

## Public Order

*The law and order situation in Hong Kong remained stable in 2012. The overall crime rate (number of crimes per 100,000 population) fell by 0.9 per cent while the violent crime rate fell by 3 per cent compared to 2011. The overall crime detection rate was 43.6 per cent. Hong Kong retained its position as one of the safest cities in the world.*

### **Fight Crime Committee**

The Fight Crime Committee (FCC), chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, provides advice and recommendations on the prevention and reduction of crime, co-ordinates crime-fighting efforts and monitors their results. In 2012, the FCC continued to monitor the overall crime situation, including the trend of various types of commercial crime. It also launched publicity campaigns targeting deception, theft, sexual assault and drug abuse. The FCC kept under review the progress of the 'Police Superintendent's Discretion Scheme', an alternative to prosecution where young offenders are concerned. It also agreed that the publicity activities for rehabilitated persons had been useful and should be continued to assist their reintegration into the community.

Working with the FCC, the District Fight Crime Committees (DFCCs) monitor the situation at district level and reflect community concerns about law and order issues. They help foster community awareness of crime prevention and encourage community participation in combating crime through publicity programmes in the districts.

To reinforce closer links with the DFCCs, FCC members took turns to attend DFCC meetings and functions to exchange views on topical crime issues and discuss ways to combat crime. In December 2012, DFCC members participated in the FCC's Fight Crime Conference, which provided a useful forum for discussion of crime issues of public concern and exchange of views on ways to combat crime.

### **Police Force**

The Hong Kong Police Force's strong commitment to maintaining law and order ensured that Hong Kong continued to be one of the safest cities in the world for residents and visitors. At the end of 2012, the Police Force had an establishment of about 28,400 police officers and 4,700

civilian staff, reinforced by some 4,000 volunteers serving in the Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Force. A total of 172 inspectors and 849 constables were appointed during the year.

### **Crime**

Reported crimes in 2012 totalled 75,930, a decrease of 0.01 per cent compared with 75,936 in 2011. The crime rate stood at 1,064 cases per 100,000 population, a drop of 0.9 per cent compared with 1,074 in 2011. The decrease was mainly due to a drop in shop theft, missing motor vehicles and arson offences. The number of violent crimes decreased to 12,821, a drop of 2.1 per cent compared with 13,100 in 2011.

In 2012, there were 616 robberies, a drop of 15.7 per cent compared with 731 in 2011. It was the sixth consecutive year that no case of robbery with genuine firearms was reported. There were three bank robberies (the same as last year), all committed by lone robbers. Regarding non-violent crimes, burglaries decreased from 4,382 in 2011 to 4,214, a decline of 3.8 per cent, while thefts decreased from 35,026 in 2011 to 33,664, a drop of 3.9 per cent.

Of the reported crimes, 43.6 per cent (or 33,094 crimes) were detected, resulting in the arrest of 38,615 persons. Of these, 2,488 were juveniles aged between 10 and 15 and 4,034 were young people aged between 16 and 20. Arrests of youths were mostly for wounding and serious assaults, miscellaneous thefts, serious drug offences and unlawful society offences. Two firearms were seized in 2012, compared with six in 2011.

The number of triad-related crimes increased to 2,340 compared with 2,207 in 2011, an increase of 6 per cent. This type of crime accounted for 3.1 per cent of all reported crimes during the year. To tackle triad activities, a large-scale tripartite anti-triad operation involving the police forces of Hong Kong, Guangdong and Macao was mounted in the second half of 2012, resulting in the arrest of 1,191 persons in Hong Kong for various crimes.

The Organised Crime and Triad Bureau and a number of Asian countries jointly mounted a one-month operation against illegal soccer gambling during the Euro 2012 soccer tournament, resulting in 64 arrests and the seizure of \$132 million worth of illegal betting slips.

There were 612 cases of taking a conveyance without authority in 2012, a drop of 31.2 per cent or 278 cases compared with 2011. The number of cases involving motorcycles and private cars decreased by 20.6 per cent and 28.3 per cent respectively.

### **Domestic Violence and Child Protection**

The police continued to prevent and combat domestic violence and child abuse by working closely with other government departments and non-governmental organisations. In collaboration with the Social Welfare Department and the Education Bureau, the police provided training in identifying and handling domestic violence, elder abuse and child abuse cases to concerned professionals as well as organised promotional campaigns on prevention of domestic violence and child protection at district level.

### **Commercial Crime**

To help maintain a safe and stable business environment in Hong Kong, the Commercial Crime Bureau (CCB) continued to investigate syndicated and serious commercial frauds, technology crimes and counterfeiting of monetary instruments. In 2012, CCB took stringent enforcement actions against nine serious investment frauds involving culprits enticing members of the public into sham investment schemes, resulting in the arrest of 16 culprits.

A noticeable decrease of 23 cases, or 22.5 per cent, was recorded in street deception in 2012 when compared with 2011. CCB successfully applied for enhancement of sentence against the arrested culprits. The number of counterfeit Hong Kong banknotes seized remained stable, while 9,669 counterfeit payment cards were seized in intelligence-led operations, twice the number seized in 2011.

### **Technology Crime**

In 2012, there were 3,015 cases of technology crime, representing an increase of 36.7 per cent when compared with 2011. To combat this crime, CCB professionally investigated all reports of technology crimes, enhanced co-operation and intelligence exchange with other law enforcement agencies and adopted a multi-agency approach to promote public awareness of cyber security.

To effectively monitor and protect critical infrastructure against cyber attacks, the police established a Cyber Security Centre (CSC) under the Technology Crime Division of CCB in 2012. The CSC worked closely with relevant government departments and other stakeholders to provide enhanced and integrated readiness for the territory's cyber security.

### **Dangerous Drugs**

Tackling youth drug abuse continued to be a police priority in 2012. The police strengthened its role in preventive education and anti-drug publicity. Intelligence-led operations against drug traffickers, particularly those that exploit minors and juveniles, intensified. During the year, one drug trafficker had his sentence increased by the court for employing young persons to traffic drugs.

The majority of arrests were in respect of ketamine. In 2012, the police seized 254.2 kilograms of ketamine (including three large seizures at wholesale level as a direct result of a series of successful intelligence-led operations), a substantial increase on 2011. There was also a large increase in seizures of cannabis and methamphetamine (ice) by the police in 2012 when compared with 2011.

The majority of drugs manufacturing cases detected in 2012 involved the conversion of cocaine powder into what is commonly known as 'crack'. Eight premises engaged in this illicit business were shut down.

The police's Narcotics Bureau (NB) continued to collaborate with its Mainland and overseas counterparts to tackle cross-boundary and trans-national trafficking, leading to the seizure of 974.8 kilograms of illicit drugs plus 24.7 tonnes of precursor chemicals and the dismantling of

drug production sites outside Hong Kong. Twenty illicit drug manufacturing plants or storage in the Asian region were also dismantled.

### ***Financial Investigation***

The Financial Investigations Division and the Joint Financial Intelligence Unit (JFIU) under the NB carried out operations against money laundering and terrorist financing activities in 2012. A total of 160 people were convicted of money laundering, some \$768 million worth of criminal assets was impounded and around \$41 million of laundered money was confiscated.

The police continued to play an active role at international and local meetings on anti-money laundering matters under the Financial Action Task Force and the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG). The JFIU held two anti-money laundering seminars with the UK HM Revenue & Customs and the Australian Federal Police respectively in April and May 2012, at which anti-money laundering issues and financial investigation techniques were discussed.

