

**LOCAL VESSELS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Joint Sub-committee on Class I and Class IV Vessels**

**Navigation Simulation Assessment**

**Purpose**

This paper clarifies the proposal on navigation simulation assessment.

**Background**

2. Paper Nos. 4/2014, 6/2014 and 1/2015 were discussed at the Joint Sub-committee meetings on 28 August, 27 November 2014 and 12 March 2015. In the meeting on 12 March 2015, members expressed their concern over the proposed assessment arrangement and suggested the inclusion of navigation simulation into the training for coxswains.

**Assessment Arrangement**

3. It is hereby clarified that there will be no one-off examination for the proposed practical operation assessment conducted with a navigation simulator. During the navigation simulation assessment course of about 3.5 days (i.e. about 26 hours), a course instructor will observe the performance of the attendees and will assess their competency in operating the navigation simulator. An attendee will be considered to have passed the assessment if the course instructor finds his/her performance satisfactory. The Marine Department (MD) will recognise suitable courses for the navigation simulation assessment and the assessment results by instructors, and will conduct random inspections of the courses and assessment process to ensure quality.

## **Inclusion of Navigation Simulation into the Training for Coxswains**

4. Taken into account members' comments in the meeting on 12 March 2015 and having liaised with course providers, MD will proceed to introduce navigation simulation into both the preparatory maritime course for the Coxswain Grade 3 Certificate and the one-day refresher course for coxswains of local passenger carrying vessels.

### **Way Forward**

5. If supported by members, MD will submit the proposal on the navigation simulation assessment and the proposal mentioned in paragraph 4 above to the Local Vessels Advisory Committee for discussion and endorsement. Subject to the advice of the Department of Justice, MD will revise the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Local Certificates of Competency) Rules, Examination Rules for Local Certificates of Competency, and Examination Rules for Pleasure Vessel Operator Certificate of Competency. It is expected that the proposal will be implemented in early 2016 the earliest.

### **Advice Sought**

6. Members are invited to give their views on the paper.

**Marine Department**

**25 June 2015**