

For information**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PANEL ON TRANSPORT****Western Harbour Crossing Tolls****Introduction**

This note informs Members that the new concessionary tolls of the Western Harbour Crossing (WHC) will take effect on 1 January 2013.

Background

2. The Western Harbour Crossing Ordinance (Cap. 436) (“the Ordinance”) stipulates the toll adjustment mechanism in respect of WHC, under which the franchisee may effect toll increases on six specified dates (i.e., 1 January on 2001, 2005, 2009, 2013, 2017 and 2021) (known as “anticipated toll increases”), on the condition that the actual net revenue of the company in respect of a year ending immediately before a specified date is less than the upper estimated net revenue for that year as stipulated in Schedule 5 to the Ordinance. In addition, if in any year the actual net revenue of the company is less than the minimum estimated net revenue for that year as stipulated in Schedule 5 to the Ordinance, the franchisee may advance an anticipated toll increase, and may implement an additional toll increase (known as “additional toll increase”) if all the anticipated toll increases have been effected. Regardless of whether it is an anticipated toll increase or additional toll increase, the magnitude of each toll increase must not exceed that stipulated in Schedule 2¹ or Schedule 3² to the Ordinance for various categories of vehicles. Tolls adjusted according to the mechanism stipulated in the Ordinance are called “statutory tolls”, which do not require the Administration’s approval.

3. Since the commencement of operation of WHC in 1997, the franchisee’s net revenue has consistently fallen short of the level of the minimum estimated net revenue stipulated in Schedule 5 to the Ordinance.

¹ Applicable from operating date up to 31 December 2010 or during period of 13 years beginning on operating date.

² Applicable on or after 1 January 2011 or after expiry of 13 years beginning on operating date up to expiry of franchise period.

The franchisee has effected all anticipated toll increases by 2006 and subsequently has had 6 additional toll increases. The last additional toll increase effected by the franchisee to increase the statutory tolls was made on the basis that its 2008/09 actual net revenue was less than the minimum estimated net revenue of that year specified in Schedule 5 to the Ordinance. The relevant increase in statutory tolls took effect on 31 July 2012. The franchisee has been offering concessions to all categories of vehicles so that actual tolls (or “concessionary tolls”) are lower than the statutory toll levels. The current actual tolls are maintained at the levels effected since 1 August 2010. A summary of the historical changes in WHC’s toll levels is at **Annex A**.

Latest Position

4. Although the toll adjustment mechanism with respect to WHC and the magnitude of each toll increase have already been specified in the Ordinance and do not require the Administration’s approval, we have all along urged the franchisee to have due regard to public affordability and acceptability in devising its tolling strategy. The franchisee has recently informed the Government that its net revenue has consistently fallen short of the levels of the minimum estimated net revenue stipulated in Schedule 5 to the Ordinance. The franchisee therefore decides to reduce the concessions to vehicles with effect from 1 January 2013. The existing and new concessionary tolls of WHC are at **Annex B**.

5. Although the franchisee has made the toll adjustments within the levels allowed in the relevant ordinance which do not require the Administration’s approval, we will continue to reflect to the franchisee that it should have due regard to market reaction and the wider public interest in devising its toll strategy.

**Transport and Housing Bureau
December 2012**

History of Toll Changes of WHC (page 1 of 3)

	30 April 1997		3 December 2000		31 July 2002		16 February 2003		24 February 2004		4 July 2004	
	Statutory	Actual	Statutory	Conces- sionary	Statutory	Conces- sionary	Statutory	Conces- sionary	Statutory	Conces- sionary	Statutory	Conces- sionary
Motorcycles	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 25	\$ 20	\$ 25	\$ 20	\$ 30	\$ 20	\$ 30	\$ 22
Private cars	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 40	\$ 35	\$ 50	\$ 35	\$ 50	\$ 37	\$ 60	\$ 37	\$ 60	\$ 40
Taxis	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 40	\$ 35	\$ 50	\$ 35	\$ 50	\$ 35	\$ 60	\$ 35	\$ 60	\$ 35
Private and public light buses	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 50	\$ 45	\$ 60	\$ 45	\$ 60	\$ 47	\$ 70	\$ 47	\$ 70	\$ 50
Light goods vehicles	\$ 45	\$ 45	\$ 60	\$ 50	\$ 75	\$ 50	\$ 75	\$ 50	\$ 90	\$ 50	\$ 90	\$ 55
Medium goods vehicles	\$ 65	\$ 65	\$ 85	\$ 70	\$ 105	\$ 70	\$ 105	\$ 70	\$ 125	\$ 70	\$ 125	\$ 80
Heavy goods vehicles	\$ 95	\$ 95	\$ 125	\$ 100	\$ 155	\$ 100	\$ 155	\$ 100	\$ 185	\$ 100	\$ 185	\$ 110
Single-decked buses	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 60	\$ 50	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 70	\$ 60	\$ 70	\$ 70
Double-decked buses	\$ 55	\$ 55	\$ 70	\$ 70	\$ 85	\$ 70	\$ 85	\$ 85	\$ 100	\$ 85	\$ 100	\$ 100
Additional axle for goods vehicles	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 40	\$ 30	\$ 50	\$ 30	\$ 50	\$ 30	\$ 60	\$ 30	\$ 60	\$ 30