### ***Illegal Immigration***

In 2012, 2,042 illegal immigrants were arrested, a decrease of 6.2 per cent compared with 2,178 in 2011. The number of non-ethnic Chinese illegal immigrants arrested rose to 414, an increase of 55.6 per cent compared with 266 in 2011. The police continued to work with other government departments in combating illegal immigration and maintained close liaison and co-operation with the Guangdong Border Defence Bureau to strengthen enforcement at the boundary.

### ***Crime Prevention***

The Crime Prevention Bureau continued to provide advice on crime prevention measures through publicity campaigns that made use of a broad spectrum of media. The ongoing partnership with the local security industry continued to contribute to high service quality of security companies and their personnel.

### ***Forensic Support***

The Identification Bureau (IB) plays an important role in supporting crime investigations and prosecutions by providing fingerprint collection and photography services and collecting DNA evidence from crime scenes. In 2012, it established 61,431 individuals' criminal histories, linking 1,605 people to 1,425 criminal cases.

The Sexual Conviction Record Check scheme, implemented by the IB, provides employers with a reliable channel to ascertain whether applicants applying for work relating to children or mentally incapacitated persons have any sexual conviction records.

Following the pilot scheme initiated since 2008, IB implemented the force-wide rollout of the Digital Photography Scheme for all minor crime, traffic and Magistrates Court cases in July. Since implementation, the police have used digital photography in 2,466 cases for the Magistrates Courts.

The Forensic Firearms Examination Bureau provides professional forensic services in relation to firearms evidence in Hong Kong and maintains close ties with its counterparts in the Mainland and Macao through regular meetings and liaison visits.

### ***Liaison***

The Liaison Bureau (LB) co-ordinates with law enforcement agencies outside Hong Kong and with their liaison officers stationed locally for all police-related matters. It represents the Mainland in dealing with all INTERPOL-related matters of Hong Kong.

To combat cross-boundary crime, the police engaged its strategic partners worldwide in 2012 to enhance law enforcement co-operation and capacity building. In February, the police hosted the 20th Bilateral Meeting with the Mainland Public Security Authorities in Hong Kong and in June, police representatives attended the 18th Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Tripartite Heads of Criminal Investigation Department Meeting in Macao to strengthen co-operation in the fight against cross-boundary crime at an operational level.

### ***Police Force Search Unit***

The Force Search Unit is responsible for developing and maintaining the police's professional search capability. In 2012, the unit conducted defensive search and security screening operations relating to the 15th anniversary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR)'s establishment and President Hu Jintao's visit.

### ***Police Dog Unit***

The 110 dogs in the Police Dog Unit assist the police in detecting and preventing crime and in 2012 police dog handlers, together with their canine partners, arrested 911 criminals.

### ***Custody management and Detention***

The police respect people's human rights, including those in police custody. Following a full review of custodial management and detention, improvement works for all 33 police detention facilities have been completed to make them safer and more hygienic for both detainees and police staff.

### ***Police Licensing Office***

During 2012, the Police Licensing Office processed 62,081 security personnel permit applications, 99 massage establishment licence applications, 218 pawnbroker licence applications and 4,184 liquor licence applications.

### ***Marine Region***

The Marine Region commenced a major review of its existing fleet to enhance the policing of Hong Kong waters in a cost effective manner. In 2012, 763 illegal immigrants were arrested and 143 persons rescued in Hong Kong waters by the fleet. In addition, 27 high-power speedboats used by smugglers were confiscated and contraband worth \$65.8 million was seized.

### **Traffic**

In 2012, there were 15,894 traffic accidents involving casualties including 120 deaths. This represented an increase of 2 per cent and a decrease of 8 per cent respectively compared with 2011. The number of enforcement actions against traffic offences was 1,471,631, a 15 per cent increase from 2011. The enforcement action included 490,769 fixed-penalty tickets for moving vehicle offences, 907,384 tickets for parking offences, 70,390 summonses served for other traffic offences and 3,088 arrests for serious traffic offences.

### **Public Relations**

The Police Public Relations Branch (PPRB) plays an important role in enlisting public support in maintaining law and order by working in partnership with the media and fostering good relations with all sectors of the community. Information about police activities is disseminated to local and overseas media round-the-clock. The PPRB also assists the Fight Crime Committee in planning and implementing its Fight Crime Publicity Campaigns. The public are informed of police policies and operational priorities by Police Community Relations Officers while the Junior Police Call (JPC) Scheme and the Police School Liaison Programme serve as bridges between the police and young people.

The PPRB's *Police Magazine*, *Police Report* and *Police Bulletin* provide information on crime trends and crime prevention measures. In July, the police launched a mobile application enabling members of the public to retrieve police information such as the police hotlines, contacts of police report rooms, press releases and police recruitment information. The PPRB also assists local and overseas TV broadcasters and film-production companies in producing TV dramas, documentaries and films related to police work, as well as liaising with other government agencies such as Create Hong Kong in relation to location filming.

Furthermore, the PPRB publishes a bi-weekly newspaper, *Offbeat*; a monthly JPC newsletter; and an annual *Hong Kong Police Review*, which won a Citation for Design in the Hong Kong Management Association's 2012 Best Annual Report Awards.

In 2012, 79 persons received awards under the police's 'Good Citizen Award' scheme (sponsored by the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce) which recognises citizens who have assisted the police in fighting crime.

Police telephone hotlines and crime information forms provide convenient channels for reporting crime. In 2012, the police hotline received 24,005 calls (excluding those made to the 999 emergency hotline) and 2,332 crime information forms were received, resulting in 373 arrests.

### **Planning and Development**

In 2012, the police continued to modernise its buildings and facilities with due regard to environmental friendliness. The report room of Wong Tai Sin Police Station was totally revamped, enhancing privacy and providing a more comfortable and user-friendly environment. A Police Post at Yung Shu Wan, Lamma Island, is under construction and is expected to be completed in 2013.

### ***Information and Communication Technology***

In November, the police and the Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK) launched an indoor radio system to enable the use of the Third Generation Command and Control Communications System (CC3) at the airport. Police officers can now use CC3 radio terminals to communicate with the AAHK staff, and liaise with other government departments through the Unified Digital Communications Platform.

### ***Training***

Between January and October, the Hong Kong Police College and the Canadian Police College co-delivered the inaugural International Executive Development in Policing Program for Superintendents. In April, the Police College won two Bronze Awards in the Hong Kong Information and Communications Technology Awards for 2012 for its in-house Detective Tour and Digital Presentation System.

To enhance frontline officers' positive emotions and resilience, the Police College launched a new pilot training programme on emotional fitness during the year.

### ***Occupational Safety and Health***

In 2012, over 340 police force members were trained in various aspects of occupational safety and health by the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Cadre. Members of the OSH Cadre attended both local and international forums to keep abreast of recent developments.

### ***Service Quality***

The Service Quality Wing promotes integrity, professionalism and continuous improvement within the police force. In January, it oversaw the publication of the Commissioner's Strategic Directions and Strategic Action Plan 2012-14, covering areas for improvement based on identified challenges in policing. A series of workshops on 'Professionalism in the Changing World' was completed in March and a new series will be run in late 2013.

The Customer Satisfaction Survey and the Public Opinion Survey, completed in December 2011, demonstrated that the police force sustained a high level of customer satisfaction (81 per cent) and public confidence (75 per cent).

