

**Islands District Council**  
**Traffic and Transport Committee**  
**Paper T&TC 32/2023**

**Mid-term Review for Outlying Island Ferry Services**  
**of Current Licence Period**

**Purpose**

This paper briefs the Traffic and Transport Committee of the Islands District Council on the outcome of the mid-term review on the Government’s provision of Special Helping Measures (“SHM”) to the 13 outlying island ferry routes<sup>1</sup> for the current five-year licence period since 2020 (“mid-term review”).

**Background**

2. It is the Government’s established policy that public transport services should be run by the private sector in accordance with commercial principles to enhance efficiency and cost-effectiveness. There is no direct subsidy from the Government for public transport services save for the 13 outlying island ferry routes. The SHM are provided to these routes by the Government because there is basically no alternative to the ferry services as a means of public transport<sup>2</sup>, and short of the SHM, the outlying island ferry services cannot be maintained without periodic hefty fare increases. The SHM take care of the commuting need of outlying island residents, maintain the financial viability of the ferry services and alleviate the burden of fare increase on outlying island residents.

3. The Government first introduced the SHM in 2011 for the six major outlying island ferry routes and announced in the 2019 Policy Address to extend

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<sup>1</sup> The 13 outlying island ferry routes include the six major routes and seven other routes. The six major routes include three routes operated by the Sun Ferry Services Company Limited (“Sun Ferry”): (1) “Central – Cheung Chau”; (2) “Inter-Islands” between Peng Chau, Mui Wo, Chi Ma Wan and Cheung Chau; (3) “Central – Mui Wo” and three routes operated by the Hong Kong & Kowloon Ferry Limited (“HKKF”): (4) “Central – Peng Chau”; (5) “Central – Yung Shue Wan”; and (6) “Central – Sok Kwu Wan” routes. The seven other outlying island ferry routes are: (1) “Aberdeen – Yung Shue Wan (via Pak Kok Tsuen)”; (2) “Aberdeen – Sok Kwu Wan (via Mo Tat)”; (3) “Tuen Mun – Tung Chung – Sha Lo Wan – Tai O”; (4) “Discovery Bay – Central”; (5) “Discovery Bay – Mui Wo”; (6) “Tsuen Wan – Ma Wan”; and (7) “Central – Ma Wan”.

<sup>2</sup> Even if alternative land transport modes are available, the alternative land transport route is very circuitous.

the SHM to other outlying island ferry routes. Under the SHM, ferry operators are reimbursed of certain operating expenses, including pier-related expenses (such as electricity, water and cleansing charges etc.), vessel-related expenses (such as vessel repair and maintenance expenses, insurance fees, vessel survey fees and private mooring charges etc.), as well as fare concessions-related expenses (such as the revenue foregone due to provision of child fare concessions and implementation of “Visiting Scheme to Outlying Islands” and revenue foregone due to provision of elderly fare concessions after netting off the amount of pier rental reimbursement and vessel licence fee exemption under the established arrangement etc.). Reimbursement is made on an accountable basis subject to financial caps pre-agreed by the Government and the operators. To ensure that operators will continue to drive operating efficiency, operators are required to submit audited financial statements to the Transport Department (“TD”).

4. The SHM have been gradually extended to other outlying island ferry routes starting from April 2020, and now cover 13 outlying island ferry routes. In the past three financial years, the 13 outlying island ferry routes received reimbursement of about \$120 million (2020/21), \$190 million (2021/22) and \$220 million (2022/23) respectively from the Government under the SHM, accounting for over 20% of the total operating costs of the 13 outlying island ferry routes.

### **Outcome of the mid-term review**

5. When introducing the SHM arrangement for the outlying island ferry routes, the Government undertook to conduct a mid-term review during the licence period to ensure proper use of public funds.

