

## Public Order

*Hong Kong remains one of the safest cities in the world. The overall crime rate (number of crimes per 100,000 population) fell by 7.8 per cent in 2014 while the violent crime rate fell by 9.5 per cent compared to 2013. The overall crime detection rate was 43.4 per cent.*

### 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 2014, the FCC continued to monitor the overall crime situation, including the trend of various types of commercial crime, and the progress of the 'Police Superintendent's Discretion Scheme', an alternative to prosecution where young offenders are concerned. The FCC targeted online fraud, sexual assault, theft and drug abuse in its 2014 publicity strategy. The FCC also reviewed and discussed the overall drug situation in 2013.

Working with the FCC, the District Fight Crime Committees (DFCCs) monitor the crime 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 take turns to attend DFCC meetings and functions to exchange views on topical crime issues and discuss ways to combat crime.

### Police Force

The Police Force's commitment to maintaining law and order helped ensure that Hong Kong remained one of the safest and most stable cities in the world.

At the end of 2014, the Police Force had an establishment of about 28,700 police officers and 4,600 civilian staff, reinforced by some 4,000 volunteers serving in the Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Force. A total of 231 inspectors and 1,110 constables were appointed during the year.

## **Crime**

Reported crimes in 2014 totalled 67,740, a decrease of 7.1 per cent compared with 72,911 in 2013. The crime rate stood at 935 cases per 100,000 population, a drop of 7.8 per cent compared with 1,014 in 2013. The decrease was mainly due to a drop in miscellaneous thefts, burglary, wounding and serious assault, and criminal damage. The number of violent crimes decreased to 11,073, a drop of 8.9 per cent compared with 12,153 in 2013.

In 2014, there were 309 cases of robbery, a drop of 38.2 per cent compared with 500 in 2013. The last reported case of robbery with genuine firearms was in 2006. Regarding non-violent crimes, burglaries decreased from 3,573 in 2013 to 2,700, a decline of 24.4 per cent, while overall thefts decreased from 31,598 in 2013 to 28,596, a drop of 9.5 per cent.

Of the reported crimes, 43.4 per cent (or 29,392 crimes) were detected, resulting in the arrest of 33,679 persons. Among these, 1,510 were juveniles aged between 10 and 15 while 2,814 were young persons aged between 16 and 20. Arrests of youths were mostly for wounding and serious assault, shop theft, miscellaneous thefts and serious drug offences.

The number of triad-related crimes decreased to 1,643 compared with 2,035 in 2013, a drop of 19.3 per cent. This type of crime accounted for 2.4 per cent of all reported crimes during the year.

During the World Cup 2014 in June and July, the police mounted operations against illegal gambling activities, resulting in the arrest of 176 persons, and seizure of a record high of \$13 million cash and betting slips amounting to more than \$750 million.

## **Commercial Crime**

The Commercial Crime Bureau (CCB) continued to tackle serious and complex frauds, technology crimes and counterfeiting of monetary instruments in Hong Kong and overseas. In 2014, the overall commercial crime situation remained stable.

The CCB continued to foster co-operation with its local, regional and international partners to combat cross-boundary commercial and technology crimes. During the year, the police collaborated with international law enforcement agencies (LEAs) in various multi-jurisdictional enforcement operations.

## **Technology Crime**

The Technology Crime Division (TCD) of the CCB co-ordinated the Police Force's efforts in combating technology crimes. As a member of the INTERPOL 'Eurasian Working Group on Cybercrime', the TCD played an active role in international collaboration against cross-boundary technology crimes.

## **Dangerous Drugs**

In 2014, the police tackled drug problems with a multi-faceted approach encompassing assistance from the community in disrupting drug trafficking at different levels.

Ketamine and methamphetamine continued to be the most commonly abused drugs in Hong Kong, accounting for 58 per cent of the 4,432 persons arrested for dangerous drugs in 2014.

To tackle transnational drug trafficking, the Narcotics Bureau (NB) maintained its strategic partnership with the Mainland and overseas LEAs. These joint efforts led to the dismantling of 26 drug production and storage sites, and seizure of 1,126 kilograms of illegal drugs in the region.

The emergence of new drugs continued to pose challenges to regulators and LEAs around the globe. Co-ordinated by the Security Bureau, the NB has been working closely with other stakeholders to assist in amending related legislation and devising timely and effective intervention strategies.

