

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

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**Panel on Economic Development**  
**Meeting on 28 November 2011**

**Updated background brief on pilotage dues**

**Purpose**

This paper provides background information on the charging of pilotage dues for pilotage services, and the views expressed by the Panel on Economic Development (the Panel) on related issues.

**Background**

2. Pilotage dues are commercial fees charged by licensed pilots for the provision of pilotage services. The fee levels are periodically reviewed by the Hong Kong Liner Shipping Association (HKLSA) representing service users, and the Hong Kong Pilots Association (HKPA) representing the service providers. 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.

**Reviews on pilotage dues**

Pilotage (Dues) (Amendment) Order 2008

3. During a review in December 2007, HKLSA and HKPA agreed to increase the basic pilotage due and the due for cancellation of engagement by 12.3% from \$3,650 to \$4,100 and cap the additional due per ton of ship for ships of more than 60 000 tons at \$7,200. In January 2008, the Pilotage Advisory Committee endorsed the proposed revisions as set out in the **Appendix**.

4. The Administration briefed the Panel on the above revisions at the meeting on 17 March 2008. Members noted that capping the additional due per ton of ship would help attract more mega vessels to come to Hong Kong and facilitate their cost computation. The Pilotage (Dues) (Amendment) Order 2008 was tabled at the Council meeting on 9 April 2008 and came into operation on 1 June 2008.

#### Pilotage (Dues) (Amendment) Order 2009

5. In a review conducted in September 2009, HKLSA and HKPA reached an agreement to reduce the additional pilotage due from \$1,900 to \$1,820 for a period of 18 months if a pilot was required to board or disembark from a ship off Ngan Chau or at the West of Lamma Island.

6. At the Panel meeting on 16 November 2009, members agreed with the proposed fee reduction but considered the level of the reduction too small to benefit the service users. The Administration explained that the fee level was reviewed and agreed between HKLSA and HKPA representing the service users and service providers respectively. At the meeting, the Panel also expressed concern about the training of sufficient licensed pilots to ensure staff succession. The Pilotage (Dues) (Amendment) Order 2009 took effect on 1 February 2010 and the old rate was restored on 1 August 2011.

#### **Latest development**

7. The pilotage service users and service provider representatives have recently agreed to increase the pilotage dues. The Administration will brief the Panel on the Pilotage (Dues) (Amendment) Order 2011 at the meeting on 28 November 2011 with a view to increasing the pilotage dues.

#### **References**

Administration's paper on Pilotage Ordinance (Cap 84) Pilotage (Dues) (Amendment) Order 2008

<http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr07-08/english/panels/es/papers/edev0317cb1-1030-4-e.pdf>

Minutes of the Panel meeting on 17 March 2008

<http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr07-08/english/panels/es/minutes/ev080317.pdf>

Administration's paper on Pilotage (Dues) (Amendment) Order 2009

<http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr09-10/english/panels/edev/papers/edev1116cb1-301-5-e.pdf>

Minutes of the Panel meeting on 16 November 2009

<http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr09-10/english/panels/edev/minutes/edev20091116.pdf>

Council Business Division 1

Legislative Council Secretariat

22 November 2011

Pilotage (Dues) (Amendment) Order 2008

Item	Existing dues	Proposed dues	Percentage increase
(a) basic pilotage due	\$3,650	<b>\$4,100</b>	<b>12.3%</b>
(b) additional due per ton of ship			
(i) for ships of less than 30000 tons	\$0.065	\$0.065	-
(ii) for ships of 30000 to 60000 tons	\$0.0625 (subject to a minimum charge of \$1,950)	\$0.0625 (subject to a minimum charge of \$1,950)	-
(iii) for ships of more than 60000 tons	\$0.06 (subject to a minimum charge of \$3,750)	\$0.06 (subject to a minimum charge of \$3,750; <b>and a maximum charge of \$7,200)</b>	-
(c) due for cancellation of engagement			
(i) for service at Tolo Harbour or at the west of East Brother Island	\$3,650 (charged if cancellation is done within 1.5 hours before the last stated time of requirement)	<b>\$4,100</b> (charged if cancellation is done within 1.5 hours before the last stated time of requirement)	<b>12.3%</b>
(ii) for service elsewhere	\$3,650 (charged if cancellation is done within 1 hour before the last stated time of requirement)	<b>\$4,100</b> (charged if cancellation is done within 1 hour before the last stated time of requirement)	<b>12.3%</b>