LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PANEL ON DEVELOPMENT

Revision of Fees and Charges for Services under the Purview of the Lands Department under the Land Survey (Fees) Regulation (Cap. 473A)

Purpose

This paper outlines the Government's proposed revision of seven government fees and charges for services under the purview of the Lands Department which do not directly affect people's livelihood or general business activities.

The Proposal

- 2. In line with the "user pays" principle, it is the Government's policy that fees charged by the Government should in general be set at levels sufficient to recover the full cost of providing the services. The seven fee items concerned are prescribed in the Land Survey (Fees) Regulation (Cap. 473A) under the Land Survey Ordinance (Cap. 473).
- 3. A review of the cost of providing the relevant services at the 2015-16 price level has been carried out. The result reflects that the cost recovery rates at existing fee levels range from about 83.2% to 92.0%. In order to achieve full cost recovery gradually and avoid a steep fee increase, we propose to increase the fee levels by about 10%. Details of the proposal are at *Annex*. After the proposed revision is implemented, the cost recovery rates of the seven fee items will range from 91.5% to 100.6% of the 2015-16 price level. We will revise the fees once the amendment procedures are completed.

Efficiency Improvement Measures

4. We have been taking measures to contain the cost of our services through implementing efficiency initiatives, reprioritizing service provision and streamlining

procedures. Examples of such efficiency measures include the use of standard forms and computer applications for the relevant services. These measures have been factored into the calculation of costs for individual fee items.

Financial Implications

5. When the proposed fees and charges adjustment is implemented, there will be an increase of about \$0.3 million in revenue per annum.

Advice Sought

6. Members are invited to comment on the proposed revision of fees and charges as set out in paragraphs 2 to 3 above and detailed at *Annex*. Subject to Members' advice, the Government will proceed with the necessary legislative amendments by way of negative vetting. In order for the proposed adjustment to take effect in March 2016, the Government plans to complete the relevant gazettal by mid-January 2016.

Development Bureau Lands Department December 2015

Annex

Proposed revision of fees under the Land Survey (Fees) Regulation (Cap. 473A)

		Existing	Existing	Proposed	Cost
Item	Fee Description	Fee	Cost	Fee	Recovery
	•	(\$)	Recovery	(\$)	Rate
			Rate at		after Fee
			2015-16		Revision
			Price		
			Level		
1	Inspection of land boundary record-				
	(a) For each land boundary plan included in the record	69	85.7%	76	94.3%
	(b) For each survey record plan included in the record	69	85.7%	76	94.3%
2	Supply of copies of plans-				
	(a) For each copy of land boundary plan	96	92.0%	105	100.6%
	(b) For each copy of survey record plan	96	92.0%	105	100.6%
3	Deposit of land boundary plan and corresponding survey record plan with the Land Survey Authority	3,280	91.3%	3,590	100.0%
4	Registration as an authorized land surveyor	5,320	83.2%	5,850	91.5%
5	Renewal of registration as an authorized land surveyor	930	83.7%	1,020	91.8%