LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PANEL ON DEVELOPMENT

Revision of Fees and Charges under the Purview of the Lands Department

Purpose

This paper outlines the Administration's proposed revision of seven government fees and charges for services under the purview of the Lands Department. These fees and charges are not directly related to and hence would not directly affect people's livelihood or general business activities.

The Proposal

- 2. In line with the "user pays" principle, it is Government's policy that fees should in general be set at levels sufficient to recover the full cost of providing the services. The seven fee items concerned are imposed under the Land Survey Ordinance (Cap. 473) and were last revised in 2009.
- 3. Costing exercises at the 2012-13 price level have been carried out recently to review the costs of these seven fee items. They reveal that all the fee items should increase their fee levels in order to achieve full cost recovery. In order to achieve full cost recovery gradually and avoid a steep fee increase, we propose to adopt an increase of about 10% for fees of existing cost recovery rate of over 70%.
- 4. The proposed fee increase is about 10%. Details of the proposal are at the *Annex*. We will revise the fees once ready.

Efficiency Improvement Measures

5. We have been taking measures to reduce or contain cost of our services through implementing efficiency initiatives, reprioritizing service provision and streamlining procedures. Such efficiency savings and improvement measures have been factored into the calculation of costs for individual fee items.

Financial Implication

6. When the proposed fees and charges adjustments are implemented, there will be an increase of about \$0.216 million in revenue per annum.

Way Forward

7. Members are invited to note the proposed revision of fees and charges as set out in paragraphs 2 to 3 above. The Administration will proceed with the necessary legislative amendments to implement the adjustments.

Development Bureau April 2012

Annex
Proposed revision of fees under the Land Survey (Fees) Regulation

		Existing	Latest	Proposed	Percentage
Item	Fee Description	Fee	Cost	Fee	Increase
		(\$)	Recovery	(\$)	
			Rate at		
			2012-13		
			price level		
1	Inspection of land boundary record-		1		
	(a) For each land boundary plan included in the record	57	80.3%	63	10.53%
	(b) For each survey record plan included in the record	57	80.3%	63	10.53%
2	Supply of copies of plans-				
	(a) For each copy of land boundary plan	79	85.9%	87	10.13%
	(b) For each copy of survey record plan	79	85.9%	87	10.13%
3	Deposit of land boundary plan and corresponding survey record plan with the Land Survey Authority	2,710	85.6%	2,980	9.96%
4	Registration as an authorized land surveyor	4,400	78.1%	4,840	10.00%
5	Renewal of registration as an authorized land surveyor	770	78.7%	845	9.74%