FINANCIAL SERVICES AND

THE TREASURY BUREAU

Central Government Offices,

Lower Albert Road Hong Kong

CB(1)950/07-08(01)

財經事務及庫務局 (庫務科)



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香港下亞厘畢道 中區政府合署

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本函檔號 Our Ref. : 來函檔號 Your Ref. :

28 February 2008

Miss Polly Yeung Clerk to Subcommittee Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road Central Hong Kong

Dear Miss Yeung,

Subcommittee on Proposed Resolution under Section 7(1) of the Public Finance Ordinance (Cap.2)

Further to my discussion with the Hon Emily Lau this afternoon, I would like to supplement the information paper we provided on 27 February 2008 with the following –

- (a) Section 7(2) of the Public Finance Ordinance stipulates that expenditure charged on the general revenue under the Resolution shall be arranged in accordance with the heads and subheads shown in the Estimates of expenditure laid under section 5, which is for the next following financial year. It follows therefore that the Resolution seeking the funding to cover the expenditure in respect of the period from 1 April to the enactment of the respective Appropriation Ordinance has to be prepared based on the draft Estimates for the next financial year, and not the current financial year as in the case of the United Kingdom and Canada.
- (b) From time to time, there may be reorganisation in the Government which will result in changes in heads and subheads in the Estimates of expenditure. It may not be appropriate to work out the funding sought

on the basis of the Estimates of the current financial year as it may not truly reflect the funding requirements under the respective heads and subheads of the following financial year. For example, the reorganisation of the policy bureaux in July 2007 has resulted in the creation of two new heads of expenditure in 2008-09 while two other heads will be deleted at the same time. Calculating the vote on account for the two new heads on the basis of the provisions for the previous year may result in insufficient funding. In this respect, a table comparing the Estimates for 2007-08 and 2008-09 is attached for reference.

- (c) To ensure that funds are voted before 1 April each year, we normally move the motion not later than the last but one Legislative Council meeting before the close of the current financial year. Working backwards and to give sufficient notice for moving the motion, the notice is usually served in the middle of February, i.e. in advance of the release of the Budget but the motion is passed after the draft Estimates are tabled in the Legislative Council.
- (d) The Resolution is to cover expenditure to be charged to the General Revenue Account only. Other expenditure to be charged to the Capital Works Reserve Fund (e.g. the proposed injection of \$21.6 billion to the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority) and other Funds will not be covered by the Resolution.
- 2. I should be grateful if you could pass the information to Members of the Subcommittee for reference.

Yours sincerely,

Amy toe

(Miss Amy Tse)
for Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau

c.c. Law Draftsman

(Attn: Mr Michael Lam)

Encl.

Comparison between the Estimates of 2007-08 and 2008-09

		Approved estimate 2007-08	Estimate 2008-09	Comparison between two years	
Head o	f Expenditure	2,000	5'000	\$'000	%
		74,629	79,145	4,516	6.1
21	Chief Executive's Office	1,439,358	897,545	-541,813	-37.6
22	Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	59,227	63,633	4,406	7.4
23	Auxiliary Medical Service	113,092	119,263	6,171	5 .5
24	Audit Commission	1,361,087	1,432,348	71,261	5.2
25	Architectural Services Department	475,211	484,715	9,504	2.0
26	Census and Statistics Department	73,739	80,831	7,092	9.6
27	Civil Aid Service	626,432	677,479	51,047	8.1
28	Civil Aviation Department	2,415,644	2,539,155	123,511	5.1
30	Correctional Services Department	2,127,362	2,308,147	180,785	8.5
31	Customs and Excise Department Civil Engineering and Development Department	1,306,412	1,431,120	124,708	9.5
33	Government Secretariat: Beijing Office	53,029	•	-53,029	-100.0
35	Government Secretariat. Desjung Office	3,077,573	3,344,211	266,638	8.7 3.3
37	Department of Health Drainage Services Department	1,585,648	1,638,608	52,960	3.3 7.6
39	Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	287,276	309,160	21,884	
42	Environmental Protection Department	2,757,857	3,349,442	591,585	21.5 9.9
44	Fire Services Department	3,118,259	3,427,865	309,606	
45	General Expenses of the Civil Service	3,690,660	3,385,233	-305,427	-8.3 0.0
46	Government Secretariat: Office of the Government Chief	564,033	564,184	151	0.0
47	Information Officer			40.7/3	14.9
46	Government Laboratory	286,282	329,049	42,767	7.7
48	Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	4,077,004	4,390,654	313,650	0.6
49	Government Property Agency	1,7 95, 517	1,805,428	9,911	31.0
51 53	Government Secretariat: Home Affairs Bureau	1,057,019	1,384,989	327,970	0.0
55	Government Secretariat: Commerce and Economic	63,594	63,609	15	0,0
23	Development Bureau (Communications and Technology				
	Branch)			30 770	7.0
59	Government Logistics Department	419,644	448,883	29,239 102,046	5.1
60	Highways Department	2,007,163	2,109,209	8,817	7.6
62	Housing Department	116,736	125,553	191,964	14.2
63	Home Affairs Department	1,355,286	1,547,250	191,564	4.2
70	Immigration Department	2,601,182	2,709,371	5 5,64 0	7.9
72	Independent Commission Against Corruption	701,247	756,887	22,129	6.4
74	Information Services Department	347,918	370,047	72,657	6.2
76	Inland Revenue Department	1,179,031	1,251,688 92,748	5,797	6.7
78	Intellectual Property Department	86,951	109,307	2,156	2.0
79	Invest Hong Kong	107,151	1,044,758	49,167	4.9
80	Judiciary	995,591	825,042	49,305	6.4
82	Buildings Department	775,737	1,016,769	44,327	4,6
90	Labour Department	972,442	1,698,662	62,865	3.8
91	Lands Department	1,635,797 906,630	949,200	42,570	4.7
92	Department of Justice	722,540	758,863	36,323	5.0
94	Legal Aid Department		5,054,876	140,680	2.9
95	Laigure and Cultural Services Department	4,914,196 302,090	310,907	8,817	2,9
96	Government Secretariat: Overseas Economic and Trade	302,090	510,501	•	
	Offices	896,832	918,973	22,141	2.5
100	Marine Department		40,887,954	31,262,512	324.8
106	Miscellaneous Services	9,625,442 351,893	385,927		9.7
112	Legislative Council Commission	81,612	85,144		4.3
114	Office of The Ombudsman	132,287	134,284		
110		436,336			7.4
114		15,040,411	16,525,011		
120	Pensions	13,557			
12		11,353,238	-		
12:		15,216			17.5
130	6 Public Service Commission		-		

