

CHAPTER 1 POLICY, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY

1.1 POLICY

- 1.1.1 It is the policy of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to accomplish public works safely, efficiently and with due regard to the environment. Safety considerations must be given priority in both design and construction. During the planning and design stage, considerations should be given to alternative engineering solutions and/or incorporate safety measures to eliminate and/or reduce the risks encountered by those during construction and subsequent inspection and maintenance activities.
- 1.1.2 Accidents wreck lives, disrupt work and are costly. The Development Bureau (DEVB) is committed to provide a safe and healthy working environment for all personnel in public works construction sites and others who may be affected by the works.
- 1.1.3 The DEVB requires all staff involved in the Public Works Programme (PWP) to comply with the contents of the PWP Construction Site Safety Manual.

1.2. OBJECTIVES

- 1.2.1 Every PWP contract* should aim at zero fatal accidents.
- 1.2.2 Every PWP contract should aim at zero dangerous occurrences (see paragraph 9.1.1(b) for the definition of dangerous occurrence).
- 1.2.3 Every PWP contract should aim at an accident frequency rate of less than **0.60** reportable accidents** **per 100,000 man-hours worked** (or equivalent to about **22** reportable accidents per 1,000 workers per year).

(Notes: * "contract" means works contract, term contract, design and build contract, etc.

** Reportable accident means accidents resulting in an injury with incapacity for more than three days.)

1.3 STRATEGY

The following general approach is adopted with a view to achieving the objectives set out in Section 1.2:

- 1.3.1 Secure commitment of all parties involved, including works departments and other concerned departments, consultants, contractors, sub-contractors, workers and utility undertakings;
- 1.3.2 incorporate contractual provisions requiring contractors to provide a safe and healthy working environment for all personnel in public works construction sites and others who may be affected by the works. Such contractual provisions should also require contractors to ensure

compliance by their sub-contractors (see Chapter 3);

- 1.3.3 select contractors who give proper consideration to construction safety to carry out works; safety aspects must be given a high weighting factor in pre-qualification exercises;
- 1.3.4 arrange safety training for ***Architect/Engineers' site staff supervising PWP contracts (see Chapter 5 and WBTC No. 12/01);
- 1.3.5 establish Site Safety and Environmental Management Committees# to monitor the implementation of safety plans and/or the contractor's site safety obligations as set out in the contract (see Chapter 6);
- 1.3.6 build up a database for dangerous occurrences and accidents which result in death or incapacity for more than 3 days for monitoring, analysis and formulation of measures on accident prevention (see Chapter 9); and
- 1.3.7 review and update the Construction Site Safety Manual to assist Works Departments in administrating construction safety matters for public works contracts.

(Note : *** Architect/Engineer shall mean the Architect or Engineer or Maintenance Surveyor supervising public works contract, or the Supervising Officer in the case of a design and build contract.)

Also covers Site Safety Management Committees for contracts included the Pay for Safety Scheme only.)