

Brief Notes of the 1st Meeting
Fire Safety Vetting Committee 2007-09
(7 April 2008)

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 knowledge confidential and to refrain from using such information 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.

3. FSVC Webpage

To enhance the transparency, a FSVC webpage had been maintained at the FSD homepage. It showed the composition, names / post titles of members; the terms of reference and the contact means of the FSVC. Furthermore, a hyperlink to the useful information about the BSLS was also provided for public's browsing.

4. Other Subsidy/Loan Schemes for Building Management and Maintenance

The meeting was informed that apart from the BSLS, at present, there were several subsidy/loan schemes for owners to carry out building improvement/maintenance works in Hong Kong :

- (i) ***Building Safety Loan Scheme*** administered by the Buildings Department;
- (ii) ***Building Rehabilitation Materials Incentive Scheme / Building Rehabilitation Loan Scheme*** administered by the Urban Renewal Authority;

- (iii) ***Building Management and Maintenance Scheme*** administered by the Hong Kong Housing Society;
- (iv) ***Building Maintenance Grant Scheme for Elderly Owners*** to be administered by the Hong Kong Housing Society; and
- (v) ***Home Environment Improvement Scheme for Elderly Owners*** to be administered by the Labour and Welfare Bureau.

5. Loan Cases

In the last quarter of 2007, the FSVC had circulated two loan cases for comments. The meeting thanked the two non-official members for their prompt reply and valuable comments on these cases despite the very tight timeframe.

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