### ***Complaints and Internal Investigations***

The Complaints and Internal Investigations Branch comprises the Complaints Against Police Office (CAPO) and the Internal Investigations Office (IIO). Under the statutory two-tier police complaints handling system, CAPO handles all complaints lodged by the public against police force members and supports the Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) in performing its statutory functions.

In 2012, CAPO received 2,379 reportable complaints, 13.9 per cent less than in 2011. Of the investigation results endorsed by the IPCC, 125 were classified as substantiated and appropriate disciplinary action was taken against the officers concerned.

In April, CAPO introduced a pilot 'Expression of Dissatisfaction' mechanism for handling minor complaints, which aimed to expedite resolution and allow better resource utilisation.

To maintain public confidence, the IIO continues to promote the Integrated Integrity Management Framework to reinforce the police force's values of integrity and honesty. A set of behavioural guidelines, introduced in 2009, aims to raise officers' awareness and acceptance of ethical behaviour on and off duty.

### **Independent Police Complaints Council**

The Independent Police Complaints Council (IPCC) is an independent statutory body established, among other things, to:

- observe, monitor and review the Police Force's handling and investigation of reportable complaints;
- monitor actions taken or to be taken in respect of any member of the Police Force by the Commissioner of Police in connection with reportable complaints;
- identify any fault or deficiency in police practice or procedure that has led to or might lead to reportable complaints and make recommendations accordingly;
- advise the Commissioner of Police and/or the Chief Executive of its opinion and/or recommendation in connection with reportable complaints; and
- promote public awareness on the role of the council.

Its 24 members, all appointed by the Chief Executive, are drawn from a wide spectrum of society with diverse expertise. In addition, the council had 110 observers at year-end. These observers, as well as the council members, may attend interviews and observe the collection of evidence conducted by police formations in respect of reportable complaints on a pre-arranged or surprise basis, to ensure that investigations are conducted in a fair and impartial manner.

In 2012, the IPCC scrutinised and endorsed the findings in 3,299 investigation reports on reportable complaints received in 2012 or carried forward from previous years, involving a total of 6,744 allegations. Of these, 259 allegations were found substantiated or partially substantiated and the police force has taken appropriate action against the officers involved.

### **Customs and Excise**

The Customs and Excise Department is responsible primarily for the collection of revenue on dutiable goods, prevention of duty evasion, suppression of drug trafficking and abuse, prevention and detection of smuggling of contraband, and protection of intellectual property rights. The department also enforces legislation to protect consumer interests, safeguard and facilitate legitimate trade and industry, uphold Hong Kong's trading integrity and fulfil relevant international obligations. At year-end, its establishment was about 5,640 staff. (See also Chapter 5).



### **Revenue Collection**

The Customs and Excise Department is responsible for the collection of excise duties derived from dutiable commodities stipulated in the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance: liquor, tobacco, hydrocarbon oil and methyl alcohol. During the financial year 2011-12, the excise duties collected amounted to \$7.72 billion, of which 54.5 per cent was from tobacco, 40.7 per cent from hydrocarbon oil, 4.7 per cent from liquor and 0.1 per cent from methyl alcohol and other alcohol products, representing a total increase of 2.3 per cent over 2010-11.

The department also assesses the taxable values of motor vehicles under the Motor Vehicles (First Registration Tax) Ordinance for the purpose of levying first registration tax. In 2012, the department registered 123 motor traders, assessed the provisional taxable value on 60,609 vehicles and re-assessed 17,057 of them, resulting in the collection of \$7.55 billion first registration tax by the Transport Department.

### **Revenue Control**

The department administers a licensing and permit system to control the manufacture, import, export, storage and movement of dutiable commodities. It ensures that no dutiable commodities, whether imported or locally manufactured, are released for local consumption unless full duty has been paid.

### **Revenue Protection**

The department has stepped up enforcement actions to suppress illicit cigarette activities. In April, a Telephone Order Task Unit comprising 15 officers was established, in particular to conduct intelligence analysis and law enforcement against peddling via telephone orders and online sale of illicit cigarettes. In 2012, there were 2,242 cases involving smuggling, storage, distribution and peddling of illicit cigarettes, a decrease of 9.5 per cent compared with 2011. A total of 72.5 million sticks of illicit cigarettes were seized.

In 2012, 8,668 people were fined under the Compounding Scheme for abuse of duty-free cigarette concessions, an increase of 30.7 per cent compared with 2011, involving 3.2 million sticks of cigarettes.

The department continued co-operating with overseas customs administrations to stamp out transnational cigarette smuggling. In 2012, by monitoring suspicious shipments and through intelligence exchange, the department's efforts led to the seizure of 9.3 million sticks of illicit cigarettes by overseas enforcement authorities.

The department took sustained action to stamp out illicit fuel activities. In 2012, it solved 189 illicit fuel cases, arrested 210 people and seized 0.27 million litres of illicit fuel. The number of seizures was 17 per cent less than that of 2011.

### **Anti-narcotics Operations**

The department continues to take vigorous enforcement action to prevent and suppress the unlawful manufacture, distribution and trafficking of dangerous drugs; to trace, confiscate and recover drug proceeds from illegal drug activities; and to prevent the diversion of chemicals

used for the illicit manufacture of dangerous drugs. It also maintains close co-operation and exchange of intelligence with local, Mainland and overseas law enforcement agencies to combat drug trafficking.

In 2012, the department dealt with 214 drug trafficking cases and smashed three drug storage and distribution centres, seizing 1,408 kilograms of assorted dangerous drugs<sup>1</sup> and arresting 433 people. The department also mounted a series of anti-narcotics operations and seized 412 kilograms of ketamine and 649 kilograms of cocaine in May and July respectively. Co-operation with the Mainland and overseas law enforcement agencies resulted in the seizure of 265 kilograms of assorted dangerous drugs in the Mainland and overseas.

As part of the Government's vigorous efforts to combat youth drug abuse, the department strengthened enforcement at boundary control points by stepping up checks on cross-boundary coaches and private vehicles, deploying more detector dogs and plainclothes officers in operations, exchanging intelligence and mounting parallel operations with its Mainland counterparts. It also collaborated with non-governmental organisations to encourage young people to stay away from drugs and to lead a healthy life.

### ***Anti-smuggling Operations***

Smuggling carried out across the Hong Kong-Mainland boundary remains an enforcement concern. In 2012, 178 Hong Kong-Mainland smuggling attempts were detected, with 181 people arrested and \$307 million worth of smuggled goods seized. Computer parts, mobile phones and accessories were the main items smuggled into the Mainland. Cigarettes, which are cheaper in the Mainland, and counterfeit goods were often smuggled into Hong Kong.

The department collaborates with other law enforcement agencies to combat smuggling activities through exchange of intelligence and the mounting of parallel operations. The department works closely with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department to detect and prevent the smuggling of food and animals.

### **Narcotics Division**

The Security Bureau's Narcotics Division (ND) co-ordinates policies and measures to combat the drug problem. It also oversees measures on anti-money laundering and counter financing of terrorism through the detection of physical cross-boundary transportation of currency and bearer negotiable instruments and through the regulation of designated non-financial businesses and professions on customer due diligence and record-keeping requirements.

### ***Overall Strategy and Co-ordination***

The Government adopts a five-pronged strategy in the fight against drug abuse. It involves preventive education and publicity, treatment and rehabilitation, legislation and law enforcement, external co-operation, and research.

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<sup>1</sup> Not including 900 kg Gamma Hydroxybutyric Acid (GHB) and 1,090 kg Khat seized in 2012 which contained substances subject to stringent control under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance.

