

## Message by Ms FUNG Yin Suen, Ada, JP Deputy Director (Development & Construction), Housing Department / Chairman of Housing Department Site Safety Sub-committee



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Based on the core value of 'caring for contractors, sub-contractors and frontline workers', the *Hong Kong Housing Authority* (HA) has been strongly emphasising work safety on all of its sites, and has promoted partnerships throughout the supply chain. In accordance with the HA's motto that quality and safety work hand in hand, this philosophy helps instil a safety culture and foster safe work practices. The 'safety first' principle has long been inculcated in our daily operations as our safety DNA. Our focus on zero incidents inspires vigilance on all fronts.

With action plans formulated, the HA works side by side with related industries stakeholders through the *Housing Department Site Safety Sub-committee*, in pursuit of achieving an enhanced and practicable safety system.

In view of the increasing number of site accidents in recent years involving heavy plant and mechanical parts, the HA has set up ad-hoc *Working Groups on Safety of Plant on HA Sites* in partnership with key industry players to analyse problems and make suggestions on improving plant safety. The HA will adopt several new measures to encourage contractors to improve safety and health including:

- Optimising the *Integrated Pay for Safety, Environment and Hygiene Scheme*
- Enhancing independent safety auditing systems for new projects with a safe system of work
- Implementing the *Surprise Safety Inspection Programme* for new works projects
- Formulating an independent safety auditing system on lifts to strengthen checks on sites involving high-risk operations in lift shafts

Our new works professionals must undergo a four-day safety training course, which over 80% of staff have already completed. Moreover, all site resident staff also take a 4½-day safety training course to enhance their core competency and knowledge of site safety and health management issues. The HA also holds various safety workshops and seminars to promote safe work practices in the industry.

To make site-safety information more accessible to the industry, I am pleased to announce that the HA has launched a site safety website which provides a one-stop portal to access site safety and health information regarding new construction and maintenance projects.

The construction industry involves various high-risk operations. Looking forward, we will seek to further strengthen team work through 'early planning', 'early design' and 'early management' with an ultimate goal to uplift safety performance holistically. The forum of this year themed 'Care for people, and light up our path to safety' discusses simulated incidents in the industry, looks at the causes behind such incidents and lessons learnt to help ensure a safer industry. To make sure we achieve this goal...relies on your efforts too. So I ask for your continuous support in immediately reporting near misses. It is your continued vigilance, and your proactive support that allows us to constantly move closer to our goal of making work safety a habit for everyone.



# incident

精心施工保品質 消除隱患保安全  
Good workmanship for quality Sound precautions for safety