

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**TLB022**

**(Question Serial No. 2068)**

Head: (100) Marine Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Port Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Marine (Mr S.F. WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Logistics

Question:

The Marine Department supported the implementation of the “Dedicated 100% Loan Guarantee Scheme for Cross-boundary Passenger Transport Trade” (the Scheme), which was closed for application at the end of October 2024. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) Under the Scheme, how many applications have been received in total and how many applications have been approved? What is the loan amount involved? How long is the repayment period?
- (2) What are the originating fee and loan servicing fee payable to the participating lending institutions (PLIs), the administration fee payable to the Hong Kong Mortgage Corporation Insurance Limited, as well as the necessary out-of-pocket expenses relating to enforcement and debt recovery incurred by the PLIs in relation to defaulted loans under the Scheme?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Siu-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

- (1) The “Dedicated 100% Loan Guarantee Scheme for Cross-boundary Passenger Transport Trade” (the Scheme) was launched in April 2023 to allow eligible operators/registered vehicle owners/ferry owners of the cross-boundary passenger transport trade to apply for loans for the purpose of vehicle/ferry repair and maintenance, taking out insurance, etc., with a view to resuming services as soon as possible to cope with the demand for cross-boundary passenger services which was gradually resuming at that time. For the cross-boundary ferry service under the Scheme, it was jointly planned by the Marine Department (MD), the Hong Kong Mortgage Corporation Insurance Limited (HKMCI) and the relevant parties, while the planning and promotion expenses involved were absorbed by the existing resources of MD. The Scheme was closed for application on

28 October 2024, and no loan application in respect of cross-boundary ferries was received by HKMCI during the period<sup>1</sup>.

- (2) The estimated expenditure of the Scheme is mainly for the originating fee and loan servicing fee payable to the participating lending institutions, the administration fee payable to HKMCI, as well as the necessary out-of-pocket expenses. As HKMCI has not received any loan application in respect of cross-boundary ferries, no related financial expenditure has been incurred.

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<sup>1</sup> For the land-based cross-boundary passenger service under the Scheme, as at 28 October 2024 (i.e. the closing date for applications), HKMCI received a total of 15 loan applications from owners of cross-boundary coaches and cross-boundary hire cars. Among them, 12 applications have been approved while the remaining 3 are either overdue or have been withdrawn by the applicants.