



31 July 2025

Update from Bishan-Toa Payoh Town Council on the Fire Incident at Block 229 Lorong 8 Toa Payoh on 29 July 2025

1. After Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) had successfully put out the fire at Block 229 Lorong 8 Toa Payoh in the afternoon of 29 July 2025, SCDF informed Bishan-Toa Payoh Town Council (BTPTC) that the dry riser for the building was not working properly. SCDF and BTPTC have since conducted a joint inspection of the dry riser.
2. Fire safety is an important priority for BTPTC. SCDF requires hydrostatic test to the dry riser to be conducted annually. The specific dry riser at Block 229 was last tested by an authorised fire prevention and protection system contractor on 28 August 2024 and was found to be in working condition. The next inspection for the dry riser is scheduled on 5 August 2025.
3. In our discussion with SCDF, the probable reason for the failure of the dry riser could be due to an underground pipe leak. The annual hydrostatic test includes checks to detect such leaks.
4. Clarification on Fire Incident at Block 138C Lorong 1A Toa Payoh in August 2020. In response to a separate matter published on www.straitstimes.com dated 30 July 2025 referencing a fire incident at Block 138C Lorong 1A Toa Payoh in August 2020, BTPTC would like to clarify that the fire suppression systems involved in both fire incidents are unrelated. The 2020 incident involved a wet riser system, while the current incident involves a dry riser system.
5. Following the 2020 incident, BTPTC engaged a Professional Engineer (PE) to conduct a thorough independent investigation. The PE determined that the wet riser showed no signs of failure or deterioration, and the probable cause was due to the unintentional closure of the riser isolation switch by the contractor during their routine inspection.
6. Subsequently, the SCDF conducted comprehensive inspections and concluded that all fire safety systems are in good working order. The wet riser system at Block 138C Lorong 1A Toa Payoh has been properly maintained and remains in full working condition.
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