

**For information**

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
PANEL ON DEVELOPMENT**

**Revision of Fees for Registration of  
Building Professionals and Contractors  
under the purview of the Buildings Department**

**PURPOSE**

This paper informs Members of the proposed revision of 46 fee items in respect of the registration of building professionals and contractors under the purview of the Buildings Department (“BD”).

**BACKGROUND**

2. The concerned fee items are related to the registration of –
  - (a) authorized persons, structural engineers, geotechnical engineers, general building contractors and specialist contractors;
  - (b) inspectors; and
  - (c) registered minor works contractors (RMWCs).

The items under (a) and (b) are set out in the Building (Administration) Regulations (“B(A)R”) (Cap. 123 sub. leg. A) while those under (c) are set out in the Building (Minor Works) (Fees) Regulation (“B(MW)(F)R”) (Cap. 123 sub. leg. O). The prevailing fee levels for the items under (a), (b) and (c) were set in 2005, 2011 and 2009 respectively.

**THE PROPOSAL**

3. In line with the “user pays” principle, it is the policy of the Government that fees charged for government services should in general be set at levels sufficient to recover the full cost of providing the services.

4. BD has recently completed a cost review exercise on the concerned fee items at the 2015-16 price level. Based on the outcome of the cost review, we propose to increase the level of 40 fee items by up to 68% to achieve full cost recovery. We also propose to lower the level of six fee items by up to 4.9% to reflect the reduction in cost resulting from the implementation of streamlined registration procedures for RMWCs. Details of the proposed revision of the fee items under B(A)R and B(MW)(F)R are set out at Annexes A and B respectively. The proposed fee revision should have no direct impact on people's livelihood.

### **EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENT MEASURES**

5. BD has been taking measures to enhance efficiency and streamline work procedures with a view to reducing or containing the costs of providing services. The benefits derived from the measures have been factored into the costing of individual fee items.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATION**

6. If the proposed fee revision is implemented, there will be an estimated net increase in revenue of about \$2.0 million per annum.

### **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

7. BD has consulted stakeholders on the proposed fee revision through the Building Sub-committee of the Land and Development Advisory Committee as well as the Authorized Persons, Registered Structural Engineers and Registered Geotechnical Engineers Committee. The two committees have raised no objection to the proposed fee revision.

### **WAY FORWARD**

8. Members are invited to note the proposed fee revision as set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 above and detailed at the Annexes. We plan to introduce amendments to the B(A)R and B(MW)(F)R to the Legislative Council in the second quarter of 2015 to bring the fee revision into effect.

**Development Bureau**  
**March 2015**

**Proposed Revision of Fees under items 1, 1A, 2 and 4A  
of the Table of Fees in regulation 42  
of the Building (Administration) Regulations  
for Registration of Building Professionals and Contractors  
(other than Registered Minor Works Contractors)**

*Abbreviations:*

*AP* - authorized person

*GBC* - general building contractor

*GE* - geotechnical engineer

*SC* - specialist contractor

*SE* - structural engineer

<b>Item</b>	<b>Registration Items</b>	<b>Current Fees (\$)</b>	<b>Present Cost Recovery Rates (%)</b>	<b>Proposed Fees (\$)</b>	<b>Proposed Adjustments (%)</b>	<b>Cost Recovery Rates after Fee Revision (%)</b>
1.	Application for inclusion of name in each list of the AP/SE/GE's register	4,150	66.9	6,200	+49.4	100%
2.	Inclusion of name in each list of the AP/SE/GE's register	335	68.8	485	+44.8	100%
3.	Application for retention of name in each list of the AP/SE/GE's register	1,200	88.8	1,350	+12.5	100%
4.	Application for restoration of name in each list of the AP/SE/GE's register	125	59.8	210	+68.0	100%
5.	Application for inclusion of name in each list of the inspectors' register:					
	(a) by a person referred to in section 3(7AA) of the Buildings Ordinance	900	90.8	990	+10.0	100%
	(b) by a person other than that referred to in (a) above	3,850	87.4	4,400	+14.3	100%

<b>Item</b>	<b>Registration Items</b>	<b>Current Fees (\$)</b>	<b>Present Cost Recovery Rates (%)</b>	<b>Proposed Fees (\$)</b>	<b>Proposed Adjustments (%)</b>	<b>Cost Recovery Rates after Fee Revision (%)</b>
6.	Inclusion of name in each list of the inspectors' register	1,360	86.3	1,580	+16.2	100%
7.	Application for retention of name in each list of the inspectors' register	1,180	95.1	1,240	+5.1	100%
8.	Application for restoration of name in each list of the inspectors' register	1,370	88.4	1,550	+13.1	100%
9.	Application for registration as a GBC (basic fee)	5,020	71.5	7,030	+40.0	100%
10.	Application as a GBC, in addition to the basic fee, where the applicant is a partnership or a corporation for each additional person appointed in the application to act for it	4,140	71.4	5,800	+40.1	100%
11.	Entry of name in the register of GBC	1,180	81.0	1,460	+23.7	100%
12.	Renewal of registration in the register of GBC	1,910	77.6	2,460	+28.8	100%
13.	Application for restoration of name to the register from which the name of the GBC has been removed	1,140 <i>for restoration</i>	93.2	1,220 <i>for restoration</i>	+7.0	100%
		1,180 <i>for registration</i>	81.0	1,460 <i>for registration</i>	+23.7	100%
14.	Application for approval of each person appointed to act for a registered GBC prior to expiry of its registration	4,390	71.9	6,100	+39.0	100%

