

Construction Industry Council

Committee on Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Scheme (RSTCS)

Meeting No. 004/24 of the Committee on Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Scheme (Com-RSTCS) for 2024 was held on 11 July 2024 (Thursday) at 2:00 pm at Boardroom, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five, 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay and via video conferencing.

Summary Notes of the Com-RSTCS Meeting No. 004/24:

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights
4.1	CIC/RSC/M/003/24 (for approval)	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting Members confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting held on 29 May 2024.
4.2	CIC/RSC/P/051/24 (for information)	Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting In relation to item 3.3 on the operation of the trade “CCTV Inspection & High Pressure Water Jetting of Underground Drainage Pipes”, the Com-RSTCS took note of the Secretariat's report regarding the information gathered from the meeting with representatives of the Drainage Services Department and the latest changes in the relevant legislative requirements, and agreed the proposed follow-up publicity and promotional work.
4.3	CIC/RSC/P/052/24 (for endorsement)	Com-RSTCS 2025 Key Performance Indicators, Work Plan and Budget After deliberation, Members endorsed the 2025 key performance indicators, work plan and budget of the Com-RSTCS and endorsed the major work direction of exploring ways to strengthen the arrangements for avoiding the registration of “dummy companies”, optimising management training and enhancing integrity management.

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights
4.4	CIC/RSC/P/053/24 (for information)	<p>Follow-up Report on Proposed Addition of “Site Surveying” as a Designated Trade</p> <p>Members noted that following the last meeting, the Secretariat had promptly met and clarified with representatives of the Land Surveying Division of the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS-LSD), the Hong Kong Institution of Engineering Surveyors (HKIES) and the Lands Department on the registration requirements for the public works contracts of the Development Bureau (i.e., works outside the scope of work in relation to the designated trades or trades under the RSTCS does not need to be undertaken by registered companies), and had conducted several rounds of communication. After deliberation, the Com-RSTCS approved the refinement of the scope of the designated trade “S12 Levelling and Setting Out” to better demonstrate CIC's original intention of regulating “Job Lines Setting Out” subcontractors, and requested the Secretariat to follow up with the relevant institutes and the Development Bureau on the publicity work so as to allay the concerns of the surveying service companies.</p>
4.5	CIC/RSC/P/054/24 (for information)	<p>RSTCS Operation Report</p> <p>Members took note of the Operation Report. As of end of June 2024, the total number of registered companies was 7,186 (April 2024: 7,271) in which 2,785 (April 2024: 1,708) were Registered Specialist Trade Contractors and 4,401 (April 2024: 5,563) were Registered Subcontractors.</p> <p>The Secretariat planned to organise a series of activities in the latter part of 2024, highlighting the webinar of integrity risk in the construction industry, the Executive Training Series for Young Leaders Network and the RSTCS leadership summit to be held on 19 November 2024 with the theme of “new quality productive forces”.</p>

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4.6	-	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>(a) The Executive Director shared an article entitled “Facing up to and rectifying the problem of payroll disparity in the construction industry” published in the Hong Kong Economic Journal on 6 July 2024 and the relevant supplementary background information at the meeting. Members exchanged views and made suggestions to address the issue by reiterating the relevant guidelines issued by the CIC, promoting integrity management and carrying out education and publicity works.</p> <p>(b) On behalf of the CIC, the Chairperson of the Com-RSTCS thanked nine Members who would be retiring on 15 July 2024 for their service and contribution in the past years.</p>
4.7	-	<p>Date of the Next Meeting</p> <p>Members noted that Meeting No. 005/24 of the Com-RSTCS for 2024 would be held on 19 September 2024 (Thursday) at 2:00 pm at Boardroom, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five, 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay.</p>
4.8	CIC/RSC/P/055/24 (for information)	<p>Follow-up Report on Suspected Non-compliance Cases</p> <p>Members noted that the Secretariat had issued reminder letters to five registered companies which had been referred by relevant departments for suspected but not convicted late payment of wages.</p>

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights
4.9 & 4.10	CIC/RSC/P/056/24- CIC/RSC/P/061/24 (for approval)	Regulatory Action The Com-RSTCS imposed a total of eight regulatory actions of written warnings and suspension of registration due to violation of the relevant legislation concerning non-payment of wages and Mandatory Provident Fund contributions as well as late submission of daily attendance records respectively. With the implementation of the mechanism for immediate suspension of registered companies involved in fatal incidents with effect from 1 January 2024, as of the end of June this year, actions have been taken against six registered companies in accordance with the mechanism.

Remarks: The mentioned papers and/or progress reports discussed at the Com-RSTCS can be made available to Council Members from the CIC Secretariat upon request.