



審計署
香港灣仔
告士打道七號
入境事務大樓
二十六樓

Audit Commission
26th Floor
Immigration Tower
7 Gloucester Road
Wanchai, Hong Kong

圖文傳真 Facsimile : 2583 9063

電話 Telephone : 2829 4303

本署檔號 Our Ref.: UB/BAR/PAC/46

Urgent By Fax

來函檔號 Your Ref.: CB(3)/PAC/R46

23 May 2006

Clerk, Public Accounts Committee
(Attn: Ms Dora WAI)
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road, Central
Hong Kong

Dear Ms Wai,

**The Director of Audit's Report on the
results of value for money audits (Report No. 46)**

Chapter 1: Collection of fines imposed by Magistrates' Courts

Thank you for your letter of 18 May 2006 requesting me to provide additional information to facilitate the Public Accounts Committee's consideration of the subject. The information you requested is set out seriatim below:

- (a) Table 2 shows the extent of settlement of fines as at **31 December 2005**, including the number of cases of outstanding payment and the total outstanding amount in respect of fixed penalty fines relating to moving offences and parking contraventions **due in each financial year from 2002-03 to 2005-06**. For those fines due in earlier financial years, a larger percentage of fines would be settled, as a result of recovery action taken (e.g. the execution of distress warrants and non-payment warrants) over a longer period. Therefore, as at 31 December 2005, the number of cases of outstanding payment and the total outstanding amount in respect of fines due in each financial year from 2002-03 to 2005-06, including those related to moving offences and parking contraventions, showed an upward trend. To illustrate the point that an increasing percentage of fines would be settled as time goes by, an analysis of the settlement of fixed penalty fines relating to moving offences and parking contraventions due within financial year 2003-04 is given in Appendix A; and

-
- (b) for fixed penalty fines relating to moving offences and parking contraventions due in each financial year from 2002-03 to 2005-06, the number of cases of outstanding payment as well as the total outstanding amount of the above fines, together with the respective percentages, as at 31 March of the same financial year is given in Appendix B.

A Chinese translation of this letter will be forwarded to you shortly.

Yours sincerely,



(Patrick LEUNG)
for Director of Audit

Encls.

c.c. Judiciary Administrator
Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions
Commissioner of Police
Deputy Commissioner of Police (Operations)
Commissioner for Transport
Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Attn: Miss Amy TSE)

**Settlement of fixed penalty fines relating to moving offences
and parking contraventions due within financial year 2003-04**

	Number of cases		Amount of fines	
	(Number)	(Percentage)	(\$ million)	(Percentage)
Due within financial year 2003-04 (a)	50,928	100%	58.0	100%
Settlement from 1.4.2003 to 31.3.2004	36,898	72.5%	41.7	71.9%
Settlement from 1.4.2003 to 31.3.2005	43,605	85.6%	49.6	85.5%
Settlement from 1.4.2003 to 31.12.2005 (b)	45,051	88.5%	51.3	88.4%
Outstanding as at 31.12.2005 (c) = (a) – (b)	5,877	11.5%	6.7	11.6%

Source: Judiciary records and Audit analysis

Remarks: The figures shown in the first, fourth and fifth rows of the above table agree with those shown in Table 2 of Chapter 1 in respect of fixed penalty fines relating to moving offences and parking contraventions due within financial year 2003-04.

**Fixed penalty fines relating to moving offences and parking contraventions
due in each financial year from 2002-03 to 2005-06 and
outstanding as at 31 March of the same financial year**

	Number of cases			Amount of fines		
	Due within financial year	Outstanding as at 31 March of financial year		Due within financial year	Outstanding as at 31 March of financial year	
	(Number)	(Number)	(Percentage)	(\$ million)	(\$ million)	(Percentage)
2005-06	63,683	17,157	26.9%	61.7	16.7	27.1%
2004-05	51,165	14,328	28.0%	59.1	16.7	28.3%
2003-04	50,928	14,030	27.5%	58.0	16.3	28.1%
2002-03	53,560	14,687	27.4%	60.6	16.9	27.9%

Source: Judiciary records and Audit analysis