### **(I) Financial performance**

6. We have examined the financial performance of the 13 ferry routes during the first two to three years of the current five-year licence period (2020-2026). Even with the help of the SHM, except for a total of five routes which include the three routes operated by Sun Ferry, “Aberdeen - Yung Shue Wan (via Pak Kok Tsuen)” and “Aberdeen - Sok Kwu Wan (via Mo Tat)” that made a profit of about 1.5% to 8.1%<sup>3</sup>, the remaining 8 outlying island ferry routes

recorded a loss of about 5.9% to 37.7%<sup>3</sup>. Given that ferry operators are in dire financial situation, the Government had granted a one-off additional SHM in early 2023 to cover the expenses under existing scope such as vessel cleansing and pier insurance expenses etc., with a view to relieving their financial pressure. Without the SHM, the loss of the 13 ferry routes could have been as high as 15.9% to 139.5%. It can be seen that the SHM have served the purpose of improving the financial condition of the ferry operators. The main reason that not all ferry routes achieved breakeven is due to a number of unforeseen factors, including a significant drop in patronage due to the implementation of anti-epidemic measures during the pandemic, leading to a substantial decrease in fare revenue, as well as the sharp rise of fuel cost (being a major operating cost of ferry operators) in 2022 that added to the operating cost.

7. We expect the operating environment for the 13 ferry routes to continue to be difficult for the remaining 2 to 3 years of the licence period, as there are uncertainties in the operating environment such as fluctuating oil prices that would pose significant challenges to the operators. We estimate that, only “Aberdeen - Yung Shue Wan (via Pak Kok Tsuen)” route might be able to make a profit of about 4.2%; and the remaining twelve routes may incur a loss of about 0.1% to 76.4%, which would be financially unviable.

8. The provision of the SHM shall be continued during the remaining licence period so as to provide financial assistance to ferry operators in need through reviewing the agreed financial cap for each route and including additional items (e.g. vessel cleansing and pier insurance expenses etc.) under the existing SHM scope, with a view to maintaining the financial viability of the ferry services and alleviating the burden of fare increase on passengers.

9. Despite the continued provision of the SHM, in the face of the drop in revenue and substantial increase in operating costs, particularly the rise in fuel costs and crew wages in recent years, some operators of outlying island ferry routes have submitted fare adjustment applications to TD. TD has recently completed scrutinising the fare increase applications submitted by the operators of the six major outlying island ferry routes, HKKF and Sun Ferry in September 2022 and October 2022, for an average rate of increase of 100% and 45% respectively for all ticket types.

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<sup>3</sup> The financial position only takes into account the subsidies under the SHM, but not the time-limited subsidies provided under the Anti-epidemic Fund.

## **Fare adjustment arrangements for the six major outlying island ferry routes**

10. The last fare adjustment for the six major outlying island ferry routes was in April 2021, with an average increase of about 4.7%. Regarding the fare increase applications, TD and concerned ferry operators attended the Islands District Council Traffic and Transport Committee Meeting on 22 May 2023 to listen and address Members' concerns.

11. We understand outlying island residents' concerns about the fares of outlying island ferry services. At the same time, the fundamental policy consideration of the SHM is that, while the pressure of fare increase is alleviated through the SHM, ferry passengers, as in the case of passengers of other public transport modes, should shoulder a fair share of fare burden. In considering the fare increase applications from HKKF and Sun Ferry, TD has carefully reviewed the financial information and data submitted by the two ferry operators, taking into account all relevant factors including their financial conditions, operating costs, forecasts of changes in revenues and returns, changes in the Composite Consumer Price Index ("CCPI") since their last fare increase, past performance of the ferry operators in the provision of ferry services and public acceptability of the proposed fares. The aims are to minimise the impact on people's livelihood, while ensuring the long-term financial viability of ferry operators to continue to provide safe and quality services.

