

Waterworks (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulation 2017
(“The Amendment Regulation”)

Response to the List of follow-up actions arising from
the discussion at the meeting of the Sub-committee on 30 October 2017

Response to Item (a)

1. A list of views/suggestions raised by the Legislative Council Members and other relevant parties when considering the Waterworks (Amendment) Regulation 2017 and the corresponding follow up-actions are shown in the **Annex**.

Response to Items (b) & (c)

2. At present, Hong Kong has a well-established monitoring system over prefabricated products. Under the current practice, project supervisors will carry out spot checks on the prefabricated products manufactured in the off-site yard in or outside Hong Kong to ensure the compliance with regulatory and contractual requirements. After the prefabricated products have been delivered to the site, the project supervisors will also carry out inspections before approving the implementation of works. When the project is completed, the contractors will carry out various tests under the supervision of project supervisors to ensure that the quality of works has complied with the related requirements. The concerned authorities will also conduct inspections and tests to safeguard public interest.

3. Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) has been widely adopted in the Mainland and the advanced overseas economies including the United Kingdom, the United States, Singapore etc. for a number of years. Monitoring requirements over the technical performance and quality control on MiC have been developed up to the world class standards.

4. MiC is an innovative construction method in Hong Kong. We will implement pilot schemes by adopting MiC in public projects. With the aids of the experience and data gained in the pilot projects, we aim to enhance and make good the regulatory requirements and code of practices for MiC. At this stage, for the pilot projects, we will carry out the regulatory and supervisory work on the basis of the relevant existing requirements.

5. We understand well the concern of the Members about the quality of works of MiC. When we formulate the related regulatory requirements, we will consider carefully and make reference to the relevant practices in other advanced regions.

6. The Housing Authority/Housing Department (HA/HD) has no pre-installed sanitary fittings and water pipes in current volumetric precast units after a pilot conducted at Kai Tak Site 1A, i.e. Kai Ching Estate, in 2012. They will continue to study prefabrication technologies, including the MiC concept and other construction methods, which will be applied to public housing construction with a view to enhancing quality, safety and efficiency.

7. In view of the study on other advanced prefabrication concept for public housing construction are still in the early stage, no representative from HA/HD will attend the coming meeting.

Development Bureau
14 November 2017

**Summary of Issues arising in Subcommittee Meetings of
Waterworks (Amendment) Regulation 2017 and follow-up actions**

| <i>Issues raised by members or other relevant parties</i> | <i>Follow-up actions</i> |
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| 1. Water Authority (WA) should ensure that water safety and water supply efficiency will not be adversely affected in exercising his powers under the proposed regulations 20(2) and 25(2). | By introduction of Sections 3 and 4 of the Waterworks (Amendment) (No.2) Regulation 2017. |
| 2. Concern on suitability of cast iron pipes for use in inside service had been raised. | By introduction of Sections 5(1), 5(2) and 5(7) of the Waterworks (Amendment) (No.2) Regulation 2017. |
| 3. Concern on the application of the relevant requirements in British Standard 6920 series to other non-metallic materials and products intended for human consumption in other parts of Schedule 2 had been raised. | By introduction of Section 5(4) of the Waterworks (Amendment) (No.2) Regulation 2017. |
| 4. Concern on the requirements of “...resisting a pressure of at least 1,600kPa...” in the proposed paragraph 1 of Part 2 of Schedule 2 of the Waterworks Regulations (WWR) had been raised. | By introduction of Section 5(5) of the Waterworks (Amendment) (No.2) Regulation 2017. |
| 5. The requirements and standards of “hot water dispenser” should be included in Part 4 of Schedule 2 of the WWR. | Clarified the application of the Part 4 by introduction of Section 5(6) of the Waterworks (Amendment) (No.2) Regulation 2017. The hot water dispensers related matters will be dealt with separately. |
| 6. Concern on the nickel-chromium plating found on the inside surface of water taps had been raised. | Guideline on the Examination of Electroplating Materials on the Wetted Surface of Water Taps and Mixers for Application of General Acceptance in the Water Supplies Department was issued to the approved laboratories in October 2017. |
| 7. The requirements and standards of “water pumps” should be included in Schedule 2 of the WWR. | The proposal is being studied and will consult relevant stakeholders in 2018. |

| <i>Issues raised by members or other relevant parties</i> | <i>Follow-up actions</i> |
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| <p>8. Timetable for introducing the next phase amendments including the proposed amendments to empower the WA in future to issue guidelines on the relevant standards and requirements had been requested.</p> | <p>The proposal is being studied and will consult relevant stakeholders in 2018.</p> |
| <p>9. Suggestion to separate the requirements and standards of Fire Service and Inside Service had been raised.</p> | <p>The proposal is being studied and will consult relevant stakeholders in 2018.</p> |