

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BRIEF

Pilotage Ordinance
(Chapter 84)

PILOTAGE (DUES) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 2009

INTRODUCTION

Annex

This paper briefs Members on the Pilotage (Dues) (Amendment) Order (“the Order”) at Annex.

JUSTIFICATIONS

2. Pilotage dues are commercial fees charged by licensed pilots for the provision of pilotage services. The fee levels are reviewed by the Hong Kong Liner Shipping Association (“HKLSA”), representing the service users, and the Hong Kong Pilots Association (“HKPA”) representing the service providers from time to time. In the latest review in September 2009, the HKLSA and the HKPA agreed to reduce the additional pilotage due if a pilot is required to board or disembark from a ship off Ngan Chau or at the West of Lamma Island (“the Additional Pilotage Due”) from \$1900 to \$1820 for a period of 18 months. The proposal was endorsed by the Pilotage Advisory Committee in October 2009.

3. Section 22 of the Pilotage Ordinance (Cap. 84) empowers the Pilotage Authority, who is the Director of Marine, to set the amount of pilotage dues by order published in the Gazette after consultation with the Pilotage Advisory Committee.

THE ORDER

4. The Order seeks to reduce the Additional Pilotage Due from \$1900 to \$1820 for a period of 18 months.

LEGISLATIVE TIMETABLE

5. The Order will be published in the Gazette on 4 December 2009 and tabled at the Legislative Council on 9 December 2009.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSAL

6. Pilotage due is a relatively minor cost item for international shipping. The proposed reduction in the Additional Pilotage Due will not have significant economic implications to shipowners.

7. The proposal is in conformity with the Basic Law, including the provisions concerning human rights. It will not affect the current binding effect of the Pilotage Ordinance. It has no productivity, financial, civil service, environmental or sustainability implications.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

8. The proposal was endorsed by the Pilotage Advisory Committee in October 2009. We also consulted and obtained the support of the Legislative Council Panel on Economic Development on 16 November 2009.

PUBLICITY

9. A press release will be issued on 2 December 2009. A spokesman will be available to handle enquiries.

ENQUIRIES

10. Any enquiries on this brief can be addressed to Mr. Wilson Tsang, Assistant Secretary for Transport and Housing (Tel: 2121 2340) or Mr. Andrew Ng, Marine Officer (Tel: 2233 7812).

Transport and Housing Bureau
2 December 2009

PILOTAGE (DUES) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 2009

(Made by the Pilotage Authority under section 22 of the Pilotage Ordinance (Cap. 84) after consultation with the Pilotage Advisory Committee)

1. Commencement

- (1) Section 2(1) comes into operation on 1 February 2010.
- (2) Section 2(2) comes into operation on 1 August 2011.

2. Schedule amended

(1) The Schedule to the Pilotage (Dues) Order (Cap. 84 sub. leg. D) is amended in paragraph 5 of Part II by repealing “\$1,900” and substituting “\$1,820”.

(2) The Schedule is amended in paragraph 5 of Part II by repealing everything before “shall be” and substituting –

“5. An additional pilotage due of \$1,900”.

Pilotage Authority

2009

Explanatory Note

This Order amends the Pilotage (Dues) Order (Cap. 84 sub. leg. D) to reduce an additional pilotage due, which is payable for any pilotage service that requires a pilot to board a ship or disembark from a ship off Ngan Chau or at the

west of Lamma Island, to \$1,820 from 1 February 2010 and restore it to \$1,900 from 1 August 2011.