The Action Committee Against Narcotics (ACAN), a non-statutory body, advises the Government on anti-drug strategies. Chaired by a non-official, ACAN comprises 17 non-official members in medical and health, media, legal and education, commercial and social service sectors and five official members (the Commissioner for Narcotics and representatives from the Education Bureau, the Hong Kong Police Force, the Department of Health and the Social Welfare Department). Under a reciprocal appointment arrangement between Singapore and Hong Kong, the Director of Singapore's Central Narcotics Bureau also sits on the committee. ACAN has two subcommittees: on preventive education and publicity; and on treatment and rehabilitation.

### ***Preventive Education and Publicity***

The ND continued its preventive education and publicity initiatives under the themes 'No Drugs, No Regrets. Not Now, Not Ever' and 'Stand Firm! Knock Drugs Out!' to enhance public awareness of the harm caused by drugs and strengthen young people's resolve to refuse drugs. In 2012, two sets of Announcements in the Public Interest were launched to encourage drug abusers to seek help early and highlight the importance of parents and the public taking an active role in drug prevention, early identification and intervention against an increasingly serious problem of 'hidden' drug abuse. The '186 186' anti-drug hotline service was also enhanced to provide round-the-clock services manned by professional social workers. The ND promoted the anti-drug message through various media, including social media networks, mobile and on-line communication platforms, SMS messages and advertisements on the internet, on public transport and in karaoke clubs and bars.

The annual International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was marked by a large-scale anti-drug event at the Hong Kong Jockey Club Sha Tin Racecourse on 22 June to rally community support for the anti-drug cause. The ND also continued to work with the Education Bureau to provide support for schools, including conducting drug education programmes for students, and providing structured professional training for school personnel to equip them with drug knowledge and practical skills to identify and offer early assistance to at-risk students. Various measures were implemented to enhance support for parents, including district-based seminars for parents, train-the-trainer sessions, in-depth programmes for social workers to provide support to parents and the publication of anti-drug educational materials.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club Drug InfoCentre continued to be a focal point for promoting anti-drug education. In 2012, it received 30,000 visitors, including students, youth groups, district bodies, community organisations, overseas delegations, parent-teacher associations and uniformed groups.

### ***Drug Testing***

The Government has made vigorous efforts to foster an anti-drug culture in schools and help young people understand the evils of drugs and resist temptation.

Following the success of the Trial Scheme on School Drug Testing in Tai Po District in the 2009-10 and 2010-11 school years, the Government introduced the Healthy School Programme with a drug testing component in the 2011-12 school year as a sustained, territory-wide, initiative. Forty-four secondary schools and 12 NGOs participated in this school-based preventive

education initiative with voluntary drug testing. In 2012-13, 53 schools and 14 NGOs volunteered to implement the programme.

### **Treatment and Rehabilitation**

A variety of treatment and rehabilitation services is available to drug abusers with different needs. Major services include a compulsory drug treatment programme run by the Correctional Services Department, voluntary residential programmes run by NGOs in 40 centres, a voluntary methadone outpatient treatment programme operated by the Department of Health (DH), substance abuse clinics at all seven hospital clusters of the Hospital Authority, and 11 counselling centres for psychotropic substance abusers run by NGOs.

In June 2012, the ND published the 'Sixth Three-year Plan on Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Services in Hong Kong', setting out key recommendations for the development of these services between 2012 and 2014. Major areas covered include early identification and assistance to drug abusers, strengthening service collaboration across different disciplines, enhancing the capacity and sophistication of treatment and rehabilitation programmes, reintegration into society through multiple pathways (including education, vocational training and job placement), prevention of relapse, and sustained service improvement. The plan emphasises the importance of ensuring that treatment and rehabilitation measures complement other elements of the anti-drug strategy.

### **Legislation and Enforcement**

The ND and relevant departments closely monitor the changing drug scene and regularly review existing laws to meet any emerging threat. In 2012, three substances (Gamma-butyrolactone (GBL), *Salvia divinorum* and *Salvinorin-A*) were added to Part I of the First Schedule of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance to deter their trafficking and abuse.

The Police Force, the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) and the DH continued to take action against drug crimes and 1,588 kilograms and 21,529 tablets of dangerous drugs were seized in 2012 and 5,825 persons were arrested for drug-related offences.

### **Drug Abuse, Statistics and Trends**

The Central Registry of Drug Abuse compiles statistics on drug abuse, collating information about drug abusers from a wide network of reporting agencies, including law enforcement departments, youth outreaching teams, treatment and rehabilitation agencies, hospitals and clinics.

In 2012, some 10,939 drug abusers were recorded in the registry, of which 26 per cent were new cases, 15 per cent were aged under 21, and 81 per cent were males. Heroin continued to be the most commonly abused drug in Hong Kong, with 53 per cent of drug abusers recorded in the registry being heroin abusers. The proportion of psychotropic substance abusers among all reported drug abusers has grown greatly over the years, reaching 59 per cent in 2012, and 97 per cent of reported drug abusers under the age of 21 abused psychotropic substances. Commonly abused psychotropic substances by all age groups included ketamine (29 per cent), ice (15 per cent) and triazolam/midazolam/zopiclone (11 per cent). In 2012, about 22 per cent of drug abusers were reported to have abused more than one drug.

Fifty-one per cent took drugs only in their own homes or in friends' homes and 30 per cent at both homes and other places such as recreation areas, public gardens, public toilets and discos or karaoke halls, while the remaining 19 per cent took drugs wherever convenient. Six per cent of drug abusers were reported to have taken drugs in the Mainland, mostly in Shenzhen.

### ***External Co-operation***

Hong Kong supports international and Mainland actions against drug abuse and drug trafficking and participates in a number of regional and international meetings and seminars concerned with anti-drug policies, law enforcement, treatment and rehabilitation, and preventive education. Three international anti-drug conventions, which provide a treaty-based framework for international co-operation to address the drug problem, apply to Hong Kong: the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs as amended by the Protocol of 1972, the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances and the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

In March, representatives from the ND, the Police Force, the C&ED, the DH and the Social Welfare Department took part in the 55th session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs held in Vienna as members of the Chinese delegation.

### ***Research***

Drug-related research studies assist the Government's formulation of anti-drug strategies and programmes. A survey of drug use among students from upper primary to post-secondary was conducted in the school year 2011-12 and its findings will be available in early 2013. Two new research projects were launched in 2012 and nine existing research projects on various aspects of drug abuse continued.

### ***The Beat Drugs Fund***

The Government's 'Beat Drugs Fund' supports community efforts to combat drug abuse. The fund's capital base (increased to \$3.35 billion by a capital injection by the Government in 2010) is intended to support worthwhile community anti-drug projects, assist drug treatment and rehabilitation centres (DTRCs) to meet their statutory licensing requirements and to support schools in implementing the Healthy School Programme with a drug testing component.

In 2012, the fund approved about \$87 million to support 26 anti-drug projects.

### ***Volunteer Scheme***

In 2012, the 'Anti-drug Volunteer Group' comprising 106 companies and institutions and 276 individuals took part in or helped to organise 21 anti-drug community and publicity activities. These included district anti-drug and fight crime carnivals, exhibitions, sports competitions and visits to DTRCs on festive occasions.

