

**Summary of items relating to the remuneration for members of Government boards and committees
approved by the Finance Committee from July 1994 to January 2000**

Date of FC Meeting	Item (Bureau responsible)	Rate of Remuneration (HK\$)	Commitment approved (HK\$)	Criteria/Justification	Rate Revision Authority	Remarks and Members' comments at FC meetings
8 July 1994	Honorarium for the Chairman of Waste Disposal Appeal Board (Planning, Environment & Lands Branch)	<u>Retainer fee (annual)</u> \$60,460 <u>Each sitting</u> \$3,100 <u>Written decision</u> \$6,200	\$37,200 for 94-95 \$106,960 for full year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Waste Disposal Ordinance provided that the Chairman of the Appeal Board should be a person who was qualified for appointment as a District Judge. - The tasks of the Appeal Board are time-consuming and require considerable expertise and experience on the part of the Chairman. - The rate is in line with that payable to the Chairmen of the three Appeal Boards on pollution control. - The work procedure of this Appeal Board and the level of responsibility of the Board Chairman are very similar to current Appeal Boards and therefore, it is reasonable to remunerate the Chairman similarly. - Commitment based on the assumption of 5 cases a year. 	Secretary for the Treasury being delegated with the authority to revise rates of payment in accordance with revision of civil service pensions	

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7 July 1995	Honoraria for the non-official Chairman and Members of the Security and Guarding Services Industry Authority (Security Branch)	<u>Non-official Chairman</u> \$4,000/day & \$2,000/half day <u>Non-official Member</u> \$2,700/day & \$1,350/half day	\$134,000 per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Security and Guarding Services Ordinance has provided for the payment of honoraria to the non-official Chairman and Members of the Security and Guarding Services Industry Authority. - Service at the Authority is time-consuming and would mean a substantial sacrifice in terms of time and earnings forgone. - Rate of payment is in line with that for the non-official Chairmen and Members of the Immigration and Registration of Persons Tribunal. - Commitment is based on a total of 20 days of hearings per year. 	Secretary for the Treasury being delegated with the authority to approve future revisions of the rates of payment having regard to the movement in the Hang Seng Consumer Price Index	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FC Members questioned the differential treatments to advisory boards and committees in the payment of honoraria and they quoted as an example that the Members of the Town Planning Board had never been paid for their services. - Members of the Democratic Party were worried that as non-official members of the Authority were also remunerated for attending ordinary meetings, it would set a precedent for similar requests for honoraria from other committees. The Administration's response was that under the current policy, it was up to the Chairman of a committee or the respective Policy Secretary to propose the payment of honoraria for members of the committee.

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27 Oct 1995	Honorarium for the Chairman of the Dumping at Sea Appeal Board (Planning, Environment & Lands Branch)	<u>Retainer fee (annual)</u> \$71,050 <u>Each sitting</u> \$3,640 <u>Written decision</u> \$7,280	\$10,920 for 95-96 \$92,890 for a full year of 1996-97	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Dumping at Sea Ordinance provided that the Chairman of the Appeal Board should be a person who was qualified for appointment as a District Judge. - The tasks of the Appeal Board are time-consuming and require considerable expertise and experience on the part of the Chairman. - The rate is in line with the four other Appeal Boards on other pollution control matter as the work procedure of this Appeal Board and the level of responsibility on the Board Chairman are very similar to these Appeal Boards. 	Secretary for the Treasury being delegated with the power to authorize revisions for the rate of payment in accordance with future revisions of civil service pensions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FC Members expressed concern over the absence of a central policy for remunerating non-official members serving on boards and committees set up by the Government Each case was considered on its merits by the Policy Secretary concerned.

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7 Nov 1997	<p>Changing the frequency of adjusting the rate of honorarium payable to Members of the Public Service Commission (PSC) from once every two years to annually</p> <p>(Civil Service Bureau)</p>	<p>From \$12,500/mth for 97-98 to \$13,250/mth for 98-99 (an increase of 6%)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adjustment from once every years to annually was made to bring the practice in line with that of other boards and committees receiving honoraria. - The basis for the award of an honorarium of \$4,000 (in 1981) to Members of PSC was that the work they undertake was of a continuous and time-consuming nature requiring much more time than could reasonably be expected of a member of other advisory committees. 	<p>Secretary for the Treasury being delegated with the authority to approve future revisions of the payment in accordance with the Customer Price Index A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some FC Members had the following comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ different policies were adopted in the granting of honoraria to unofficial members of Government boards and committees; ♦ members of some boards and committees did not receive any honorarium at all; ♦ the rates of honorarium were different and did not correspond with the workload generated.

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21 Jan 2000	<p>Honoraria for the Chairman, Deputy Chairmen and Members of the Review Body on Bid Challenges</p> <p>(Trade and Industry Bureau)</p>	<p><u>The Chairman and the two Deputy Chairmen while they performance the role of the Chairman</u> \$4,000 to \$5,000 per hour</p> <p><u>Members</u> \$785 per attendance of the hearing (the maximum of standard remuneration payable to non-official members of the Government boards and committee)</p>	<p>No more than \$310,000 for full year</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Having regard to the quasi-judicial nature of the Review Body, the Administration considered it more appropriate to remunerate the Chairman and Deputy Chairmen on an honorarium basis, in line with the practice of other appeal boards. - Taking into account the small caseload of the Review Body, it would be more cost effective for the Government to remunerate the Chairman and Deputy Chairmen on an hourly basis. - Having regard to the general principles for remunerating non-official members of Boards and Committees and the comments of FC Members, the Administration agreed that Members of the Review Body should also be remunerated in recognition of their service and contribution. - Commitment based on the assumptions of three appeal cases a year and the Chairman will on average spend 20 hours in concluding a case. 	<p>Secretary for the Treasury being delegated with the authority to approve future revisions of the rates in accordance with the movement of the Composite Consumer Price Index.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The original proposals of the item were set out in FCR(1999-2000)57 considered by FC at its meeting on 7 January 2000 and were withdrawn by the Administration for further discussion by the Panel on Trade and Industry. - The proposal approved was a revised proposal based on the views of FC Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ to remunerate the Deputy Chairmen at the same rate of the Chairman when they assumed the Chairman's duties on an acting basis on the ground that the level of remuneration should reflect the service rather than the qualifications. ♦ To remunerate Members of the Review Body in recognition of their service and contribution. - Some FC Members were concerned about the basis whereby the Government would monitor the time spent by the Chairman on an individual case. The Administration's response was that the Chairman would need to provide a breakdown of the time spent on various stages of the case concerned and he/she was also underpinned by the Secretary to the Review Body who was a civil servant.