## Adjustments to the Income and Asset Limits of the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme

- Under the annual adjustment mechanism adopted in the mid-term review, the income and asset limits of the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy (WITS) Scheme will be adjusted concurrently with those of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme. The income limits will be updated on the basis of the median monthly household income in the third quarter of 2013 whereas the asset limits will be pegged to three times the asset limits of the CSSA Scheme as adjusted. The annual adjustment mechanism was supported by the Panel on Manpower of the Legislative Council on 3 December 2012 and approved by the Finance Committee on 14 December 2012.
- The new income limits updated on the basis of the median monthly household income in the third quarter of 2013 are as follows:

Household size	Current income limit	New income limit	% of median household income	Increase	Current effective income level <sup>1</sup>	New effective income level <sup>1</sup>
1 person or	\$7,700	\$7,900	100%	\$200	\$8,105	\$8,315
individual-based				(+2.6%)		
application						
2 persons	\$13,800	\$14,700	85%	\$900	\$14,526	\$15,473
				(+6.5%)		
3 persons	\$15,300	\$16,900	65%	\$1,600	\$16,105	\$17,789
				(+10.5%)		
4 persons	\$17,100	\$18,700	60%	\$1,600	\$18,000	\$19,684
				(+9.4%)		
5 persons	\$18,100	\$19,600	60%	\$1,500	\$19,052	\$20,631
				(+8.3%)		
6 persons or	\$20,200	\$21,400	60%	\$1,200	\$21,284	\$22,526
above				(+5.9%)		

<sup>1</sup> Under the WITS Scheme, "income" does not include employee's mandatory contribution to a Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) Scheme (i.e. 5% of employees' salary). "Effective income level" refers to income before deducting mandatory employees' MPF contribution.

• The new asset limits revised with reference to the expected adjustments to the asset limits of the CSSA Scheme (subject to the actual rates to be announced by the Social Welfare Department in due course) are as follows:

Household size	Current asset limit <sup>2</sup>	New asset limit <sup>2</sup>	Increase
1 person or	\$75,000	\$79,500	\$4,500
individual-based application			(+6.0%)
2 persons	\$102,000	\$108,000	\$6,000 (+5.9%)
3 persons	\$153,000	\$162,000	\$9,000 (+5.9%)
4 persons	\$204,000 <sup>3</sup>	\$216,000 <sup>3</sup>	\$12,000 (+5.9%)
5 persons	\$204,000 <sup>3</sup>	\$216,000 <sup>3</sup>	\$12,000 (+5.9%)
6 persons or above	\$204,000 <sup>3</sup>	\$216,000 <sup>3</sup>	\$12,000 (+5.9%)

• The new income and asset limits will take effect from the claim month of February 2014. The Labour Department will organise promotional activities to publicise the adjusted limits.

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The asset limit is increased by \$35,000 for each elderly applicant or household member aged 60 or above.

<sup>3</sup> Under the CSSA Scheme, households with four or more members are subject to the same (highest) asset limit. As the asset limits for WITS are three times the corresponding limits under the CSSA Scheme, households with four or more members under the WITS Scheme are subject to the same (highest) asset limit.