### ***Action Against Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing***

Hong Kong is committed to fighting money laundering and terrorist financing and has a robust system to combat these activities. Hong Kong is a member of the Financial Action Task Force, the international anti-money laundering/counter financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) standard

setter, and is a founding member of the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering. The Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau co-ordinates the overall AML/CFT policies, while the ND is responsible for implementing a system to detect cross-border transportation of currency and bearer negotiable instruments, as well as the formulation of customer due diligence and record-keeping requirements in respect of the designated non-financial businesses and professions, including lawyers, accountants, estate agents, trust and company service providers and dealers in precious metals and precious stones.

### **Independent Commission Against Corruption**

In 2012, Hong Kong upheld its reputation as one of the world's most corruption-free places, with a clean civil service and a level playing field for businesses. The Heritage Foundation, a public policy research institute, commended the city for its 'minimum tolerance for corruption' and 'effective anti-corruption measures'. The foundation and Transparency International, a global non-governmental organisation dedicated to fighting corruption, respectively ranked Hong Kong the 12th and 14th least corrupt place in their worldwide surveys.

Through a holistic strategy of enforcement, prevention and education, corruption is kept well under control. The Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) continues to fight corruption impartially and effectively. Its independent status is guaranteed under the Basic Law. Nearly 99 per cent of respondents to an annual opinion survey expressed support for the ICAC, and 74 per cent of complainants revealed their identities, reflecting strong public confidence in the commission.

In 2012, the ICAC received 3,932 corruption complaints (excluding election-related complaints), a decrease of 2 per cent from 2011. Among these complaints, 62 per cent concerned the private sector while government departments and public bodies respectively took up 31 and 7 per cent.

In May, more than 500 delegates from over 50 jurisdictions and international organisations participated in the fifth ICAC Symposium, 'Old Challenge, New Approach – Fighting Corruption in a Changing World'.

### **Enforcement**

The commission continues to enforce the law without fear or prejudice. At year's end, 2,470 cases, including 819 relating to elections, were under investigation. In 2012, 245 people were prosecuted and 27 were cautioned for minor offences on the advice of the Department of Justice. Of the completed prosecutions, 84 per cent resulted in convictions.

The commission instigated a number of prosecutions of major public interest, including cases involving alleged corruption and misconduct by former senior government officers and complex commercial frauds facilitated by corruption.

The large number of election-related complaints continued to strain operational resources and a special task force was set up to look into vote-rigging allegations. A majority of the 2,413 election-related complaints received in 2012 concerned the 2011 District Council election, in relation to which 45 persons were convicted of vote-rigging and other malpractices.

### **Prevention and Education**

In 2012, corruption prevention guides to enhance governance and internal controls were tailor-made for the testing and certification industry, estate agencies and national sports associations. Workshops and seminars were convened to help tertiary education institutions (TEIs) adopt best practices in managing donations, technology transfer and commercialisation, outside practice, procurement and financial reporting as recommended in a comprehensive guidebook produced earlier.

Sixty-six detailed studies were undertaken to assist government departments and public bodies to reduce corruption risks in different areas. Prompt advice was offered to these organisations on 600 occasions during the formulation of new policies, laws and procedures. Free and confidential advice was given to private organisations upon request on 415 occasions. For government servants, an information package on the prevention and handling of conflict of interests was promulgated through a network of ethics officers in all government bureaux and departments.

To help small and medium enterprises enhance management of their cross-boundary operations, the ICAC and the Guangdong and Macao anti-corruption authorities jointly compiled a new guidebook on the anti-corruption laws in the three places. In collaboration with the banking industry, the ICAC embarked on a two-year integrity management and corruption prevention programme for banking practitioners.

On the youth front, the commission jointly organised with the Guangdong and Macao anti-corruption authorities the Cross-boundary Anti-corruption Computer Animation and Comics Competition, which attracted 3,000 young talents from the three places.

The 'ICAC Ambassador Programme', which encourages tertiary students to initiate integrity projects, was extended to all TEIs. A number of TEIs also adopted a personal ethics module developed by the ICAC as part of their curricula. While interactive dramas with probity themes were staged in secondary schools, a multi-media electronic story book and a reading scheme were introduced to foster positive values amongst young children.

A new advertising campaign was rolled out in 2012 to highlight the importance of upholding the core value of integrity and the ICAC launched territory-wide education and publicity campaigns to promote clean elections through various channels, including TV commercials, advertisements, briefings, exhibitions, and information booklets.

### **Checks and balances**

Besides judicial supervision, the work of the ICAC is subject to the scrutiny of four independent committees — the Advisory Committee on Corruption, the Operations Review Committee, the Corruption Prevention Advisory Committee and the Citizens Advisory Committee on Community Relations. The committee chairmen host an annual press conference to account for their work in overseeing the ICAC.

An independent ICAC Complaints Committee, comprising members of the Legislative Council and prominent members of the community appointed by the Chief Executive, monitors and reviews all non-criminal complaints against the ICAC or its officers.

## **Government Laboratory**

The Government Laboratory's Forensic Science Division provides a comprehensive forensic service to the criminal justice system in Hong Kong. It has two operational groups, the Drugs, Toxicology and Documents Group and the Criminalistics and Quality Management Group.

The Drugs, Toxicology and Documents Group examines cases in three areas:

- 1) Abused drugs. The number of examined cases remained high in 2012, with ketamine, heroin, methamphetamine, cocaine, benzodiazepines and cannabis, in descending order of encounters, contributing 87 per cent of the cases examined.
- 2) Urinalysis and analysis of blood and urine for drink-driving and drug-driving cases, and toxicological examination. The demand for urinalysis and drink-driving testing remained steady when compared to 2011, while drug-driving testing was newly introduced in 2012. The toxicological examination service seeks to ascertain the presence or otherwise of drugs and poisons where they are implicated in suspicious deaths and criminal offences. Besides these routine services, it also provided drug testing services to support the Healthy School Programme.
- 3) The routine examination of handwriting and documents. The group also offers technical advice and testing to the Immigration Department in respect of the quality of HKSAR e-passports and identity cards. In 2012, the Hong Kong Identity Card continued to be the most commonly forged document, followed by foreign travel visas and Mainland travel documents.

The Criminalistics and Quality Management Group provides a wide range of support services to the law enforcement agencies, including chemical analysis of trace evidence, physical examination of toolmarks and shoeprints, investigation of suspicious fires and traffic accident reconstruction. The group also handles forensic biological samples and performs DNA analysis of exhibits seized from crime scenes. DNA profiles of convicted offenders, suspects and volunteers are compared with outstanding DNA profiles of crime scene exhibits in unsolved cases and comparisons are performed among outstanding DNA profiles of exhibits from different unsolved cases for possible connections. In 2012, urgent DNA analysis performed on a number of serious cases provided crucial investigative leads for law enforcement agencies to apprehend the culprits. In addition, the group carried out genetic tests for the Immigration Department in relation to right of abode applications, handling roughly the same number as in 2011.

## **Immigration Department**

### ***Immigration Control***

The Immigration Department plays an important role in maintaining law and order by controlling entry into Hong Kong. Through checks at control points and the vetting of entry applications, immigration officers detect undesirable people, including international criminals and dubious visitors. In 2012, 29,792 undesirable people were refused permission to enter Hong Kong.



***Detection of Forged Travel Documents***

Strict measures are taken to guard against the use of forged travel documents and the department carries out special operations against forgery syndicates. The department discovered 688 forged travel documents during the year, compared with 829 in 2011. The department maintains close contact with local, Mainland and overseas law enforcement agencies and consulates, and exchanges information about these documents with them.

***Interception of Target or Wanted Persons***

In 2012, 307,108 targeted or wanted persons were intercepted at immigration control points, suspected of being connected with offences or court orders ranging from failure to settle outstanding fines to serious crimes.

