

香港特別行政區政府

政府資訊科技總監
辦公室



OFFICE OF THE
GOVERNMENT CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG
SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

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20 May 2010

Miss Odelia Leung
Clerk to Education Panel
Legislative Council Secretariat
3rd floor, Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road
Hong Kong

Dear Miss Leung,

**Subsidy on Internet Access Charges for Needy Students
and Related Measures**

At its meeting on April 2010, the Panel on Education discussed the subsidy on Internet access charges for students of low-income families and related measures.

Members requested that the Administration provide more information on the administrative costs of the non-profit-making organisation (the organisation) to be commissioned for implementing the proposed Internet Education Support Programme (the Programme).

The objective of the proposed Programme is for the non-profit-making organisation to develop cost-effective arrangements to facilitate students of low-income families to gain access to the Internet for learning through its close

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collaboration with Internet service providers, IT suppliers and other community organisations. It is our intent and belief that the organisation should deliver affordable and flexible products to the target families at low administration costs.

The organisation will be selected through a Request for Proposal (RFP) exercise which has commenced earlier this month. We will examine the proposed business models and operation approaches in detail and assess them against the Programme objective.

Based on the current planning assumptions we made about the future operation of the organisation, the start-up and general administration expenses of the organisation is estimated to be about \$22.5 million over the five-year implementation of the Programme. The actual funding requirement and allocation arrangement for the Programme will be subject to the business proposal and operation solution selected as a result of the RFP, as well as the subsequent funding agreement to be entered with the organisation.

We will include relevant provisions in the formal funding agreement to be concluded with the selected organisation to ensure the efficiency, effectiveness and economy of its operations and services; and set out a ceiling of administration cost of the organisation in the funding agreement in the light of the agreed business plan, and review the ceiling from time to time taking into consideration the latest market developments. More importantly, we will conduct regular reviews of operational performance of the organisation and the Programme as a whole with a view to ensuring that public money will be used effectively and efficiently in accomplishing the objective of the Programme.

Detailed deliberation on the planning assumptions about the future operation of the organisation and breakdown on the overall estimated expenditures of the organisation are presented in the funding application paper for the Finance Committee for Members' reference.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the above information to Members for their reference.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of connected loops and a final flourish.

(Jeremy Godfrey)
Government Chief Information Officer

c.c.
Secretary for Education, Education Bureau