Fire Safety Standard Advisory Group (FSSAG)

Matters Discussed in the 24th FSSAG Meeting (held on 26.3.2010)

1. Subsidiary Sprinkler Zone Valves

The following was agreed in the meeting: -

- a. The use of chain and lock or similar securing device bearing the FSI contractor's identification and/or serial number would be an acceptable measure to prevent sprinkler subsidiary stop valve from being tampered or inadvertently turned off.
- b. The FSI owner/contractors/estate management could adopt/develop a dedicated management system for maintaining a proper track record on the inspections of the sprinkler subsidiary valves.
- c. FSD would issue a Circular Letter to promulgate the arrangement for the observance of the stakeholder

2. Application of Multi-sensors Smoke Detectors

FSD Circular Letter No. 2/2010 on the Local Application of Multi-sensor Detector was issued on 9 February 2010 and could be downloaded from the official FSD website.

3. UPVC for Underground Pipework

The overseas references of PE piping system were still awaited.

4. The New Requirements and Standard of BS9999

No comment or feedback regarding the staircase pressurization system design and inspection was received from members. As discussed in the last meeting, the new requirements in BS9999 would not replace those in BS 5588 part 4.

5. Security Control of Portable Fire Extinguishers

No further discussion on this matter was required.

6. Emergency Lighting

It was confirmed that the installation of emergency lighting had to comply with the requirements specified in the Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations & Equipment (FSCoP).

7. Provision of Visual Fire Alarm Flashing Red Light in Hotels, Hostels and Guesthouses

The provision of visual fire alarm prescribed in the FSD Circular Letter No. 4/2001, was to harmonise the requirement in the Design Manual: Barrier Free Access 1997. In response to the new Design Manual: Barrier Free Access 2008 version, it was agreed that the requirements on the same would be reviewed in the review exercise for the FSCoP.

8. FSD Circular Letter No. 2/2008 dated 31 March 2008 regarding Fire Protection Measures in Construction Sites

It was clarified in the meeting that buildings with designed height less than 30m were exempted from the requirements stipulated in the Circular Letter; and the "designed building height" mentioned in the Circular Letter referred to the height from the floor of the uppermost storey above the point of staircase discharge at ground floor level. Furthermore FS 251 was not required in connection with the related fire protection measures.

9. Provision of Control Panel at Caretaker's Office or Management Office

It was noted that there were various requirements on FS control panel throughout the FSCoP. With a view to rationalize the requirements it was agreed by the meeting that they would be reviewed in the review exercise for the FSCoP.

10. Sprinkler Protection of Concealed Spaces as per BSEN 12845 : 2003

It was discussed in the meeting on the alternative provided by TB 230: 2008 of the LPC Rules for not providing sprinkler heads in the concealed ceiling or floor voids. With a view to exhaustively considering the alternative, it was agreed to continue the discussion in the next meeting.

11. Testing and Drain at Sprinkler Subsidiary Valve and Flow Switch

After discussions, the meeting agreed that the practices of BS 5306 in connection with test drain point could be accepted; i.e., the flow of water during testing should be viewed at the final discharged location of drain pipe instead of locally at each flow switch point.