

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1023)

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): Not specified

Programme: (4) Centralised Services and Special Support

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (Alfred W H SIT)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) sent staff to participate in the WorldSkills Competition (WSC) held in Kazan in 2019. In this regard, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. the expenditure incurred for participating staff to receive training outside Hong Kong prior to the WSC;
2. the expenditure incurred for participating staff to take part in invitational competitions outside Hong Kong prior to the WSC;
3. the total expenditure incurred for participation in the WSC;
4. whether the above expenditure was paid by the participating staff? If yes, did the EMSD seek sponsorship for the staff concerned? If no, has the expenditure incurred for participation in the WSC by the EMSD been reflected in the approved and/or revised estimates for 2019-2020?

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 94)

Reply:

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) sends staff to participate in the WorldSkills Competition (WSC) to broaden their international perspectives and promote exchanges with international counterparts, thereby elevating the skill level of the EMSD. The expenditure for participating in the WSC 2019 is detailed below:

1. The expenditure incurred for participating staff to receive training outside Hong Kong prior to the WSC was about \$28,000.
2. The expenditure incurred for participating staff to take part in invitational competitions outside Hong Kong prior to the WSC was about \$26,000.
3. As the two EMSD staff members represented Hong Kong to participate in the WSC after successfully winning in the WorldSkills Hong Kong Competition organised by the Vocational Training Council (VTC), the expenses involved in the WSC such as air tickets, transportation, food and accommodation, etc. were borne by the VTC. The EMSD did not need to shoulder additional expenses for its staff's participation in the WSC.

4. The expenditure in paragraphs 1 and 2 above was paid by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Trading Fund (EMSTF) of the EMSD instead of by the participating staff. The EMSD did not seek sponsorship for such expenses. Head 42 does not include expenses attributable to the EMSTF.

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