### **Financial Investigation**

The Joint Financial Intelligence Unit (JFIU) and the Financial Investigations Division (FID) under the NB proactively combat money laundering and terrorist financing activities and 143 persons were convicted of money laundering offences in 2014, with \$311.5 million of criminal assets restrained and \$204.1 million confiscated.

The JFIU and FID also took part in international conferences of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering and the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units. To implement the FATF's recommendations, the NB established a Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Risk Assessment Unit to assist in co-ordinating risk assessment exercises in Hong Kong.

### **Forensic Support**

The Identification Bureau provides fingerprint collection, firearms examination and photography services and collects DNA evidence from crime scenes to support crime investigations and prosecutions. In 2014, it linked 572 persons to 498 criminal cases.

### **Liaison**

As the designated contact point with LEAs in the Mainland, Taiwan, Macao and overseas countries, the Liaison Bureau (LB) communicates with their liaison officers stationed in Hong Kong for all police-related matters. In addition, the LB operates as a sub-bureau of the INTERPOL National Central Bureau China in dealing with all INTERPOL-related matters in Hong Kong.

To strengthen international law enforcement co-operation to combat cross-boundary crime, the police signed a number of co-operation agreements with overseas strategic partners, including a Memorandum of Understanding on combating international crime with the Indonesian National Police in November. During the year, the police mounted an arrest operation in collaboration with INTERPOL, the Singapore Police Force and the Philippine National Police which neutralised various 'sextortion' (or 'naked-chat' extortion) syndicates.

### **Counter Terrorism**

The police maintained a high degree of vigilance and a state of operational readiness commensurate with the prevailing terrorist threat level. They also maintained close liaison with

other government departments and private organisations, including those responsible for critical infrastructure, on security and counter terrorism measures. The police also conducted joint exercises regularly to enhance their response capability for any terrorist attack.

### **Traffic**

This year, there were 15,790 road traffic accidents involving casualties, with 100 deaths and 2,615 persons seriously injured. As compared with 2013, the number of accidents involving casualties and the number of deaths decreased by 1.9 per cent and 23.1 per cent respectively. Traffic fatalities were at the lowest level since 1953.

### **Public Order Events**

Hong Kong residents enjoy freedom of speech and freedom of assembly, procession and demonstration. In 2014, 6,818 public meetings and public processions were held in Hong Kong. The Police are committed to handling all public order events in a fair, just and impartial manner in accordance with the laws of Hong Kong. In handling such events, the police ensure public order and safety is maintained while endeavouring to strike a balance between facilitating all lawful and peaceful public meetings and processions on one hand, and minimising the adverse impact of these events on other members of the public on the other hand.

During the unlawful 'Occupy Movement' which lasted for 79 days from late September 2014, the police took action and appropriate measures against unlawful acts and conduct to maintain public order and ensure public safety.

### **Public Relations**

The Police Public Relations Branch (PPRB) continued to enlist public support in maintaining law and order by working in partnership with the media and the community. Information about police activities was disseminated to local and overseas media round-the-clock. An interactive electronic platform for disseminating information on unforeseen incidents to the media was launched in March. The PPRB also assisted the Fight Crime Committee in planning and implementing its publicity campaigns.

The PPRB's *Police Magazine*, *Police Report* and *Police Bulletin* provided information on crime trends and crime prevention measures, while the 'Hong Kong Police Mobile Application' and the 'Hong Kong Police YouTube channel' enhanced public understanding of policing activities, crime prevention and other matters. In addition, the PPRB assisted 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 relevant government agencies on location filming.

The PPRB publishes a fortnightly newspaper, *OffBeat*; a monthly *Junior Police Call Newsletter*; and *Hong Kong Police Review*.

### **Engaging the Community**

Members of the public were informed of police policies and operational priorities by Police Community Relations Officers, while the Junior Police Call scheme and the Police School Liaison Programme served as bridges between the police and young people.

Police districts continued to organise various programmes to engage members of the community who are not ethnic Chinese, including 'Project Gemstone' and 'Project Himalaya' in Yau Tsim and Yuen Long to raise their interest in joining the Police Force. Police Community Liaison Assistants in 14 police districts help establish a long-term relationship between the police and members of the community who are not ethnic Chinese.

The PPRB fully implemented the Senior Police Call scheme in February to promote crime prevention and personal safety among the elderly, as well as to help them participate in meaningful activities and serve the community.

