

Fire Safety Standard Advisory Group (FSSAG)

Matters Discussed in the 53rd FSSAG Meeting held on 30 November 2017

1. Review of PPA 104 (Issued under cover of FSD Circular Letter No. 1/2006)

Regarding the subject matter, the revised draft PPA 104 and PPA 104(A) incorporating the agreed comments would be issued to members of FSSAG for final review.

2. Review on fire resisting cable requirements for fire service installations

FSD Circular Letter No. 2/2017 on “Minimum Fire Resistant Cable Requirements for Fire Service Installations” was issued on 21.9.2017.

3. Enhancement on Application procedure for Approval/Acceptance of Fire Service Installations and Equipment (FSI) and other Products

The revised Fire Protection (FP) Notice No.15 and the relevant Circular Letter had been prepared and would be issued after fine-tuning. The FP Notice No.15 would be uploaded onto the FSD website in due course.

4. Review of the Requirements for Emergency Lighting

The 5th SWG meeting was conducted on 9.10.2017.

5. Review of Clean Fire Extinguishing Agents including Novec 1230

The revised draft FSD Circular Letter had been submitted to the Senior Management of FSD for endorsement.

6. Implementation of BS 5839: 2013 “Fire Detection and Fire Alarm Systems for Buildings – Part 1: Code of Practice for Design, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of Systems in Non-domestic Premises”

The 3rd SWG meeting was held on 25.10.2017. As the standard BS 5839-1:2013 had been superseded by BS 5839-1 : 2017 on 31.08.2017, all SWG's members agreed that the FSD Circular Letter No. 1/2009 should be reviewed and amended to incorporate the new standard. SWG's members had been requested to review and amend their previous proposals in accordance with the current standard.

7. Flashing Requirement for Exit Sign and Directional Sign in Audio / Visual Advisory System (AVAS)

Comment on the subject matter received from ArchSD was discussed in the meeting. It was considered that the requirements for independent visual part of AVA system had been elaborated clearly in previous meeting and hence no further discussion on the system operation and requirement was required. In this regard, ArchSD had no further comment to make.

8. Actuation Temperature of Heat detector(s) under the Fire Safety Requirements for D.G. Store

The relevant sets of Fire Safety Requirements had been revised to meet the EN54-5 standards on the actuation temperature of heat detectors (Class A1) ranged from 54-65 degree Celsius. The revised requirements had been uploaded onto the FSD website in August 2017. As no further discussion was required for the issue, the meeting agreed to delete the item in the next meeting.

9. Size of Suction Pipe for Sprinkler Pump

Comments on the subject matter received from ArchSD and Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE) were discussed in the meeting. It was agreed in the meeting that technical issues for the sprinkler installations should be further discussed in the sub-working group for the review on LPC sprinkler rules 2015.

10. Zoning of Sprinkler Installations

Comments on the subject matter received from ArchSD and SFPE were discussed in the meeting. It was agreed in the meeting that technical issues for the sprinkler installations should be further discussed in the sub-working group for the review on LPC sprinkler rules 2015.

11. Further Clarification on Colour of Flashing Light for Exit Signs in Audio/ Visual Advisory System (AVAS)

The issue was discussed in detail. It was concluded in the meeting that members should give some thoughts to the proposal raised by FSICA and forward their comments to FSD directly within one month in order that comments received could be consolidated for further discussion in the next FSSAG meeting.

12. Proposed sprinkler temperature rating to be adopted locally in HK

The issue was discussed in detail. It was concluded in the meeting that the issue should be further discussed in the newly formed Sub-working Group for the review on LPC sprinkler rules 2015.

13. Review on LPC Sprinkler Rules 2015 incorporating BS EN 12845

The issue was discussed in detail. It was concluded in the meeting that the issue should be further discussed in the newly formed Sub-working Group for the review on LPC sprinkler rules 2015.

14. FSICA joining the LPC Technical Bulletin Committee as an observer

The Chairman noted the suggestion made by FSICA and advised that FSICA joined the FPA as an observer of its own accord but not representing FSSAG. Since FSSAG was composed of different stakeholders, internal discussions/minutes made in the meeting should not be disclosed. If there was any issues warranted discussion in FSSAG, the items should be brought forward as an agenda item formally for discussion as usual. Representatives of FSICA noted the advice of the Chairman and understood that any information conveyed to FPA/LPC only representing the views of FSICA.

15. Requirements for Fire Safety Curtain Installed in Cinemas/Theatres

The fire safety requirement (FSRs) attached to 'A Guide to Application for PPE Licences' only served as a general reference for the licence applicant. These FSRs would be regularly reviewed and made available for download from the FSD's website. Applicants could refer to the FSRs published in the FSD website for reference. Regarding the Guide provided in the FEHD website, FSD would

liaise with FEHD to update the relevant section of the Guide.

16. Briefing to the Construction Industry in relation to Building Plan Submission and FSI Acceptance Inspection on 24.11 2017

On 24 November 2017 the Fire Services Department (FSD) reached out to the stakeholders of the Construction Industry to put forward ideas and measures to speed up building plan processing and acceptance inspection of fire service installation and equipment. A briefing on “Fire Services Department connects with the Construction Industry to speed up Building Plan Processing and Acceptance Inspection of Fire Service Installations (FSI)” was held at the Auditorium of Kowloon Tong Fire Station and around 170 persons were in attendance.

In view of the increasing complexity and number of building project submissions, FSD would require the full assistance from the Construction Industry to speed up the building plan processing and acceptance inspections of FSI. FSD demanded stakeholders’ collaboration in ensuring the quality of their project plan submissions and proper installation of FSI. Repeated amended submissions and unsatisfactory works would not only impose burden on FSD’s manpower and resources due to increased number of re-inspections but also cause delay to the projects.