Legislative Council Panel on Economic Development

Pilotage Ordinance (Chapter 84) Pilotage (Dues) (Amendment) Order 2008

Introduction

This paper briefs Members on the proposed Pilotage (Dues) (Amendment) Order 2008 (Order), which seeks to increase pilotage dues agreed between the provider and users of pilotage services.

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 shipping lines, and the Hong Kong Pilots Association (HKPA) representing the pilots. The latest review in December 2007 recommends increases in certain pilotage dues.
- 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.

Proposal

- 4. The proposed revisions of pilotage dues are set out in <u>Annex</u>. They reflect the agreement between the HKPA as the service provider and HKLSA as service users, and endorsed by the Pilotage Advisory Committee in January 2008.
- 5. We plan to gazette the Order on 3 April 2008 and table it at the Legislative Council on 9 April 2008 for negative vetting. Subject to the approval of the Legislative Council, the Order will take effect upon expiry of the negative vetting period.

Views sought

6. Members are invited to note the proposed revisions and support the making of the Order.

Transport and Housing Bureau March 2008

Annex

Proposed Revision of Pilotage Dues

| Item | Existing dues | Proposed dues | Percentage increase |
|---|---|---|---------------------|
| (a) basic pilotage due | \$3,650 | \$4,100 | 12.3% |
| (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; and a maximum charge of \$7,200) | - |
| (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) | \$4,100 (charged if cancellation is done within 1.5 hours before the last stated time of requirement) | 12.3% |
| (ii) for service elsewhere | \$3,650 (charged if cancellation is done within 1 hour before the last stated time of requirement) | \$4,100 (charged if cancellation is done within 1 hour before the last stated time of requirement) | 12.3% |