

## **The Chartered Membership Examination – Changes to the Structure and Timetable**

### **Q1. What changes are you making?**

There are two main changes;

- i) The timing of the Chartered Membership Examination is changing. Rather than having one examination sitting per year, normally on the first Friday after the Easter Bank Holiday (March/April), the examination will be held on two dates, the first in January and the second in July. For the 2015 year the examination will be held on Friday 9 January and Friday 10 July.
- ii) The number of questions within the Chartered Membership Examination will be reduced. In 2014 the Chartered Membership Examination included 9 questions. As from 2015 the number will be reduced. There will be five questions in the January paper and seven in the July examination. Please see below for details.

### **Q2. Why are you changing the timetable?**

The examination timetable is changing in response to candidate feedback. Some candidates expressed frustration that the examination was held on an annual basis. By introducing two examination sittings a year, a practice that was followed by the Institution some years ago, we hope to provide candidates with greater choice and flexibility. The timing of the examination sittings are such that candidates who are unsuccessful may, if they wish, sit two examinations in the year.

### **Q3. Why are you reducing the number of questions?**

It is important that the examination structure is global in outlook and provides enhanced alignment with the highest standards set elsewhere in the international community. To assist members in achieving recognition in different international jurisdictions it is important that the examination content is understood and broadly meets the expectations of our international counterparts. Some of the Chartered Membership Examination questions were considered too specialist in nature and covered content that would be better assessed through specialist diploma examinations. As such it was agreed that the number of questions be reduced.

It is important to note that whilst the number of questions will be reduced the content/format/standards of the examination will remain the same.

**Q4. Which questions will be discontinued?**

i) In January 2015 there will be five questions which will essentially cover the content normally covered within the first six questions in previous examination papers i.e. the six questions will be rationalised into five but a bridge question and smaller scale project will be included. The significant change will be the withdrawal of the following questions;

- Question 7 – Offshore structure
- Question 8 – Dynamics
- Question 9 – Glass façade and canopy

ii) In July 2015 there will be seven questions. The core five questions will again be provided but for this sitting there will also be an offshore question and glass façade question. The additional two questions will be provided for the July 2015 sitting only so as to ensure that candidates preparing for these questions now are not disadvantaged.

As from 2016 five questions will be offered for each examination.

**Q5. Will the Associate-Membership Examination be changed?**

No. The Associate-Membership Examination will not change in structure and will continue to be held once a year – now in July. The Associate-Membership Examination will not be held twice per year as there are insufficient numbers to currently justify the change.

**Q6. Will there be two Professional Review Interview (PRI) sessions each year?**

No. The PRI deadlines and timetable will remain the same. The closing date for candidates based in Hong Kong remains 1 April and the closing date for candidates based elsewhere in the world is 1 September.

**Q7. I am planning to take my PRI later this year e.g. October-December 2014, when can I sit the examination?**

For candidates sitting the PRI this autumn the first available examination sitting will be July 2015. There is insufficient time to conduct all the interviews and process results in time for the examination deadline on 21 November 2014.

**Q8. If I have further questions who should I contact?**

Please contact the Institution's Examination Manager, Mr Peter Jinks, on [peter.jinks@istructe.org](mailto:peter.jinks@istructe.org)