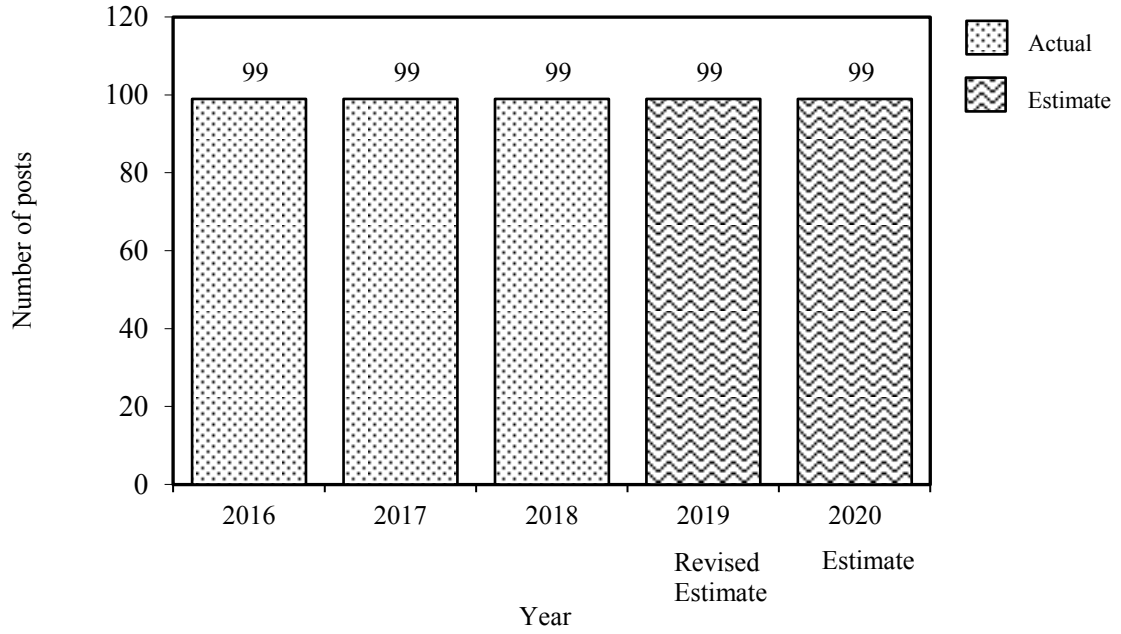
Programme	2017–18 (Actual) (\$m)	2018–19 (Original) (\$m)	2018–19 (Revised) (\$m)	2019–20 (Estimate) (\$m)
Auxiliary Medical Service	94.3	100.8	103.7 (+2.9%)	107.3 (+3.5%)
				(or +6.4% on 2018–19 Original)

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Provision for 2019–20 is \$3.6 million (3.5%) higher than the revised estimate for 2018–19. This is mainly due to additional provision for increased operating expenses as well as pay and allowances for the auxiliary services.

Head 23 — AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICE

*Changes in the size of the establishment
(as at 31 March)*



Head 23 — AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICE

Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2017-18	Approved estimate 2018-19	Revised estimate 2018-19	Estimate 2019-20
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Operating Account				
Recurrent				
000	Operational expenses	92,513	100,803	103,698
	Total, Recurrent.....	92,513	100,803	103,698
	Total, Operating Account	92,513	100,803	103,698
Capital Account				
Plant, Equipment and Works				
	Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote).....	1,740	—	—
	Total, Plant, Equipment and Works.....	1,740	—	—
	Total, Capital Account.....	1,740	—	—
	Total Expenditure	94,253	100,803	103,698
		<u>94,253</u>	<u>100,803</u>	<u>103,698</u>
		<u>94,253</u>	<u>100,803</u>	<u>107,321</u>

Head 23 — AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICE

Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2019–20 for the salaries and expenses of the Auxiliary Medical Service (AMS) is \$107,321,000. This represents an increase of \$3,623,000 over the revised estimate for 2018–19 and \$13,068,000 over the actual expenditure in 2017–18.

Operating Account

Recurrent

2 Provision of \$107,321,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the AMS.

3 The establishment as at 31 March 2019 will be 99 permanent posts. No change in establishment is expected in 2019–20. Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated power create or delete non-directorate posts during 2019–20, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$34,994,000.

4 An analysis of the financial provision under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is as follows:

	2017–18 (Actual) (\$'000)	2018–19 (Original) (\$'000)	2018–19 (Revised) (\$'000)	2019–20 (Estimate) (\$'000)
Personal Emoluments				
- Salaries.....	34,531	35,029	35,778	38,902
- Allowances.....	212	350	250	398
- Job-related allowances.....	82	71	77	72
Personnel Related Expenses				
- Mandatory Provident Fund contribution.....	248	246	203	172
- Civil Service Provident Fund contribution.....	1,426	1,990	1,972	2,512
Departmental Expenses				
- General departmental expenses	16,803	18,769	20,317	18,448
Other Charges				
- Pay and allowances for the auxiliary services	37,360	41,986	42,739	44,455
- Training expenses for the auxiliary services	1,851	2,362	2,362	2,362
	92,513	100,803	103,698	107,321