12. At the time when the two operators submitted their applications, fuel costs were at a relatively high level and patronage had yet to benefit from favourable factors such as lifting of anti-epidemic restrictions and border reopening and had not returned to its normal level. In view of this, TD has made appropriate adjustments to the revenue and operating expenses forecasts submitted by the operators for the remaining licence period when scrutinising the fare increase applications.

### **(i) Fare increase application by HKKF**

13. Even with the provision of the SHM<sup>4</sup>, the three ferry routes operated by HKKF still recorded a loss of about 8.2%<sup>3</sup> during the 27 months from April 2021 to June 2023. Considering the entire current five-year licence period, the loss is expected to be as high as 17.4%<sup>3</sup>. Without the assistance of the SHM, the loss could increase to 53.5%<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>4</sup> Including the one-off additional SHM mentioned in Para. 6.

14. It is estimated that, even if the Government enhances the subsidy through existing SHM scope as mentioned in Para.8, HKKF will have to substantially increase its fares by about 23% just to achieve breakeven. We understand that a significant fare increase will not be acceptable to passengers. It would also be unrealistic to expect the operator to continue operating the routes in the face of long-term losses. After careful consideration, the Government shall reduce the rates of fare increase through enhanced SHM, and approves an average fare increase of about 8% and 19% respectively for multi-ride tickets<sup>5</sup> (i.e. concessionary tickets for residents of outlying islands) and single journey tickets for the three ferry routes operated by HKKF with effect from 24 September 2023. The rates of fare increase for each route of HKKF are set out at Annex I.

15. As there are still some residents of Peng Chau, Yung Shue Wan and Sok Kwu Wan who use single journey tickets to travel to and from the urban area, in order to mitigate the impact of the fare increase on these residents, the Government have requested HKKF to introduce a concessionary ticket named as “same-day return ticket” with the first trip originated from outlying islands when the new fares come into effect (i.e. extending the “holiday return ticket” to non-holiday use). The fare of a “same-day return ticket” (per trip) will be 8% more than the fare of a current single journey ticket, so that residents who travel less frequently will only have to bear the same fare increase rate as multi-ride tickets by using the “same-day return ticket”. Take the fare of the “Yung Shue Wan – Central” route as an example, the fare of a weekday adult single journey ticket for ordinary ferry service is currently \$18.6, and the fare of a “same-day return ticket” after the new fares come into effect will be \$40.2 ( $\$18.6 \times 1.08 \times 2$  trips), i.e. \$20.1 per trip, an increase of \$1.5.

## **(ii) Fare increase application by Sun Ferry**

16. The three ferry routes operated by Sun Ferry recorded a profit of about 1.5%<sup>3</sup> during the 27 months from April 2021 to June 2023. For the remaining licence period, it is expected that a loss of 0.1% will be incurred. Without the assistance of the SHM, a severe loss of about 35.2% will be incurred.

17. After careful consideration, the Government approves an average fare increase of about 3.9% for the three ferry routes operated by Sun Ferry with

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<sup>5</sup> Multi-ride tickets include adult/student monthly ticket, holiday return ticket and multi-ride ticket (20 trips).

effect from 24 September 2023, i.e. about two years and five months from the last fare increase in 2021. The proposed rate of fare increase is slightly lower than the estimated cumulative increase in the CCPI between April 2021 and August 2023 (at 4%). The rates of fare increase for each route of Sun Ferry are set out at Annex I.

## **(II) Service performance**

18. We have also assessed the operational performance of the 13 outlying island ferry routes by examining monitoring survey results, passenger survey results and complaint figures. Our analysis shows that the ferry services are overall satisfactory (details are set out at Annex II).

### **Way forward**

19. TD has taken into full consideration the concerns of local residents and carried out its stringent gate-keeping duties in handling the fare adjustment applications for the six major outlying island ferry routes, and has reduced Sun Ferry's rate of fare increase from 45% to 3.9%, which is 91% lower than the rate applied for. For the fare adjustment application from HKKF, the rate of fare increase has also been reduced from the applied 100% to 8% for multi-ride tickets and 19% for single journey tickets. The fare increase rates seek to minimise the impact on people's livelihood while ensuring the long-term financial viability of the operators. We will further discuss with the operators on the fare adjustment arrangements of the six major outlying island ferry routes and continue to enhance the services of the 13 outlying island ferry routes.

