

**Fire Services (Amendment) Bill 2001**

**Administration's response to issues raised at  
the Bills Committee meeting held on 15 October 2002 (Part II)**

- (c) *the draft Fire Service (Fire Hazard Abatement) Regulation should specify the rank of the FSD officers who would be authorised to obtain personal particulars and the requirement that they should wear uniform whilst on duty.*

Under section 20 of the Fire Services Ordinance, the Director of Fire Services (DFS) may make Fire Services Department General Orders not inconsistent with the provisions of, among other things, the Ordinance or any regulation thereunder. Non-compliance with such Orders is an offence against discipline and punishable under s.12 of the Ordinance. At present, the Fire Services Department General Orders already provides that all members listed in the Sixth Schedule of the Ordinance are required to wear uniforms when on operational duty (which includes carrying out enforcement actions against fire hazards). In implementing the future Fire Service (Fire Hazard Abatement) Regulation, DFS plans to authorise, under section 21 of the said Regulation, only fire officers not below the rank of Station Officer to obtain personal particulars from the public, and to promulgate the authorisation through the Fire Services Department General Orders.

2. Given the current legislative scheme as explained above, we consider that amendment to the proposed legislation is not necessary.

Security Bureau  
December 2002