***Illegal Immigration and Unlawful Employment***

During 2012, 1,336 illegal immigrants from the Mainland were intercepted and sent back, compared with 1,748 in 2011.

The Immigration Department's Anti-Illegal Workers Combat Squad combats illegal employment, conducting undercover patrols at illegal worker black spots. In 2012, 5,849 illegal workers were arrested in 13,701 raids, including 190 persons arrested under section 38AA of the Immigration Ordinance, compared with 5,621 arrested in 11,463 raids in 2011. The vast majority of illegal workers were visitors who had breached their conditions of stay.

Illegal workers are fined and/or jailed before being sent back to their places of origin. Their employers are also liable to be prosecuted. In 2012, a total of 451 charges were laid against employers of illegal workers.

***Deportation and Removal***

The Immigration Department processes deportation and removal orders. In 2012, some 7,426 people convicted of offences punishable with imprisonment for not less than two years were considered for deportation, and 617 were deported. Another 1,144 were removed from the HKSAR, comprising 132 illegal immigrants and 1,012 people who had breached their conditions of stay.

***Investigation and Prosecution of Immigration Offenders***

During 2012, 6,790 charges were laid against people who had committed various immigration offences, including remaining illegally in Hong Kong, breaching conditions of stay, making false statements or representations, and using or possessing forged travel documents.

Illegal immigrants or persons subject to removal or deportation orders are prohibited under section 38AA of the Immigration Ordinance from taking up employment, whether paid or unpaid, and 165 people were prosecuted under that provision in 2012.

***Fire Services***

The Fire Services Department (FSD) fights fires, protects life and property in the event of fires and other calamities, provides emergency ambulance services, and formulates and enforces fire

safety policies and measures. The department has 9,266 uniformed and 670 civilian members and has well-trained personnel, advanced communications systems, and modern equipment and appliances.

### ***Fire-fighting and Rescue***

Of the 37,638 fire calls received in 2012, 13 were classified as major fires of No 3 alarm and above. Careless handling of lighted items or accidents in the process of cooking were the major cause of fires, accounting for 1,697 cases. Careless handling or disposal of lighted materials, such as cigarette ends, matches and candles caused 1,056 fires, while electrical faults caused 770 fires. Unwanted alarms, triggered mainly by faulty automatic alarm systems, contributed to about 76 per cent of the total number of fire calls.

The department also provides a wide range of rescue services for incidents such as traffic accidents, shipwrecks, people trapped in elevators or locked in rooms, gas leakages, house collapses, flooding, landslides, industrial accidents and attempts by people to jump from heights. The department handled 30,191 such special service calls in 2012.

### ***Ambulance Services***

The Ambulance Command handled 727,300 calls in 2012, an average of 1,987 calls per day.

The department's ambulance fleet is fully equipped and manned by paramedics. All emergency ambulances and emergency medical assistant motorcycles are equipped with automated defibrillators and selected drugs for illness such as diabetes, shock, heart attack, shortness of breath and drug overdose. Since May 2011, the department has provided simple Post Dispatch Advice (PDA) to callers in relation to three easily identified injuries (bleeding, bone fractures/dislocation to limbs, and burns) after dispatching the ambulance to the scene. In June 2012, the PDA service was extended to include convulsion and heat exposure. The PDA includes simple first-aid and time-saving advice to facilitate the provision of prompt medical assistance to the patients.

The department continues to train front-line firemen to become first responders to provide basic life-saving support to casualties and patients while ambulance crews are on their way to the scene. In 2012, first responders attended to 46,972 calls.

### ***Communications***

The Fire Services Communications Centre, manned round-the-clock, is responsible for mobilising all fire-fighting and ambulance resources to provide timely fire and ambulance services to the community. The centre also receives complaints about fire hazards and dangerous goods and acts as an emergency co-ordinator for other government departments and public utilities during large-scale emergencies or major calamities. The centre is equipped with the Third Generation Mobilising System to mobilise fire and ambulance resources more efficiently.

In February 2012, the department's new Digital Trunked Radio System commenced full operation, ensuring effective and efficient radio communication at scenes of incidents.

## **Fire Safety**

The Fire Safety Command draws up fire safety policies and formulates fire safety measures for buildings and mass transit systems. It also devotes much of its efforts to upgrading arrangements and procedures to protect old buildings from fire and to raise awareness of fire safety. The command's two Building Improvement Divisions enforce the Fire Safety (Commercial Premises) Ordinance and the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance and investigate reports of fire risks in buildings. The Special Enforcement Unit conducts proactive inspections of old buildings and takes enforcement action against irregularities.

A Building Fire Safety Envoy Scheme trains owners or occupiers of buildings and staff of property management companies as envoys to help promote fire safety in buildings. At the end of 2012, 2,753 envoys had been trained.

The New Projects Division, in collaboration with the Buildings Department and other departments, vets new and amended building plans, including those for the mass transit system, tunnels, bridges and the airport. It also defines the fire protection needs of certain premises. In 2012, the division vetted 14,539 buildings plans.

The Railway Development Strategy Division scrutinises the fire safety requirements and carries out acceptance inspections of fire service installations of new railway projects. To encourage consistent fire safety design for new railway infrastructures, FSD developed a set of guidelines incorporating the latest fire safety measures and taking international standards and local experience into account.

The Support Division formulates, reviews and updates departmental policies on improving fire safety in buildings and strengthening public understanding of the need for fire safety. The division collaborated with Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) in producing five episodes of a TV drama, *Elite Brigade II*, broadcast in February and March 2012, promoting the importance of fire safety and the proper use of emergency ambulance services. RTHK and the division also produced a weekly radio programme, *Happy Daily*, to enhance public knowledge of fire and ambulance services. The new 52-week series began in May 2012. A TV programme, aimed at promoting public awareness of domestic fire safety and to prevent hill-fires, was produced in October 2012. At the launch of the 2012 Fire Prevention Campaign, appreciation certificates were presented to village representatives from villages with no hill-fires during the Ching Ming Festival in April 2012.

By the end of 2012, 127,666 people had been trained as Fire Safety Ambassadors (FSA) and 335 community leaders appointed as FSA Honorary Presidents.

The Licensing and Certification Command formulates and enforces fire safety policies and regulations. It determines the fire safety needs of various types of licensed premises, dangerous goods stores and vehicles, to ensure proper protection for the public. The command supports the Government's 'Be the Smart Regulator' Programme to improve business friendliness, efficiency and transparency without compromising fire safety. It also continued law enforcement action against fire hazards in restaurants, bars and karaoke establishments.

The Fire Service Installations Task Force continued to monitor fire safety in buildings and continued to strengthen public awareness of the need to maintain fire service installations (FSI) and equipment in buildings. In 2012, 110,825 inspections were made and 2,086 Fire Hazard Abatement Notices issued. Legal action was taken against nine owners of defective FSI and eight contractors for regulatory contraventions.

Since 2008, the department has adopted a four-pronged approach (publicity, enforcement, checking and partnership) to tackle fire hazards in old buildings proactively and comprehensively. In 2012, this approach was applied to 38 buildings and it had been applied to a total of 140 target buildings by the end of 2012.

Buildings with sub-divided units alongside fixed pitch hawker stalls raise serious fire safety concerns. FSD inspected 339 such buildings between December 2011 and April 2012, and took follow-up action on potential fire hazards and fire safety irregularities. Other irregularities such as unauthorised building works and change of land use were also referred to relevant departments for follow-up.

