

Provision of local services by the Marine Department

Updated progress in implementing Audit recommendations

Audit Report para. no.	Audit recommendations	Progress as at September 2013
Part 2: Management of Public Cargo Working Areas		
2.17	<p><i>Re-tendering of vacant berths</i></p> <p>The Director of Marine should:</p> <p>(b) review the tender terms with a view to minimising the risk of an operator surrendering his berth obtained at a high bid price and re-tendering for the surrendered berth at a lower bid price.</p>	<p>(b) The MD has reviewed the tender terms of PCWAs. For the next round of tender, the MD will include in the tender documents a restriction provision that prohibits an operator who has surrendered a berth from bidding the same berth again within a specified period.</p>
2.25	<p><i>Redeployment of posts</i></p> <p>The Director of Marine should:</p> <p>(a) take urgent action to delete the 15 vacant posts of the decommissioned Kwun Tong and Cha Kwo Ling PCWAs; and</p>	<p>(a) Out of the 15 vacant posts, 12 were deleted by end of September 2013. For the remaining three posts which have been temporarily redeployed, the MD will arrange for their permanent redeployment/deletion by November 2013 having regard to the manpower situation of the department.</p>

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	(b) grant covering approval for the 12 temporarily redeployed posts and critically review whether there is genuine long-term need for these posts with a view to arranging for their deletion/permanent redeployment in accordance with the requirements of Financial Circular No. 4/94.	(b) The MD has arranged permanent redeployment of two of these 12 posts. For the remaining ten posts, the Director of Marine has granted covering approval for their temporary redeployment and will arrange for their permanent redeployment/deletion by November 2013 having regard to the long-term need for these posts.
2.36	<p><i>Automated vehicle entry/exit control system</i></p> <p>The Director of Marine should:</p> <p>(a) consider installing suitable automated vehicle entry/exit control systems for Western District and Chai Wan PCWAs with a view to improving the cost effectiveness and control of their operation; and</p> <p>(b) expedite action to replace the unserviceable vehicle entry/exit control systems for Tuen Mun and Rambler Channel PCWAs.</p>	<p>(a) and (b)</p> <p>The MD has reviewed the situation and will seek to install automated vehicle entry/exit control systems for Western District and Chai Wan PCWAs and replacement of the vehicle entry/exit control systems for Tuen Mun and Rambler Channel PCWAs. The MD has worked out the project proposals in consultation with the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and scheduled to carry out the installation and replacement from May 2014 to February 2015 as far as practicable.</p>

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Part 3: Surveying and licensing of vessels		
3.14	<p><i>Provision of plan examination and survey services</i></p> <p>The Director of Marine should conduct a review of the MD's survey work arrangements and requirements with a view to enhancing efficiency and effectiveness in performing its dual role as a survey service provider and a regulator.</p>	<p>The MD has completed a study which collates information on the conditions of the local vessels surveyed by the MD's ship inspectors and authorised surveyors. With the finding of the study as the basis, the MD has reviewed its survey work arrangements and requirements on how to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of services to local vessels, including identifying and deploying resources to enhance the regulatory work in monitoring performance of authorised surveyors. The MD has developed technical guidance to assist ship surveyors and ship inspectors in conducting plan approval and ship inspection work. Enhancement of plan approval and survey work will continue as an on-going initiative.</p>
3.27	<p><i>Vessels without valid licences</i></p> <p>The Director of Marine should:</p> <p>(e) conduct a review with a view to formulating appropriate prosecution guidelines on belated licence renewal cases.</p>	<p>(e) The MD has reviewed the existing practice in respect of expired licences and is revising the relevant guidelines on handling belated licence renewal cases, including the procedures of follow-up action. The changes</p>

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		will come into operation by the end of 2013 and the parties concerned will be duly informed.
Part 4: Management of private moorings		
4.14	<p><i>Control of private moorings</i></p> <p>The Director of Marine should:</p> <p>(a) require owners concerned to remove private moorings not in use (such as those no longer used by their designated vessels as mentioned in paragraph 4.10) and vacate the spaces for the MD's re-allocation to applicants on the waiting lists;</p>	<p>(a) The MD has stepped up patrol at designated mooring areas and is upgrading the computer system to further facilitate the patrol officers to conduct on-site inspection. The upgrading is scheduled for completion in April 2014.</p> <p>The MD has completed the exercise of updating the information of designated vessels in August 2013. The MD will continue to conduct on-site inspection and take follow-up action if a mooring is vacant or not used by the designated vessel. The MD will follow the established procedures to re-allocate any vacated spaces to applicants on the waiting list.</p>

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	<p>(c) rationalise the administrative measure for regulating the transfer of private moorings and seek legal advice as appropriate;</p> <p>(d) conduct investigations to ascertain the extent of the problem of subletting private moorings and seek legal advice on the possible enforcement actions that can be taken against subletting cases so identified; and</p> <p>(e) based on the results in paragraph 4.14(c) and (d), consider the need to review relevant legal provisions with a view to strengthening the control over the transfer and use of private moorings.</p>	<p>(c), (d) and (e)</p> <p>The MD will continue to manage private moorings in accordance with the law. To address the concern on possible subletting private moorings, the MD is matching the information on owners of the private moorings with those on the designated vessels, and will devise appropriate follow-up action having regard to the size of the problem and legal advice. Where necessary, the legal provision will be reviewed.</p>