

# 立法會 *Legislative Council*

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## **Panel on Commerce and Industry**

**Meeting on 20 March 2018**

### **Updated background brief on the initiatives for promotion of innovation and technology under the Innovation and Technology Fund**

#### **Purpose**

This paper provides updated background information on a number of programmes under the Innovation and Technology Fund ("ITF")<sup>1</sup> to support the development of innovation and technology ("I&T"). This paper also gives a summary of the views and concerns expressed by members on related issues during previous discussions.

#### **Background**

##### The Innovation and Technology Fund

2. ITF<sup>2</sup> is a statutory fund established under the Public Finance Ordinance

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<sup>1</sup> The programmes that are in operation under the Innovation and Technology Fund ("ITF") include:

- (a) Innovation and Technology Support Programme ("ITSP");
- (b) University-Industry Collaboration Programme;
- (c) General Support Programme;
- (d) Internship Programme;
- (e) Patent Application Grant;
- (f) Research and Development Cash Rebate Scheme ("CRS");
- (g) Public Sector Trial Scheme;
- (h) Enterprise Support Scheme ("ESS");
- (i) Midstream Research Programme for Universities ("MRP"); and
- (j) Technology Voucher Programme.

<sup>2</sup> On 9 July 1999, the Finance Committee ("FC") approved the proposed injection of \$5 billion into ITF which came into operation on 1 November 1999. FC subsequently approved the Administration's proposals to inject into ITF a further \$5 billion (for providing sustained and comprehensive support for the development of innovation and technology) and another \$2 billion (as endowment capital to generate investment income to finance projects under the MRP) on 27 February 2015 and 10 June 2016 respectively.

(Cap. 2) and administered by the Innovation and Technology Commission ("ITC"). ITF aims to provide financial support to a spectrum of activities that boost Hong Kong's I&T capability, ranging from applied research and Research and Development ("R&D"), technology transfer and commercialization of related activities to promotional activities that foster an innovation culture within the community.

3. As of 2014, ITF operated four key funding programmes, which were Innovation and Technology Support Programme ("ITSP") (details are in paragraphs 10 and 11), University-Industry Collaboration Programme ("UICP") (details are in paragraphs 12 and 13), Small Entrepreneur Research Assistance Programme ("SERAP"),<sup>3</sup> and General Support Programme ("GSP") (details are in paragraphs 14 to 17).

4. In the 2014-15 Budget, the Financial Secretary ("FS") announced the setting up of Enterprise Support Scheme ("ESS")<sup>4</sup> to replace SERAP under ITF to further enhance the application and commercialization of R&D results (details are in paragraphs 22 and 23). ESS was subsequently launched on 28 April 2015.

5. In the 2016-17 Budget, FS announced a series of initiatives to promote I&T development in Hong Kong as follows:

- (a) injecting \$2 billion to launch the Midstream Research Programme for Universities ("MRP") to encourage universities to conduct more theme-based midstream research projects in key technology areas (details are in paragraphs 24 and 25);
- (b) increasing the level of cash rebate under the R&D Cash Rebate Scheme ("CRS") to 40% to encourage private enterprises, small and medium enterprises ("SME") in particular, to put more resources into R&D works (details are in paragraphs 18 and 19);

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<sup>3</sup> The Small Entrepreneur Research Assistance Programme ("SERAP") was first launched in 1999 to provide financial support for small technology-based enterprises to carry out research and development ("R&D") activities on a commercial basis. The ceiling of Government's contribution was subsequently raised from \$2 million to \$6 million per project. Such contribution would be recouped gradually if the project was commercially successful.

<sup>4</sup> The Administration intended to replace SERAP with the ESS to create a "rainforest" of technology companies, help lower the entry barrier for technology start-ups and help reduce the consequence of failure. Moreover, without the recoupment requirement under ESS, the Administration would be able to create a more favourable environment to encourage the private sector to invest in in-house research.

- (c) extending the Public Sector Trial Scheme ("PSTS") to cover the incubatees of the Cyberport and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation ("HKSTPC") for funding their production of prototypes or samples and conduct trials of their R&D results in the public sector to facilitate commercialization of R&D results (details are in paragraphs 20 and 21);
- (d) increasing the monthly allowances of the Internship Programme under ITF and extend the scope to cover the incubatees and SME tenants of the Cyberport and HKSTPC, as well as start-ups to be funded by the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund ("ITVF") (details are in paragraphs 15 and 16); and
- (e) launching the Technology Voucher Programme ("TVP") to subsidize the use of technological services and solutions by local SMEs (details are in paragraphs 26 and 27).

