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Transport and
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Government Secretariat
Transport Branch
East Wing, Central Government Offices
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By email (mkmlam@legco.gov.hk)

Ms Sophie LAU
Clerk to Panel on Transport
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

3 June 2019

Dear Ms LAU,

**Legislative Council Panel on Transport
Fare increase application
by New Lantao Bus Company Limited**

Regarding your letter dated 10 April 2019 relaying the supplementary enquiries raised by Hon CHU Hoi-dick on the fare increase application from New Lantao Bus Company (1973) Limited (“NLB”), our reply is as follows:

The information on the overall operational and financial positions of NLB for the recent three financial years is set out at Annex. As for the vehicle and manpower distributions for NLB’s individual routes, since NLB has to deploy vehicles and manpower in a timely manner in the light of passenger demand and operational arrangement in order to deliver proper and efficient franchised bus services, the vehicle and manpower arrangements for individual routes will vary on different days and during different periods. Hence, a breakdown is not available.

Regarding NLB’s fare increase application, NLB submitted a fare increase application to the Government on 28 September 2018 at an overall

weighted average rate of 9.8%. Same as the fare increase applications submitted by other franchised bus companies, NLB does not need to specify the rates of fare increase for individual routes.

The Government is scrutinising NLB's fare increase application in detail and will take into account the basket of factors, including public affordability and the operating cost of the bus company, etc., under the current Fare Adjustment Arrangement, and will submit its recommendation to the Executive Council after considering the views of the Legislative Council Panel on Transport and the Transport Advisory Committee. After the Chief Executive-in-Council has made a decision on NLB's fare increase application, the Government will make an announcement, including the specific rates of increase for individual routes.

Yours sincerely,



(Nick CHOI)

for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.:

Commissioner for Transport (Attn.: Mr Patrick WONG)

Annex

**Overall operational and financial positions of NLB
for the recent three financial years**

Financial year	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Total number of passengers carried	25,284,000	27,157,000	28,281,000
Number of licensed buses	124	123	131
Number of staff	234	263	267
Profit / loss after tax (HK\$)	4,497,000	7,705,000	-3,471,000