In 2014, 80 persons received awards under the police's 'Good Citizen Award' scheme (sponsored by the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce) to recognise their assistance to the police in fighting crime.

### ***Planning and Development***

Converted from the former Lei Muk Shue Operational Base, the Detective Training Centre was opened in September to provide enhanced facilities for crime investigation training. Completion of the new Yau Ma Tei Divisional Police Station at Yau Cheung Road is expected by 2016.

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

During the year, the police further extended the radio coverage of the Third Generation Command and Control Communications System to more Mass Transit Railway lines. In addition, the Fingerprint and Palmprint Livescan System was implemented in September. By taking digital fingerprints and palmprints, the arrest process was streamlined.

### ***Training***

The Hong Kong Police College continued to strengthen its relationship with external training partners. In January, the Police College and the Canadian Police College jointly launched the International Executive Development in Policing Programme, with online learning and face-to-face lectures conducted in Hong Kong and Canada.

In June, the Police College's enhanced Probationary Inspector (PI) and Recruit Police Constable (RPC) training programmes were accredited by the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications under the Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (QF). The Police College could award PIs and RPCs with the Professional Diploma in Leadership and Management in Policing at QF Level 5, and the Professional Diploma in Policing at QF Level 4 respectively.

### ***Service Quality***

The Service Quality Wing continued to promote integrity, professionalism, continuous improvement and innovation in police services. In 2014, it published the Strategic Directions and Strategic Action Plan 2014-2016, which served as a guide for the police in meeting policing challenges. Living-the-Values workshops under the theme of 'Professional Responsibility and Accountability' were conducted to enhance service quality.

### **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, the CAPO handles all complaints lodged by the public against the police and supports the Independent Police Complaints Council in performing its statutory functions. The CAPO received 2,275 reportable complaints in 2014, 13 per cent less than the five-year average of 2,620.

To maintain public confidence, the IIO continued to embed ethics and integrity in the police through education and culture building, governance and control, enforcement and deterrent, and rehabilitation and support.

### **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 of 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 the police 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 2014, the IPCC scrutinised and endorsed the findings in 2,385 investigation reports on reportable complaints received in 2014 or carried forward from previous years, involving a total of 4,224 allegations. Of these, 133 allegations were found substantiated or partially substantiated and the police force has taken appropriate action against the officers involved.

### **Correctional Services Department**

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 2014, the CSD managed 30 correctional facilities with 6,726 staff looking after a daily average of 8,830 persons in custody and 2,169 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 persons in custody. 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 adults, 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 experience 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**

Among the 30 correctional facilities of different security grading managed by CSD, 10 are for adult males and two are for adult females. For young males, the department operates two correctional institutions, one detention centre, 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 persons in custody of all categories who require psychiatric observation, treatment or assessment. Six of the correctional facilities cater for remanded males and females of different age groups. Each penal facility 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 those released under supervision to reintegrate into society. The residents may go out to work or attend school during daytime.

### **Penal Population**

In 2014, 9,681 adults (6,780 men and 2,901 women) were sentenced to prison, 6,034 adults (4,623 men and 1,411 women) on remand were taken into custody, 294 young offenders were sentenced to imprisonment (231 males and 63 females), and 401 young persons on remand (344 males and 57 females) were taken into custody. In addition, 285 offenders (255 males and 30 females) were sentenced to detention in training centres, rehabilitation centres or the detention centre, and 1,041 offenders (811 males and 230 females) were placed in drug addiction treatment centres, while 1,916 offenders (1,620 males and 296 females) were remanded pending reports on their suitability for sentencing to one of these centres.

Most of the correctional institutions' facilities have been in use for many years or are housed in buildings originally used for other purposes. A partial redevelopment of Tai Lam Centre for Women to provide around 100 additional penal places and enhance its facilities is expected to be completed by the end of 2016. 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. In 2014, the Rehabilitation Unit prepared a total of 3,066 suitability reports for the courts, and recommended 466 males and 73 females as suitable for admission to a rehabilitation centre, training centre or detention centre, and 995 males and 311 females as 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 2014, 80 cases were referred to the YOAP by the courts for assessment.

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

Training centres provide custodial correctional training for young persons 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 and guiding. Upon release, they are subject to three-year statutory supervision.