**Transport Department**  
**September 2023**

## Annex I

The fare increase rates of 6 major outlying island ferry routes are summarised as follow:

Routes	Increase Rate for Adult Single Journey Fares	Increase Rate for Monthly Tickets	Average Fare Increase Rate	Implementation Date of New Fares
“Central – Cheung Chau”	3.8% - 4.2%	3.9%	3.9%	24 September 2023
“Inter-islands”	3.6%	Not Applicable	3.7%	
“Central – Mui Wo”	3.6% - 4.1%	3.9%	3.9%	
“Central – Peng Chau”	18.8% - 19.3%	8.0%	14.2%	
“Central – Yung Shue Wan”	18.8% - 18.9%	8.1%	12.6%	
“Central – Sok Kwu Wan”	19.0% - 19.1%	8.0%	15.4%	

Adult fares of individual routes before/ after fare increment are as follows (existing fares are in brackets):

“Central – Mui Wo” Route (with effect from 24 September 2023)

	Mondays to Saturdays (except public holidays)			Sundays and public holidays		
	Ordinary Ferry Service		Fast Ferry Service	Ordinary Ferry Service		Fast Ferry Service
	Ordinary Class	Deluxe Class		Ordinary Class	Deluxe Class	
Adult Single Journey	\$17.2 (\$16.6)	\$28.6 (\$27.5)	\$34.1 (\$32.8)	\$25.6 (\$24.6)	\$41.9 (\$40.3)	\$48.9 (\$47.1)
Monthly Ticket	\$604.4 (\$581.7)	--	--	\$604.4 (\$581.7)	--	--

“Central – Cheung Chau” Route (with effect from 24 September 2023)

	Mondays to Saturdays (except public holidays)			Sundays and public holidays		
	Ordinary Ferry Service		Fast Ferry Service	Ordinary Ferry Service		Fast Ferry Service
	Ordinary Class	Deluxe Class		Ordinary Class	Deluxe Class	
Adult Single Journey	\$14.8 (\$14.2)	\$23.2 (\$22.3)	\$29.2 (\$28.1)	\$22 (\$21.2)	\$33.8 (\$32.5)	\$42.3 (\$40.7)
Monthly Ticket	\$580.4 (\$558.6)	--	--	\$580.4 (\$558.6)	--	--

“Peng Chau – Mui Wo – Chi Man Wan – Cheung Chau” Route  
(with effect from 24 September 2023)

Adult Single Journey	<u>Daily</u> \$14.5 (\$14)
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“Central – Peng Chau” Route (with effect from 24 September 2023)

	Mondays to Saturdays (except public holidays)		Sundays and public holidays	
	Ordinary Ferry Service	Fast Ferry Service	Ordinary Ferry Service	Fast Ferry Service
Adult Single Journey	\$19.8 (\$16.6)	\$36.9 (\$31)	\$28.4 (\$23.9)	\$54.3 (\$45.6)
Monthly Ticket	\$676 (\$626)	--	\$676 (\$626)	--
Same-day Return Ticket/ Holiday Return Ticket	\$35.9	\$67	\$35.9 (\$33.2)	\$67 (\$62)

“Central – Yung Shue Wan” Route (with effect from 24 September 2023)

	Mondays to Saturdays (except public holidays)	Sundays and public holidays
Adult Single Journey	\$22.1 (\$18.6)	\$30.8 (\$25.9)
Monthly Ticket	\$777 (\$719)	\$777 (\$719)
Same-day Return Ticket/ Holiday Return Ticket	\$40.2	\$40.2 (\$37.2)

