

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**TLB027****(Question Serial No. 1237)**Head: (100) Marine DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): /Programme: (3) Local ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Marine (Mr S.F. WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and LogisticsQuestion:

The cargo throughput for Public Cargo Working Areas (PCWAs) has dropped by 17% from over 5 million tonnes in 2023 to over 4 million tonnes in 2024. Please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) the throughput for each PCWA in 2024;
- (2) the expenditure involved in the management of each PCWA; and
- (3) in view of the operating difficulties of the public cargo handling industry, whether the Government will consider providing support measures for the industry, including downward adjustment of rents or exemption of rents.

Asked by: Hon YICK Chi-ming, Frankie (LegCo internal reference no.: 25)Reply:

- (1) The cargo throughput for each Public Cargo Working Area (PCWA) in 2024 is set out as follows:

PCWAs	Cargo throughput (tonnes)
Western District PCWA	328 164
Chai Wan PCWA	235 413
New Yau Ma Tei PCWA	1 550 556
Stonecutters Island PCWA	515 306
Rambler Channel PCWA	984 355
Tuen Mun PCWA	672 047
Total:	4 285 841

- (2) The management of PCWAs forms part of the normal duties of the staff concerned and is undertaken with existing resources. There is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved for each PCWA.

- (3) At present, the various fees of PCWAs (such as berthing fees and fees for Vehicle Entry Tickets and Operation Area Permits, etc.) are collected in accordance with the Berth Licence Agreements signed between the Government and the operators, as well as in accordance with the Port Control (Cargo Working Areas) Regulations (Cap. 81A, Laws of Hong Kong).

The Government has all along been determining public charges in accordance with the “user pays” principle so as to achieve cost recovery for the services provided. The various fees of PCWAs are imposed on a cost-recovery basis to cover the operating cost of the PCWAs and their facilities in accordance with the resources invested by the Government in the establishment and operation of the PCWAs. The Government will closely monitor the operation of the industry and consider in due course whether it is necessary to introduce measures to support the industry.

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