The department continues to promote fire safety awareness among owners, occupiers and property management staff of industrial buildings and takes enforcement action in those buildings.

### ***Appliances and Equipment***

The department has 945 fire appliances, ambulances and supporting vehicles and 21 fireboats provide fire protection and rescue services within Hong Kong waters.

### ***New Development***

The department continued to plan and build fire stations and ambulance depots to cope with the city's continuing development and growing service needs, and to adhere to the Government's policy of providing the fastest response possible to emergencies. In September 2012, the new Aberdeen Fire Station-cum-Ambulance Depot at Nam Fung Road came into operation.

The Fire Services Training School in Pat Heung has been in use since 1968. To meet advances in technology and fire-fighting and rescue techniques, construction of a new Fire Services Training School at Pak Shing Kok, Tseung Kwan O, began in August 2012 and is scheduled for completion in late 2015.

### ***Public Liaison Group***

A public liaison group comprising 30 members of the public from different walks of life, appointed annually, encourages public participation in monitoring and improving the delivery of emergency fire and ambulance services.

## **Correctional Services**

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) runs a comprehensive range of programmes for adult and young persons in custody under two broad headings: prison management and rehabilitation of offenders.

In 2012, the CSD managed 29 correctional facilities with 6,657 staff looking after a daily average of 9,285 persons in custody and 2,239 persons under supervision after discharge. Offenders sentenced to imprisonment are assigned to correctional institutions according to their gender, age and security ratings. Separate institutions are provided for males and females, and for adults and young offenders. Male and female young offenders aged between 14 and 20 may be admitted to a training centre or a rehabilitation centre. A detention centre programme is available for male offenders aged between 14 and 24. Drug addicts found guilty of an offence punishable by imprisonment may be placed in a drug addiction treatment centre.

All persons in custody receive proper care. Their diet follows approved scales of nutritional values with regard to their health, religious and dietary requirements. All convicted adult offenders, unless certified physically unfit, are required to work six days a week. They are assigned to different work posts according to their fitness and security ratings, personal background and balance of sentence. They receive earnings (which may be used to buy approved articles and canteen items) as an incentive to acquire good working habits and vocational skills. They can watch television and have access to newspapers and library books. They may send and receive letters, receive visits and participate in religious services.

## **Correctional Facilities**

The CSD manages 10 correctional facilities of different security grading for adult males and two correctional facilities for adult females. For young male offenders, the department operates two correctional institutions, one training centre and two rehabilitation centres. Young females are accommodated at one correctional institution and two rehabilitation centres. Hei Ling Chau Addiction Treatment Centre, Lai Sun Correctional Institution and Nei Kwu Correctional Institution accommodate convicted drug addicts. Siu Lam Psychiatric Centre separately houses male and female offenders of all categories who require psychiatric observation, treatment or assessment. Five of the correctional facilities cater for remanded males and females of different age groups. Each penal institution normally has dormitories, kitchens, dining rooms, laundries, workshops, areas for exercise and recreation, a library and a hospital. The CSD also manages two custodial wards in public hospitals for persons in custody who require special medical care or surgical operations.

In addition, the CSD operates three halfway houses to help offenders, who are released under supervision, to reintegrate into society. The residents may go out to work or attend school during daytime.

## **Penal Population**

In 2012, 11,479 adults (7,919 men and 3,560 women) were sentenced to prison, 6,561 adults (5,038 men and 1,523 women) on remand were taken into custody, 372 young offenders were sentenced to imprisonment (281 males and 91 females), and 596 young persons on remand

(510 males and 86 females) were taken into custody. In addition, 372 young offenders (339 males and 33 females) were sentenced to detention in training centres, rehabilitation centres or the detention centre, and 1,231 offenders (969 males and 262 females) were placed in drug addiction treatment centres; while 2,414 offenders (2,080 males and 334 females) were remanded pending reports on their suitability for sentencing to one of these centres.

Most of the correctional facilities are not purpose-built and have been in operation for decades. These aging and outdated facilities do not meet the current requirements of penal management. In 2012, work was completed on the former Lai Chi Kok Correctional Institution to provide around 400 additional penal places and a project started at Tai Lam Centre for Women to provide around 100 additional penal places and enhance the facilities. The department will continue to explore other possible redevelopment projects and improvement works.

### **Assessment Services**

Young offenders and offenders with drug addiction problems who are convicted of an offence punishable by imprisonment may be remanded in custody for a period not exceeding three weeks for assessment of their suitability for admission to various types of correctional facilities. They include a training centre, rehabilitation centre, detention centre or drug addiction treatment centre for young people aged between 14 and 20; a detention centre for young men aged between 21 and 24 and a drug addiction treatment centre for offenders aged 21 or above with drug addiction problems.

In 2012, the Rehabilitation Unit prepared a total of 3,632 suitability reports for the courts, and recommended 706 males and 87 females suitable for admission to a rehabilitation centre, training centre or detention centre, and 1,274 males and 360 females suitable for a drug addiction treatment centre.

### **Young Offender Assessment Panel**

The Young Offender Assessment Panel (YOAP), comprising representatives from the CSD and the Social Welfare Department, makes recommendations to magistrates and judges on the most appropriate rehabilitation programmes for remanded males aged between 14 and 24 and females aged 14 to 20. In 2012, 179 cases were referred to the YOAP by the courts for assessment.

### **Training Centres, Detention Centre and Rehabilitation Centres**

Training centres provide correctional training for young offenders for periods ranging from six months to three years, comprising half-day educational classes and half-day vocational training. They also receive character development training in the form of scouting, guiding or outward bound training. Upon release, these young offenders must take up suitable employment, education or vocational training and are subject to three-year statutory supervision.

A detention centre programme is in place for young male offenders aged between 14 and 20 for a period between one and six months, and young male adults aged between 21 and 24 for a period between three and 12 months. It emphasises strict discipline, strenuous training, hard

work and a vigorous routine. After release, the young offenders are placed under one-year statutory supervision.

Rehabilitation centres provide a sentencing option for the courts to deal with young offenders aged between 14 and 20 who are in need of a short-term residential rehabilitation programme. Young offenders are subject to one-year statutory supervision after release.

### **Education**

Young offenders under 21 are required to attend educational classes conducted by qualified teachers. They are encouraged to take part in both local and overseas public examinations. Offenders seeking an education may obtain financial assistance from the Prisoners' Education Trust Fund, the Prisoners' Education Subsidy Fund and the Care of Rehabilitated Offenders Association Foundation, which are all set up with charitable donations.

### **Vocational Training**

To help young offenders reintegrate into society as law-abiding citizens, the CSD provides half-day vocational training programmes for young offenders under 21 years of age to enable them to acquire job skills, obtain accreditation and develop work habits. The CSD provides eligible adult offenders<sup>2</sup> wishing to participate in the programmes with pre-release vocational courses. Full-time and part-time courses are provided at the Hei Ling Chau Correctional Institution, the Lo Wu Correctional Institution, the Pak Sha Wan Correctional Institution, the Pik Uk Prison, the Tong Fuk Correctional Institution and the Tung Tau Correctional Institution. Part-time courses are also held at six other institutions.

### **Correctional Services Industries**

The CSD provides work for adult offenders as required by law to keep them gainfully employed and to help them develop good working habits, a sense of responsibility and self-confidence. Through the training received at work, offenders can also acquire work skills to facilitate their reintegration into society.