“Central – Sok Kwu Wan” Route (with effect from 24 September 2023)

	Mondays to Saturdays (except public holidays)	Sundays and public holidays
Adult Single Journey	\$27.5 (\$23.1)	\$38.7 (\$32.5)
Monthly Ticket	\$827 (\$766)	\$827 (\$766)
Same-day Return Ticket/ Holiday Return Ticket	\$49.9	\$49.9 (\$46.2)

**New fares of Six Major Outlying Island Ferry Services**  
**(with effect from 24 September 2023)**

**“Central – Cheung Chau” Route**

	Mondays to Saturdays (except public holidays)			Sundays and public holidays		
	Ordinary Ferry Service		Fast Ferry Service	Ordinary Ferry Service		Fast Ferry Service
	Ordinary Class	Deluxe Class		Ordinary Class	Deluxe Class	
<b><u>Single Journey</u></b>						
Adult	\$14.8	\$23.2	\$29.2	\$22	\$33.8	\$42.3
Child (aged 3 years old or above and under 12 years old)	\$7.4	\$11.6	\$14.5	\$11	\$16.8	\$21.1
Passenger aged 65 or above	\$7.4	\$11.6	\$14.5	\$11	\$16.8	\$21.1
Passenger with disabilities	\$7.4	\$11.6	\$14.5	\$11	\$16.8	\$21.1
Child under 3 years old (accompanied by adult)	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
<b><u>Holiday Return Ticket (The first trip must start from Cheung Chau)</u></b>						
Adult	--	--	--	\$29.6	\$46.4	\$58.4
Child (aged 3 years old or above and under 12 years old)	--	--	--	\$14.8	\$23.2	\$29
Passenger aged 65 or above	--	--	--	\$14.8	\$23.2	\$29
Passenger with disabilities	--	--	--	\$14.8	\$23.2	\$29
Child under 3 years old (accompanied by adult)	--	--	--	Free	Free	Free
Monthly Ticket	\$580.4	--	--	\$580.4	--	--
Student Monthly Ticket	\$406.2	--	--	\$406.2	--	--
Multi-ride Ticket (20 trips)	\$283.5	--	--	--	--	--
Multi-ride Ticket (12 trips)	\$170.1	--	--	--	--	--
Bicycle (per bicycle)	\$24.5	--	--	\$24.5	--	--
Freight (per cubic metre)	\$224.3	--	--	\$224.3	--	--

**“Peng Chau – Mui Wo – Chi Ma Wan – Cheung Chau” Route**

	<u>Single Journey</u>
Adult	\$14.5
Child (aged 3 years old or above and under 12 years old)	\$7.3
Passenger aged 65 or above	\$7.3
Passenger with disabilities	\$7.3
Child under 3 years old (accompanied by adult)	Free

<u>Bicycle</u>	
Per bicycle	\$15.9

Freight (per cubic metre)