The detention centre programme for young males aged between 14 and 20 is for a period between one and six months, and for 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, they 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. Those released from rehabilitation centres 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. Those pursuing further studies may apply for financial assistance from various charities: the Angel Education Fund, the Care of Rehabilitated Offenders Association Foundation, the New Life Foundation, the Prisoners' Education Subsidy Fund and the Prisoners' Education Trust Fund.



### ***Vocational Training***

To help young offenders reintegrate into society as law-abiding citizens, the CSD provides half-day vocational training programmes for those 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>1</sup> wishing to participate in the programmes with pre-release vocational courses. Full-time and part-time courses are provided at the Pik Uk Prison and the Hei Ling Chau, Pak Sha Wan, Tai Lam, Tong Fuk and Tung Tau Correctional Institutions. 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, they can also acquire work skills to facilitate their reintegration into society.

In 2014, a daily average of about 4,452 persons 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 by the CSD was \$460.6 million in 2014.

### ***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 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. Young addicts aged between 14 and 20 are accommodated separately from the adults, but the length of treatment is the same and 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.

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<sup>1</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.

### **Psychological Services**

Psychological services are provided to persons in custody 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, and young persons and women in custody. 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 young persons discharged from custody, people discharged from training, rehabilitation, detention and drug addiction treatment centres, those discharged under the Release Under Supervision, Pre-release Employment and Post-release Supervision schemes, and those discharged under a conditional release order or post-release supervision order. The aim of supervision is to help those supervised reintegrate into society. Any breach of the supervision conditions may result in recall for a further period of training, treatment or imprisonment. At the end of 2014, 2,169 persons were under active statutory supervision.

### **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. Persons in custody 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.

## **Customs and Excise Department**

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 5,958 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 2013-14, the excise duties collected amounted to \$9.72 billion, of which 60.1 per cent was from tobacco, 35.5 per cent from hydrocarbon oil, 4.3 per cent from liquor and 0.1 per cent from methyl alcohol and other alcohol products, representing a total increase of 8.3 per cent over 2012-13.

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 2014, the department registered 145 motor traders, assessed the provisional taxable value of 77,690 vehicles and re-assessed 25,944 of them, resulting in the collection of \$9.58 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 sustained enforcement action against illicit cigarette activities at all fronts. In 2014, there were 2,034 cases involving smuggling, storage, distribution and peddling of illicit cigarettes (an increase of 0.4 per cent compared with 2013) and 49 million sticks of illicit cigarettes were seized.

In 2014, 9,512 people were fined under the Compounding Scheme for abuse of duty-free cigarette concessions (an increase of 4.1 per cent compared with 2013), involving 3.1 million sticks of cigarettes.

The department co-operates with overseas customs administrations to stamp out transnational cigarette smuggling, including monitoring suspicious shipments through intelligence exchange with overseas enforcement authorities.

The department takes sustained action to stamp out illicit fuel activities. In 2014, it solved 62 illicit fuel cases, arrested 85 people and seized 19,600 litres of illicit fuel. There were 26.2 per cent fewer cases than in 2013.

### ***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 exchanges intelligence with local, Mainland and overseas law enforcement agencies to combat drug trafficking.

In 2014, the department dealt with 273 drug trafficking cases and smashed 10 drug storage and distribution centres, seizing 1,035 kilograms of assorted dangerous drugs<sup>2</sup> and arresting 445 people. To counter the recent significant increase in drugs trafficked via Hong Kong, the department engaged the logistics industry's support and strengthened co-operation with Mainland and overseas counterparts. As a result, in 2014 there were almost six times more arrests made locally and three times more arrests abroad in relation to transnational drug trafficking than in 2013. Co-operation with the Mainland and overseas law enforcement agencies resulted in the seizure of 222 kilograms of assorted dangerous drugs and the arrest of 36 persons in the Mainland and overseas.

As part of the government's vigorous efforts in combating 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 lead a healthy life.

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

Smuggling across the Hong Kong-Mainland boundary remains an enforcement concern. In 2014, 216 Hong Kong-Mainland smuggling attempts were detected, with 267 people arrested and \$382 million worth of smuggled goods seized. Tablet computers, mobile phones and computer central processing units 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.

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<sup>2</sup> Not including 6,464 kilograms of Khat which contained substances subject to control under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance.

### ***Fire Services Department***

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 9,443 uniformed and 720 civilian members and has well-trained personnel, advanced communications systems, and modern equipment and appliances.

