

**Forty-seventh Meeting of
the Business Facilitation Advisory Committee**

***Agenda Item 3(c): Report on the work of the
Task Force on Business Liaison Groups***

Purpose

This paper reports the work of the Task Force on Business Liaison Groups (BLGTF) since the last Business Facilitation Advisory Committee meeting on 20 September 2021.

Work progress of the BLGTF

Overall progress of Business Liaison Groups

2. Since the last meeting, we have conducted three Business Liaison Group (BLG) meetings and proactively liaised with the trade of seven BLGs. A total of 18 issues were satisfactorily resolved or clarified, and four information dissemination sessions on business facilitation were conducted by the relevant departments as arranged by the respective BLG secretariats.

3. To enhance communication with the trade, we have provided an [online form](#) for the trade to share their views on licensing and regulatory regime since December 2021. Starting from 2022, we will upload summaries on the views collected and the Government responses onto the [Business Facilitation Initiatives](#) website on a regular basis.

Option of e-Demand Note and other Business Facilitation Measures for Public Market Stalls

4. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) briefed the BLGTF at its meeting of 12 January 2022 on a series of business facilitating initiatives taken forward or planned to better meet the needs of public market stall tenants. These include the provision of e-demand note as an option for tenants, enhanced accessibility to forms and streamlined documentation requirements for application for registered assistant, enhanced accessibility to the market management offices, and streamlined requirement on displaying market stall cards.

5. BLGTF thanked FEHD for implementing the business facilitation measures which will reduce tenants' efforts in operating a market stall.

Building (Minor Works) (Amendment) Regulation 2021

6. The Buildings Department (BD) briefed at the same meeting on the main features of the Minor Amenity Feature Validation Scheme (MAFVS) which came into operation on 1 September 2021. Under the MAFVS, subject to the requirements on validation being met, certain unauthorised minor amenity features which existed before 1 September 2020 could be retained even though they were completed or carried out without having first obtained the approval and consent from the BD before commencement of the building works concerned.

7. BLGTF thanked BD for the initiative which will minimise the burden of building owners or occupants in seeking rectification and avoid wastage of the facilities concerned.

Provision of Electronic Licence for Plumber's Licence

8. The Water Supplies Department (WSD) also briefed at the same meeting on the details of providing electronic licence (e-licence) for plumber's licence. Since March 2020, WSD has provided electronic services (including electronic submission of applications, electronic payment and electronic notification services) for applications for new plumber's licence and renewal/re-issue of plumber's licence. With the launch of iAM Smart mobile application in December 2020, WSD will provide e-licence option for plumber's licence for trade's adoption by Q2 2022. Major features of such e-service include the provision of a QR code at WSD's Electronic Service Delivery application web page for authentication of identity, incorporation of security features on the e-licence to protect its integrity, and issuance of e-licence to the applicant through e-mail as an attachment encrypted/zipped with a password for secured opening and downloading onto electronic devices.

9. BLGTF thanked WSD for enhancing the licence application process which will save applicants' burden in visiting the licensing offices in person and enhance the integrity and convenience of the service for plumber's licence.

Way forward

10. Members are invited to note the work progress of the BLGTF. BLGTF will continue to oversee and monitor the work progress of the BLGs.

**Business Facilitation Team
Efficiency Office
Innovation and Technology Bureau
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