Peng Chau

\$74.8	Mui Wo		
\$84.3	\$74.8	Chi Ma Wan	
\$93.4	\$84.3	\$74.8	Cheung Chau

### “Central – Mui Wo” Route

	Mondays to Saturdays (except public holidays)			Sundays and public holidays		
	Ordinary Ferry Service		Fast Ferry Service	Ordinary Ferry Service		Ordinary Ferry Service
	Ordinary Class	Deluxe Class		Ordinary Class	Deluxe Class	
<u>Single Journey</u>						
Adult	\$17.2	\$28.6	\$34.1	\$25.6	\$41.9	\$48.9
Child (aged 3 years old or above and under 12 years old)	\$8.6	\$14.2	\$17	\$12.8	\$20.9	\$24.5
Passenger aged 65 or above	\$8.6	\$14.2	\$17	\$12.8	\$20.9	\$24.5
Passenger with disabilities	\$8.6	\$14.2	\$17	\$12.8	\$20.9	\$24.5
Child under 3 years old (accompanied by adult)	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
<u>Holiday Return Ticket (The first trip must start from Mui Wo)</u>						
Adult	--	--	--	\$34.4	\$57.2	\$68.2
Child (aged 3 years old or above and under 12 years old)	--	--	--	\$17.2	\$28.4	\$34
Passenger aged 65 or above	--	--	--	\$17.2	\$28.4	\$34
Passenger with disabilities	--	--	--	\$17.2	\$28.4	\$34
Child under 3 years old (accompanied by adult)	--	--	--	Free	Free	Free
<u>Monthly Ticket</u>						
Monthly Ticket	\$604.4	--	--	\$604.4	--	--
Student Monthly Ticket	\$423	--	--	\$423	--	--
Multi-ride Ticket (20 trips)	\$329.4	--	--	--	--	--
Multi-ride Ticket (12 trips)	\$197.7	--	--	--	--	--
Bicycle (per bicycle)	\$23.4	--	--	\$23.4	--	--
Freight (per cubic metre)	\$214.4	--	--	\$214.4	--	--

**“Central – Peng Chau” Route**

	Mondays to Saturdays (except public holidays)		Sundays and public holidays	
	Ordinary Ferry Service	Fast Ferry Service	Ordinary Ferry Service	Fast Ferry Service
<b><u>Single Journey</u></b>				
Adult	\$19.8	\$36.9	\$28.4	\$54.3
Child (aged 3 years old or above and under 12 years old)	\$9.9	\$18.4	\$14.2	\$27.1
Passenger aged 65 or above	\$9.9	\$18.4	\$14.2	\$27.1
Passenger with disabilities	\$9.9	\$18.4	\$14.2	\$27.1
Child under 3 years old (accompanied by adult)	Free	Free	Free	Free
<b><u>Same-day Return Ticket (The first trip must start from Peng Chau)</u></b>				
Adult	\$35.9	\$67	--	--
Child (aged 3 years old or above and under 12 years old)	\$17.9	\$33.5	--	--
Passenger aged 65 or above	\$17.9	\$33.5	--	--
Passenger with disabilities	\$17.9	\$33.5	--	--
Child under 3 years old (accompanied by adult)	Free	Free	--	--
<b><u>Holiday Return Ticket (The first trip must start from Peng Chau)</u></b>				
Adult	--	--	\$35.9	\$67
Child (aged 3 years old or above and under 12 years old)	--	--	\$17.9	\$33.5
Passenger aged 65 or above	--	--	\$17.9	\$33.5
Passenger with disabilities	--	--	\$17.9	\$33.5
Child under 3 years old (accompanied by adult)	--	--	Free	Free
Monthly Ticket	\$676	--	\$676	--
Student Monthly Ticket	\$473	--	\$473	--
Multi-ride Ticket (20 trips)	\$348	--	--	--
Bicycle (per bicycle)	\$15.5	--	\$15.5	--
Freight (per cubic metre)	\$143.4	--	\$143.4	--

**Peng Chau – Hei Ling Chau special departures**

	<u>Single Journey</u>
Adult	\$18.7
Child (aged 3 years old or above and under 12 years old)	\$9.3
Passenger aged 65 or above	\$9.3
Passenger with disabilities	\$9.3
Child under 3 years old (accompanied by adult)	Free