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

Of the 36,335 fire calls received in 2014, six 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 1,597 cases. Careless handling or disposal of lighted materials, such as cigarette ends, matches and candles caused 1,047 fires, while electrical faults caused 799 fires. Unwanted alarms, triggered mainly by faulty automatic alarm systems, contributed to about 74 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 33,420 such special service calls in 2014.

### ***Ambulance Services***

The Ambulance Command handled 747,437 calls in 2014, an average of 2,048 calls per day.

The department's ambulance fleet is manned by paramedics. All emergency ambulances and emergency medical assistant motorcycles are fully equipped with life-support equipment such as automated external defibrillators and selected drugs for conditions including diabetes, shock, heart attack, shortness of breath and drug overdose. To enhance the emergency ambulance service, the department provides simple Post-dispatch Advice (PDA) by phone on some easily identified conditions (general bleeding, bone fractures/dislocation to limbs, burns, convulsion, heat exposure and hypothermia) after dispatching an ambulance to the scene. The PDA includes simple first-aid and time-saving advice to facilitate the provision of prompt medical assistance to 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 2014, first responders attended to 44,676 calls.

### ***Communications***

The Fire Services Communications Centre, manned round-the-clock and equipped with the Third Generation Mobilising System, 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 use of Digital Trunked Radio System ensures 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 upgrade fire safety in old buildings, vet loan applications for fire safety improvement works and raise public 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 hazards 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 2014, 4,956 envoys had been trained.

The New Projects Division, in collaboration with the Buildings Department (BD) 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 2014, the division vetted 14,026 buildings plans.

The Railway Development Strategy Division scrutinises the railway infrastructure's fire safety requirements and carries out acceptance inspections of fire service installations (FSI) of new railway projects (such as the West Island Line). 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 in producing a new weekly radio programme in 2014 to enhance public knowledge of fire and ambulance services.

By the end of 2014, 143,119 people had been trained as Fire Safety Ambassadors (FSA) and 341 community leaders had been appointed as FSA Honorary Presidents.

The department adopts a four-pronged approach (publicity, enforcement, checking and partnership) to tackle fire hazards in old buildings proactively and comprehensively. In 2014, this approach was applied to 21 buildings and it has been applied to a total of 184 target buildings since 2008.

To enhance fire safety of old buildings, the FSD and BD have commenced a joint operation to inspect the common means of escape of about 6,500 target buildings and take enforcement action to eradicate potential fire hazards. By March 2014, all target buildings had been inspected. Other irregularities such as 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 old buildings and takes enforcement action in those buildings.

The Licensing and Certification Command formulates and enforces fire safety policies and regulations. The command supports the government's 'Be the Smart Regulator' Programme to improve business friendliness, efficiency and transparency without compromising fire safety. It also takes enforcement action against fire hazards in licensed/registered premises to enhance public fire safety.

The Fire Service Installations Task Force monitors the status of FSI in all buildings and continues to strengthen public awareness of the need to maintain FSI in efficient working order. In 2014, 104,853 FSI inspections were made by the Task Force and 2,427 Fire Hazard Abatement Notices were issued. Legal action was taken against 12 owners of defective FSI and seven FSI contractors for regulatory contraventions.

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

The department has 1,002 fire appliances, ambulances and supporting vehicles and 21 fireboats to provide fire-fighting, rescue and emergency ambulance services.

### ***New Development***

The department continues 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. A new ambulance depot at Choi Shun Street, Sheung Shui, is under construction and is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2015.

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 the new Fire and Ambulance Services Academy at Pak Shing Kok, Tseung Kwan O, is under way 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.

### ***Government Flying Service***

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

The GFS has 173 disciplined and 56 civilian staff members, and a fleet of four fixed-wing aircraft and seven helicopters. In 2014, it flew a total of 6,490 hours, assisted in 567 search and rescue operations and transported 1,968 people to hospitals by helicopters.

## **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 2014, 42,177 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. The department also carries out special operations against forgery syndicates. In 2014, 523 forged travel documents were discovered, compared with 765 in 2013. The department maintains close contact with local, Mainland and overseas law enforcement agencies and consulates, and exchanges information on these documents with them.

### ***Interception of Targeted or Wanted Persons***

In 2014, 336,967 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.

