

PRESS RELEASE

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<u>The Construction Industry Council Welcomes the 2024-25 Budget</u> <u>Press ahead with Infrastructure through Innovation and Technology</u> <u>Nurture Professional Talents</u>

Hong Kong • 28 February 2024 - The Construction Industry Council (CIC) welcomes the 2024-25 Budget's measures with regards to the development of the construction industry, the adoption of innovation and technology, land use, and housing planning and development, which will help boost Hong Kong's competitiveness. The major infrastructure projects mentioned in the Budget, such as the Northern Metropolis and Kau Yi Chau Artificial Islands project, will create quality living space for the citizens. The CIC is committed to support and tying in with the government's initiatives, strengthening manpower training, enhancing industry standards, and pursuing the well-being of citizens.

Ir Thomas HO, Chairman of the CIC, said, "In recent years, the CIC has been stepping up efforts in promoting the development of innovative technologies and Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) to enhance safety performance and productivity. The CIC is delighted that the government takes the lead in encouraging the adoption of innovation and technology and will strengthen the collaboration with the Guangdong Provincial Government to enhance the manufacturing, import/export facilitation, and exportability of MiC modules, and thus consolidating the MiC supply chain. The CIC also looks forward to the establishment of the Building Testing and Research Institute, which will further promote the upgrading and transformation of the industry."

Regarding manpower training, the CIC will continue to utilise the fund from the government to increase its annual training places for skilled construction workers to at least about 12,000 places and to provide necessary training to serving and new construction personnel, including promoting the "multi-skilled" development of workers. The CIC will closely monitor the labour supply and demand, and will work with the industry to identify and promote various solutions to meet the manpower needs. The Hong Kong Institute of Construction, under the CIC, will make every effort to attract new talent and nurture professional talent to contribute to Hong Kong.

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Media Enquiries

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About the Construction Industry Council

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) was formed in 2007 under the Construction Industry Council Ordinance (Cap. 587). The CIC consists of a chairman and 24 members representing various sectors of the industry including employers, professionals, academics, contractors, workers, independent persons and Government officials.

The main functions of the CIC are to forge consensus on long-term strategic issues, convey the industry's needs and aspirations to the Government, provide professional training and registration services, and serve as a communication channel between the Government and the construction industry.

Please visit www.cic.hk for further details.