

Legislative Council Panel on Development

The Administration's Responses to the Motion passed under agenda item VII "Regulatory control over lift safety" at the meeting on 29 May 2018

Regarding the motion moved by Hon LAU Kwok-fan on regulatory control over lift safety and passed by the Legislative Council Panel on Development at its meeting on 29 May 2018, the Administration's responses are as follows:

“To enhance the safety level of lifts, this Panel urges the authorities to formulate a territory-wide "Action plan for enhancing lift safety"; give priority to the enhancement of the safety level of lifts installed before the first edition of the Codes of Practice on the Design and Construction of Lifts and Escalators came into effect in 1993; and set up an independent "Lift safety subsidy scheme" with a funding of not less than \$2 billion, so as to provide subsidies to owners to enhance the safety equipment of lifts which have been in service for 20 years or more or replace them with new lifts.”

1. As we briefed Members at the meeting of Legislative Council Panel on Development on 29 May 2018, the Development Bureau (DEVB) and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) are actively formulating short-term, medium-term and medium to long-term measures to enhance the safety of aged lifts, thereby further protecting public safety:

- Short-term measures: The EMSD will step up its surveillance checks of the maintenance and examination of lifts, in particular those components that may affect the safe operation of lifts. At the same time, the department is also studying how the Responsible Persons and contractors can strengthen the maintenance of aged lifts that have not yet been modernised.
- Medium-term measures: The DEVB and the EMSD will consider the feasibility of allocating funding to subsidise those owners in need by making reference to the on-going “Operation Building Bright 2.0

Scheme” and “Fire Safety Improvement Works Subsidy Scheme”, and providing them with appropriate professional support, so as to encourage them to speed up the lift modernisation works.

- Medium to long-term measures: The DEVB and the EMSD will study the feasibility of mandating the lift modernisation works in phases. In this regard, we will make reference to practices of other countries, and take into account the impact on the community and the trade.

2. We will brief Members on the details of the new measures as soon as possible, especially the subsidy scheme related to the medium-term measures.

Development Bureau
Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
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