

財經事務及庫務局

香港金鐘添美道二號
政府總部二十四樓

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND THE
TREASURY BUREAU

24/F, Central Government Offices,
2 Tim Mei Avenue, Admiralty
Hong Kong

傳真號碼 Fax No. : 2179 5848
電話號碼 Tel. No. : 2810 2400
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By fax: 2978 7569

22 February 2012

Ms YUE Tin-po
Clerk to Subcommittee
Subcommittee on Rating (Exemption) Order 2012
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms YUE,

Subcommittee on Rating (Exemption) Order 2012
First meeting on 23 February 2012

I refer to your letter of 20 February 2012. Our responses to the information as requested by Hon Albert Chan are set out in the following paragraphs.

(I) The distribution of the estimated total rates concession of \$11.7 billion by property types is as follows:

Property Type	Amount of Rates Concession (\$ million)
Small Domestic Premises ^{Note 1}	5,846
Medium Domestic Premises ^{Note 1}	1,079

Large Domestic Premises ^{Note 1}	822
Public Domestic Premises	1,540
All Domestic Premises ^{Note 2}	9,482
Shops and Commercial Premises	884
Offices	538
Industrial Premises	560
All Non-domestic Premises ^{Note 3}	2,256
All Properties	11,738

Note:

- (1) Small domestic premises (up to 752 sq. ft.)
Medium domestic premises (753 sq. ft. - 1 075 sq. ft.)
Large domestic premises (1 076 sq. ft. and above)
- (2) Including car parking spaces for domestic premises
- (3) Including miscellaneous premises such as hotels, cinemas, petrol filling stations, schools and car parking spaces for non-domestic premises

(II) Rating and Valuation Department's databases only maintain the names of ratepayers and do not have further classifications on whether the ratepayers are individuals or companies. In 2012-13, it is estimated that the ratepayer who will receive the highest amount of rates concession is a public organization, involving an amount of \$1,583 million.

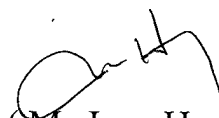
(III) The amount of rates concession and the related administration expenses in respect of the rates concession measures offered in 2003-04 and from 2007-08 to 2011-12 are as follows:

Financial Year	Amount of Rates Concession (\$ million)	Administration expenses^{Note 4} (\$)
2011-12 (estimates)	9,893	290,000
2010-11	8,932	285,000
2009-10	8,473	540,000
2008-09	11,260	240,000
2007-08	7,839	660,000
2003-04	1,986	140,000

Note (4) : Administration expenses involve the printing of pamphlets which are attached to the demand notes to explain the rates concession arrangements.

We are unable to provide information on the ratepayers who received the highest amount of rates concession in previous years as the accounting system of the Rating and Valuation Department only maintains records of accounts of which payment has yet to be settled and accounts in the past three quarters of which payment has been settled.

Yours sincerely,



(Ms Joan Hung)
for Secretary for Financial Services
and the Treasury

c.c. RVD (Attn: Mr P K IP)
DoJ (Attn: Mr K F CHENG)

Fax: 2152 0188
Fax: 2845 2215