

**LOCAL VESSELS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Non-accountable Subsidy for Local Pleasure Vessels  
Let for Holding Social Gatherings**

**Purpose**

Members are invited to note this paper which sets out details about the Government's provision of a one-off non-accountable subsidy of \$20,000 for local pleasure vessels let for holding social gatherings.

**Background**

2. In view of the latest development of the COVID-19 outbreak, the Government issued directions requiring the closure of premises that are let for holding social gatherings (commonly known as party room) starting from 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022. In this regard, the Government will once again implement the Subsidy Scheme for Beauty Parlours, Massage Establishments and Party Rooms under the Anti-epidemic Fund to provide relief to eligible operators affected by the pandemic and various anti-epidemic measures introduced by the Government.

3. Local pleasure vessels let for hire or reward (local pleasure vessels let for hire) are also covered by the above Subsidy Scheme for Beauty Parlours, Massage Establishments and Party Rooms. Details are set out in the ensuing paragraphs.

**Vessels Eligible for the Subsidy**

4. As all pleasure vessels let for hire which held a valid certificate of survey or certificate of inspection and a valid operating licence endorsed to be let for hire or reward on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022 must cease operations starting from 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022, these vessels will be eligible for the one-off non-accountable subsidy of \$20,000.

## **Form of Subsidy Provision**

5. **Shipowners are not required to submit applications** for the above non-accountable subsidy. If necessary, the Marine Department (“MD”) will ask shipowners to provide further information in accordance with their circumstances to verify their vessel’s eligibility for the subsidy concerned. MD will notify eligible shipowners in writing by the end of January 2022, and will request verification of information from them at the same time including the name and address of the payee (including the shipowner or his/her authorized representative). Upon receipt of confirmation of the payees’ particulars from the shipowners concerned, MD will grant each of these shipowners (or the shipowner’s authorized representative) the non-accountable subsidy **in the form of a crossed cheque by post.**

6. As to the eligibility of local pleasure vessels for the subsidy concerned, the MD’s decision shall be final.

**Marine Department**  
**19 January 2022**