6. The Finance Committee ("FC") approved the injection of \$2 billion into ITF for launching MRP on 10 June 2016. TVP and MRP were subsequently launched in late 2016.

#### New initiatives announced in the 2017 Policy Address and the 2018-19 Budget

7. In her 2017 Policy Address delivered in October 2017, the Chief Executive announced to earmark \$500 million under ITF to launch a Technology Talent Scheme ("TTS") to nurture and bring together more technology talents and encourage them to pursue a career in innovation and scientific research. According to the Administration, TTS, which is expected to be implemented in the second half of 2018, will comprise:

- (a) establishing a "Postdoctoral Hub" programme to provide funding support to all eligible institutions to recruit postdoctoral talent. The "Postdoctoral Hub" programme will provide a maximum monthly allowance of \$32,000 for organizations to recruit postdoctoral researchers to assist in R&D work. Each ITF project or eligible applicant organization can engage up to two postdoctoral researchers with a maximum period of 24 months; and
- (b) subsidizing local enterprises on a matching basis for training staff on high-end technologies, especially those related to "Industry 4.0", thereby encouraging enterprises to equip their staff with high level technology training and to drive re-industrialization.

8. The Chief Executive also announced in her 2017 Policy Address that the Internship Programme be further enhanced to benefit more enterprises and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics graduates.

9. FS has announced in his 2018-19 Budget to inject \$10 billion into ITF and relax the eligibility criteria for TVP. ITF's financial support for I&T development in Hong Kong has increased from about \$700 million in 2013-14 to over \$1.5 billion in 2017-18.

## **Progress of various programmes under the Innovation and Technology Fund**

### Innovation and Technology Support Programme

10. ITSP supports mid-stream/downstream applied R&D projects mainly undertaken by the five R&D Centres set up by the Government, local universities and other designated local public research institutions. The Guangdong-Hong Kong Technology Cooperation Funding Scheme<sup>5</sup> also operates under the ITSP funding framework.

11. There are broadly two categories of projects under ITSP, namely platform projects and collaborative projects.<sup>6</sup> The Administration obtained the Panel's support at the meeting on 16 May 2017 for expanding the eligibility criteria of ITSP to cover all self-financing degree-award institutions registered under the Post-Secondary Colleges Ordinance (Cap. 320) in addition to the original scope of local public research institutions, 10 local universities and their continuing education arms. As at 31 December 2017, 2 414 projects had been approved under ITSP with funding of over \$10,164 million.

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<sup>5</sup> Guangdong-Hong Kong Technology Cooperation Funding Scheme ("TCFS") aims to enhance the level of collaboration on R&D between organizations in Hong Kong and Guangdong. Projects funded by TCFS have to demonstrate an element of collaboration between Hong Kong and Guangdong or Shenzhen research institutes or the industry. Depending on the nature of the project, the projects may be funded solely by ITSP in Hong Kong or Guangdong/Shenzhen, or jointly by the authorities of two sides, i.e. Guangdong/Hong Kong or Shenzhen/Hong Kong.

<sup>6</sup> Platform projects are intended for the benefit of the industry as a whole. These projects require industry contribution of at least 10% of the project cost from at least one company. The industry sponsors will not be entitled to own the project intellectual property ("IP"). Collaborative projects intend to provide support to the industry or a company in conducting R&D, realizing/commercializing IP and taking the R&D outcome to the market. These projects require higher levels of industry contribution of at least 30% of the project cost for projects conducted by R&D Centres or at least 50% for projects conducted by other research institutions. The industry partner will be entitled to exclusive right to utilize the project IP for a defined period or own the project IP.

