

Construction Industry Council

Construction Workers Registration Board

Meeting No. 002/18 of the Construction Workers Registration Board (CWRB) was held on Wednesday, 2 May 2018 at 3pm at Conference Room, HKFEMC, Room 1801, 18/F Tung Wai Commercial Building, 109 – 111 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Summary notes of the CWRB Meeting No. 002/18:

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/ Progress Highlights
2.1	CIC/CRB/M/001/18	<u>Confirmation of the Minutes of the Last Meeting</u> The minutes of the 1 st meeting for 2018 were confirmed.
2.2	Matters Arising from Previous Meeting	<u>Consultancy Services for Workforce Analytics for the Construction Industry of Hong Kong</u> Supervised by Task Force on Data Analysis, the consultancy is expected to be conducted from May 2018 to January 2019. CWRB agreed setting up a one-off advisory group to provide feedback and opinions to the Task Force on Data Analysis in order to collect the views and understand the needs of the industry from a wider perspective. <u>Workers Mobile Application</u> The secretariat demonstrated the electronic registration and job matching features of the worker mobile app to be launched in end of June. The name of mobile app was confirmed as “easyJob” (“建工易”).
2.3.1	CIC/CRB/P/008/18 (for endorsement)	<u>3-Year Strategic Plan of the Construction Workers Registration Board</u> Members of CWRB unanimously endorsed the proposed 3-year strategic plan for CWRB from 2019 to 2021. Approval will be sought from the Council at its meeting to be held on 22 June 2018.

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2.3.2	CIC/CRB/P/009/18 (for endorsement)	<p><u>CWRB 2019 Budget and Work Plan</u> Members of CWRB unanimously endorsed CWRB 2019 budget and work plan. Finance Department would consolidate and submit all budgets and work plans of committees and departments for council's approval.</p>						
2.3.3	CIC/CRB/P/010/18 (for discussion)	<p><u>Discussion on Initiatives Related to Workers Registration to Improve Site Safety Measures</u> After an in-depth discussion, the relevant recommendations on the subject had been forwarded to the Committee on Construction Safety for further deliberation at its meeting to be held on 1 June 2018.</p>						
2.4	CIC/CRB/P/011/18 (for approval)	<p><u>Subcommittee on Senior Workers and Information Technology System</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Legislative Council Panel on Development supported the proposed cessation of provisional registration at the meeting on 27 March 2018. The tentative legislative timetable is as follows: <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>Publication of the notice in the Gazette</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4 May 2018</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tabling the notice at LegCo</td> <td style="text-align: center;">9 May 2018</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Commencement date</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1 July 2019</td> </tr> </table> • A total of 118 people enrolled in the Specified Training Courses from December 2017 to February 2018. • A total of 1 188 valid Registered Skilled Workers (Provisional) as of 28 February 2018. • As of 31 March 2018, a total of 576 applications were received for False Ceiling Installer, 296 and 11 applications were received for Partition (Metal Frame) Installer and Cable Jointer (Dead Cable) respectively through senior workers registration arrangement. • The Hong Kong Association of Property Management Companies (HKAPMC) attended a briefing on CWRS Property Management Trial Scheme on 29 March 2018. The initial views on the trial scheme including lack of incentives for property management companies to take part in the scheme. Moreover, workers participated in RMAA works might not have obtained registration cards, resulting to incomplete and invalid data collection. The proposed trial scheme would be put forward for discussion at HKAPMC board meeting. The secretariat would 	Publication of the notice in the Gazette	4 May 2018	Tabling the notice at LegCo	9 May 2018	Commencement date	1 July 2019
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		<p>continue its liaison with HKAPMC to collect more opinions from the industry and provide advice at the next board meeting.</p> <p>The payment of staff salaries to HKCIEGU for one employee per month and one part-time employee each to HKCSEGU and EMF respectively from 1 May to 31 July 2018 was approved.</p>
2.4.2	CIC/CRB/P/012/18 (for information)	<p><u>Sub-committee on Registration Matters</u></p> <p>The inspection statistics from 1 April 2017 to 15 March 2018 revealed that the performance of the industry in compliance with the “Designated Workers for Designated Skills” (DWDS) requirement was satisfactory with the number of non-compliance cases remains stable and declines in quarter on quarter. Authorized by the CWRB, the enforcement in line with the original roadmap had been undertaken from 1 April 2018. Instead of written advice, written warning would be issued against those who infringed the DWDS requirement. If the non-compliance has not been rectified within the specified time limit or being identified as repeat offender, follow-up action would be taken and consideration would also be given to take prosecution action.</p>
2.4.3	CIC/CRB/P/013/18 (for information)	<p><u>Task Force on Data Analysis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 13th telephone survey was conducted with 7 819 registered workers during the period from October 2017 to January 2018. • The average number of working days per week with daily attendance records was 4.42; workers without daily attendance records but were still engaging in the industry was 4.23 working days per week. Both numbers were higher than the results of the previous survey. • Projected from the latest telephone survey, 343 126 workers were engaged in the construction industry (excluding truck drivers and workers carrying out non-construction works) as of 31 December 2017. The number of workers engaging in the construction industry in any given day (including with and without daily attendance records) was 233 946.

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2.4.4	CIC/CRB/P/014/18 (for information)	<p><u>Promotion and Publicity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In coordination with the enforcement of DWDS requirement from 1 April 2018, the “Quick Guide for Principal Contractors/Employers of Workers” were distributed to contractors, registered subcontractors, trade associations and specified bodies under the Construction Workers Registration Ordinance; • Welcome kits containing leaflets promoting registration services, trade tests and training courses would be available at all registration service centres from May 2018 for free distribution to new registered general workers. Leaflets in ethnic minority languages would also be prepared for ethnic minority workers; and • Promotion of the senior workers registration arrangement of the three new designated trade divisions through trade associations, unions and employers would be continued until 30 September 2018.
2.4.5	CIC/CRB/P/015/18 (for information)	<p><u>Workers Registration Office</u></p> <p>Total number of workers with valid registration as of 31 March 2018 was 466 737, comprising 202 126 registered skilled workers, 26 973 registered semi-skilled workers, 236 410 registered general workers and 1 228 registered skilled and semi-skilled workers (provisional).</p>
2.4.6	CIC/CRB/P/016/18 (for information)	<p><u>Inspection and Enforcement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the first quarter of 2018, a total of 399 construction sites and 3 729 workers registration cards were inspected. A total of 695 workers’ daily attendance records were checked, and 166 violations were recorded; 19 summonses were issued. • From 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018, a total of 1 180 construction sites subject to the DWDS requirement were inspected. A total of 50 notices of advice were issued to 30 construction sites which were suspected violating DWDS requirement.

Remarks: The mentioned papers discussed by the Construction Workers Registration Board can be made available to Council Members from the Construction Workers Registration Board Secretariat upon request.