

**立法會**  
***Legislative Council***

LC Paper No. LS1/03-04

**Paper for the House Committee Meeting  
on 10 October 2003**

**Legal Service Division Report on  
proposed resolution under section 32 of the  
Western Harbour Crossing Ordinance (Cap. 436)**

The Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works has given notice to move a motion under section 32 of the Western Harbour Crossing Ordinance (Cap. 436) at the Legislative Council meeting on 22 October 2003. The motion seeks the Legislative Council's approval of the Western Harbour Crossing (Amendment) Bylaw 2003 (the Amendment Bylaw) made by the Western Harbour Tunnel Company Limited (the Company) on 30 September 2003.

2. The effect of the Amendment Bylaw is that the Company may set 80 km per hour as the speed limit in the tunnel area of the Western Harbour Crossing (WHC). According to the LegCo Brief (Ref: ETWB(T)3/9/21 (03) Pt.11) issued by the Environment, Transport and Works Bureau dated 7 October 2003, the objective of the Amendment Bylaw is to relax the speed limit inside the conduits of the WHC from 70 km per hour to 80 km per hour.

3. The proposed relaxation implements the recommendation of the Working Group on Speed Limit Review, set up by the Administration to review the speed limits of roads on a regular basis. The Working Group comprises representatives from the Transport Department, the Police, the Hong Kong Automobile Association and the Institute of Advanced Motorists Hong Kong. According to the draft speech of the Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works, the proposed relaxation will reduce the number of speed changes along the route between Central and the West Kowloon Highway via the WHC and will thereby improve the efficiency of the relevant roads and enhance road safety.

4. For Members' information, the Administration provided a paper on the progress of the speed limit review conducted since late 2000 (LC Paper No. CB(1)1110/01-02(01)) to the Panel on Transport in February 2002. Members of the Panel noted the Administration's proposal, among other things, to relax the speed limit inside the conduits of the WHC from 70 km per hour to 80 km per hour. Members did not raise any specific comment on the proposal.

5. As specified in section 1 of the Amendment Bylaw, it will come into operation on 1 November 2003.

6. No difficulties relating to the legal and drafting aspects of the proposed resolution and the Amendment Bylaw have been identified.

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