

Information paper

Panel on Security of the Legislative Council

Maintenance cost of the Smart Identity Card System and provision of Government records to the public

INTRODUCTION

At the LegCo Panel on Security meeting on 9 April 2002, Members enquired about the maintenance cost of the Smart Identity Card System (the System). A Member also enquired whether an individual could obtain all his personal records from one single government department. This paper provides the relevant information.

MAINTENANCE COST OF THE SYSTEM

2. Under the contract, PCCW Business e-Solutions Limited is required to maintain the System in its full and proper working order and to provide maintenance service for a period of 10 years. PCCW Business e-Solutions Limited has undertaken to provide a twelve-month warranty for the System starting from the date of the issuance of the System Acceptance Certificate. After the warranty period is over, maintenance service will be provided at an annual recurrent cost of HK\$22,631,064. Among the four tenderers who were found qualified for the tender, this is the lowest quotation.

3. The contract specifies that there shall be no increase in the periodic licence fees or maintenance charge or on-going support service charges during the first year. Thereafter, such fees or charges may, at the Government's sole discretion be adjusted either upwards or downwards at a rate not exceeding the movement in the latest available Government Consumer Price Index B. The contract also allows the Government to terminate the maintenance services in respect of all or any

part of the System by giving the contractor three months' written notice. Should it become necessary to terminate the maintenance services, there are adequate safeguards in the contract to ensure that the tasks can either be taken up by a government department or by another contractor so that the smooth operation of the System will not be affected.

4. Detailed breakdown on other recurrent costs of the HKSAR Identity Card Project is at Annex.

PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT RECORDS

5. Data access requests are to be lodged directly with the relevant policy bureau or government department. There is no one-stop service for such purpose.

Provision of Registration of Persons (ROP) Data

6. Requests for provision of Registration of Persons (ROP) data are dealt with in accordance with the ROP Regulations. Under Regulation 23, a registration officer in his absolute discretion may, upon receipt of the written and signed request from the person to whom an identity card relates and payment of \$395 -

- (a) certify to the correctness or otherwise of such matters relating to such person contained in the written request which are within his knowledge; and
- (b) furnish a certified copy of the photograph of such person or relevant document in his custody.

Provision of Personal Data Other than ROP Data

7. Requests for provision of personal data (other than ROP data) are handled in accordance with the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (PDPO) or as the case may be, other relevant legislation.

8. Generally speaking, under section 18 of the PDPO, an individual, or a relevant person on behalf of an individual, may make a

request -

- (a) to be informed by a data user whether the data user holds personal data of which the individual is the data subject;
- (b) if the data user holds such data, to be supplied by the data user with a copy of such data.

9. Notwithstanding the above, there are provisions in the PDPO under which a data access request may be refused. Such provisions include section 20 (e.g. if the request will require the disclosure of the personal data of another individual and the individual has not consented to the disclosure of data to the requestor), section 57 (e.g. for the purposes of safeguarding security, defence or international relations in respect of Hong Kong.) and section 58 (e.g. for the prevention or detection of crime).

Security Bureau
30 April 2002

Recurrent Expenditure of the HKSAR Identity Card Project

	2002-03 \$'000	2003-04 \$'000	2004-05 \$'000	2005-06 and onwards \$'000
(a) Hardware and software ¹ maintenance	3,962	10,094	41,791 ²	41,791 ²
(b) Contract services ¹	-	15,591	17,008	17,008
(c) Smart card ³	-	4,725	8,100	8,100
(d) Miscellaneous ¹	-	4,648	4,648	4,648
(e) Accommodation ⁴	-	6,052	6,088	6,088
Sub-total	3,962	41,110	77,635	77,635
(f) Staff costs ⁵	-	12,147	13,510	13,023
Total	3,962	53,257	91,145	90,658

¹ When compared with the previous submission to the Finance Committee (Paper No. FCR(2000-01) 82), there is no change in the scope and cost estimates for these items.

² The estimates include an annual recurrent cost of HK\$22,631,064 for the maintenance service provided by PCCW Business e-Solutions Limited. The amount is not included in the estimate for 2003/04 as PCCW Business e-Solutions Limited has undertaken to provide a twelve-month warranty for the System starting from the date of the issuance of the System Acceptance Certificate.

³ The annual expenditure of \$8,100,000 is for the additional card cost of 540 000 blank smart ID cards to meet the annual demand of the Registration of Persons (ROP) offices. Comparing with the previous estimate of \$26,865,000, it represents a decrease of 69.8%. There is no change in the scope when compared with the previous submission.

⁴ The annual expenditure of \$6,088,000 is for providing accommodation for additional staff, card personalisation equipment and the training and testing site. Comparing with the previous estimate of \$5,135,000, it represents an increase of 18.6% partly attributable to the adjustment of rental cost based on the updated market rate and partly to the additional rental cost to be incurred as a result of the relocation of two ROP offices in the New Territories. The workflow and layout of ROP offices will be changed to cater for the implementation of the new system. Because of the changes, two of the ROP offices will have to be expanded by about 20% to accommodate the new system and the rising population in the regions. There is no change in the scope as compared with the previous submission.

⁵ The annual expenditure of \$13,023,000 represents the additional staff cost arising from the HKSAR ID Card Project. There is no change in the staffing requirement when compared with the previous submission. The increase of 2.8% over the previous estimate of \$12,663,000 is due to the updating of the staff cost effective from April 2001.