立法會
Legislative Council

Ref. : CB4/PL/ITB

Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting

Meeting on 12 November 2018

Updated background brief on
Capital Works Reserve Fund Head 710 Computerization Subhead A007GX
(Block Allocation) – New administrative computer systems

Purpose

This paper summarizes the major concerns and comments expressed by members on the last funding proposal for Block Allocation under the Capital Works Reserve Fund ("CWRF") Head 710 Computerization Subhead A007GX ("Block Allocation") – New administrative computer systems.

Background

2. CWRF Head 710 Computerization is the Head of Expenditure used for funding administrative computer systems, consultancies for feasibility studies and systems development. Funding mechanism varies according to whether a computerization project costs more than $10 million[1], between $200,000 and $10 million, and less than $200,000[2].

3. Projects that cost between $200,000 and $10 million are funded through a Block Allocation under CWRF Head 710 Subhead A007GX. The Government Chief Information Officer ("GCIO") has the delegated power to approve projects and authorize expenditure under the Block Allocation. Projects funded this way are normally called "block vote projects". The Block Allocation for a given financial year will fund the estimated cashflow requirements arising from block

---

[1] These projects are subject to the approval of the Finance Committee and to be funded under separate subheads of Head 710.

[2] These projects are approved by individual bureaux/departments and funded through their respective operational expenses subheads under the General Revenue Account.

vote projects proposed by bureaux/departments ("B/Ds") and approved or to-be approved by GCIO.

4. Each year, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer ("OGCIO") estimates the funding requirements for the Block Allocation in the following financial year by taking into consideration the cashflow requirements of approved block vote projects, new proposals submitted by B/Ds and anticipated new projects for various e-Government initiatives to be submitted, as well as the spending position of the Block Allocation.

5. For 2018-2019, the Finance Committee ("FC"), having considered the recommendations of the Public Works Subcommittee, approved an allocation of $1,060 million for the Block Allocation Subhead A007GX under Head 710 at its meeting held on 23 March 2018. This represents a 7.1% increase from the approved allocation of $990 million for 2017-18. The key expenditure items are set out at Annex 10 in Enclosure 10 to to PWSC(2017-18)25 (**Appendix I**).

Previous discussions

6. At the meeting of the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting ("the Panel") held on 13 November 2017, members were consulted on the funding proposal of $1,060 million in Block Allocation for 2018-2019. Members supported in principle the funding proposal. The major views and concerns expressed by members were summarized in the ensuing paragraphs.

Public sector information, big data and artificial intelligence

7. Some members enquired whether the Administration would step up its work on opening up public sector information ("PSI") with the proposed Block Allocation. They requested that the Administration should disseminate datasets of PSI in suitable formats so as to facilitate their wider use. Some members also expressed concerns about the policy direction of opening up PSI and using big data. They said that the information available in the Territorial Population and Employment Data Matrix ("TPEDM"), which served as a basis for Hong Kong's long-term and strategic planning, was restricted only to the Government. Unauthorized access and use by government contractors was liable to a penalty. They requested the Administration to open up more datasets of TPEDM. The Administration advised the Panel that datasets were released in machine-readable format through the "data.gov.hk" portal. The portal also provided various Application Programming Interfaces to facilitate data searching and filtering.

Information security

8.   Referring to a hacking incident of a local travel agency, some members expressed concern about the effectiveness of the information security measures that the Government adopted to cope with the increasing number and complexity of cyber security threats. They also enquired about how OGCIO, Security Bureau and the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau of the Hong Kong Police Force ("the Police") collaborated in supporting the business sector, especially the small and medium enterprises to strengthen their cyber resilience capability. The Administration stressed that it had attached great importance to cyber security; more than 40 new projects, accounting for around 17% of the funding requirement of the proposed Block Allocation, were related to IT security enhancement. OGCIO, the Police and the Hong Kong Computer Emergency Response Team Coordination Centre ("HKCERT") had established a tripartite collaboration mechanism to provide different sectors with support in relation to cyber security. The Administration had maintained constant dialogues with different stakeholders, such as schools, universities and IT security companies, to enhance public awareness of cyber security and share intelligence on cyber attacks.

E-Government services

9.   Some members suggested that a common database should be set up to collect and save personal information submitted by the public. The information can be shared by relevant B/Ds so that the public would not have to fill in the same information repeated when using different digitized government forms to access different services online. They also urged the Administration to formulate target and timeline in implementing the digitizing process of online submission of government forms. The Administration responded that that around 90% of government forms had been digitized at present. It was the Administration's target that about 99% of all government forms would be digitized in 2018-2019. For collecting and sharing personal information among B/Ds, the Administration explained that the Administration had to abide by the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Cap. 486). To allow the personal information to be shared across B/Ds, consent would have to be sought afresh from the data subject.

