"Implementation of an Integrated Licensing, Fire Safety and Prosecution System"

FCR(2007-08)4

Supplementary Note

Purpose

This note addresses the following questions raised by the Chairman of the Finance Committee regarding the implementation of an Integrated Licensing, Fire Safety and Prosecution System (LIFIPS) –

(a) the estimated cost of the provision of each of the enhanced functions as set out in paragraph 4(a) to (e) in the discussion paper; and

(b) regarding paragraph 4(c), an estimate of the number of people who will submit forms by electronic means.

Estimated Cost of the Provision of Each of the Enhanced Functions as Set out in Paragraph 4(a) to (e) in the Discussion Paper

2. The total non-recurrent expenditure for the implementation of LIFIPS by the Fire Services Department (FSD) is $32,726,000. We have listed out, in paragraph 7(a) to (i) of the discussion paper, the hardware, software, implementation services, contract staff, site preparation, training, consumables, document scanning services and contingency costs to be covered by the non-recurrent expenditure. The various cost items set out in paragraph 7(a) to (i) are for the implementation of the whole LIFIPS to achieve the various enhanced functions mentioned in paragraph 4(a) to (e). Therefore, it is difficult for us to break down the cost items set out in paragraph 7(a) to (i) to match the various enhanced functions mentioned in paragraph 4(a) to (e). Nevertheless, we can provide the estimated costs of the special installations for some functions as follows -

(a) paragraph 4(b) mentioned that the proposed system can provide inspecting officers with more fieldwork support. For this, FSD will need to procure pocket personal computers and the related software at an estimated cost of about $1,364,000; and

(b) paragraph 4(c) mentioned that the proposed system can facilitate the processing of e-submission of forms. For this, FSD will need to procure the related software of application server and database server. The expenditure required is about $56,000.

We have consulted the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer on the above analysis.

Estimate of the Number of People who will Submit Forms by Electronic Means

3. Regarding paragraph 4(c), among the documents received by FSD every year, most of them are maintenance certificates submitted by about 1 170 Registered Fire Service Installation Contractors and about 160 Registered Specialist Contractors (Ventilation Works Category). The total number of these maintenance certificates is over 140 000 each year.

4. After the implementation of the new computer system, we estimate that over half of the contractors may submit their maintenance certificates by electronic means. This is because under the new system, FSD will design electronic template forms to facilitate contractors to input the relevant data more conveniently. As the skills required will not be high, in view of the wide usage of computer and internet nowadays, we believe that many contractors will consider submitting the certificates by this means.

5. As regards other applications from small and medium enterprises for various types of licences, we will promote this service through channels like the mass media and business liaison group meetings. However, it is difficult to estimate the actual number of users accurately

at this stage.

Security Bureau
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