

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(1)471/17-18  
(These minutes have been seen  
by the Administration)

Ref : CB1/SS/1/17

**Subcommittee on Waterworks (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulation 2017**

**Minutes of second meeting held on  
Friday, 17 November 2017, at 10:45 am  
in Conference Room 2 of the Legislative Council Complex**

- Members present** : Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP (Chairman)  
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP  
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP  
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP  
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki  
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan  
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP  
Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin  
Hon CHU Hoi-dick  
Hon SHIU Ka-fai  
Hon CHAN Chun-ying
- Members absent** : Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-ye, GBS, JP  
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP  
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH
- Public Officers attending** : Agenda item I  
Water Supplies Department  
Mr Bobby NG, BBS  
Team Leader/ Legislative Review  
Mr Horace LEE  
Senior Engineer/ Legislative Review (2)

Development Bureau

Mr Vitus NG  
Principal Assistant Secretary (Works) 3

Department of Justice

Miss Selina LAU  
Senior Government Counsel

Miss Wendy HO  
Government Counsel

**Attendance by  
invitation**

: Agenda item I

Mr POON Wai-yee  
Vice Chairman  
Hong Kong Licensed Plumbing Professionals  
Association Ltd.

Mr MOK Kwan-hung  
Hong Kong Licensed Plumbers Union Limited

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung

Mr YUNG Chun-tang  
Chairman  
The Association of Registered Fire Service  
Installation Contractors of Hong Kong Limited

Mr WONG Wing-wah  
Chairman  
Registered Minor Works Contractor Signatory  
Association Ltd.

Mr WONG Ping-fai  
Chairman  
Plumbing Technology Student Association

Dr Eric WONG  
Chairman  
The Chartered Institute of Plumbing and Heating  
Engineering – Hong Kong Branch

**Clerk in attendance** : Mr Derek LO  
Chief Council Secretary (1)5

**Staff in attendance** : Ms Wendy KAN  
Assistant Legal Adviser 6

Mr Fred PANG  
Senior Council Secretary (1)5

Ms Michelle NIEN  
Legislative Assistant (1)5

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Action

**I Meeting with deputations and the Administration**

*Matters arising from previous meeting*

(LC Paper No. CB(1)209/17-18(01) — List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion at the meeting on 30 October 2017

LC Paper No. CB(1)209/17-18(02) — Administration's response to issues raised at the meeting on 30 October 2017)

*Relevant papers*

(L.N. 165 of 2017 — Waterworks (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulation 2017

File Ref: DEVB(CR)(W)1-10/49 — Legislative Council Brief

LC Paper No. LS3/17-18 — Legal Service Division Report

LC Paper No. CB(1)119/17-18(01) — Marked-up copy of the Waterworks (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulation 2017 prepared by the Legal Service Division  
(*Restricted to members*)

LC Paper No. CB(1)119/17-18 (02) — Information note prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat)

Expiry of scrutiny period

The Chairman advised that at the meeting on 30 October 2017, members agreed that he would move a motion at a Council meeting to extend the scrutiny period of the Waterworks (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulation 2017 (L.N. 165) ("the Amendment (No. 2) Regulation") to the Council meeting of 6 December 2017. As the resolution proposed by him to extend the scrutiny period could not be dealt with by the Council before the expiry of the scrutiny period, the scrutiny period of the Amendment (No. 2) Regulation had expired at the Council meeting of 15 November 2017, and the Amendment (No. 2) Regulation would come into operation on 8 December 2017. In view that the arrangements for the second meeting of the Subcommittee had earlier been made, he decided that the meeting be held as scheduled.

Presentation of views by deputations

2. Members noted the submissions from the Hong Kong Licensed Plumbing Professionals Association Ltd. and The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers tabled at the meeting.

*(Post meeting note: The two submissions were issued to members in electronic form vide LC Paper Nos. CB(1)227/17-18(01) and (02) on 17 November 2017.)*

3. Seven deputations attending the meeting presented their views on the Amendment (No. 2) Regulation. The Administration provided a consolidated response to the views as follows –

- (a) the Development Bureau in collaboration with the Construction Industry Council had all along organized training programmes/courses for enhancing the knowledge of workers to cater for the latest development of the plumbing trade, technologies and practices;
- (b) paragraph 20 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 to the Waterworks Regulations (Cap. 102A) ("WWR") had stipulated the material standards for stainless steel pipes;

- (c) the Administration monitored the quality of drinking water supply in Hong Kong with reference to the relevant guidelines of the World Health Organization;
- (d) water pressure, water flow and risk of water leakage were the main factors taken into account by the Water Authority when considering whether the installation of a pipe or fitting would adversely affect the efficiency of the fire service or inside service in which the pipe or fitting was installed in providing a reliable and adequate supply of water;
- (e) in view that there were currently no pre-installed sanitary fittings and water pipes in the volumetric precast units used in the Hong Kong Housing Authority ("HA")/Housing Department ("HD")'s public housing projects and their study on other advanced prefabrication concept for public housing construction was in the early stage, HA/HD had not sent representatives to attend the meeting; and
- (f) the Water Supplies Department ("WSD") had noted the views on WSD Circular Letters No. 2/2016 and 5/2017 and would consider enhancing their content in light of the views.

