

香港警察總部

香港軍器廠街

警政大樓



HONG KONG POLICE

HEADQUARTERS

ARSENAL HOUSE

ARSENAL STREET

HONG KONG

本署檔號 OUR REF : (28) In CP/LA 20/10/2 SF (15) 05-06 Pt III

來函檔號 YOUR REF : CB(3)/PAC/R46

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15 January 2007

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

I refer to your letter of 27 October 2006 and would like to provide the following information for the Public Accounts Committee's reference -

- (a) Progress regarding the review of the existing threshold of \$50,000 for application of distress warrants relating to parking contraventions (Paragraphs 3.4(c) and 3.17(a) of Audit Report refer)

Under the present mechanism, Transport Department (TD) would refuse renewal of annual vehicle licence under the name of the defaulter with outstanding parking fines. As such, most defaulters, after their applications for renewal of licences have been refused by

TD, would pay the outstanding parking fines to the Judiciary so that they could have their licences renewed in TD. Taking into consideration this existing effective means of collecting outstanding parking fines, the estimated costs of executing distress warrants by Judiciary Administrator (JA) and the Police workload in processing the warrants, I am of the view that it would not be cost effective to issue a distress warrant for only a small amount of fine. I thus propose the threshold be revised from \$50,000 to \$5,000. With the proposed threshold of \$5,000, a distress warrant would be issued to a defaulter when a total of 5 court orders of \$1,080 each (i.e. \$320 (fine) + \$320 (penalty) + \$440 (court cost)) have been issued on him.

Based on figures as at 20 December 2006, there are about 630 defaulters with outstanding parking fines between \$5,000 and \$50,000 and if the threshold is lowered to \$5,000, we would have to issue distress warrants to them. Department of Justice (DoJ) has indicated that it has no problems with the proposed threshold of \$5,000. JA also has no objections to the proposed threshold.

As mentioned in my previous letter of 30 September 2006, the vendor of TD's VALID IV project has advised that system modification for the revision could only be made after full development of VALID IV project in August 2007.

The Police would continue to discuss with DoJ, JA and TD the implementation details for the setting of the new threshold, with a view to implementing the change after August 2007.

- (b) Progress regarding the proposed measure of including defaulters with five or more non-payment warrants relating to moving offences in the Immigration Department (ImmD)'s watch list and intercepting them at control points for action by the Police
(Paragraph 5.17 of the Audit Report refers)

All Police Districts where the immigration control points are located have been canvassed for their views on the proposed measure. The Police are now working out the operational procedures with ImmD. It is estimated that the operational procedures would be completed before end March 2007.

Should you require further information, I shall be happy to assist.

Yours sincerely,



(Mrs. Kitty CHENG)

for Commissioner of Police

c.c. Judiciary Administrator
Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions
Commissioner for Transport
Director of Immigration
Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury
Director of Audit