



June 2018
Issue No. 12

To enhance communication with property management agents and other persons in the property industry, the Buildings Department (BD) publishes and sends this quarterly newsletter to all stakeholders and hopefully through them, this newsletter will reach the hands of building owners.

Little Forum

Property owner fined over \$180,000 for persistently not complying with removal orders

A property owner was fined over \$180,000 for failing to comply with two removal orders under the Buildings Ordinance (Cap. 123) (BO) on 8 May. The first order was for an illegal structure on the balcony and the roof (around 7 m² and 52 m² respectively), and an illegal concrete canopy attached to the external wall. It was the second time that the Buildings Department (BD) instigated prosecution against the owner for non-compliance with the same order. The other order was for an illegal structure of around 28 m² on the roof of a building in the same district. As the said structures were erected without prior approval from BD, removal orders were served on the owner under section 24(1) of the BO. Property management agents may remind building owners that failing to remove illegal structures upon expiry of removal orders will be subject to prosecution. Pursuant to section 40(1BA) of the BO, any person who fails to comply with an order served on him under section 24(1) of the BO commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of \$200,000 and to imprisonment for one year, as well as a further fine of \$20,000 for each day that the offence has continued.



Building Safety Week 2018



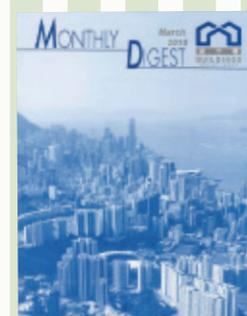
The Building Safety Week 2018, a week-long event, was completed with great success. Thanks to your enthusiastic support and active participation, all activities have run smoothly and building safety information was conveyed effectively to the public. The Building Safety Symposium was held as the finale of the week. A number of local and overseas speakers were invited to share their experience, with a view to deepening participants' understanding on building safety and maintenance issues, and enhancing health and safety standards of the

built environment. To revisit the speakers' highlights, please visit BD's website:
<https://goo.gl/G22hr3>



BD's Monthly Digest

BD publishes the Monthly Digest every month to provide information and figures in respect of private buildings, such as plans processed, Occupation Permits issued, statutory orders/notices issued, etc. The Monthly Digests are available online for free:
<https://goo.gl/bLZrFS>



Conduct of Registered Building Professionals and Contractors under the BO

BD is responsible for enforcing the health and safety standards under the BO, and building owners are required to appoint and consult registered building professionals and contractors if they want to carry out building works. The registered building professionals and contractors have been conferred statutory duties under the BO to supervise the carrying out of the building works. The BO and its subsidiary legislation have made provisions for BD to regulate registered building professionals and contractors through various registration systems, prosecution and disciplinary actions. If building owners have witnessed a registered building professional or contractor contravening the provisions of BO when carrying out building works or mandatory building or window inspections, they may report to the BD. BD will investigate, and if there are sufficient evidence that the relevant laws have been contravened, BD may instigate prosecution action or depending on the seriousness of the negligence or misconduct, bring such matters to the notice of relevant disciplinary boards appointed under the BO for inquiries. The general principles and some typical examples on negligence and misconduct are provided in the Practice Notes below:



<https://goo.gl/9hdDFT>



<https://goo.gl/YW5jEB>

Building Safety Pioneer Programme



The Building Safety Pioneer Programme is an annual programme co-organised by BD, Education Bureau (EDB) and the Hong Kong Education City. Recruitment of the new batch of Building Safety Pioneers (BSPs) is in progress. EDB has sent invitation letters and nomination forms to all secondary schools. Secondary 2 to 4 students are welcome to join. This year, BSPs will have opportunities to participate in a range of activities and be required to re-write lyrics and sing their songs to convey the message of building safety. If Interested, please contact Ms. Kathy Li at 3696 6944 or view videos on BD YouTube for details.

BD's 25th Anniversary Special Event Building Information Centre Open Week

In celebration of BD's 25th anniversary, BD is going to organise the Building Information Centre (BIC) Open Week from 1 to 8 August. Forum and talks will be held to enhance our communication with the public. The BIC is located on 13/F, Pioneer Centre, 750 Nathan Road, Mongkok. As seats are limited, registrations are required. Please stay tuned to BD's website for details:

<https://goo.gl/XWaCda>



BD's e-Learning Centre

During the opening ceremony of the Building Safety Week 2018 in April, BD announced the launch of online Live-Chat Session on the E-Learning Centre. The first session is scheduled for the 3rd quarter of this year. So far, the number of registrations for the online Building Safety Certificate Course has reached around 650. To cater for the large number of participants, we are looking for a suitable venue with advanced IT equipment for live broadcast. Details will be posted on the E-Learning Centre:



Board Game Play cum Building Info Day



In celebration of BD's 25th anniversary, we will organise a signature event, Board Game Play cum Building Info Day, in the afternoon of 23 September. The winning entry of the Secondary School Category of the "Building Safety on Board" board game design competition will be transformed into a giant game (around 2,500 ft²) for the public to play, and made into mini board games to give out as souvenirs. On the other hand, shortlisted entries of the Parent-child and Primary School Categories have been uploaded to the internet for the public to vote for the Most Popular Award - Online. Please visit BD Instagram fan page to cast your vote: https://www.instagram.com/bdbs_express/



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