### ***Unlawful Employment***

The Immigration Department's Anti-Illegal Workers Combat Squad combats illegal employment, conducting undercover patrols at illegal worker black spots. In 2014, 6,100 illegal workers were arrested in 13,462 raids, compared with 6,052 arrested in 13,708 raids in 2013. 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 2014, a total of 302 charges were laid against employers of illegal workers.

### ***Deportation and Removal***

The Immigration Department processes deportation and removal orders. In 2014, 441 people convicted of offences punishable with imprisonment for not less than two years were recommended for deportation, and 350 were deported. Another 624 were removed from the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), comprising 127 illegal immigrants and 497 people who had breached their conditions of stay.

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

During 2014, 4,220 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 employment, whether paid or unpaid, and 205 people were prosecuted under that provision in 2014.



## **Independent Commission Against Corruption**

Hong Kong upholds its reputation as an international city with a clean government, a level playing field for doing business and a society intolerant of corruption. Various international studies released in 2014 recognised Hong Kong as one of the world's least corrupt places, including the World Justice Project's Rule of Law Index, the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index and the Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index.

In operation for 40 years, the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) safeguards Hong Kong's probity through a holistic strategy of enforcement, prevention and education. Its independence is guaranteed under the Basic Law.

Corruption remains well under control. The ICAC Annual Survey 2014 found that 96.9 per cent of respondents expressed support for the ICAC and only 1.5 per cent had encountered corruption in the past 12 months, while the tolerance of corruption remained low with a mean score of 1.0 (with 0 representing total rejection and 10 representing total acceptance).

In 2014, the ICAC received 2,362 corruption complaints (excluding election-related complaints), 11 per cent less than 2013. Of these complaints, 63 per cent concerned the private sector, 30 per cent concerned government departments and 7 per cent concerned public bodies.

The successful prosecution of a former senior government official and some prominent businessmen, after a 133 day trial, demonstrated that the ICAC fights corruption without fear or favour, irrespective of the background, status and position of those involved.

### **Enforcement**

In 2014, 223 people were prosecuted for corruption and related offences, and 26 were cautioned for minor offences, on the advice of the Department of Justice. At year's end, 1,002 cases, including 35 related to elections, were under investigation. Prosecutions of major public interest included cases involving alleged corruption and misconduct by government officers, fraud and corruption involving listed companies and football match fixing facilitated by graft. Of the completed prosecutions, 87 per cent of cases resulted in convictions.

There were 51 complaints relating to the 2013 District Council By-election, 2014 District Council By-election and 2015 Rural Representative Election.

### **Prevention and Education**

In 2014, corruption prevention guides and training packages were tailor-made for various sectors, including construction and building management. Other initiatives included seminars, a Best Practice Checklist on procurement for government departments, Sample Codes of Conduct for public bodies, and a film series on business ethics for companies engaged in cross-boundary business.

The ICAC provided free corruption prevention advice to private organisations upon request on a confidential basis, and undertook 59 detailed studies to help government departments and public bodies reduce corruption risks and strengthen internal control. Advice was offered on 526 occasions on a range of issues, including new policies, laws and procedures.

Politically appointed officials were briefed on conflict of interest and integrity issues. Workshops on ethical leadership were organised for senior civil servants while training talks were held for about 20,000 government staff.

Some 32,000 tertiary students participated in the Youth Integrity Project organised jointly with 17 tertiary institutions and youth bodies. The anti-corruption message was also promoted to young people through cartoons, drama performances and the ICAC Ambassador Programme for tertiary students.

To mark the ICAC's 40th anniversary, a special publication on '40 years of ICAC Drama Series' was produced and old ICAC dramas were screened. A new 'ICAC Investigators' TV drama series, adapted from real corruption cases, was launched, along with a new advertising campaign, while a mobile exhibition vehicle continued to tour the territory.

The ICAC also used new media, including smartphone apps and social media, to upload videos and electronic games with probity messages and information on the ICAC's latest activities.

A multi-faceted education and publicity programme was introduced to promote clean rural elections scheduled for early 2015.

The ICAC Commissioner visited international organisations to brief them on Hong Kong's latest anti-corruption work and to share its experience.

### **Checks and balances**

Apart from 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 hosted an annual press conference to account for their work in overseeing the ICAC.

All complaints, whether pursuable or not, must be reported to the Operations Review Committee for scrutiny. No investigation can be written off without that committee's endorsement.

