

## **Brief Notes of Liaison Meeting between FSD and Authorized Persons**

**Date** : 31 May 2018 (Thursday)  
**Time** : 1500 hours  
**Venue** : Conference Room, Fire Safety Command, FSD

### **Matters Discussed in the Meeting :**

#### 1. **Registered Fire Engineer (RFE) Scheme**

FSD had completed a trade consultation. Whilst in principle stakeholders were supportive of the Scheme, some were concerned of, among others, issues relating to conflict of interests. Meanwhile, the Government was in the process of preparing for a few pieces of subsidiary legislation for the Scheme.

#### 2. **Improvement Measures for Processing General Building Plans**

As further discussion was not required, the meeting agreed to shelve this discussion item at the next meeting.

#### 3. **Issues related to FS172**

Further to the suggestion made by a member on setting a pledge for completion of acceptance inspection, it was explained that, the time required for completing a acceptance inspection usually depends on:

- the complexity and scale of the related project(s);
- site and system readiness; and
- quality of works by APs and RFSICs.

It was obvious that higher complexity, larger scale, and poorer site readiness would lead to longer inspection time, hence it would not be practical to set the acceptance inspection in a fixed time frame.

It was reminded that, if FSI/501 and FSI/314 submissions could reach FSD timely and in order, the progress of the required acceptance inspections together with the issuance of FS 172 would surely be expedited.

As a matter of fact, measures had been proactively taken by FSD to improve the current situation:

- Several seminars were conducted in 2017 and 2018 for various stakeholders including APs for enhancing quality of submissions; and
- A document checklist was uploaded in FSD's website for facilitating effective management by trade professionals and RFSICs.

Furthermore, FSD would regularly review the existing manpower resources to ensure delivering quality service. If necessary, manpower would be internally redeployed suitably and promptly, in a flexible and pragmatic manner, to cope with sudden influx of workload.

It was believed that further improvement could be achieved with the collaborative efforts from the trade.

4. **Clarification on Codes of Practice (CoP) for Minimum Fire Service Installations (FSI) and Equipment**

In response to the enquiry from a member, it was told that for audio/visual advisory system (AVAS) in shopping arcade, a single occupancy should be referred as the entire shopping arcade instead of a single shop unit. In other words, AVAS should be provided for parts of building where the area occupied by the occupancy with transient nature on any one floor exceeded 2000m<sup>2</sup> in accordance with paragraph 4.14(i) of the Code of Practice for Minimum fire Service Installations and Equipment.

For any other specific condition, FSD would consider on a case-by-case basis.

5. **Presentation on Fire Safety in Residential Flats with Open Kitchen**

FSI Task Force briefed the meeting on the fire safety requirements for units with open kitchen design; the duties of owners/occupiers,

registered FSI contractors and management offices; and the annual inspection requirements of windowless kitchens or toilets with mechanical ventilation systems.

6. **Mini-storage Premises**

A member enquired on the current status of mini-storage premises inspection. The Chairman then gave a general update on the inter-departmental joint enforcement programme.

Another member asked if there would be a booklet describing the fire safety requirements for mini-storage premises. The Chairman clarified that FSD enforced the Fire Services (Fire Hazard Abatement) Regulation in abating fire hazards identified in mini-storage premises. Information of 'Potential Fire Hazards in Mini-Storages and Related Abatement Measures' had been uploaded in the FSD's website for public reference.

END