

## Toll increase of Western Harbour Crossing

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The franchisee of Western Harbour Crossing (WHC) announced today (July 30) that the new statutory tolls and concessionary tolls would take effect from July 31 and August 1 respectively. The existing and new tolls of WHC are at the Annex.

Under the toll adjustment mechanism stipulated under the relevant legislation, the franchisee of WHC is entitled to increase the statutory tolls when its actual net revenue falls short of the estimated level specified in the law. The company may also decide on the concessions offered to motorists.

"We have all along urged the franchisee to have due regard to public affordability and acceptability in devising its toll strategy, including postponing toll adjustments and maintaining the concessionary tolls," a spokesman for the Transport and Housing Bureau said.

The toll adjustment mechanism for WHC is specified in the Western Harbour Crossing Ordinance (Chapter 436). The franchisee of WHC recently notified the Government of its decision to exercise its right to effect a statutory toll increase. The new statutory tolls have been gazetted today and come into effect on July 31. At the same time, the franchisee would also adjust toll concessions to raise the actual toll levels. The new concessionary tolls will take effect from August 1.

Ends/Friday, July 30, 2010

Issued at HKT 10:20