

## **Hong Kong Airport (Control of Obstructions) Ordinance (Cap. 301)**

### **Airport Height Restrictions**

The Hong Kong Airport (Control of Obstructions) Ordinance (Cap. 301) provides for, among others, the restriction of heights of buildings in the interest of ensuring aviation safety. The airport height restrictions (AHRs) vary at different locations of Hong Kong and these height limits are set out in a series of Airport Height Restriction Plans which are deposited in the Land Registry and can be purchased from the Map Publications Centres of the Lands Department. For details, please refer to the website of Civil Aviation Department at [www.cad.gov.hk](http://www.cad.gov.hk).

### **Exemption from AHRs**

2. Temporary exemption from AHRs may be applied from the Director-General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). Subject to such terms and conditions, this kind of temporary exemption will normally be valid for a period not exceeding two months, which may be extended for further periods of two months as DGCA thinks fit.

3. If any projects are being or to be carried out in an area which is subject to AHRs, authorized persons and registered structural engineers are requested to ensure that the responsible registered contractor obtains the prior approval of DGCA to any item of temporary plant or equipment likely to project beyond the prescribed height limits at any time during construction. Guidelines for registered contractors are provided in the Practice Note for Registered Contractors 7.

### **Third Runway of the Hong Kong International Airport**

4. To cater for the changes in airspace protection requirements necessitated by the third runway and the three-runway system at the Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA), the Hong Kong Airport (Control of Obstructions) (No.2) Order 1997 (Amendment) Order 2021 which prescribes the new AHRs will come into operation on 31 May 2022. Under the new AHRs, certain areas in the vicinity of HKIA, mainly the surrounding sea or mountainous areas, will be subject to more stringent restrictions,

while the remaining areas constituting the majority of Hong Kong will be subject to less stringent AHRs. The new AHRs will not apply to any building erected in accordance with plans approved by the Building Authority before 31 May 2022 and any minor works and designated exempted works completed before 31 May 2022.

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