

30 September 2025

**The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers Fire Division:
Supporting the Registered Fire Engineer Scheme**

The Policy Address 2025 announced that the Registered Fire Engineer (“RFE”) Scheme is set to be implemented by the end of the year. The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (“HKIE”) Fire Division writes to express our continued and unwavering support for the RFE Scheme, and our deep gratitude to the Government for their determination and proactiveness to put forward the scheme. We are delighted to learn that the Fire Services (Registered Fire Engineers) Regulation was approved by the Legislative Council, and the scheme is set to be implemented on 1 November 2025. This marks a significant milestone for the fire engineering profession in Hong Kong. We are confident that the scheme will enhance the professional development and academic advancement of, and create new opportunities for fire engineers, further strengthening the fire safety standards of our community.

The RFE Scheme introduces a structured and rigorous framework for the registration and regulation of registered fire engineers. This framework ensures that RFEs meet the required professional and academic standards, equipping them with the necessary expertise to undertake critical responsibilities such as fire safety risk assessments, formulation of fire safety requirements, inspection and certifying compliance with the relevant fire safety requirements. The scheme requires RFEs to have practical experience in the design, installation and acceptance of fire service installations and ventilating systems, ensuring that they possess the technical competence and professional judgment needed to handle complex fire safety challenges.

Moreover, phased implementation of the scheme allows RFEs to gradually build their expertise and confidence, enabling them to handle more complex and high-risk projects in the later stages. This progressive approach can not only enhance the professional capabilities of individual RFEs, but also raise the overall standards of the fire engineering profession in Hong Kong.

The implementation of the RFE Scheme opens up new career pathways for members specializing in fire engineering. By officially authorizing RFEs as third-party certifiers, the scheme broadens the scope of professional opportunities available to

engineers. This shift from sole reliance on the Fire Services Department creates a more dynamic and competitive environment, where engineers can offer specialized services to meet market demands. It also encourages engineers from various disciplines, such as building services, mechanical and structural engineering, to expand their professional and academic expertise and contribute to the fire engineering profession.

In addition, the scheme stimulates market demand for professional fire engineering services, supporting economic growth while reinforcing the fire engineering sector's critical role in safeguarding public safety. This new regulatory framework establishes a robust legal and professional basis for fire safety assessments and certifications, positioning RFEs as trusted professionals in the field.

The HKIE Fire Division firmly believes that the implementation of the RFE Scheme represents a transformative moment for the fire engineering profession in Hong Kong. By enhancing professional development, academic advancement and creating new opportunities for engineers, the scheme sets a solid foundation for the future of the industry. We are confident that the RFE Scheme will not only elevate the standards of fire safety but also contribute to the sustainable growth and resilience of our community.

We stand ready to continue our collaboration with the Government and all relevant stakeholders to ensure the successful implementation and operation of the RFE Scheme. Together, we can build a safer, more innovative, and professionally enriched future for fire engineering in Hong Kong.

The HKIE Fire Division