

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**SB140**

**(Question Serial No. 2168)**

Head: (23) Auxiliary Medical Service

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Auxiliary Medical Service

Controlling Officer: Chief Staff Officer, Auxiliary Medical Service (WONG Ying-keung)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding the manpower of the Auxiliary Medical Service (AMS), please advise this Committee of:

- 1) in light of the increase in the estimated number of new cadets from 485 to 700, whether AMS has worked on a recruitment scheme to meet the target number; if so, the details; if not, the reason(s); and
- 2) the budget of providing national security education for adult members and cadet corps respectively this year.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Man-kwong (LegCo internal reference no.: 17)

Reply:

1) The AMS has been using a series of strategies, including organising first aid and health seminars, setting up booths in shopping malls, etc., to recruit youths into the Auxiliary Medical Service Cadet Corps (AMSCC). To further enhance the school-based promotional activities, the AMS has targeted to launch the "School-based Platoons" programme in the 2024-25 school year under the 15 companies distributed in different districts. The platoons will be named after the school and will aim at developing students' basic medical first aid knowledge. Youngsters aged 12-15 who aspire to a career in medical profession can receive basic medical first aid and discipline training by joining the school-based platoons.

On the other hand, in addition to the continued cooperation with the Hong Kong Metropolitan University, the AMS is also discussing collaboration with the medical profession-related departments of the other tertiary institutions. Through the "Health Awareness and Promotion Programme for Youth to U", cadets are equipped with more knowledge and experiences related to the medical professions. Cadets may also have the opportunity to join hands with the students from the nursing department of tertiary institutions to provide services such as visiting singleton elderly and conducting health checkups, which will help the youths to gain knowledge about different medical and healthcare sectors in advance and facilitate their career planning earlier. The AMS also hopes that the programme can become a "little cradle" for nurturing medical staff.

Besides, through the Volunteer Team of the AMS, the AMS has established an interactive network with different organisations to carry out various social services. On the one hand, this provides services to vulnerable communities such as the elderly and ethnic minorities. On the other hand, it encourages and attracts young people to join the AMSCC.

The AMS will further explore the collaboration with other youth organisations to develop cross-disciplinary activities and trainings (such as first aid training, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and defibrillation techniques, etc.) and hence achieve synergies and help encouraging young people to become voluntary members or cadets.

It is expected that these measures will help to recruit 700 new cadets in the coming year.

2) The AMS regularly provides adult members and cadets with the relevant information to enhance their understanding and knowledge on national security via different channels, including compiling educational presentation files every quarter for unit supervisors to arrange group discussion and sharing in regular training; publishing information about national security education in the departmental publication “Auxiliary Medical Service Newsletter”; and including civic education and national security education in the “Health Awareness and Promotion Programme for Youth to U”, etc.

Apart from actively promoting national security education as above, the AMS has also organised diversified activities, such as quizzes on the National Security Law, thematic talks on national security education, museum or historical and cultural heritage study tours, exchange visits to the Mainland and the Greater Bay Area, Safeguarding National Security Cup competition, etc., to further strengthen members’ sense of patriotism, national identity and the awareness of national security.

The above activities have been incorporated into regular training and courses, therefore there is no extra expense involved.

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**SB141**

**(Question Serial No. 2792)**

Head: (23) Auxiliary Medical Service

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Auxiliary Medical Service

Controlling Officer: Chief Staff Officer, Auxiliary Medical Service (WONG Ying-keung)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

In 2023/24, what is the number of vacancies in each rank of AMS that have not been successfully filled based on the approved establishment? Is there any assessment and estimation of the number of wastages on retirement and resignation in the coming 3 years, and if it will cause shortage of manpower?

Asked by: Hon WONG Chun-sek, Edmund (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

As at 8 March 2024, the AMS has a total of 3 487 voluntary members, which accounts for 70.7% of the approved establishment of 4 931 members with a total of 1 444 vacancies. By reviewing the relevant statistics in the past 3 years, the annual wastage is expected to be 300 on average in the coming years.

As usual, the AMS will continue to strive to recruit more members, and to provide continuous training in different areas and personal development to existing members in order to retain manpower and encourage promotion. The AMS has proactively expanded its channels in recruiting new members, such as setting up recruitment booths at more schools and shopping malls, joining the career fairs in different tertiary education institutions, and arranging monthly walk-in interviews at the AMS Headquarters. The AMS has even arranged recruitment exercises at remote areas such as Cheung Chau and Tung Chung. Apart from allowing volunteer members to extend their service beyond the age of 60 and up to 65, the AMS has put in place a series of measures to enhance members' morale, sense of belonging and satisfaction in order to retain existing members. The measures include cooperating with hospitals and tertiary institutions to equip members with advanced medical knowledge, commending members with excellent performances and providing them with promotion opportunities, arranging more team building activities and introducing various new equipment, etc. Through these measures, the AMS can attract more new members and retain existing members, and continue to provide resources to augment the regular medical and

health services in the most efficient and effective manner, so as to maintain the care and well-being of the people of Hong Kong.

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**SB142**

**(Question Serial No. 2815)**

Head: (23) Auxiliary Medical Service

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Auxiliary Medical Service

Controlling Officer: Chief Staff Officer, Auxiliary Medical Service (WONG Ying-keung)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Has the Government set development goals and plans for the AMS Cadet Corps in the coming 3 years; and set targets and plans for new members recruitment? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon WONG Chun-sek, Edmund (LegCo internal reference no.: 43)

Reply:

The AMS will continue to allocate resources to enhance the training of Auxiliary Medical Service Cadet Corps (AMSCC). Apart from discipline training and teaching of healthcare skills, the AMS will intensify efforts to arrange exchange and visits to the Mainland and the Greater Bay Area for cadets, including visits to medical emergency units in the Greater Bay Area and tours on innovative technological developments, to broaden the horizons of cadets and make the AMSCC more distinctive.

The AMS has been using a series of strategies, including organising first aid and health seminars, setting up booths in shopping malls, etc., to recruit youths into the AMSCC. To further enhance the school-based promotional activities, the AMS has targeted to launch the "School-based Platoons" programme in the 2024-25 school year under the 15 companies spread in different districts. The platoons will be named after the school and will aim at developing students' basic medical first aid knowledge. Youngsters aged 12-15 who aspire to a career in medical profession can receive basic medical first aid and discipline training by joining the school-based platoons.

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such as visiting singleton elderly and conducting health checkups. This will help the youths to gain knowledge about different medical and healthcare sectors in advance and facilitate their career planning earlier. The AMS also hopes that the programme can become a "little cradle" for nurturing medical staff.

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The AMS will further explore the collaboration with other youth organisations to develop cross-disciplinary activities and trainings (such as first aid training, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and defibrillation techniques, etc.) and hence achieve synergies and help encouraging young people to become voluntary members or cadets.

It is expected that these measures will help to recruit 700 new cadets annually in the coming 3 years.

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