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Panel on Security

**Information note prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat
for the meeting on 6 July 2021**

**The strategy of the Government Flying Service on making good use of
retired aircraft**

The Government Flying Service ("GFS") was established under the Government Flying Service Ordinance (Cap. 322) in 1993 to provide flying services to the Government and those in need, including air ambulance service, search and rescue, fire fighting, aerial surveys and law enforcement. As at June 2021, GFS had a fleet of 12 aircraft comprising three fixed-wing aircraft and nine helicopters.

2. The strategy of GFS on making good use of retired aircraft per se has not been discussed by the Panel on Security ("the Panel"). However, in the course of examination of the Estimates of Expenditure in recent years, there was a concern about how the Government would make good use of the retired aircraft. The Administration advised that apart from auction through open tender of retired aircraft according to the established procedure, GFS would explore the use of retired aircraft to raise public awareness on the work of GFS with relevant departments, such as open exhibition.

3. Members may wish to note that GFS has arranged to display a retired Jetstream 41 fixed-wing aircraft on the lawn of Kai Tak Runway Park since July 2018. According to the Administration, this is the first public exhibition of a retired aircraft from GFS. The relevant press release made by the Administration is in the **Appendix**.

4. The Administration will brief the Panel on GFS's strategy on making good use of its retired aircraft at the meeting on 6 July 2021.

Press Releases

Public exhibition of Jetstream 41 fixed-wing aircraft commences
at Kai Tak Runway Park

The public exhibition of the Government Flying Service (GFS)'s Jetstream 41 fixed-wing aircraft on the lawn of Kai Tak Runway Park commenced today (July 17) after its 17-year service. This is the first public exhibition of a retired aircraft from the GFS.

Speaking at the launch ceremony, the Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, said that the exhibition has added an attraction to Kai Tak Runway Park while echoing the aviation theme of the park and deepening public understanding of the work of the GFS. He said he hoped that, through the crossover of history and technology in this installation, the public and visitors would recall the brilliant legacy of Kai Tak Airport and that it would also arouse youngsters' interest in joining the aviation sector. Mr Cheung also expressed gratitude for the collaborative efforts of the Energizing Kowloon East Office, the GFS, the Architectural Services Department and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, as well as the support from the local communities of Kowloon City and Kwun Tong and other relevant organisations who had helped foster the realisation of the exhibition.

Apart from displaying the physical aircraft, the GFS has set up a new website to boost interest in the exhibition and enhance its educational purpose. The public can scan the QR codes on the poles around the aircraft to enter a virtual reality tour of the interior and exterior of the aircraft to understand the various features and their functions.

The Jetstream 41 fixed-wing aircraft served the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government and the public from February 1999 to March 2016. The aircraft has good flying altitudes and speed control, and excellent capability for prolonged flight. It carried out various types of duties in Hong Kong and outside Hong Kong, including long-range search and rescue, anti-crime patrols and meteorological measurements. Following the earthquake in Sichuan in May 2008, the Jetstream 41 fixed-wing aircraft frequently flew between Hong Kong and Sichuan to support the Super Puma helicopter and its crew in the rescue and relief mission.

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