

The Surveyors Registration Board

THE SURVEYORS REGISTRATION ORDINANCE (Cap. 417) is an Ordinance to provide for the registration of professional surveyors, the recognition of divisions within the profession and disciplinary control of the professional activities of registered surveyors, and for related matters.

CONSTITUTION OF THE BOARD

Under Section 3 of the Ordinance there is established a board to be known as the Surveyors Registration Board (“the Board”) which shall be a body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal. The Board shall consist of not less than 12 members appointed by the Council of the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (“the Institute”) and, in addition, may include one member appointed by the Chief Executive.

Notice of every appointment to the Board made under this section shall be published in the Government Gazette and the HKIS Council shall not appoint a person as a member of the Board unless he is a member of the Institute. A member appointed by the Council shall be appointed for 2 years or such lesser period as may be specified in the terms of his appointment.

If the Board is satisfied that a member of the Board appointed by the Council -

(a) has become bankrupt or has entered into a voluntary arrangement with his creditors

within the meaning of the Bankruptcy Ordinance (Cap 6);

(b) has become so incapacitated by physical or mental illness as to be unable to carry out his duties as a member;

(c) has ceased to be ordinarily resident in Hong Kong;

(d) has been sentenced to imprisonment, whether suspended or not, by any court or magistrate;

(e) has been found guilty of a disciplinary offence; or

(f) notwithstanding any of the other grounds for removal, is, in the opinion of the Board, unable or unfit to carry out his functions as a member of the Board, the Board may by notice in writing terminate his appointment.

The Board shall elect a Chairman and a Vice-chairman each year from among the members and not more than 15 months shall elapse between the date of one election and the next.

It is stipulated by the Ordinance that the Board

shall *meet at least once every 6 months* and as often as may be necessary to transact the business of the Board. Since formation of the Board in 1993 the Board have normally had meetings on quarterly basis. The Board shall not transact business at a meeting other than to adjourn unless there is a quorum of *one half of the members* of the Board present.

Functions of the Board include -

- (a) establish and maintain *a register of registered professional surveyors*;
- (b) designate divisions within the surveying profession under which a person may be registered as a registered professional surveyor;
- (c) set and review the *qualification standards for registration* as a registered professional surveyor and related registration matters;
- (d) advise the Government and the Institute on registration matters;
- (e) examine and verify the qualifications of persons who apply for registration as registered professional surveyors;
- (f) receive, examine, accept or reject applications for registration and renewal of registration as a registered professional surveyor;
- (g) deal with disciplinary offences in accordance with this Ordinance;

- (h) keep proper records of its proceedings and accounts; and
- (i) carry out such other functions as this Ordinance may prescribe.

The Board has the following powers -

- (a) to set fees payable to it under this Ordinance;
- (b) to establish committees to advise the Board on the carrying out of the powers and duties of the Board;
- (c) to employ persons to assist with the carrying out of its functions under this Ordinance;
- (d) from time to time to engage such professional advisers as it may consider necessary or expedient;
- (e) to make rules for the conduct and discipline of registered professional surveyors;
- (f) to make rules for the reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred by persons attending to the business of the Board;
- (g) to make further rules required under this Ordinance.

No fees shall be paid to any member of the Board for his services as a member.