**“Central – Yung Shue Wan” Route**

	Mondays to Saturdays (except public holidays)	Sundays and public holidays
<u>Single Journey</u>		
Adult	\$22.1	\$30.8
Child (aged 3 years old or above and under 12 years old)	\$11	\$15.4
Passenger aged 65 or above	\$11	\$15.4
Passenger with disabilities	\$11	\$15.4
Child under 3 years old (accompanied by adult)	Free	Free
<u>Same-day Return Ticket (The first trip must start from Yung Shue Wan)</u>		
Adult	\$40.2	--
Child (aged 3 years old or above and under 12 years old)	\$20.1	--
Passenger aged 65 or above	\$20.1	--
Passenger with disabilities	\$20.1	--
Child under 3 years old (accompanied by adult)	Free	--
<u>Holiday Return Ticket (The first trip must start from Yung Shue Wan)</u>		
Adult	--	\$40.2
Child (aged 3 years old or above and under 12 years old)	--	\$20.1
Passenger aged 65 or above	--	\$20.1
Passenger with disabilities	--	\$20.1
Child under 3 years old (accompanied by adult)	--	Free
Monthly Ticket	\$777	
Student Monthly Ticket	\$543	
Multi-ride Ticket (20 trips)	\$390	
Bicycle (per bicycle)	\$15.5	
Freight (per cubic metre)	\$143.4	

**“Central – Sok Kwu Wan” Route**

	Mondays to Saturdays (except public holidays)	Sundays and public holidays
<u>Single Journey</u>		
Adult	\$27.5	\$38.7
Child (aged 3 years old or above and under 12 years old)	\$13.7	\$19.3
Passenger aged 65 or above	\$13.7	\$19.3
Passenger with disabilities	\$13.7	\$19.3
Child under 3 years old (accompanied by adult)	Free	Free
<u>Same-day Return Ticket</u> (The first trip must start from Sok Kwu Wan)		
Adult	\$49.9	--
Child (aged 3 years old or above and under 12 years old)	\$24.9	--
Passenger aged 65 or above	\$24.9	--
Passenger with disabilities	\$24.9	--
Child under 3 years old (accompanied by adult)	Free	--
<u>Holiday Return Ticket</u> (The first trip must start from Sok Kwu Wan)		
Adult	--	\$49.9
Child (aged 3 years old or above and under 12 years old)	--	\$24.9
Passenger aged 65 or above	--	\$24.9
Passenger with disabilities	--	\$24.9
Child under 3 years old (accompanied by adult)	--	Free
Monthly Ticket	\$827	
Student Monthly Ticket	\$579	
Multi-ride Ticket (20 trips)	\$484	
Bicycle (per bicycle)	\$15.5	
Freight (per cubic metre)	\$143.4	

## Annex II

### **Operational Performance of the 13 Outlying Island Ferry Routes**

In the current licence period of the 13 outlying island ferry routes, the average number of complaints received by TD regarding the routes is about 130 per year, which is about 15% less than the 153 complaints received per year in the previous licence period. According to the monitoring survey conducted by TD from October to November 2022, all 13 ferry routes were operated according to the Schedules of Services issued by TD, with appropriate additional sailings to cater for upsurge of demand.

2. Furthermore, according to a passenger opinion survey conducted by TD in the form of face-to-face questionnaire interview on board between October and November 2022 (a total of 3 660 questionnaires were completed with overall response rate of about 70%), more than 75% of interviewed passengers considered the overall performance of the 13 outlying island ferry routes “very satisfied”, “satisfied” or “fair” with details enclosed in the following tables.

6 major routes	Percentage of respondents considered the overall performance “very satisfied”, “satisfied” or “fair”
“Central – Cheung Chau”	90%
“Inter-islands”	89%
“Central – Mui Wo”	92%
“Central – Peng Chau”	96%
“Central – Yung Shue Wan”	100%
“Centra – Sok Kwu Wan”	97%

7 other routes	Percentage of respondents considered the overall performance “very satisfied”, “satisfied” or “fair”
“Discovery Bay – Mui Wo”	99%
“Aberdeen – Yung Shue Wan (via Pak Kok Tusen)”	93%
“Tuen Mun – Tung Chung – Sha Lo Wan – Tai O”	76%
“Aberdeen – Sok Kwu Wan (via Mo Tat)”	97%
“Discovery Bay – Central”	98%
“Ma Wan – Central ”	85%
“Ma Wan – Tsuen Wan ”	93%