## University-Industry Collaboration Programme

12. UICP provides matching grant for collaborative projects undertaken by local companies in collaboration with universities. The matching is on a 50:50 basis and only cash sponsorship is accepted. Given UICP projects are proprietary in nature, the intellectual property ("IP") rights arising from the projects belong to the applicant companies. There are three schemes under UICP, namely Teaching Company Scheme, Matching Grant for Joint Research and Industrial Research Chair Scheme.<sup>7</sup>

13. The Administration briefed the Panel at the meeting on 18 November 2014 on relaxing the timeframe for UICP projects from two years to three years; allowing flexibility for the company and the university participating in a UICP project to negotiate and mutually agree on the IP arrangements and adopting the assessment framework of ITSP for UICP projects. As at 31 December 2017, 329 projects had been approved under UICP with funding of \$396.5 million.

## General Support Programme

14. GSP is the only funding scheme under ITF catering for non-R&D projects that contribute to the upgrading and development of Hong Kong industries, as well as fostering an I&T culture in Hong Kong. Organizations in Hong Kong such as non-profit making organizations, public bodies, charitable organizations, local universities or private companies are eligible to apply. The Internship Programme and Patent Application Grant ("PAG") are the two sub-programmes under GSP. As at 31 December 2017, 3 208 projects had been approved under GSP with funding of over \$1,256 million.

## Internship Programme

15. Launched in July 2004, the Internship Programme supports organizations undertaking R&D projects funded by ITF to recruit graduates from local universities as interns to assist in the R&D projects. Each project can engage up to two interns at any one time for a maximum period of 24 months. The allowances under the Internship Programme were last adjusted in early 2016 (following FS's announcement in the 2016-17 Budget). Having regard to the recent wage indices and the need to encourage more local graduates to pursue a career in I&T, the Administration has increased the monthly allowances of interns from the date of announcement of the 2017 Policy Address (i.e. 11 October 2017), from \$14,000 to \$16,000 for interns with a Bachelor's degree, and from \$16,500 to

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<sup>7</sup> Teaching Company Scheme supports local companies to take on postgraduate students from local universities to assist in propriety R&D work. Matching Grant for Joint Research aims to foster private companies to collaborate with universities in propriety R&D projects. Industrial Research Chair Scheme aims to assist universities and industry to develop research efforts that respond to industrial needs by inviting professors to lead designated R&D projects.

\$19,000 for interns with a Master's or higher degrees.

16. In addition to the increase in monthly allowances of interns, the Administration has further expanded the coverage of the Internship Programme to all I&T tenants of the HKSTPC and Cyberport, as well as start-ups to be invested by the upcoming ITVF. As at end March 2017, applications from 32 companies in HKSTPC and Cyberport had been approved, involving 41 interns and about \$11.1 million of funding. The major technology areas of the funded internship positions since the launch of the programme in 2004 are manufacturing technology, biotechnology and information technology.

#### Patent Application Grant

17. PAG provides funding support to local companies and investors in their first patent application to help them protect and commercialize their intellectual work. An approved application will be granted up to \$250,000 or 90% of the sum of the total direct cost of the patent application and the administration fee charged by the Hong Kong Productivity Council, whichever is the lower. The grant is non-transferrable and will be valid for three years from the date of approval of the application.

#### Research and Development Cash Rebate Scheme

18. On 1 April 2010, the Government introduced CRS to reinforce the research culture among private companies and encourage them to establish stronger partnership with local research institutions. With a funding commitment of \$200 million approved by FC, CRS provided cash rebate to private companies on their investment in R&D projects funded by ITF or conducted in partnership with designated local public research institutions.<sup>8</sup> With FC's approval in February 2015, CRS was subsumed under ITF with effect from 1 April 2016.

19. The level of cash rebate was 10% of the investment in R&D projects when CRS was launched. To enhance the effectiveness of CRS and to encourage the private sector to invest more in R&D, the level of cash rebate was raised to 30%, effective from 1 February 2012, and to 40% from the date of announcement of the 2016-17 Budget (i.e. 24 February 2016). As at end March 2017, 960 private companies had been funded, involving about \$241.9 million.

#### Public Sector Trial Scheme

20. To promote realization or application of the R&D results in the public sector, the Government introduced PSTS in March 2011, whereby additional funding is provided to completed R&D projects funded by ITF for the production

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<sup>8</sup> Designated local public research institutions under the CRS include local universities; R&D Centres set up under ITF; Hong Kong Productivity Council; Vocational Training Council and Hong Kong Institute of Biotechnology.

of tools/prototypes/samples and the conducting of trials in the public sector, including government departments, public bodies and trade associations.

