

Brief Notes of Liaison Meeting between FSD and Authorized Persons

Date : 21 February 2017 (Tuesday)
Time : 1500 hours
Venue : Conference Room, Fire Safety Command, FSD

Matters Discussed in the Meeting :

1. Registered Fire Engineer (RFE) Scheme

The Fire Services (Amendment) Bill 2016 was submitted to LegCo for First Reading on 30.11.2016 as scheduled. The 2016 Bill was discussed twice in the Bills Committee meeting on 20.12.2016 and 24.1.2017. Issues about minor operational details were discussed. Substantive Committee Stage Amendments to the 2016 Bill is not likely to be proposed by the Government. The date for resumption of Second Reading was tentatively scheduled for 1.3.2017.

2. FSI Requirements for Buildings with Lifts Serving Direct to Occupancy

As no further comments had been received from EMSD on the revised arrangement, the Information Paper with the revised arrangement was then tabled in last FSD/AP Liaison Meeting on 29.11.2016, FSD/FSICA Liaison Meeting on 6.12.2016 and FSSAG Meeting on 9.1.2017. Since no further comments have been received from all stakeholders, a FSD Circular Letter would be promulgated shortly.

3. Improvement Measures for Processing General Building Plans

Members generally showed appreciation to the improvement measures for processing general building plans. Other than these measures, some members asked if FSD could issue a few practice notes for interpreting the requirements as stated in the FSI Codes, describing certain commonly accepted FSI systems' modifications, or even listing out some frequently asked questions enquired by other APs.

The Chairman replied that the existing promulgated circular letters should have already served the purpose of interpreting most requirements in the FSI Codes. For the compliance standards in specific systems, it should be assessed on a case-by-case basis since they might involve certain complicated technical issues.

It was noted that alternative designs should be considered on a case-by-case basis as well. He also reiterated that consultants / APs should refer to the compliance standards stipulated in FSI Codes and promulgated circular letters in case they had queries on the interpretation of specific requirements.

The Chairman concluded that if consultants / APs had some common mistakes or wrong interpretations on specific stipulated requirements on FSI, it should be brought up for discussion in other meetings like Fire Safety Standard Advisory Group (FSSAG). He also invited representatives from HKIE and HKIA to explore a few questionable non-compliance cases for FSD for further review.

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