

Legislative Council Panel on Financial Affairs

Follow-up to meeting on 6 June 2005

Proposal to revise fees and charges for services not directly affecting people's livelihood under the purview of the Treasury Branch

When the above agenda item was discussed at the meeting of the Panel on Financial Affairs on 6 June 2005, the Administration was requested to provide additional information relating to-

- (a) the up-to-date position of various bureaux in conducting the review of fees and charges for services under their respective purviews; and
- (b) the timetable for various bureaux to brief the relevant Panels of the Legislative Council on the results of their review.

2. In response to these requests, the Administration has prepared the attached **Annex** for Members' information.

**Fees and Charges Revision
Panel Consultation**

(I) Panel consultations made as at 27 June 2005

Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau (HPLB)	Month
<p>1. HPLB consulted the Panel on Planning, Lands and Works in November 2004 on revisions of fees relating to oil storage installation and registration of building professionals and contractors. The revised fees were implemented in February 2005.</p>	Nov 2004
<p>Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (ETWB)</p> <p>2. ETWB consulted the Panel on Environmental Affairs in December 2004 on revisions of fees relating to environment and conservation related services. The revised fees for conservation related services were implemented in March/June 2005. For the environment-related fees (mainly the chemical waste disposal charges), discussion with the trade and preparation work for legislative amendments are in progress.</p>	Dec 2004
<p>Home Affairs Bureau (HAB)</p> <p>3. HAB consulted the Panel on Home Affairs Panel in March 2005 on revision of its fees, which mainly included licensing fees for hotel and guesthouses, registration fees of owner's corporations, registration fees for local newspaper and news agency, fees for use of community halls/centres, etc. The revised charges for community halls/centres were implemented on 1 June. The amendment regulation for registration fees for local newspaper and news agency was tabled in the Council for negative vetting on 22 June 2005 and will be implemented on 1 December 2005. HAB is also working on the legislative amendments for other fees.</p>	Mar 2005

<p>Commerce, Industry and Technology Bureau (CITB)</p> <p>4. CITB has consulted the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting in March 2005 on the fees relating to entertainment special effects. The revised fees were implemented on 10 June 2005.</p>	<p>Mar 2005</p>
<p>Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (FSTB)</p> <p>5. FSTB consulted the Panel on Financial Affairs in June 2005 on the fees of departments under the purview of Treasury Branch. Legislative amendments are under preparation.</p>	<p>Jun 2005</p>
<p>Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (ETWB)</p> <p>6. ETWB consulted Panel on Transport on 24 June 2005 for its transport-related fees. Legislation amendments are under preparation.</p>	<p>Jun 2005</p>

(II) Tentative plan for consulting relevant Panels of the Legislative Council on revision of fees in the coming months

	Month
<p>Security Bureau (SB)</p> <p>1. SB has submitted its paper for fee revision to the Security Panel in late June 2005. After reading the Paper, Members will decide whether the fee revision exercise should be discussed at the Panel meeting on 5 July 2005.</p>	Jul 2005
<p>Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB)</p> <p>2. The paper on revision of school fees for senior secondary schools will be discussed at the meeting of the Panel on Education on 11 July 2005.</p>	Jul 2005
<p>Economic Development and Labour Bureau (EDLB)</p> <p>3. EDLB is considering room for making the structure of Marine Department's fees more user-friendly and attractive to users of the Hong Kong port. It plans to seek the views of the Economic Services Panel in July.</p>	Jul 2005
<p>Commerce, Industry and Technology Bureau (CITB)</p> <p>4. CITB is consulting the film industry on its fee proposals for film censorship and plans to consult the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting in Oct/Nov 2005.</p> <p>5. CITB is also reviewing the fees for broadcasting licences and, tentatively, plans to consult the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting in Oct 2005.</p>	Oct/Nov 2005 Oct 2005
<p>Health, Welfare and Food Bureau (HWFB)</p> <p>6. HWFB is reviewing the fees relating to (i) the registration of health care professionals, (ii) fees relating to the licensing of</p>	End of 2005

<p>pharmaceutical products, irradiating apparatus, Chinese medicines, and certificate for quarantine and prevention of diseases, and (iii) fees and charges items for other miscellaneous medical related services. Tentatively, HWFB plans to consult the Panel on Health Services by end of 2005 after consulting the stakeholders.</p> <p>7. HWFB is also reviewing the fees under the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and working on the alignment of fees inherited from the two former Municipal Councils. It will consult the Panel in good time.</p>	-
<p>Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau (HPLB)</p> <p>8. HPLB/Lands Department are reviewing the fees under Lands Department and will consult the Panel in November 2005 tentatively.</p> <p>9. HPLB/Buildings Department are reviewing the fees relating to plan processing and plan to consult the Panel in early 2006.</p>	<p>Nov 2005</p> <p>Early 2006</p>
<p>Home Affairs Bureau (HAB)</p> <p>10. HAB and the concerned departments are working on the alignment of fees inherited from the two former Municipal Councils and will consult the Panel in good time.</p>	-