21. In 2014, the Administration raised the funding ceiling of PSTS from 30% to 50% of the actual cost of the R&D projects funded by ITF, and up to 100% for projects undertaken by the R&D Centres. In December 2016, PSTS was extended to include incubatees of the Cyberport and HKSTPC for trials of their technologies or products in the public sector. The funding ceiling for each project is \$1 million. As at 31 December 2017, 165 projects had been approved under PSTS with funding of over \$274 million.

### Enterprise Support Scheme

22. To address the limitations of SERAP and encourage more private sector investment in I&T, the Administration replaced SERAP with ESS with improved features. Under ESS, limited companies registered in Hong Kong, regardless of size, will be eligible to apply. Funding of up to \$10 million for each approved project will be provided on a matching basis. Moreover, the applicant company will own the IP of the project and there will be no requirement for recoupment of Government's contribution.

23. As at 31 December 2017, a total of 39 projects with funding over \$117 million had been approved under ESS since its launch in April 2015. The major technology areas of the funded projects are electronics, information and communication technology, and environmental technology.

### Midstream Research Programme for Universities

24. MRP was launched in December 2016 aiming to encourage University Grants Committee-funded institutions to conduct more theme-based midstream research in key technology areas. The funding ceiling for each project is \$5 million. Priority will be given to projects involving collaboration across multiple disciplines or institutions, where a higher funding ceiling of \$10 million per project will be given.

25. By the application deadline on 31 March 2017 for the first round of MRP applications under the theme "Elderly Health and Care", 111 project proposals had been received by six universities<sup>9</sup> and 70 of which involve collaboration across multiple disciplines or institutions. The applications were assessed by a panel comprising experts from the academia and industry. As at 31 December 2017, 8 projects had been approved with funding of \$33.6 million. Project proposals for the second round of MRP applications under the same theme as the first round are due for submission by 30 April 2018.

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<sup>9</sup> Including City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Baptist University, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and The University of Hong Kong.

## Technology Voucher Programme

26. Launched in November 2016, TVP subsidizes local SMEs in using technological services and solutions to improve productivity, or upgrade or transform their business processes. TVP provides cumulative funding of up to \$200,000 on a 2:1 matching basis for each eligible enterprise to carry out a maximum of three approved projects. TVP also covers the adoption of cyber security solutions that provide SMEs with the means to defend against cyber attacks and disaster recovery solutions with a view to minimizing the risks of incurring loss to their information systems. As at 31 December 2017, 241 projects had been approved under TVP with funding of \$31.1 million.

27. In order to enable more medium enterprises and start-ups to benefit from TVP, FS announced in his 2018-19 Budget that the eligibility criteria for TVP be relaxed to allow all local enterprises, irrespective of size and duration of operation to apply.

## **Previous discussions**

28. The Panel had a discussion on the comprehensive review of ITF with proposed improvement measures at the meeting on 18 February 2014. The Panel was briefed on the details of ESS at the meetings on 18 March and 16 December 2014. The Panel and FC discussed the injection of \$5 billion into ITF at the meetings on 20 January and 27 February 2015, and discussed the proposed MRP at the meetings on 17 May and 10 June 2016 respectively. The Panel agreed to the Administration's proposal for expanding the eligibility criteria of ITSP on 16 May 2017. Members' views and concerns in previous discussions are summarized in the ensuing paragraphs.

## Management of the Innovation and Technology Fund

29. At the Panel meeting on 20 January 2015, some members commented that the initial appropriation of \$5 billion to ITF in 1999 had been spent at a slow pace and urged the Administration to speed up the usage of ITF to vigorously promote the development of I&T in Hong Kong. The Administration advised that in addition to the initial injection of \$5 billion into ITF in 1999, the total revenue earned over the years was about \$4.1 billion, comprising mainly the investment income from the Exchange Fund to which the unspent ITF funding had been parked plus the project incomes ploughed back to ITF over the years. Furthermore, the actual cash flow might vary depending on the number and amount of funding applications approved under different funding programmes and changes in policy, the introduction of new initiatives/schemes in the future might also speed up the usage of funds.



30. At the Panel meeting on 16 May 2017, some members were concerned that the cumbersome procedures of ITF might have discouraged organizations undertaking ITF funded projects from proposing changes of approved projects during the project implementation stage for adoption of newly available technologies. The Administration responded that change requests of approved projects would be considered as long as such proposed changes were reasonable and in line with the original scope and deliverables of the projects.