Procurement policy and funding approval

10.   Noting that the Chief Executive had announced in her recent Policy Address that the Administration would explore the inclusion of innovation and technology as one of the criteria in assessing a tender bid for government procurement contract, some members enquired whether the arrangements would

apply to projects funded under the Block Allocation. They also asked if there was any timetable for implementing this new procurement policy. In response, the Administration informed the Panel that when formulating tender specifications and preparing procurement arrangements for new projects to be initiated in future, it would explore incorporating innovation and technology as an additional criterion.

11. The Administration added that apart from IT-related projects, if applicable, the Administration would also apply the same procurement policy in respect of other products and solutions.

12. Noting that computerization projects costing $10 million or above were subject to the approval of FC, some members considered that the financial ceiling should be lifted to $30 million in line with the arrangements for public works projects. The Administration said that the current threshold of $10 million for a computerization project to be submitted to FC for approval was determined in the 1990s. The Administration said that it would take into account members' views when reviewing the threshold.

Latest position

13. The Administration will brief the Panel on 12 November 2018 on the funding requirement for 2019-2020 for the implementation of computerization projects under the Block Allocation.

Relevant papers

14. A list of the relevant papers is set out in the **Appendix II**.

Council Business Division 4
Legislative Council Secretariat
7 November 2018

**Proposed Allocation in 2018-19 for the Block Allocation under
Head 710 – Computerisation**

The provision sought for the only block allocation **Subhead A007GX** under **Head 710** is $1,060 million. This represents a 7.1% increase from the approved allocation of $990 million for 2017-18.

———— 2.   Details on the key expenditure items are set out at **Annex 10**.

**Capital Works Reserve Fund
Head 710 Subhead A007GX**

New Administrative Computer Systems

Ambit : Administrative computer systems and consultancies for feasibility studies and systems development each costing between $200,001 and $10 million.

Controlling Officer	Allocation for 2017-18 $ million	Estimate for 2018-19 $ million	Percentage change as compared with the 2017-18 allocation
Government Chief Information Officer	990.00	1,060.00	+ 7.07%

Part I : On-going key items

	Project description	Project Estimate $ million	Estimate 2018-19 $ million
1.	Redevelopment of smart identity card authentication system in Hong Kong Public Leisure and Cultural Services Department	9.97	6.38
2.	Integration of gas safety enforcement system and gas safety information system, Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	9.97	3.63
3.	Information systems strategy study, Customs and Excise Department	9.96	1.43
4.	Feasibility study on integration of electronic submission systems for import and export permits, Commerce and Economic Development Bureau	9.85	5.81
5.	Development of computer system for 2019-20 Household Expenditure Survey, Census and Statistics Department	9.85	2.32
6.	Provision of 3D textured mesh models, Lands Department	9.81	2.74
7.	Pilot cloud development platform for big data analytics model, Office of the Government Chief Information Officer	9.57	2.65

Project description	Project Estimate $ million	Estimate 2018-19 $ million
8. Revamp of site monitoring information system, Buildings Department	8.06	3.80

Head 710 Subhead A007GX – *Continued*

Project description	Project Estimate $ million	Estimate 2018-19 $ million
9. Computer systems and IT facilities for Yuen Long Office, Immigration Department	6.51	3.09
10. Redevelopment of ships and seafarers registration system, Marine Department	5.31	3.21

Part II : Proposed new items

Project description	Project Estimate $ million	Estimate 2018-19 $ million
1. Food traders portal and e-submission of food import applications (Centre for Food Safety), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	9.93	3.01
2. Upgrade of integrated property database, Rating and Valuation Department	9.87	2.24
3. Enhancement of tax administration applications, Inland Revenue Department	9.80	1.78
4. IT facilities for Asian Aviation Meteorological Centre, Hong Kong Observatory	9.67	6.87
5. Revamp of methadone treatment information system, Department of Health	9.67	0.91
6. Strengthening information security management of employment service system, Labour Department	8.33	3.68
7. Enhancement of working family allowance management system, Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency	7.33	4.40

Project description	Project Estimate $ million	Estimate 2018-19 $ million
8. Revamp of 1823 website and implementation of chatbot service, Efficiency Unit	7.33	1.37
9. Permitted burial ground management system, Home Affairs Department	6.84	0.66
10. Unmanned aerial vehicle and training workstations (Survey and Mapping Office), Lands Department	5.83	1.03

Head 710 Subhead A007GX – *Continued*

Part III : Others

	Estimate 2018-19 $ million
About 780 other on-going and new items with expected expenditure in 2018-19	998.99
Total of Parts I to III :	**1,060.00**

List of relevant papers

Issued by	Meeting date/ Issue date	Paper
Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting	13 November 2017	Administration's paper on Computerisation Projects under New Administrative Computer Systems LC Paper No. CB(4)187/17-18(04) Updated background brief on Capital Works Reserve Fund Head 710 Computerization Subhead A007GX (Block Allocation) – New administrative computer systems LC Paper No. CB(4)187/17-18(05) Minutes of meeting LC Paper No. CB(4)575/17-18