History of Toll Changes of WHC (page 2 of 3)

	31 July 2005		31 July 2006		31 July 2007		6 January 2008		31 July 2008		31 July 2009	
	Statutory	Conces- sionary	Statutory	Conces- sionary	Statutory	Conces- sionary	Statutory	Conces- sionary	Statutory	Conces- sionary	Statutory	Conces- sionary
Motorcycles	\$35	\$22	\$40	\$22	\$45	\$22	\$45	\$22	\$50	\$22	\$55	\$22
Private cars	\$70	\$40	\$80	\$40	\$90	\$40	\$90	\$45	\$100	\$45	\$110	\$45
Taxis	\$70	\$35	\$80	\$35	\$90	\$35	\$90	\$40	\$100	\$40	\$110	\$40
Private and public light buses	\$80	\$50	\$90	\$50	\$100	\$50	\$100	\$55	\$110	\$55	\$120	\$55
Light goods vehicles	\$105	\$55	\$120	\$55	\$135	\$55	\$135	\$55	\$150	\$55	\$165	\$55
Medium goods vehicles	\$145	\$80	\$165	\$80	\$185	\$80	\$185	\$80	\$205	\$80	\$225	\$80
Heavy goods vehicles	\$215	\$110	\$245	\$110	\$275	\$110	\$275	\$110	\$305	\$110	\$335	\$110
Single-decked buses	\$80	\$70	\$90	\$70	\$100	\$70	\$100	\$80	\$110	\$80	\$120	\$80
Double-decked buses	\$115	\$100	\$130	\$100	\$145	\$100	\$145	\$115	\$160	\$115	\$175	\$115
Additional axle for goods vehicles	\$70	\$30	\$80	\$30	\$90	\$30	\$90	\$30	\$100	\$30	\$110	\$30

History of Toll Changes of WHC (page 3 of 3)

	31 July 2010		1 August 2010		31 July 2011		31 July 2012	
	Statutory	Conces- sionary	Statutory	Conces- sionary	Statutory	Conces- sionary	Statutory	Conces- sionary
Motorcycles	\$60	\$22	\$60	\$23	\$70	\$23	\$80	\$23
Private cars	\$120	\$45	\$120	\$50	\$135	\$50	\$150	\$50
Taxis	\$120	\$40	\$120	\$45	\$135	\$45	\$150	\$45
Private and public light buses	\$130	\$55	\$130	\$60	\$150	\$60	\$170	\$60
Light goods vehicles	\$180	\$55	\$180	\$60	\$200	\$60	\$220	\$60
Medium goods vehicles	\$245	\$80	\$245	\$85	\$280	\$85	\$315	\$85
Heavy goods vehicles	\$365	\$110	\$365	\$115	\$410	\$115	\$455	\$115
Single-decked buses	\$130	\$80	\$130	\$90	\$150	\$90	\$170	\$90
Double-decked buses	\$190	\$115	\$190	\$128	\$220	\$128	\$250	\$128
Additional axle for goods vehicles	\$120	\$30	\$120	\$30	\$135	\$30	\$150	\$30

Annex B**Existing and New Concessionary Tolls of WHC**

	Existing Statutory Tolls	Existing Concessionary Tolls	New Concessionary Tolls*	Actual Increase in concessionary tolls
Motorcycles	\$80	\$23	\$25	\$2
Private cars	\$150	\$50	\$55	\$5
Taxis	\$150	\$45	\$50	\$5
Private and public light buses	\$170	\$60	\$65	\$5
Light goods vehicles	\$220	\$60	\$65	\$5
Medium goods vehicles	\$315	\$85	\$90	\$5
Heavy goods vehicles	\$455	\$115	\$120	\$5
Single-decked buses	\$170	\$90	\$100	\$10
Double-decked buses	\$250	\$128	\$140	\$12
Additional axle for goods vehicles	\$150	\$30	\$30	\$0

* New concessionary tolls will take effect from 1 January 2013.