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Replies to supplementary questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Session No. : 10

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S-HAB01	S043	SHIU Ka-chun	63	(2) Community Building
S-HAB02	S061	CHAN Chi-chuen	74	(4) Civic Responsibility

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-HAB01

(Question Serial No. S0043)

Head: (63) Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Community Building

Controlling Officer: Director of Home Affairs (Miss Janice TSE)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The resources released from the previously terminated Neighbourhood Level Community Development Projects (NLCDPs) were about \$5.4 million a year. The resources released from the terminated NLCDPs have been redeployed to finance the Neighbourhood Mutual Help Programme (NMHP) administered by the Home Affairs Department since 2007-08. Will the Government advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What were the respective estimates of the NLCDPs for the past 5 financial years?
- (b) What were the resources released from the previously terminated NLCDPs in each of the 5 financial years 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21?
- (c) According to the information released by the Government, there were 6 and 7 2-year projects approved under the NMHP in 2016-17 and 2018-19 respectively, involving funding of \$9,103,036 and \$10,620,227.3. The total funding approved for the projects in each of the 2 financial years was less than the resources released from the NLCDPs. How would the excess amounts be handled?
- (d) Will the NLCDPs be implemented in 2020-21? What are the financial commitment and implementation details?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun

Reply:

- (a) The annual expenditure of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) on the Neighbourhood Level Community Development Projects (NLCDPs) in the past 5 financial years is as follows:

Year \ Item	2015-16 (Actual)	2016-17 (Actual)	2017-18 (Actual)	2018-19 (Actual)	2019-20 (Revised estimate)
Annual expenditure on NLCDPs ^{Note 1} (\$ million)	35.7	37.1	37.9	39.8	41.5

- (b) & (c) The resources released from the terminated NLCDPs have been redeployed to finance the Neighbourhood Mutual Help Programme (NMHP) administered by the Home Affairs Department (HAD) since 2007-08, and the resources released to HAD from the previously terminated NLCDPs^{Note 2} were about \$5.4 million a year. While the amount has been the resources available for each year, the funding approved and the actual expenditure depend on the number of projects and their progress in the relevant financial years. All unspent funds under the NMHP will lapse at the end of each financial year. There is no mechanism to carry forward the unspent balance in a year to the following year.
- (d) Currently, there are 17 NLCDPs operated by 8 non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The Government has no plan to change the number of NLCDPs in 2020-21. In 2020-21, the estimated expenditure of SWD on the NLCDPs is \$41.5 million, and the NGOs concerned will continue to operate the NLCDPs mentioned above.

Note 1 The Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) is responsible for the policy on community development. The funding for the NLCDPs has been transferred from HAB to SWD.

Note 2 Such projects had been terminated prior to the period from 2015-16 to 2019-20.

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**S-HAB02****(Question Serial No. S061)**Head: (74) Information Services DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (4) Civic ResponsibilityControlling Officer: Director of Information Services (Rex CHANG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home AffairsQuestion:

Will the Government inform this Committee of the ten Announcements in the Public Interest with the highest production cost in the past 5 financial years -

Name of Announcements in the Public Interest	Production cost	Publicity expenses	frequency and total broadcasting hours on TV

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)Reply:

Government Television (TV) and Radio Announcements in the Public Interest (APIs) are produced and funded by bureaux/departments (B/Ds), with technical assistance provided by the Information Services Department (ISD). The ISD does not keep a centralised record of the expenditure incurred by other B/Ds in the production of APIs.

Details of the 10 items with the highest total production cost in the production of the TV/radio APIs produced by the ISD for the past 5 financial years (from 2015-16 to 2019-20 financial years) are provided in the table below:

	Name of APIs	Total production cost (\$) (Note 1)	Expenses on publicity related to the TV API produced (\$) (Note 2)	No. of times and minutes broadcast on TV
1	Appreciate Hong Kong	513,000	Nil	6 441 times (3 220.5 mins)
2	2016 Policy Address	550,000	444,210	2 372 times (1 186 mins)

	Name of APIs	Total production cost (\$) (Note 1)	Expenses on publicity related to the TV API produced (\$) (Note 2)	No. of times and minutes broadcast on TV
3	2017 Policy Address	845,000	393,241	788 times (394 mins)
	2017 Policy Address (Youth)			794 times (397 mins)
	2017 Policy Address (Labour)			794 times (397mins)
	2017 Policy Address (Elderly)			788 times (394 mins)
4	HKSAR 20th Anniversary - General (TV API lasted for 60 seconds)	1,298,000 (including one 3-min video)	Nil	7 809 times (7 809 mins)
5	The Chief Executive's 2017 Policy Address	500,000	407,270	1 949 times (974.5 mins)
6	2018 Policy Address Consultation	568,000	Nil	5 820 times (2 910 mins)
7	2018 Policy Address (TV API lasted for 60 seconds)	900,000	618,353	2 117 times (2 117mins)
8	Treasure Hong Kong, our home (I) (Two TV API versions lasted for 60 seconds and 30 seconds respectively)	610,000	120,000	9 062 times (7 545 mins)
9	2019 Policy Address (TV API lasted for 60 seconds)	1,369,072	409,997	2 240 times (2 240 mins)
	2019 Policy Address (Land & Housing) (TV API lasted for 60 seconds)			1 303 times (1 303 mins)
10	2020-21 Budget Public Consultation	850,000	Nil	3 529 times (1 764.5 mins)
	2020-21 Budget (Collection of copies)			926 times (463 mins)

Note 1: The above production cost refers to the total production cost incurred. Depending on the specific quotation requirements for each item, the total production cost may include 1 set or more than 1 set of TV/radio APIs etc according to their different requirements.

Note 2: The relevant publicity expenses only include those related to the broadcast of the TV APIs produced.

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