4. The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings in the **Appendix**).

Follow-up actions to be taken by the Administration

5. The Administration was requested to provide information to the Subcommittee and, where appropriate, the Panel on Development, as follows:

- (a) detailed written response to the views expressed by depositions at the meeting, as well as the questions and concerns raised in their written submissions;
- (b) with respect to the suggestion that WWR should provide a definition of the expression "the quality of the water" (as stated in regulation 25(2A) of WWR as added by the Amendment (No. 2) Regulation) and reference to the relevant guidelines of the World Health Organization should be included in the definition, details of how the Administration would address the suggestion;
- (c) actions to be taken by the Administration to regulate hot water dispensers/water heaters supplying drinking water, and the relevant timetable(s); and

- (d) given that the Administration would implement pilot schemes by adopting Modular Integrated Construction in public projects, details about the criminal liabilities, if any, of licensed plumbers in Hong Kong for non-compliance of the relevant requirement relating to water pipes/plumbing fittings which had been pre-installed in prefabricated modules outside Hong Kong before they were transported to Hong Kong.

*(Post-meeting note: The Administration's supplementary information was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)336/17-18(02) on 11 December 2017.)*

6. The Subcommittee completed the section-by-section examination of the Chinese text of the Amendment (No. 2) Regulation.

7. The Chairman said that he would report the deliberations of the Subcommittee to the House Committee as early as possible.

*(Post-meeting note: The Chairman reported the deliberations of the Subcommittee to the House Committee on 1 December 2017.)*

## **II Any other business**

8. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 11:53 pm.

Council Business Division 1  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
12 January 2018

**Proceedings of second meeting of the  
Subcommittee on Waterworks (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulation 2017  
on Friday, 17 November 2017, at 10:45 am  
in Conference Room 2 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
<b>Agenda item I – Meeting with deputations and the Administration</b>			
000926 – 001333	Chairman	Opening remarks  Expiry of scrutiny period	
001334 – 001439	Hong Kong Licensed Plumbing Professionals Association Ltd.	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(1)227/17-18(01)]	
001440 – 001652	Hong Kong Licensed Plumbers Union Limited	Presentation of views [LC Papers No. CB(1)209/17-18(03) and CB(1)228/17-18(01)]	
001653 – 002109	Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung	Presentation of views	
002110 – 002342	The Association of Registered Fire Service Installation Contractors of Hong Kong Limited	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(1)209/17-18(04)]	
002343 – 002500	Registered Minor Works Contractor Signatory Association Ltd.	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(1)209/17-18(05)]	
002501 – 002719	Plumbing Technology Student Association	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(1)228/17-18(02)]	
002720 – 002847	The Chartered Institute of Plumbing and Heating Engineering – Hong Kong Branch	Presentation of views	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
002848 – 003321	Administration	Consolidated response to deputations' views	The Administration to follow up as stated in paragraph 5(a) of the minutes.
003322 – 003642	Administration	Briefing by the Administration on LC Paper No. CB(1)209/17-18(02)	
003643 – 004143	Chairman Mr SHIU Ka-fai Administration Registered Minor Works Contractor Signatory Association Ltd.	<p>At the invitation of Mr SHIU Ka-fai, Registered Minor Works Contractor Signatory Association Ltd. elaborated its views on regulation 25(2A) of the Waterworks Regulations (Cap. 102A) ("WWR") as added by the Waterworks (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulation 2017 ("the Amendment (No. 2) Regulation").</p> <p>The Administration explained about the factors that would be taken into account by the Water Authority when considering whether the installation of a pipe or fitting would adversely affect the efficiency of the fire service or inside service in which the pipe or fitting was installed in providing a reliable and adequate supply of water.</p> <p>The Chairman requested the Administration to provide information to the Subcommittee and where appropriate, the Panel on Development, on how it would address the suggestion that WWR should provide a definition of the expression "the quality of the water" and reference to the relevant guidelines of the World Health Organization should be included in the definition.</p>	The Administration to follow up as stated in paragraph 5(b) of the minutes.
004144 – 005336	Chairman Dr Helena WONG The Association of Registered Fire Service Installation Contractors of Hong Kong Limited Registered Minor Works Contractor	At the invitation of Dr Helena WONG, The Association of Registered Fire Service Installation Contractors of Hong Kong Limited, Registered Minor Works Contractor Signatory Association Ltd., Plumbing Technology Student Association, and Hong Kong Licensed Plumbing Professionals Association Ltd. expressed views on the Development Bureau's initiative of adopting Modular Integrated Construction ("MiC") in public projects, which involved installation of water pipes/plumbing fittings in prefabricated modules outside Hong Kong.	



