

28 August 2023

To: All Authorized Persons  
Registered Structural Engineers  
Registered Geotechnical Engineers  
Registered Inspectors  
Registered General Building Contractors  
Registered Specialist Contractors  
Registered Minor Works Contractors

Dear Sir/Madam,



### **Precautionary Measures for Repair Works of External Walls in Buildings**

Recently, an incident occurred in a building where the repair works for the external wall were underway. During the works, some pieces of rendering fell from the bamboo scaffolding, striking and damaging the roof of a double-decker bus.

To protect persons or vehicles against falling objects, all registered contractors must ensure that their bamboo scaffolds meet all safety requirements, which include setting up working platforms that are closely planked, boarded, or metal-plated; erecting suitable toe-boards and guard-rails; and enveloping the scaffolds with protective coverings or screen nets. Plus, properly handle any rendering or concrete materials removed from external walls by not piling them on the working platform of scaffolds, during which carefully ensure that precautionary measures remain intact. To avoid the potential criminal or civil liability arising from similar incidents, please take actions promptly to ascertain whether the scaffolds are safe, screen nets covering the scaffolds are intact, and no materials or debris are stacked on the working platforms of scaffolds. The registered building professionals in charge should be responsible for checking if the provision and condition of precautionary measures are satisfactory. For the safety requirements, please refer to the following guidelines/code of practice:

九龍油麻地海庭道11號西九龍政府合署北座屋宇署總部



<p>(a) Guidelines on the Design and Construction of Bamboo Scaffolds published by the Buildings Department</p> <p><a href="https://www.bd.gov.hk/doc/en/resources/codes-and-references/code-and-design-manuals/GDCBS.pdf">https://www.bd.gov.hk/doc/en/resources/codes-and-references/code-and-design-manuals/GDCBS.pdf</a></p>	
<p>(b) Code of Practice for Bamboo Scaffolding Safety published by the Labour Department</p> <p><a href="https://www.labour.gov.hk/eng/public/os/B/Bamboo.pdf">https://www.labour.gov.hk/eng/public/os/B/Bamboo.pdf</a></p>	

Yours faithfully,



( AU-YEUNG Hoi-pang )  
Assistant Director/New Buildings 2  
for Director of Buildings