

LegCo Panel on Transport

Application for Fare Increase by the "Star" Ferry Company Limited

Purpose

The "Star" Ferry Company Limited (SF) has recently submitted an application to the Transport Department to increase the fares for two of its ferry services. This paper informs Members of the details of SF's application.

Background

2. SF currently operates four ferry routes. Details of these routes are given below -

Existing Adult/Child Fares

(a) Central - Tsim Sha Tsui	Upper Deck: \$2.2/\$1.3 Lower Deck: \$1.7/\$1.2
(b) Wan Chai - Tsim Sha Tsui	\$2.2/\$1.3
(c) Central - Hung Hom	\$5.3/\$2.7
(d) Wanchai - Hung Hom	\$5.3/\$2.7

3. In June 2000, Transport Department received an application from SF to increase the fares of two services viz. Central - Tsim Sha Tsui service by an average rate of 15% and its Wanchai - Tsim Sha Tsui service by 13.7% (these fares were last increased by 6.6% and 10% respectively in June 1997). The application is being examined by Transport Department.

SF's Recent Fare Increase Application

4. SF submitted an application in June 2001 to the Transport Department for an average fare increase of 5% for its other two ferry services viz. Central - Hung Hom and Wanchai - Hung Hom services. SF's proposal is to increase the adult fares by 30 cents to \$5.6 and the child fares by 10 cents to \$2.8. SF also proposed to increase the fare for

monthly tickets from \$260 to \$280, and that for tourist tickets from \$54 to \$56. These fares were last increased by an average of 6% in April 2000.

5. Transport Department is seeking supplementary information and clarification from SF on the details of its recent fare increase application. When all the relevant information is available, we will examine the application carefully, taking into account all relevant factors including SF's financial position, the level and quality of service, public acceptability and affordability of the proposed fare adjustment, and the economic climate of Hong Kong.

Transport Bureau
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