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

The Ombudsman Session No.: 6

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Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
OMB001	4254	CHAN Tanya	114	(1) Complaints Administration
OMB002	6083	MO Claudia	114	(1) Complaints Administration

OMB001

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4254)

<u>Head</u>: (114) Office of The Ombudsman

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Complaints Administration

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: The Ombudsman (Winnie Chiu)

Director of Bureau: The Ombudsman

Ouestion:

1. Please provide the average time required by the Office of The Ombudsman to process a complaint case in the past 5 years.

- 2. For the year 2020-2021, what is the estimated average time required by the Office to process a complaint case?
- 3. Will the Office review and reform its complaint handling procedures in 2020-2021 to speed up the processing time? If yes, what are the details and estimated expenditure?
- 4. Will the Office consider recruiting more accredited mediators to strengthen its capacity in handling complaint cases? If yes, what are the details and estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 220)

Reply:

- 1. This Office has in place performance pledges for the time required to process complaint cases. The processing time for complaint cases from 2014-15 to 2018-19 are given in the tables below:
- (1) For complaint cases outside jurisdiction or under restriction:

	Response Time				
Year	Within 10 working days (Target: >70%)	Within 11-15 working days (Target: <30%)	More than 15 working days		
2014-15	90.9%	8.6%	0.5%		
2015-16	98.4%	1.6%	0%		
2016-17	97.3%	2.6%	0.1%		
2017-18	97.3%	2.7%	0%		

2018-19	98.0%	2.0%	0%
_010 17	> 0.0 / 0	0,0	3,3

(2) For other complaint cases:

		Response Time					
Year	Less than 3 months (Target: >60%)	Within 3-6 months (Target: <40%)	More than 6 months				
2014-15	86.3%	13.1%	0.6%				
2015-16	84.8%	14.7%	0.5%				
2016-17	87.6%	12.2%	0.2%				
2017-18	88.3%	11.3%	0.4%				
2018-19	85.8%	13.6%	0.6%				

2. In 2019-20, this Office conducted a review of the time required to process cases, and the performance pledges have been revised upwards to enhance the Office's efficiency:

	Service Standard	Performance Target (% of cases meeting standard)
(1) Close a complaint case after initial assessment due	- Within 10 working days	90%
to jurisdictional restrictions	- Within 15 working days	99%
(2) Conclude a complaint case	- Within 3 months	80%
(2) Conclude a complaint case	- Within 6 months	99%

In 2020-21, this Office will continue to endeavour to complete processing different categories of cases within our pledged targets.

- 3. This Office makes a constant effort to review and improve its complaint handling procedures. In 2020-21, this Office will continue to promote the use of mediation to handle cases involving no or minor maladministration for reaching a speedier and more direct resolution. Resources thus saved can then be redeployed to direct investigations and full investigation of more complex complaint cases.
- 4. This Office attaches great importance to developing the ability of our investigation officers to resolve disputes and organises from time to time related workshops and training sessions. This Office has in place a sponsorship scheme to encourage our investigation officers to attend more advanced mediation training courses and attain accreditation as mediators. This Office has no need to recruit more accredited mediators for the time being.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21

Reply Serial No.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

OMB002

(Question Serial No. 6083)

Head: (114) Office of The Ombudsman

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

<u>Programme</u>: (1) Complaints Administration

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: The Ombudsman (Winnie Chiu)

Director of Bureau: The Ombudsman

Ouestion:

a. Please provide the quantity and value of surgical masks manufactured by the Correctional Services Department ("CSI masks") acquired monthly by the Office of The Ombudsman through the Government Logistics Department ("GLD"), and the stock over the past 3 years, in the table below:

Month/Year	Quantity of CSI masks acquired	Value of CSI masks acquired	Stock of CSI masks

b. Please provide the quantity and value of surgical masks acquired monthly by the Office of The Ombudsman, either through GLD or self-procurement, and the stock and quantity used over the past 3 years, in the table below:

Month/Year	Quantity of surgical masks acquired through GLD (Value)	Quantity of self-procured surgical masks (Value)	Stock	Quantity used

c. Please provide the quantity and value of N95 masks acquired monthly by the Office of The Ombudsman, either through GLD or self-procurement, and the stock and quantity used over the past 3 years, in the table below:

