



THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF
SURVEYORS

香港測量師學會

Your Ref: SBCR 1/2361/14

2 June 2016

By Fax (2868 9159) & Post

Mr Lai Tung-kwok, SBS, IDSM, JP
Secretary for Security
Security Bureau
10/F, East Wing, Central Government Offices
2 Tim Mei Avenue
Tamar, Hong Kong

Dear Mr Lai,

**Bills Committee on Fire Services (Amendment) Bill 2015
- Registered Fire Engineer Scheme**

Following our meeting with the representatives of the Security Bureau and Fire Services Department on 17 May 2016, and subsequent to your letter dated 19 May 2016, we have pleasure to submit our views on the Fire Services (Amendment) Bill 2015 for your consideration.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Yours sincerely,

Sr Daniel Chang
Chairman, Building Surveying Division
The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors

Enc

cc Mr Lai Man Hin, FSDSM, Director of Fire Services (Fax: 2312 0376)
Sr Hon Tony Tse, BBS, Legislative Councillor (Fax: 2880 5128)

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The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS) Building Surveying Division (BSD)

**Comments on the Proposed Registered Fire Engineer (RFE) Scheme
In reference to the meeting with the Security Bureau and Fire Services Department on
17 May 2016 and subsequent to the letter dated 19 May 2016 from the Security Bureau**

- (1) For the proposed entry routes, we have the following comments:
 - (a) General comments on Routes (i), (ii) and (iii)
 - It is necessary to well define what types of working experience are qualified under each category of RFE, for instance, consultancy services for license application, smoke control design.
 - (b) Additional comments on Route (ii)
 - Given the academic background or relevant top-up course requirements, it is suggested reducing the required number of years of relevant working experience from 6 years to 3 years in this pilot scheme.
 - (c) Additional comments on Route (iii)
 - Minimum academic qualification similar to Route (ii) is suggested, which aims to maintain an adequate level of knowledge base.
 - Similar to Route (ii), it is suggested reducing the required number of years of relevant working experience from 15 years to 12 years in this pilot scheme.
 - Experienced practitioners will normally provide strategic views and concepts on fire safety issues. Their competency should not be gauged on the same assessment criteria as for professionals at operational level. With a view to engaging these truly experienced practitioners, it is suggested to waive the top-up course requirements in this pilot scheme.
- (2) The Registration Committee for assessing the competency of applicants should be well represented by different stakeholders in the industry, which should include The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors, Hong Kong Institution of Engineers and other bodies as appropriate.
- (3) We are neutral to the title "Registered Fire Engineer" as it only reflects the position or job title of a wide spectrum of professionals who undertake fire safety related assignments.
- (4) Positive vetting of the amendment bill is supported.

Prepared by Building Surveying Division
The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors
2 June 2016