

Laying of the Report Report No. 60 of the Director of Audit on the results of value for money audits was laid in the Legislative Council ("LegCo") on 17 April 2013. The Public Accounts Committee ("the Committee")'s Report (Report No. 60) was subsequently tabled on 10 July 2013, thereby meeting the requirement of Rule 72 of the Rules of Procedure of LegCo that the Report be tabled within three months of the Director of Audit's Report being laid.

2. **The Government Minute** The Government Minute in response to the Committee's Report No. 60 was laid in LegCo on 23 October 2013. A progress report on matters outstanding in the Government Minute was issued on 15 October 2014. The latest position and the Committee's further comments on these matters are set out in paragraphs 3 to 6 below.

Administration of road safety measures
(Chapter 2 of Part 4 of P.A.C. Report No. 60)

3. The Committee was informed that:

Measures to tackle drink driving

- since the first quarter of 2014, the Hong Kong Police Force ("HKPF") had enhanced the computing system to improve data analysis on random breath tests for strategic planning of random breath test operations. All land region police stations had been equipped with evidential breath test devices since December 2013. A police vehicle had also been modified as a mobile breath test centre and put on trial since December 2013 to collect the evidential breath specimen from drivers at the roadside. In view of the satisfactory trial result, HKPF planned to set up three additional mobile evidential breath test centres. A review was being conducted to further reduce the time interval target between taking screening breath test and evidential breath test;

Measures to tackle speeding and red light jumping

- the Government was reviewing the trial scheme of the average speed enforcement camera system and collecting information to address LegCo Members' concerns;

Measures to promote safer vehicle operation

- ***public light bus ("PLB")*** In April 2012, the Road Traffic Ordinance was amended to introduce measures to deter speeding by PLB drivers and enhance safe operation of PLBs. Three of such measures came into effect after the amendment legislation was passed by LegCo in April 2012. The legislative amendments to implement the remaining two measures, namely, mandating completion of a pre-service training course by applicants of PLB driving licence; and mandating the installation of approved electronic data recording device on newly registered PLBs were tabled at LegCo for negative vetting on 2 July 2014. The mandatory requirement for the installation of approved electronic data recording device and completion of a pre-service training course came/would come into effect on 1 December 2014 and 1 June 2015 respectively;
- ***franchised buses*** The Transport Department ("TD") had completed a review of the health check arrangements of franchised bus captains. All bus companies had implemented additional measures to further strengthen the health check arrangements since August 2013;
- ***taxis*** In addition to HKPF's enforcement actions against taxi malpractice on safety, a series of publicity and education plans had been implemented to promote taxi driving safety;
- ***for all drivers*** TD was exploring, in consultation with the Department of Justice, the feasibility and legality of seeking exemptions under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance to obtain medical records of suspected health-impaired drivers without their written consent;

Accuracy of traffic accident data

- HKPF and TD had put in place measures to improve the accuracy of traffic accident data and the outcome was found satisfactory. Joint departmental meetings would be held regularly for continuous improvement of cooperation between HKPF and TD. HKPF was seeking to re-design its Traffic Operations and Management System to enable the revised traffic accident contributory factors list to be automatically transferred from the Traffic Operations and Management System to TD's Transport Information System so as to further reduce data input errors;

Publicity and education programmes

- the Information Services Department had explored whether performance-based contracts were feasible and practical for announcements in the public interest productions. After a review, the Information Services Department came to the view that since the enhanced cross-checking procedures had been implemented, coupled with the rarity of the issue raised, the current payment mechanism for announcements in the public interest production worked well and complied with the Stores and Procurement Regulations; and
- if a suspected copyright infringement arose, and was eventually proven, the current contract would protect the Government's rights.

4. The Committee wishes to be kept informed of further development on the subject.

Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme

(Chapter 3 of Part 4 of P.A.C. Report No. 60)

5. The Committee was informed that in February and July 2014, the Administration reported to LegCo Panel on Education the progress of the work of the Committee on Free Kindergarten Education ("FKGE"). It was hoped that the Committee on FKGE (set up in April 2013) could complete its tasks in two years and make concrete recommendations to the Education Bureau. The Committee on FKGE made various recommendations on short-term support measures to be implemented ahead of its submission of the final report in 2015, including:

- providing additional subsidy for kindergartens and parents;
- enhancing training for kindergarten principals and teachers;
- improving the kindergarten admission arrangements;
- enhancing support for catering for student diversity; and
- enhancing parent education,

The Education Bureau had accepted the recommendations and was taking active follow-up action.

P.A.C. Report No. 63 – Part 3
Report of the Public Accounts Committee on Report No. 60 of the Director of Audit
on the Results of Value for Money Audits [P.A.C. Report No. 60]

6. The Committee wishes to be kept informed of the outcome of the review by the Committee on FKGE.