Comparison between the Estimates of 2007-08 and 2008-09

Head of Expenditure		Approved estimate 2007-08	Estimate 2008-09 \$'000	Comparison between two years	
		2000		2000	%
	The Samuel Division	_	63,731	63,731	-
137	Government Secretariat: Environment Bureau	85,417	96,604	11,187	13.1
138	Government Secretariat: Development Bureau (Planning	40,11	,		
	and Lands Branch)	89,934	65,423	-24,511	-27.3
139	Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau (Food		-		
140	Branch)	29,124,646	30,762,021	1,637,375	5.6
	Government Secretariat: Food and Health Burcau (Health	aryam yere			
	Branch)	•	498,688	498,688	-
141	Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau Government Secretariat: Offices of the Chief Secretary for	595,274	498,406	-96,868	-16.3
142	Government Secretarist: Offices of the Chief Secretary		·		
- 4-	Administration and the Financial Secretary Government Secretariat: Civil Service Bureau	396,685	397,937	1,252	0.3
143	Government Secretariat: Civil Service Buttaut Government Secretariat: Constitutional and Mainland	123,349	345,684	222,335	180.2
144					
	Affairs Bureau Government Secretariat: Economic Development and	729,662	-	-729,662	-100.0
145	Labour Bureau (Economic Development Branch)	,			
	Government Secretariat: Financial Services and the	184,560	188,737	4,177	2.3
147	Government Secretariat: Financial Services and the	• •			
	Treasury Bureau (The Treasury Branch) Government Secretariat: Financial Services and the	123,757	127,327	3,570	2.9
148	Government Secretariat: Financial Services Branch)	- •	-		
	Treasury Bureau (Financial Services Branch)	131,732	160,491	28,759	21.8
151	Government Secretariat: Security Bureau Government Secretariat: Commerce and Economic	523,923	1,180,197	656,274	125.3
152	Development Bureau (Commerce, Industry and Tourism	,	• •		
	Branch)	464,046	507,943	43,897	9.5
155	Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology	,	ŕ		
	Commission	35,799,128	37,640,728	1,841,600	5.1
156	Government Secretariat: Education Bureau	71,832	121,693	49,861	69.4
158	Government Secretariat: Transport and Housing Bureau	, _,-	·		
	(Transport Branch) Government Secretariat: Development Bureau (Works	190,984	221,117	30,133	15.8
159		,			
- 46	Branch)	456,081	490,757	34,676	7.6
160	Radio Television Hong Kong Rating and Valuation Department	361,433	386,329	24,896	6.9
162	Rating and Valuation Department Registration and Electoral Office	230,058	352,739	122,681	53.3
163	Government Flying Service	235,108	257,280	22,172	9.4
166		195,204	203,416	8,212	4.2
168	Hong Kong Observatory Secretariat, Commissioner on Interception of	11,092	11,524	432	3.9
169	Communications and Surveillance	,			
150	Social Welfare Department	34,089,366	34,424,527	335,161	1.0
170	Student Financial Assistance Agency	3,758,681	3,649,222	-109,459	-2.9
173	Joint Secretariat for the Advisory Bodies on Civil Service	13,446	25,791	12,345	91.8
174	and Judicial Salaries and Conditions of Service			•	
100	Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority	95,428	147,820	52,392	54.9
180	Trade and Industry Department	490,627	454,395	-36,232	-7.4
181	Transport Department	947,050	1,108,874	161,824	17.1
186	Treasury	322,808	331,093	8,285	2.6
188	University Grants Committee	11,170,250	11,926,403	756,153	6.8
190	Water Supplies Department	5,079,074	5,139,042	59,968	. 1.2
194	* -	216,670,735	258,425,674	41,754,939	19.3
	al Expenditure Transfers to Funds	1,616,800	740,400	-876,400	-54.2
184		218,287,535	259,166,074	40,878,539	18.7
Tota	al Appropriation				-