<b>Time marker</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Subject(s)</b>	<b>Action required</b>
	<p>Signatory Association Ltd.</p> <p>Plumbing Technology Student Association</p> <p>Hong Kong Licensed Plumbing Professionals Association Ltd.</p> <p>Administration</p>	<p>The Administration advised that –</p> <p>(a) the Development Bureau would implement pilot schemes by adopting MiC in some but not all public projects; and</p> <p>(b) the deputations' views about the regulatory requirements for MiC had been noted.</p>	
<p>005337 – 010236</p>	<p>Chairman</p> <p>Dr Helena WONG</p> <p>Administration</p>	<p>Dr Helena WONG enquired whether it was not practicable for licensed plumbers to ensure that the water pipes and plumbing fittings installed in prefabricated modules outside Hong Kong would comply with the regulatory requirements in Hong Kong, and how the Administration could regulate the production of such pre-installed water pipes/plumbing installations and the workers engaged in the production, check the compliance of these plumbing materials/components, and take enforcement actions against irregularities found.</p> <p>The Administration replied that –</p> <p>(a) as far as the projects involving the production of prefabricated products were concerned, it should be the responsibilities of the supervisors of the project to carry out checks on the prefabricated products manufactured in the off-site yard in or outside Hong Kong including the pre-installed water pipes/plumbing fittings, and to carry out inspections after the prefabricated products had been delivered to the project site in Hong Kong; and</p> <p>(b) when the project was completed in Hong Kong, the concerned authorities in Hong Kong, i.e. the Water Authority, would conduct inspections and tests to ensure that the plumbing materials/components installed in the prefabricated modules had complied with the regulatory and contractual requirements in Hong Kong and that the installations had not adversely affected the quality of the water.</p>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>Dr Helena WONG enquired about the criminal liabilities, if any, of licensed plumbers in Hong Kong for non-compliance of the relevant requirement relating to water pipes/plumbing fittings which had been pre-installed in prefabricated modules outside Hong Kong before they were transported to Hong Kong. The Chairman requested the Administration to provide supplementary information to address Dr WONG's enquiry.</p>	<p>The Administration to follow up as stated in paragraph 5(d) of the minutes.</p>
<p><u>Section-by-section examination of the provisions of the Waterworks (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulation 2017 (L.N. 165 of 2017) [LC Paper No. CB(1)119/17-18(01)]</u></p>			
<p>010237 – 010405</p>	<p>Chairman  All members present  Administration</p>	<p><i>Regulation 20 amended (compliance with prescribed specification)</i>  <i>Regulation 25 amended (power to relax regulations)</i>  Members raised no queries.</p>	
<p>010406 – 010957</p>	<p>Chairman  All members present  Administration</p>	<p><i>Schedule 2 amended</i></p> <p>Dr Helena WONG enquired about the progress of the Administration's review on the regulation of hot water dispensers/water heaters supplying drinking water.</p> <p>The Administration replied that the matters related to hot water dispensers/water heaters supplying drinking water were being studied and the Administration would consult relevant stakeholders on the subject in 2018.</p> <p>The Chairman requested the Administration to provide information on the actions to be taken by the Administration to regulate hot water dispensers/water heaters supplying drinking water, and the relevant timetable(s).</p> <p>In response to Dr Helena WONG's enquiry, the Administration advised that it had yet to decide whether the Administration would introduce a separate bill for regulating hot water dispensers.</p> <p>Dr Helena WONG enquired about the Administration's progress in its review on the regulation of booster pumps. The Administration replied that as advised in LC Paper No.</p>	<p>The Administration to follow up as stated in paragraph 5(c) of the minutes.</p>

<b>Time marker</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Subject(s)</b>	<b>Action required</b>
		CB(1)209/17-18(02), the Administration would consult relevant stakeholders in 2018 on the proposal of regulating booster pumps.	
<b>Agenda item II – Any other business</b>			
010958 – 011028	Chairman	Closing remarks	

Council Business Division 1  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
12 January 2018