In 2012, a daily average of about 4,790 offenders were engaged in productive work, providing government departments and subvented bodies with a wide range of goods and services. These include office furniture, uniforms, leather products, hospital linen, filter masks, fibreglass litter containers, traffic signs, precast concrete products and metal products, laundry services for hospitals and clinics, book binding for public libraries, printing work, file jackets and envelopes. The market value of these goods and services plus other domestic work and services provided for the CSD, was \$397.5 million in 2012.

### **Welfare and Counselling Services**

Rehabilitation Officers look after the welfare of persons in custody, and help them deal with personal problems arising from their detention or imprisonment. They conduct individual and group counselling sessions and assist in running various rehabilitation programmes and

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<sup>2</sup> 'eligible adult offender' means an adult offender who is allowed to be employed or work and is not subject to any condition of stay in Hong Kong after discharge.

services such as pre-release reintegration orientation courses, making arrangements for the persons in custody to meet their family members and supplying them with information on community resources.

### ***Drug Addiction Treatment***

The CSD runs a compulsory treatment programme for convicted drug addicts, which is an alternative to imprisonment sentence. Young addicts aged between 14 and 20 are accommodated separately from the adults. The programme includes two to 12 months in-centre treatment, followed by one-year statutory supervision.

### ***Medical Services***

Most of the correctional facilities have a hospital to provide persons in custody with primary medical treatment, health care and dental services. Persons in custody who need specialist treatment are referred to visiting specialists or specialist outpatient clinics of the Hospital Authority or the Department of Health.

### ***Psychological Services***

Psychological services are provided to offenders to improve their psychological well-being and to change their offending behaviour. Clinical psychologists and trained officers provide special treatment programmes for sex offenders, violent offenders, offenders with drug addiction problems, young offenders and women offenders who are in need of psychological service/treatment. They also provide assessment reports to the courts, review boards and institutional management on request. The CSD has adopted an empirically-based protocol and clinical measures for assessing the offender's risk of re-offending upon discharge.

### ***Supervision Services***

Statutory supervision is provided to discharged young prisoners, people discharged from training, rehabilitation, detention and drug addiction treatment centres, and offenders discharged under the Release Under Supervision, Pre-release Employment and Post-release Supervision schemes, as well as offenders discharged under a conditional release order or post-release supervision order. The aim of supervision services is to help ex-offenders reintegrate into society. Any breach of the supervision conditions may result in recall for a further period of training, treatment or imprisonment.

In 2012, 2,093 offenders were discharged under supervision and 1,117 people were recalled for breach of supervision conditions. Including those discharged in previous years and yet to complete their supervision, there were 2,278 people under the CSD's supervision at the end of 2012.

### ***Community Support***

Community acceptance and support are paramount to an offender's rehabilitation and reintegration into society. The Committee on Community Support for Rehabilitated Offenders is a non-statutory advisory body appointed by the Commissioner of Correctional Services to advise on rehabilitation programmes as well as strategies on reintegration and publicity. It comprises community leaders and professionals from various sectors and representatives of



non-governmental organisations and government departments. The CSD also organises a variety of publicity activities to appeal for public support for rehabilitated offenders.

### **Information Technology and Management Services**

The CSD continues to enhance the quality and efficiency of prison management and offender rehabilitation services through appropriate use of new technologies.

### **Visiting Justices**

Justices of the Peace visit each penal institution fortnightly or monthly, depending on the type of facility. The Justices of the Peace receive and investigate complaints from persons in custody, inspect their diets and examine the living and working conditions in the facilities.

### **Quality Assurance**

To uphold and continuously improve the department's service standards, CSD initiates enhancements through regular inspections and management studies.

### **Complaints**

The Complaints Investigation Unit handles and investigates complaints in relation to the department's work. All investigation reports are scrutinised by the CSD Complaints Committee. Offenders may also lodge complaints with any CSD senior officer or duty officer, or through other channels such as the visiting Justices of the Peace, the Ombudsman and Legislative Councillors.

### **Commissioner on Interception of Communications and Surveillance**

The Interception of Communications and Surveillance Ordinance provides a statutory regime for the authorisation and regulation of interception of communications and covert surveillance conducted by law enforcement agencies (LEAs) to prevent or detect serious crime and protect public security. The Commissioner on Interception of Communications and Surveillance is an independent oversight authority, appointed by the Chief Executive on the recommendation of the Chief Justice. Mr Justice Darryl Gordon Saw, Judge of the Court of First Instance of the High Court, is the present commissioner.

The commissioner is assisted by a secretariat in performing his statutory duties, which include overseeing and conducting reviews of the compliance by LEAs and their officers with the ordinance's relevant requirements; carrying out examinations upon application from persons who suspect that they are subjects of interception or covert surveillance conducted by LEAs; giving notifications to those affected in cases of interception or covert surveillance without the authority of a prescribed authorisation; and making recommendations to the Secretary for Security on the code of practice issued under the ordinance and to the heads of LEAs to better carry out the objects of the ordinance and the provisions of the code of practice.

The commissioner submits annual reports to the Chief Executive with statistical information and the commissioner's assessment of the overall compliance with the ordinance's requirements during the year. The annual report for 2011 was submitted to the Chief Executive in June 2012 and tabled in the Legislative Council in November 2012.

## **Civil Aid Service**

The Civil Aid Service (CAS) is a government auxiliary emergency service, established under the Civil Aid Service Ordinance. It has an establishment of 3,634 adult members, 3,232 cadets and 103 civil servants and in 2012 the CAS celebrated its 60th anniversary.

CAS members are trained to perform duties during various emergency situations such as typhoons, flooding and landslides. In 2012, CAS members were mobilised for five rescue operations during tropical cyclones and floods, 74 mountain search and rescue operations, and 38 vegetation fire-fighting operations. The CAS provided emergency standby manpower during the passage of Typhoons Doksuri, Vicente and Kai Tak in June, July and August 2012 respectively. After Typhoon Vicente, the CAS helped clean up plastic pellets scattered on shorelines and beaches from a spill.

In April, over 500 CAS personnel participated in a government-wide exercise to test the Daya Bay Contingency plan and in September over 1,500 CAS members were deployed in crowd management for the Legislative Council Election.

The CAS endeavours to develop leadership potential and cultivate civic and national awareness among young people by recruiting those aged 12 to 17 into the CAS Cadet Corps. Besides participating in recreational activities, CAS cadets are taught various disciplines and skills, including foot drill, basic emergency rescue, crowd management, first aid and rock climbing.

## **Government Flying Service**

The Government Flying Service (GFS) is a disciplined service department. It provides a wide range of flying services, including round-the-clock search and rescue coverage, casualty and medical evacuation, fire fighting and support for law enforcement agencies and other government departments.

The GFS has an establishment of 170 disciplined and 57 civilian staff, and operates a fleet of three fixed-wing aeroplanes and seven helicopters. In 2012, it flew a total of 6,021 hours, assisted in 492 search and rescue operations and transported 1,871 people to hospitals by helicopter. It also flew 9,909 government officers and official visitors in the course of their duties or programmes. In addition, auxiliary flying doctors and nurses flew a total of 470 hours in 658 operations.

## **Websites**

Security Bureau: [www.sb.gov.hk](http://www.sb.gov.hk) (links to Disciplined Services)  
Independent Commission Against Corruption: [www.icac.org.hk](http://www.icac.org.hk)  
Commissioner on Interception of Communications and Surveillance:  
[www.sciocs.gov.hk](http://www.sciocs.gov.hk)