

Information Paper

Legislative Council Panel on Security

Proposed Revision of Fees for Services under the Purview of the Immigration Department

Purpose

This paper briefs Members on the proposals to revise a number of fees for services provided by the Immigration Department (ImmD).

Background

2. It is the Government's policy that fees charged by the Government should in general be set at levels adequate to recover the full cost of providing the goods or services. In order to achieve full-cost recovery gradually and to avoid a steep fee increase, the Government has adopted the following guidelines when proposing the fee revision –

- (a) achieve full-cost recovery for those fees with existing cost recovery rate of less than 40% of target through fee increases of 20% or more;
- (b) achieve full-cost recovery for those fees with existing cost recovery rate of 40% to 70% of target through fee increases of 15%; and
- (c) to achieve full-cost recovery for those fees with existing cost recovery rate of over 70% of target through fee increases of 10% or less.

3. Based on the outcome of the latest costing review and with reference to the guidelines set out in paragraph 2 above, we propose adjusting 26 fees under the purview of ImmD – three fees under the Immigration Ordinance (Cap. 115), 18 fees under the Immigration Regulations (Cap. 115A), four fees under the Hong Kong Special

Administrative Region Passports Ordinance (Cap. 539) and one fee pegged to the Immigration Regulations as detailed at **Annex**.

4. After the proposed revision, the relevant fee items aim at achieving full-cost recovery, which will continue to be our objective in future fee revisions. The fees have little impact on the daily life of most people and very limited impact on general business activities.

Financial Implications

5. When the fee revision proposals are implemented, the estimated increase in revenue is about \$33.2 million per annum.

Efficiency Initiative

6. ImmD regularly reviews their day-to-day management and procedures, and controls its cost of services through implementing efficiency initiatives and streamlining procedures. Efficiency savings from these efforts have been factored into the calculation of the fees to be charged by ImmD for the provision of relevant services.

Way Forward

7. Subject to the Panel's views on the above fee revision proposals, we will proceed with the necessary amendments to the legislation mentioned in paragraph 3 above to implement the fee revisions. The revised fees are expected to be implemented by March 2019.

Security Bureau
Immigration Department
November 2018

Fee revision proposals under the purview of the Immigration Department

Item no.	Description of Fee	Existing fee level (\$)	Cost recovery level before the proposed increase	Proposed fee level (\$)	Proposed amount of increase (\$) (proposed percentage increase)	Cost recovery level after the proposed increase
	1. <u>Visa Control</u>					
1	1.1 Travel pass valid for not more than 3 years	660	51%	760	100 (15%)	59%
2	1.2 APEC business travel card valid for a period of not more than 5 years	490	75%	540	50 (10%)	83%
3	1.3 Replacement of APEC business travel card for the remainder of its validity period	190	74%	210	20 (11%)	82%
4	1.4 Ordinary visa	190	25%	230	40 (21%)	29%
5	1.5 Transit visa	100	25%	120	20 (20%)	29%
6	1.6 Entry permit valid for 1 entry	190	25%	230	40 (21%)	29%
7	1.7 Entry permit for multiple entries and valid for 1 year	390	25%	470	80 (21%)	29%
8	1.8 Entry permit for multiple entries and valid for 3 years	780	25%	935	155 (20%)	29%
9	1.9 Change of conditions of stay or extension of limit of stay	190	25%	230	40 (21%)	29%
10	1.10 Charge for genetic test for mainland case	2,950	57%	3,390	440 (15%)	66%
11	1.11 Charge for genetic test for overseas case	3,950	55%	4,540	590 (15%)	64%
	2. <u>Travel Documents</u>					
12	2.1 Seaman's identity book (whether of full or restricted validity)	260	31%	310	50 (19%)	37%
13	2.2 Endorsement to a travel document for which no specific fee is provided	200	31%	240	40 (20%)	37%

Item no.	Description of Fee	Existing fee level (\$)	Cost recovery level before the proposed increase	Proposed fee level (\$)	Proposed amount of increase (\$) (proposed percentage increase)	Cost recovery level after the proposed increase
14	2.3 Service charge for supplying, on application, a copy of any document, or for making or forwarding, or both, a request or recommendation to any authority of a foreign state, for consular or nationality registration or for the issue or renewal of a passport or other travel document or of a document of identity or for the grant of a visa or entry permit	215	31%	260	45 (21%)	37%
15	2.4 Multiple re-entry permit (whether of full or restricted validity)	140	31%	170	30 (21%)	37%
16	2.5 Re-entry permit valid for 1 visit	46	31%	55	9 (20%)	37%
17	2.6 Additional fee for delivering a seaman's identity book or a document of identity to a place outside Hong Kong by double registered airmail	43	74%	47	4 (9%)	81%
18	2.7 Additional fee for delivering a seaman's identity book or a document of identity to a place outside Hong Kong by express despatch service - Asia - Pacific	145	67%	165	20 (14%)	76%
19	2.8 Additional fee for delivering a seaman's identity book or a document of identity to a place outside Hong Kong by express despatch service - North America and Europe	200	73%	220	20 (10%)	81%
20	2.9 Additional fee for delivering a seaman's identity book or a document of identity to a place outside Hong Kong by express despatch service - Other places	290	76%	320	30 (10%)	83%
21	2.10 Additional fee for delivering a HKSAR passport to a place outside Hong Kong by double registered airmail	43	77%	47	4 (9%)	84%

Item no.	Description of Fee	Existing fee level (\$)	Cost recovery level before the proposed increase	Proposed fee level (\$)	Proposed amount of increase (\$) (proposed percentage increase)	Cost recovery level after the proposed increase
22	2.11 Additional fee for delivering a HKSAR passport to a place outside Hong Kong by express despatch service - Asia - Pacific	125	59%	145	20 (16%)	68%
23	2.12 Additional fee for delivering a HKSAR passport to a place outside Hong Kong by express despatch service - North America and Europe	180	66%	205	25 (14%)	75%
24	2.13 Additional fee for delivering a HKSAR passport to a place outside Hong Kong by express despatch service - Other places	250	65%	290	40 (16%)	76%
	3. <u>Miscellaneous Items</u>					
25	3.1 Detention Quarter Charge	480	74%	530	50 (10%)	82%
26	3.2 Fax transmission of document (pegged administratively to item no. 14)	215	N/A ^{Note}	260	45 (21%)	N/A ^{Note}

^{Note} Item no. 26 is the charge for fax transmission of documents requested under item no. 14 and is administratively pegged to the fee level of item no. 14. The cost recovery rate of item no. 26 is unavailable.