#### Commercialization of research and development outcomes

31. At the Panel meeting on 20 January 2015, members opined that ITF should focus on funding projects that were commercially viable and suitable for manufacturing in Hong Kong, thereby generating actual economic contributions to Hong Kong's economy. The Administration replied that it had refined the assessment framework for ITF applications since 2011 so that in assessing a project proposal, consideration was also given to the holistic plan of realization/commercialization so as to encourage and identify projects with greater prospect of realization/commercialization. In addition, PSTS provided additional funding to completed R&D projects funded by ITF for the production of tools/prototypes/samples and for conducting trials in the public sector. In recent years, there had been a significant increase in the number of cases in realizing R&D outcomes in the public sector and commercialization of R&D outcomes.

32. At the FC meeting on 27 February 2015, members expressed concern about the Administration's lack of effective policies to support commercialization of R&D outcomes. The Administration advised that it had adopted measures in the past few years to expand the scope of ITF to provide support to more downstream R&D activities and commercialization of R&D outcomes. In addition to supporting local R&D, ITF would also support projects involving procurement of third party IP. ITF had also been providing funding to the technology transfer offices of universities to support activities on technology transfers.

#### Internship Programme

33. At the Panel meeting on 16 May 2017, some members pointed out that the then level of internship allowance was below market level by 30% to 50%, and urged the Administration to consider enhancing the attractiveness of the funding programme and to review the level of internship allowance at a more frequent interval. Some other members requested the Administration to put in place complementary measures to enrich the R&D talent pool in Hong Kong as well as retain R&D talents in face of severe competition from the neighbouring region, and assess the effectiveness of relevant schemes under ITF. The Administration was requested to furnish the Panel with such information in its next report to be submitted to the Panel. The Administration remarked that the supply and

retention of R&D talents would be one of the work focuses of the newly established Committee on Innovation, Technology and Re-industrialization chaired by FS.

#### Research and Development Cash Rebate Scheme and Public Sector Trial Scheme

34. To promote CRS to SMEs, some members suggested at the Panel meeting on 18 February 2014 that the Administration should collaborate with relevant chambers of commerce and trade associations to arouse SMEs' interests in the application of I&T in their business operations, and strengthen their collaboration with local research institutions and academia on research projects. Efforts should also be made to publicize the successful R&D results under CRS to the general public.

35. The Administration advised that to heighten awareness of CRS, the Administration would publicize the relevant improvement measures of ITF and engage the major chambers of commerce and industry organizations in this endeavor. Following the enhancement of the cash rebate level to 40% in February 2016, the Administration anticipated the average amount of cash rebate granted under CRS for each approved project would increase gradually.

36. To enhance PSTS, members suggested that the Administration should expand the scope of PSTS to cover trials in the private sector to promote wider exploitation of local R&D results and facilitate their commercialization in the open market. The Administration replied that the proposed increase of the funding limit of PSTS projects from 30% to 50% of the actual cost of the R&D project supported by the ITF would facilitate the conduct of larger scale product trials to assess speedily and comprehensively the effectiveness of the new innovation in different settings, and repeated trials to identify areas of improvement to facilitate their commercialization in the open market.

#### Implementation of the Enterprise Support Scheme

37. At the Panel meeting on 16 May 2017, members requested the Administration to keep track of the performance of the ESS projects to facilitate assessment of the effectiveness of the scheme, and provide the Panel with the relevant information.

38. In response to some members' concern on the low approval rate (12.5%) and high withdrawal rate (33.7%) of ESS applications, the Administration explained that some applications were withdrawn because they were outside the funding scope of ESS while quite a number of the applications were rejected on the ground that they did not comprise any R&D element. Nevertheless, the Administration would make further effort to help applicants understand the overall objectives, assessment criteria and application requirements of ESS by enhancing the information content of the scheme detailed in ITC's website.

39. Members were concerned that ESS would be open to applications by all companies registered in Hong Kong, regardless of size at the Panel meetings of 18 March and 16 December 2014. Some members were concerned that small technology companies which were SMEs might be less competitive than large companies when applying for the ESS and that more established company applicants might take away the bulk of the funding, depleting the ESS fund pool quickly at the expense of SME applicants.

