

**Legislative Council Motion on
“Concern about the cross harbour tunnels failing to
divert traffic flows effectively and their high tolls”
on 19 November 2008**

Progress Report

Purpose

This paper informs Members of the follow-up actions taken by the Administration since the captioned motion carried on 19 November 2008.

Recent Development

2. It is the Government’s objective to achieve reasonable traffic distribution among the three road harbour crossings (RHCs) so that their utilisation and tolls would be in line with the expectation and interests of tunnel users as well as the society at large. To this end, we have commissioned a 12-month consultancy study for a comprehensive analysis of all relevant factors and to recommend feasible options to achieve reasonable traffic distribution. The consultancy has commenced in November 2008 and the Consultant has submitted the Inception Report in January 2009.

3. At the same time, we continue to actively explore short-term mitigation measures, including endeavours to encourage franchisees of RHCs to offer more concessions to drivers and the transportation trades.

4. A paper on Government’s work objective to improve the utilisation of the Build – Operate – Transfer tunnels, including details of enhancing reasonable traffic distribution among the RHCs, was submitted to the Panel on Transport for discussion on 28 November 2008.