

8 May 2020

To : Property Management Companies

Dear Sir/Madam,

Safety of Bamboo Scaffolds for Building Maintenance or Repair Works

Bamboo scaffolds are commonly used in Hong Kong to facilitate the carrying out of building maintenance or repair works.

2. From past experience, most of the incidents involving the collapse of or related to bamboo scaffolds could be avoided if the following measures had been taken:

- (a) Arrange regular inspections and maintenance of bamboo scaffolds¹ to ensure their structural safety and stability;
- (b) Dismantle bamboo scaffolds immediately following completion of the maintenance or repair works or when they are no longer required to avoid rendering the scaffolds dangerous to the public under exposed weather or strong winds; and
- (c) Report to the Buildings Department upon identification of any abandoned bamboo scaffolds.

3. I would like to remind you, as a responsible property manager, to familiarise and ensure compliance with the safety requirements of bamboo scaffolds. You should also advise owners and Incorporated Owners of the properties under your management and impress upon your staff and contractors of the importance of the safety of bamboo scaffolds. Your attention is drawn to the information contained in:

- (a) Code of Practice for Bamboo Scaffolding Safety
(<https://www.labour.gov.hk/eng/public/os/B/Bamboo.pdf>);
- (b) Make Sure Bamboo Scaffolds are Safe against Strong Winds
(https://www.bd.gov.hk/doc/en/resources/pamphlets-and-videos/wind_e.pdf); and
- (c) Guidelines on the Design and Construction of Bamboo Scaffolds
(<https://www.bd.gov.hk/doc/en/resources/codes-and-references/code-and-design-manuals/GDCBS.pdf>).

Yours faithfully,



(Mrs HUI Ming-fong)
for Director of Buildings

c.c. The Hong Kong Association of Property Management Companies

¹ Code of Practice for Bamboo Scaffolding Safety issued by the Labour Department refers.