Month/Year	Quantity of N95 masks acquired through GLD (Value)	Quantity of self-procured N95 masks (Value)	Stock	Quantity used

d. Please provide the quantity and value of barrier gowns acquired monthly by the Office of The Ombudsman, either through GLD or self-procurement, and the stock and quantity used over the past 3 years, in the table below:

Month/Year	Quantity of barrier	Quantity of	Stock	Quantity
	gowns acquired	self-procured barrier		used
	through GLD (Value)	gowns (Value)		

e. Please provide the quantity and value of protective coverall suits acquired monthly by the Office of The Ombudsman, either through GLD or self-procurement, and the stock and quantity used over the past 3 years, in the table below:

Month/Year	Quantity of protective	Quantity of	Stock	Quantity
	coverall suits	self-procured		used
	acquired through	protective coverall		
	GLD (Value)	suits		
		(Value)		

f. Please provide the quantity and value of face shields acquired monthly by the Office of The Ombudsman, either through GLD or self-procurement, and the stock and quantity used over the past 3 years, in the table below:

Month/Year	Quantity of face shields acquired	Value of face shields acquired	Stock of face shields	Quantity used

g. Please provide the quantity and value of protective goggles acquired monthly by the Office of The Ombudsman, either through GLD or self-procurement, and the stock and quantity used over the past 3 years, in the table below:

Month/Year	Quantity of	Value of	Stock of	Quantity
	protective	protective	protective	used
	goggles acquired	goggles acquired	goggles	

h. Over the past 3 years, has the Office of The Ombudsman supplied or sold any surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, protective goggles, barrier gowns or protective coverall suits to other organisations? If yes, please provide relevant details, including their quantity, the quantity used and stock, in the table below:

Month	Name of	Mode of	Surgical	N95	Face	Protect-	Barrier	Protect-
/ Year	organisa	supply	masks	masks	shields	ive	gowns	ive
	-tion/	(e.g. sale,				goggles		coverall
	body	donation)						suits

i. Where the Office of The Ombudsman supplied or sold surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, protective goggles, barrier gowns and protective coverall suits to other organisations, such decision was made by which division, and by an officer at which level? Please provide the rank of the officer who decided to supply or sell the relevant equipment to other organisations on each occasion, the date of making the decision, and relevant details.

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 182)

Reply:

- 1. Over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20), this Office had not acquired through the Government Logistics Department ("GLD") any surgical masks manufactured by the Correctional Services Department.
- 2. Details of the surgical masks procured by this Office over the past 3 years are given below:

Year	Quantity of surgical	Quantity of	Stock	Quantity
	masks acquired	self-procured surgical	(At year	used
	through GLD (Value)	masks (Value)	end)	(Yearly)
2017-18	0	0	6 600	100
2018-19	0	0	6 500	100
2019-20	0	30 500	30 500	6 500
		(HK\$170,121.64)		

- 3. Over the past 3 years, this Office had not acquired, either through GLD or self-procurement, any N95 masks or barrier gowns.
- 4. Details of the protective overall suits procured by this Office over the past 3 years are given below:

Year	Quantity of protective overall suits acquired through GLD (Value)	Quantity of self-procured protective overall	Stock (At year end)	Quantity used (Yearly)
2017-18	0	suits (Value) 0	0	0
2018-19	0	0	0	0
2019-20	10 (HK\$352.29)	0	10	0

5. Details of the face shields procured by this Office over the past 3 years are given below:

Year	Quantity of face shields	Quantity of	Stock	Quantity
	acquired through GLD	self-procured face	(At year	used
	(Value)	shields (Value)	end)	(Yearly)
2017-18	0	0	0	0
2018-19	0	0	0	0

2019-20 10 (HK\$116.4)	0	10	0
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6. Details of the protective goggles procured by this Office over the past 3 years are given below:

Year	Quantity of protective	Quantity of	Stock	Quantity
	goggles acquired	self-procured	(At year	used
	through GLD (Value)	protective goggles	end)	(Yearly)
		(Value)		
2017-18	0	0	0	0
2018-19	0	0	0	0
2019-20	10 (HK\$189.8)	0	10	0

7. Over the past 3 years, this Office has not supplied or sold any surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, protective goggles, barrier gowns or protective coverall suits to other organisations.