

Brief Notes of the 1st Meeting
Fire Safety Vetting Committee 2005-2007
(15 August 2006)

Matters Discussed

1. Introduction to Fire Safety Vetting Committee (FSVC)

An introduction to the FSVC, including the terms of reference and composition, was made in the meeting. Furthermore, members were informed of the processing procedures for loan applications on fire safety improvement works.

Members were reminded to make full disclosure of interests when they considered that they might have a potential conflict of interests in the applications considered by the FSVC. Besides, members were also advised to keep all loan application information that came to their possession confidential and to protect such information from being used for purposes other than the terms of reference of the FSVC.

2. Statistics of Fire Safety Improvement Works under the Building Safety Loan Scheme

The meeting was informed of the statistics on fire safety improvement works under the Building Safety Loan Scheme.

The meeting discussed about the possible means of enhancing publicity of the Building Safety Loan Scheme with a view to arousing owners' awareness of the source of financial assistance in carrying out building improvement works. The meeting also noted the existing efforts being made by BD and FSD to promote public awareness of fire safety.

3. FSVC Webpage

To enhance the transparency, a FSVC webpage had been set up within the FSD homepage. It showed the composition, names / post titles of members; the terms of reference and the contact means of the FSVC.

4. Other Loan Schemes being administered by URA and HKHS

The meeting was informed that at present there were three loan schemes available,

including :

- Building Safety Loan Scheme administered by the Buildings Department;
- Building Rehabilitation Loan Scheme administered by the Urban Renewal Authority; and
- Building Management and Maintenance Scheme administered by the Hong Kong Housing Society.