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.

### **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.

A secretariat assists the commissioner in performing the commissioner's 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 2013 was submitted to the Chief Executive in June 2014 and tabled in the Legislative Council in November 2014.

## **Narcotics Division**

The Security Bureau's Narcotics Division (ND) co-ordinates policies and measures to combat the drug problem. It also oversees anti-money laundering measures relating to the detection of physical cross-boundary transportation of currency and bearer negotiable instruments and 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 fighting drug abuse: preventive education and publicity; treatment and rehabilitation; legislation and law enforcement; external co-operation; and research.

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 from the medical, legal, education, media, business, community and social service sectors, and six official members (the Commissioner for Narcotics and representatives from the Education Bureau, the Hong Kong Police Force, and the departments of Customs and Excise, Health and Social Welfare). 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's main theme for anti-drug preventive education and publicity in 2014 remained 'Stand Firm! Knock Drugs Out!'. The ND's territory-wide campaign against youth drug abuse (launched in collaboration with Radio Television Hong Kong) included radio programmes featuring celebrities and young drug rehabilitees, a radio and stage drama promoting anti-drug messages, a large-scale event at the MacPherson Stadium in Mong Kok and a parental programme to promote parents' awareness of the problem of youth and hidden drug abuse.

To encourage drug abusers to seek help early and highlight the availability of help channels, anti-drug messages were promoted through television and radio Announcements in the Public Interest, a video-sharing website, and advertisements on mobile, online communication platforms and websites.

The ND's '186 186' anti-drug 24-hour hotline introduced a new help-seeking feature through instant messaging '98 186 186' manned by professional social workers as an additional channel for people with drug problems to seek help early. Where necessary, cases are referred to non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for treatment and rehabilitation services.

The ND also continued to work with the Education Bureau to provide support for schools to conduct drug education programmes for students and provide structured professional training for school personnel to equip them with drug knowledge and skills to identify and offer early assistance to at-risk students.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club Drug InfoCentre (DIC) continued to be a focal point for promoting anti-drug education and programmes. In 2014, it received 44,561 visitors, including students, youth groups, district bodies, community organisations, overseas delegations, parent-teacher associations and uniformed groups. DIC's new anti-drug web portal was also launched.

### ***Drug Testing***

The Healthy School Programme with a voluntary drug testing component is a school-based preventive education programme designed to strengthen students' resolve to refuse drugs and to foster a drug-free campus. In 2014-15, 71 secondary schools, partnered with 17 NGOs, implemented the programme.

The first stage of ACAN's public consultation on the RESCUE Drug Testing Scheme (RDT) was completed in January and the consultation conclusion announced in July 2014. The government is laying the ground work for a second stage of consultation. The RDT's objective is to identify drug abusers as early as possible so that they can receive counselling and treatment in a timely manner.

### ***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 39 centres, a voluntary methadone outpatient treatment programme operated by the Department of Health, substance abuse clinics at all seven hospital clusters of the Hospital Authority, 11 counselling centres for psychotropic substance abusers run by NGOs, and two centres for drug counselling.

In 2014, the ND started to prepare the 'Three-year Plan on Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Services in Hong Kong (2015-17)' to set out the priorities and strategies for treatment and rehabilitation services for the coming three years, and provide direction for service providers in the anti-drug field to review and develop their action plans and programmes.

### **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 2014, 'methoxetamine and relevant derivatives' and 'alpha-phenylacetoacetonitrile' were brought under the control of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance and the Control of Chemicals Ordinance respectively. The Police Force, the Customs and Excise and Health departments take action against drug crimes: 1,100 kilograms and 28,833 tablets of dangerous drugs were seized in 2014 and 4,877 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 2014, some 8,926 drug abusers were recorded in the registry, of which 22 per cent were new cases and 9 per cent were aged under 21. Heroin continued to be the most commonly abused drug in Hong Kong, with 52 per cent of drug abusers being heroin abusers. The proportion of psychotropic substance abusers was 61 per cent in 2014, and 96 per cent of abusers under the age of 21 abused psychotropic substances. Commonly abused psychotropic substances included ketamine (25 per cent), ice (23 per cent) and triazolam/midazolam/zopiclone (11 per cent). In 2014, 23 per cent of abusers abused more than one drug. The drug history of newly reported abusers continued to rise. Half of them had abused drugs for at least 5.2 years, compared with 4.7 years in 2013.

