

ITEM FOR FINANCE COMMITTEE

CAPITAL WORKS RESERVE FUND

HEAD 708 – CAPITAL SUBVENTIONS AND MAJOR SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT

Correctional Services Department

New Subhead “Installation of electric locks security system in Tai Lam Centre for Women”

Members are invited to approve a new commitment of \$25 million for the installation of electric locks security system in Tai Lam Centre for Women.

PROBLEM

There is a need to install the electric locks security system (ELSS) in Tai Lam Centre for Women (TLCW) under the Correctional Services Department (CSD) to replace the existing manually operated mechanical locks for locking/unlocking the gates.

PROPOSAL

2. The Commissioner of Correctional Services, on the advice of the Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services and with the support of the Secretary for Security, proposes to install ELSS in some of the areas of TLCW for the purpose of strengthening the security and operational efficiency of the institution. The estimated cost required is \$25 million.

JUSTIFICATION

ELSS

3. ELSS is an electro-mechanical locking system operating in conjunction with the closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras, intercom and call button. Upon the pressing of the call button by CSD staff to request for the

/unlocking

unlocking of a gate operated under ELSS, visual and audio signals will be transmitted to the control room immediately. Having acknowledged the receipt of such a request and after verifying the identity of the requesting staff through the intercom and CCTV system, the staff in the control room will unlock the relevant gate by remote control.

Need for Installation of ELSS

4. CSD proposes to install ELSS at TLCW for the following reasons –

(a) *Speeding up emergency support*

For security reason, all keys of the gates with manually operated mechanical locks are kept in specific locations which are relatively far away from the custodial areas of persons in custody. In case of emergency (particularly during the night time as persons in custody are more likely to attempt self-harm at those hours), it will take a relatively longer time for CSD staff to collect the keys from the concerned locations and then rush to the scene to unlock the gates.

If ELSS is adopted, the locking/unlocking of gates will be centrally processed and controlled from the control room. The staff at the scene will only have to press the call button and the staff at the control room will unlock the gates accordingly. This can save the time required to collect the keys and the staff can get to the emergency scene more quickly, hence allowing prompt assistance and rescue actions.

(b) *Strengthening institutional security*

Upon implementation of ELSS, the staff at the control room will unlock the gates only after verifying the identity of the requesting staff. The security system will keep records of each and every locking/unlocking time and the relevant information automatically. Therefore, the system can help prevent any improper or unauthorised unlocking of gates more effectively and can further enhance institutional security. The information generated from the system can also facilitate the analysis or review of the operation of the institution and improve operational efficiency. As TLCW is a maximum security prison, CSD considers that there is a more pressing operational need for TLCW to be installed with ELSS.

/(c)

(c) Enhancing operational efficiency

Upon installation of ELSS, procedures can be streamlined by removing the need to keep, collect or return keys. The operational efficiency of institutions will thus be enhanced.

Proposal for Installation of ELSS

5. The Government proposes to install ELSS in mainly the passageways, cells and facilities in some of the buildings of TLCW (including one Administration Block, three dormitory blocks, and two operational buildings which provide a kitchen, a laundry workshop and dining halls^{Note}) in order to enhance the security and operational efficiency of the penal institution. The installation work will be carried out by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Trading Fund (EMSTF) under the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department. The project will include the installation of about 90 gates with electric locks, electro-mechanical locking devices, server and associated parts, around 130 CCTV cameras, uninterrupted power supply, charging devices and other minor parts.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**Non-recurrent Expenditure**

6. The estimated total non-recurrent cost of installing ELSS is \$25 million. The detailed breakdown is as follows –

	\$'000
(a) Electrical and other building services installation	750
(b) Security System	14,540
(c) Construction Work	6,190
(d) EMSTF project management services	2,450
(e) Contingencies	1,070
Total	25,000

/7.

^{Note} As regards the other buildings of TLCW (including the hospital, facilities for Category A persons in custody and rehabilitation facilities, etc.), ELSS installation work has been included in the scope of the project of Redevelopment of Tai Lam Centre for Women endorsed by the Finance Committee in July 2012.

7. On paragraph 6(a) above, the estimate of \$750,000 is for the electrical and other building services installation.

8. On paragraph 6(b) above, the estimate of \$14,540,000 is for the procurement of the associated security system which includes electro-mechanical locks and installation of the system, including server and associated parts, CCTV cameras, uninterrupted power supply, charging devices and other minor parts.

9. On paragraph 6(c) above, the estimate of \$6,190,000 is for carrying out the associated construction work which includes manufacturing and installation of about 90 gates.

10. On paragraph 6(d) above, the estimate of \$2,450,000 is for the payment of EMSTF project management services which include preparation of tender documents, tender evaluation, approval of contractor's design submissions, monitoring of contractor's installation, acceptance tests, and co-ordination with various government departments and the contractors.

11. On paragraph 6(e) above, the estimate of \$1,070,000 represents about 5% contingency on the items set out in paragraph 6(a) to (c).

12. We estimate that the cash flow requirement for the proposed installation is as follows –

Financial Year	\$'000
2014 – 15	1,875
2015 – 16	3,525
2016 – 17	7,200
2017 – 18	7,078
2018 – 19	5,322
Total	25,000

Recurrent Expenditure

13. We estimate that the additional annual recurrent cost after implementing ELSS, including expenses on maintenance, equipment spare parts and tariff, etc. will be around \$2.7 million.

/IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

14. If the funding is approved, we plan to implement the installation works according to the following schedule –

Activity	Target Completion Date
(a) Project planning, system design/tender preparation	December 2014
(b) Tendering and award of contract	June 2015
(c) Approval of system design	August 2015
(d) Equipment manufacturing, delivery and site work preparation	November 2015
(e) Installation and building services works	March 2018
(f) Acceptance test and training	April 2018
(g) System commissioning	May 2018

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

15. We consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Security on the above proposal on 7 February 2014. Members supported the proposal.

BACKGROUND

16. CSD is committed to providing a secure, safe, humane, decent and healthy environment for persons in custody. Most of the facilities of the correctional institutions in Hong Kong have been in use for many years or are converted from buildings used for other purposes originally. Currently, the gates used in many penal institutions and facilities are still installed with manually operated mechanical locks. These involve complicated and extensive procedures of keeping, collection, return and distribution of keys. Moreover, the manual locking or unlocking processes are relatively time-consuming and cannot fully meet the security and actual operational need of the institutions in modern days.

17. To address the problems associated with the locking/unlocking process of the old system of manually operated mechanical locks, CSD completed a study in 2012 and decided to replace the existing locks with ELSS in various correctional institutions by phases in accordance with their respective security and actual operational need.

Security Bureau
May 2014