

## **Legislative Council Panel on Security**

### **Revision of Government Fees and Charges: Fees for Additional Copies of Video/Audio Tapes provided by ICAC**

#### **PURPOSE**

This paper seeks Members' views on a proposal to revise fees for additional copies of video/audio tapes provided by ICAC.

#### **BACKGROUND**

2. Under the Secretary for Security's "Rules and Directions for the Questioning of Suspects and Taking of Statements", it is a statutory duty of all law enforcement agencies to provide a copy of records of interview to suspects, including the video / audio tapes which recorded the interview process. A suspect and/or his defence lawyer may obtain additional copies of the video/audio tapes on payment of a fee. The current fees are \$75 for a video tape and \$35 for an audio tape. They were introduced in 1993 on a full cost recovery basis.

3. A costing review based on 1999 price levels indicates that the current fees represent 67% to 71% of full costs. A computation statement is at the annex.

4. On 13 April 2000, Finance Bureau consulted the Panel on Financial Affairs on proposals to revise various fees and charges that would only affect a small number of people and some specialist businesses. At the House Committee Meeting held on 14 April 2000, Members agreed that the Administration should consult other LegCo Panels on whether and if so how fees and charges under their respective purviews should be increased.

#### **PROPOSAL**

5. We are committed to contain costs by continuing to implement the Enhanced Productivity Programme and taking other efficiency improvement measures. We propose to achieve full cost recovery in three years. In 2000-01, we propose an increase of \$7 (+9%) for an additional copy of video tape and \$5 (+14%) for audio tape, as set out below -

	<u>Video Tape</u>	<u>Audio Tape</u>
Full Cost	\$105	\$52
Proposed Fee (% of cost recovery in brackets)	\$82 (78%)	\$40 (77%)
Current Fee (% of cost recovery in brackets)	\$75 (71%)	\$35 (67%)
Proposed Increase (% increase in brackets)	\$7 (9%)	\$5 (14%)

### **MEMBERS' ADVICE**

6. We should be grateful for Members' views on the above proposal.

**Cost Computation Statement for the Reproduction of  
A Copy of Video/Audio Tape by ICAC**

<u>Cost component</u>	<u>Cost for reproducing a copy of video tape</u> (20 minutes of an ACACO time)	<u>Cost for reproducing a copy of audio tape</u> (10 minutes of an ACACO time)
(a) Material Cost (180 minutes VHS video tape and 90 minutes audio tape)	\$14.00	\$6.50
(b) Staff Cost [ @ \$3.46 per minute based on the 1999 Staff Cost Ready Reckoner for an Assistant Commission Against Corruption Officer (ACACO) of \$392,616 per year.]	\$69.20	\$34.60
(c) Capital Cost	Negligible	Negligible
(d) Accommodation Cost [ @ \$0.2 per minute based on the Standard Accommodation Cost Tables provided by the Treasury and the Schedule of Accommodation provided by the Government Property Agency.]	\$4.00	\$2.00
Sub-total	\$87.20	\$43.10
(e) Administrative Overheads at 20% of Sub-total	\$17.44	\$8.62
Total:	\$104.64 (Say, \$105.00)	\$51.72 (Say, \$52.00)