### **External Co-operation**

Hong Kong supports international and Mainland action against drug abuse and drug trafficking and participates in a number of anti-drug related international and regional meetings and seminars. 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, as members of the Chinese delegation, representatives from the ND, the police and the Customs and Excise, Health and Social Welfare departments took part in the 57th session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs held in Vienna.

### **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 2014-15 school year. In 2014, five research projects on various aspects of drug abuse were completed and six were ongoing.

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

With a capital base of \$3.35 billion, the Beat Drugs Fund aims to support community efforts to combat drug abuse through financing worthwhile community anti-drug projects, assisting drug treatment and rehabilitation centres to meet their statutory licensing requirements and supporting schools in implementing the Healthy School Programme with a drug testing component.

In 2014, the fund approved about \$72 million to support 49 anti-drug projects/programmes.

In 2014, the fund's Anti-drug Community Awareness Building programme was implemented through the 18 District Fight Crime Committees to support anti-drug initiatives to raise community awareness of the hidden drug abuse problem.

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

As a member of the Financial Action Task Force and a founding member of the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering, Hong Kong is committed to adhering to the international standards on anti-money laundering/counter financing of terrorism (AML/CFT). The Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau co-ordinates the overall AML/CFT policies, while the ND is responsible for establishing a system to detect cross-boundary transportation of currency and bearer negotiable instruments, as well as formulating customer due diligence and record-keeping requirements for designated non-financial businesses and professions, including lawyers, accountants, estate agents, trust and company service providers and dealers in precious metals and precious stones.

### ***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 was 8 per cent less than that of 2013 due to reduced case submissions in the last quarter of 2014, with ketamine, methamphetamine, heroin, cocaine, cannabis and benzodiazepines, in descending order of encounters, contributing 86 per cent of the cases examined.
- 2) Analysis of blood and urine for drink-driving and drug-driving cases, urinalysis and hair drug testing to support various abused drug monitoring programmes and toxicological examination. Compared to 2013, the demand for urinalysis dropped by 11 per cent while that for drink-driving, drug-driving and hair drug testing remained comparable. 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.

- 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 Hong Kong Identity Cards. In 2014, this continued to be the most commonly forged document, followed by foreign and Mainland travel documents.

The Criminalistics and Quality Management Group provides a wide range of forensic testing services to the law enforcement agencies, such as laboratory analyses on trace evidence, impression evidence and DNA evidence. The group also provides a round-the-clock crime scene examination and consultation service, which aims to lend expert assistance to the identification, retrieval and preservation of relevant scientific evidence materials for examination. Scenes requiring attendance range from relatively simple burglaries to complex homicides and rapes. There are officers specially trained for specialised investigations, such as ascertaining causes of fires, re-constructing traffic accidents, and interpreting bloodstain patterns where blood is shed.

### **Civil Aid Service**

The Civil Aid Service (CAS) is a government auxiliary emergency service established under the Civil Aid Service Ordinance with 3,634 adult members, 3,232 cadets and 103 civil servants.

CAS members are trained to perform duties during various emergency situations such as typhoons, floods and landslides. In 2014, CAS members were mobilised for two rescue operations during typhoons, 105 mountain search and rescue operations, and 15 rural fire-fighting operations. The CAS was also put on emergency standby during the passage of Typhoon Kalmaegi in September.

In response to avian influenza A (H7N9) alerts in 2014, CAS members performed health surveillance duty at four boundary control points and assisted the Department of Health in managing the quarantine centre at Lady MacLehose Holiday Village.

The CAS endeavours to develop leadership potential and cultivate civic awareness among young people by recruiting those aged 12 to 17 into the CAS Cadet Corps. Besides participating in recreational activities, CAS cadets are given various types of training, including foot drill, basic emergency rescue, crowd management, first aid and rock climbing. In 2014, the CAS Cadet Corps recruited 66 non-Chinese speaking cadets and established two non-Chinese speaking platoons to promote social inclusiveness.

### **Websites**

Commissioner on Interception of Communications and Surveillance:

[www.sciocs.gov.hk](http://www.sciocs.gov.hk)

Independent Commission Against Corruption: [www.icac.org.hk](http://www.icac.org.hk)

Security Bureau: [www.sb.gov.hk](http://www.sb.gov.hk) (links to Disciplined Services)