<b>Item</b>	<b>Registration Items</b>	<b>Current Fees (\$)</b>	<b>Present Cost Recovery Rates (%)</b>	<b>Proposed Fees (\$)</b>	<b>Proposed Adjustments (%)</b>	<b>Cost Recovery Rates after Fee Revision (%)</b>
15.	Application for registration as a SC (basic fee)	5,020	71.5	7,030	+40.0	100%
16.	Application as a SC, in addition to the basic fee, where the applicant is a partnership or a corporation for each additional person appointed in the application to act for it	4,140	71.4	5,800	+40.1	100%
17.	Entry of name in the register of SC	1,180	81.0	1,460	+23.7	100%
18.	Renewal of registration in the register of SC	1,910	77.6	2,460	+28.8	100%
19.	Application for restoration of name to the register from which the name of the SC has been removed	1,140 <i>for restoration</i>	93.2	1,220 <i>for restoration</i>	+7.0	100%
		1,180 <i>for registration</i>	81.0	1,460 <i>for registration</i>	+23.7	100%
20.	Application for approval of each person appointed to act for a registered SC prior to expiry of its registration	4,390	71.9	6,100	+39.0	100%

**Proposed Revision of Fees under sections 4, 7, 8(1), 10(1), 10(3), 11, 12, 13, 14(2), 15 and 17(2) of the Building (Minor Works) (Fees) Regulation  
for Registration of Registered Minor Works Contractors**

*Abbreviations:*

*RMWC(Co)* - registered minor works contractor (Company)

*RMWC(Ind)* - registered minor works contractor (Individual natural person)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Registration Items</b>	<b>Current Fees (\$)</b>	<b>Present Cost Recovery Rates (%)</b>	<b>Proposed Fees (\$)</b>	<b>Proposed Adjustments (%)</b>	<b>Cost Recovery Rates after Fee Revision (%)</b>
<b>For RMWC(Ind)</b>						
1.	Application for registration as a RMWC by virtue of experience	305	104.8	290	-4.9	100%
2.	Application for registration of additional items of class III minor works	305	104.6	290	-4.9	100%
3.	Request to review a decision or recommendation made in respect of an application	105	95.1	110	+4.8	100%
<b>For RMWC(Co)</b>						
4.	Application for registration as a RMWC(Co): (a) Class I (b) Class II (c) Class III	2,530 1,110 715	86.6 101.0 98.1	2,920 1,100 730	+15.4 -0.9 +2.1	100% 100% 100%
5.	Additional authorized signatory proposed in the application for registration as a RMWC(Co): (a) Class I (b) Class II (c) Class III	2,090 840 530	85.5 103.6 94.2	2,440 810 560	+16.7 -3.6 +5.7	100% 100% 100%

<b>Item</b>	<b>Registration Items</b>	<b>Current Fees (\$)</b>	<b>Present Cost Recovery Rates (%)</b>	<b>Proposed Fees (\$)</b>	<b>Proposed Adjustments (%)</b>	<b>Cost Recovery Rates after Fee Revision (%)</b>
6.	Registration as a RMWC(Co): (a) Class III	410	68.8	595	+45.1	100%
7.	Application for renewal of the registration of a RMWC(Co): (a) Class I (b) Class II (c) Class III	1,100 810 395	97.3 97.1 93.4	1,130 835 425	+2.7 +3.1 +7.6	100% 100% 101%
8.	Application for restoration of the name of a person to the register: (a) Class I (b) Class II (c) Class III	1,250 880 420	95.9 96.3 96.4	1,300 915 435	+4.0 +4.0 +3.6	100% 100% 100%
9.	Application for registration of additional classes or types of minor works to the registration of a RMWC(Co): (a) Class I (b) Class III	2,240 630	83.0 102.2	2,700 615	+20.5 -2.4	100% 100%
10.	Application for approval of nomination of additional authorized signatory: (a) Class I (b) Class III	2,240 630	83.0 102.2	2,700 615	+20.5 -2.4	100% 100%
11.	Request to review a decision or recommendation made in respect of an application: (a) Class I (b) Class II (c) Class III	1,100 810 395	88.6 96.8 96.8	1,240 835 410	+12.7 +3.1 +3.8	100% 100% 101%