40. The Administration advised that under ESS, there would not be a quota on the number of applications to be processed or the amount of funding to be approved. Therefore the support for SMEs would not be reduced even though large companies would be eligible to apply for the ESS funding. All applications that had met the assessment criteria of ESS would be approved, regardless of the size of the applicant companies. Furthermore, every application, be it from a large or small company, would be assessed on its own merits, and the assessment criteria would include the I&T component and commercial viability of the projects among others.

41. Some members enquired whether an appeal mechanism would be provided for unsuccessful applicants. The Administration advised that while there would not be any appeal mechanism, ITC would pass on the project assessment panel's comments to the unsuccessful applicants, who could revise and resubmit their applications if they so wished to the project assessment panel for consideration.

#### Midstream Research Programme for Universities

42. At the Panel meeting on 17 May 2016, members sought elaboration on the definition of midstream research. The Administration advised that midstream research involved research activities in between basic research and applied research. They mostly arose from findings of basic research, which were experimental or theoretical work leading to new discoveries or new knowledge without any particular application. Midstream research covered a wide range of activities, including concept proofing, laboratory validation, system/process optimization, etc. It had the potential of leading to further downstream R&D work, the outcome of which could be applied or commercialized.

43. Members also raised questions on the implementation of MRP at the FC meeting on 10 June 2016. Noting that robotics technology was one of the preliminary topics of the proposed MRP, members enquired if the Administration had assessed the midstream research capability of local institutions in this area of robotics technology, and also, compared with the rest of the world, what role local institutions could play in the midstream research of the relevant technological area. The Administration advised that local universities, especially those with engineering subjects on offer, had all been engaging in research on robotics technology. Moreover, when picking research topics, the research capability of local universities in the relevant technological area would be taken into account.

44. Some members enquired about how MRP could promote applied research and commercialization of research outcomes. The Administration advised that while MRP did not require industry sponsorship for a project, its purpose was to encourage University Grants Committee-funded institutions to focus more on midstream research, so as to make available more research outcomes for further downstream research in order to develop new products or services.

45. In response to members' views that researchers were often unable to share the benefits brought about by commercialization of research outcomes, the Administration advised that the IP rights of the funded projects would be vested with the lead applicant. Furthermore, relevant institutions were encouraged to promote their research outcomes to the industries concerned after project completion by means of licensing or contract services. Universities could also set up their own start-up companies to promote commercialization of research outcomes of projects and the actual arrangement of which should be decided by universities on their own.

#### Technology Voucher Programme

46. At the Panel meeting of 16 May 2017, a number of members queried whether the procedures of TVP had discouraged SMEs from making applications as revealed by the statistics reported by the Administration during the meeting. Members suggested that the Administration should simplify the application procedures, expedite the approval process of TVP applications and consider setting up a dedicated team of staff to support SMEs in dealing with the application procedures. The Administration advised that it had set up a hotline to answer enquiries, enhanced the online application process as well as promoted TVP to SMEs through various chambers of commerce and trade associations.

47. Some other members suggested raising the cumulative funding ceiling for each eligible SMEs and relaxing the eligibility criteria of the funding programme to Hong Kong companies with business outside the territories. Quoting the average amount of funds approved for each project was about \$138,000, the Administration was of the view that the funding ceiling of \$200,000 should be adequate to cover the costs of some commonly sought technological solutions in TVP applications. The Administration further clarified that enterprises registered in Hong Kong under the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap. 310) were eligible to apply for TVP funding regardless of cross-border nature of their business activities, subject to their fulfilment of all other eligibility criteria.

## **Council meeting**

48. At the Council meeting of 2 November 2016, Mr Charles MOK asked a written question about the implementation of TVP. The Administration replied that TVP applications (be it online or written application) would be handled through a streamlined process so as to simplify the vetting procedures and reduce the processing time. The Administration further explained that it did not intend to pre-define the types of technological services that could be subsidized under TVP as SMEs were encouraged to identify suitable technology consultants or providers according to their needs after examining their business operations, in order to achieve the objective of improving productivity, or upgrading or transforming their business processes.

## **Latest position**

49. The Administration will seek the Panel's support on the proposed injection of \$10 billion into ITF and brief the Panel on the proposed new initiatives such as TTS as well as the implementation progress of various programmes under ITF.

