Bills Committee on Buildings (Amendment) Bill 2003

List of follow-up actions arising from discussion at the meeting on 22 March 2004

The Administration was requested -

Clause 2 (section 2)

- (a) to provide examples of provisions where certain important things affecting the operation of the principal ordinance are set out in subsidiary legislation by notice published in the Gazette. Some members consider that the list of different categories of minor works should be provided in a schedule to the ordinance for easy reference;
- (b) to provide the updated version of different categories of minor works which is being discussed by the Administration with the trade and inform the Bills Committee the progress of consultation with the trade;

Clause 5 (section 4)

- (c) to review whether it is appropriate to delete the offence for contravention of section 4(3)(b) and the proposed section 4(3A)(b). Members have different views on the issue. Some members are of the view that since the relevant persons will be held liable for certifying works which are not in compliance with the ordinance and its regulation under the existing provisions, there is no need for a separate offence provision for contravention of sections 4(3)(b) and 4(3A)(b). A member however objects to the deletion of this offence and considers that the penalty for defective and substandard building works should be strengthened to enhance deterrence;
- (d) to review the drafting of sections 4(3)(b) and 4(3A)(b) to ensure consistency between the Chinese versions of the two provisions; and
- (e) to confirm whether "regulations" referred to in section 4(3A)(b) include Code of Practice.