## **Relevant papers**

50. A list of relevant papers is shown in the **Appendix**.

List of relevant papers

Date of meeting	Meeting	Paper
18/2/2014	Panel on Commerce and Industry	<p>Administration's paper on "Comprehensive review of the Innovation and Technology Fund – proposed improvement measures"  <a href="#">(LC Paper No. CB(1)885/13-14(03))</a></p> <p>Background brief on improvements to the Innovation and Technology Fund to promote innovation and application of research and development outcomes prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat  <a href="#">(LC Paper No. CB(1)885/13-14(04))</a></p> <p>Minutes of meeting  <a href="#">(LC Paper No. CB(1)1234/13-14)</a></p>
18/3/2014	Panel on Commerce and Industry	<p>Administration's paper on "New initiatives on promotion of innovation and technology"  <a href="#">(LC Paper No. CB(1)1072/13-14(07))</a></p> <p>Updated background brief on promotion of innovation and technology prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat  <a href="#">(LC Paper No. CB(1)1072/13-14(08))</a></p> <p>Minutes of meeting  <a href="#">(LC Paper No. CB(1)1418/13-14)</a></p>

Date of meeting	Meeting	Paper
16/12/2014	Panel on Commerce and Industry	<p>Administration's paper on "Launching of a new Enterprise Support Scheme to replace the Small Entrepreneur Research Assistance Programme under the Innovation and Technology Fund" (<a href="#">LC Paper No. CB(1)344/14-15(04)</a>)</p> <p>Background brief on launching of a new Enterprise Support Scheme to replace the Small Entrepreneur Research Assistance Programme under the Innovation and Technology Fund prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat (<a href="#">LC Paper No. CB(1)344/14-15(05)</a>)</p> <p>Minutes of meeting (<a href="#">LC Paper No. CB(1)439/14-15</a>)</p>
20/1/2015	Panel on Commerce and Industry	<p>Administration's paper on "Injection into the Innovation and Technology Fund" (<a href="#">LC Paper No. CB(1)438/14-15(05)</a>)</p> <p>Background brief on the Innovation and Technology Fund prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat (<a href="#">LC Paper No. CB(1)438/14-15(06)</a>)</p> <p>Minutes of meeting (<a href="#">LC Paper No. CB(1)582/14-15</a>)</p>
27/2/2015	Finance Committee	<p>Administration's paper on "Innovation and Technology Fund" (<a href="#">FCR(2014-15)57</a>)</p> <p>Minutes of meeting (<a href="#">LC Paper No. FC238/14-15</a>) (<a href="#">LC Paper No. FC239/14-15</a>)</p>

Date of meeting	Meeting	Paper
17/5/2016	Panel on Commerce and Industry	<p>Administration's paper on "New initiatives under the Innovation and Technology Fund to promote innovation and technology" (<a href="#">LC Paper No. CB(1)901/15-16(05)</a>)</p> <p>Background brief on the new initiatives for promotion of innovation and technology prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat (<a href="#">LC Paper No. CB(1)901/15-16(06)</a>)</p> <p>Minutes of meeting (<a href="#">LC Paper No. CB(1)1186/15-16</a>)</p>
10/6/2016	Finance Committee	<p>Administration's paper on "Innovation and Technology Fund" (<a href="#">FCR(2016-17)38</a>)</p> <p>Minutes of meetings (<a href="#">LC Paper No. FC317/15-16</a>) (<a href="#">LC Paper No. FC318/15-16</a>)</p>
2/11/2016	Council	<p>Question No. 14 on "Pilot Technology Voucher Programme" raised by Hon Charles MOK (<a href="#">Hansard</a>) (Page 162-165)</p>
16/5/2017	Panel on Commerce and Industry	<p>Administration's paper on "Implementation Progress of New Funding Schemes under the Innovation and Technology Fund" (<a href="#">LC Paper No. CB(1)916/16-17(03)</a>)</p> <p>Background brief on the initiatives for promotion of innovation and technology under the Innovation and Technology Fund prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat (<a href="#">LC Paper No. CB(1)916/16-17(04)</a>)</p> <p>Minutes of meeting (<a href="#">LC Paper No. CB(1)1294/16-17</a>)</p>