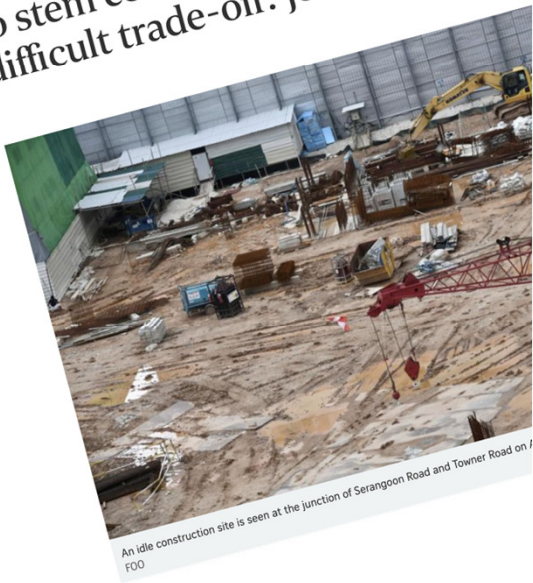


COVID-Safe Restart

Safe Accommodations & Safe Transportation

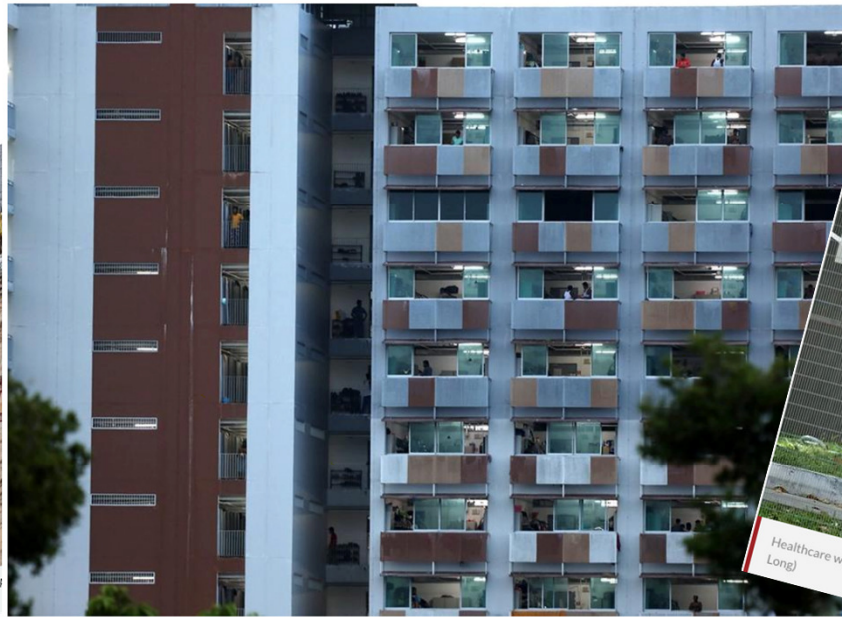
Health and Safety of Workers are Top Priority

Suspending all construction work to stem coronavirus spread is a difficult trade-off: Josephine Teo



An idle construction site is seen at the junction of Serangoon Road and Tower Road on 22 April 2020. (Photo: FOO)

Covid-19 cases in Singapore cross 10,000-mark, with 1,016 new infections



There are 10,141 Covid-19 cases in Singapore as of April 22, 2020.

Singapore
COVID-19 cases in Singapore cross 26,000 mark; new daily high of 1,164 discharged patients



Healthcare workers at Tampines Dormitory, which houses foreign workers. (Photo: Jeremy Long)

Nuria Ling/TODAY

Desired Outcomes

1. Prevent the resurgence of positive COVID-19 cases among the construction FWs across the different accommodations
2. Provide better and more liveable accommodations dedicated for construction FWs
3. Effective distribution and mix of workers within the different accommodation types to prevent/minimise intermixing to create an ideal accommodation landscape catered to the construction sector
 - Have PBDs (cluster, block) anchored by anchor tenant and cohorted in a practical manner
 - Provide and facilitate more on-site housing which best serves cohorting
4. Ensure safe and sustainable transportation arrangements are made for all workers to minimise risk of COVID-19 transmission to the public

Overview of Safe Accommodation and Safe Transport Criteria

a. Safe Distancing Measures

b. Cohorting and Segregation of Workers

c. Appointment of Safe Management Officers, Safe Distancing Officers and COVID-Safe Worker Leaders

d. Tighter Control of Entry and Exit

e. Hygiene and Housekeeping

f. Welfare and Well-being of Workers

g. Remain Vigilant to Identify and Isolate Cases

h. Safe Transportation Measures

- **a, d, e, f and g follows closely to MOM's baseline guidelines on social distancing**
- **b,c,h are critical measures construction firms must adhere to for restart**

Requirements for Dedicated Accommodations

Type of Accommodations		Types of workers		
		Type A: Project specific construction workers (i.e. working on one construction project site)	Type B: Non-project specific construction workers (i.e. working on multiple construction project sites)	Type C: Construction Account Workers (i.e. not working on construction project sites)
Specified Dormitory	PBD/FCD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cohort by floor, to consist of workers deployed to work at one construction site, away from Type B and C workers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cannot share the same floor as Type A and C workers Segregate into different rooms by employer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cannot share the same floor as Type A and B workers Segregate into different rooms by employer
	Ancillary FCD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consist only of workers under one employer and cohorted by project by floors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consist only of workers under one employer Segregate into different rooms by Projects 	
	CTQ/TOLQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consist only of construction workers that work on that construction site which the CTQ/TOLQ belongs to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NA
Non-Specified dormitory (HDB/PRP)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If insufficient capacity, can stay in other accommodations i.e. remain in HDB/PRP Cohort with workers from the same project site. Ensure no Type B & C workers staying in same HDBD/PRP unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consist of only workers under one employer Ensure no Type A and C workers staying in same HDB/PRP unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consist of only workers under one employer Ensure no Type A and B workers staying in same HDB/PRP unit

Note: Requirements are applicable to WPH and S Pass Holders

Criteria for Safe Transportation

- Based on MOM's Safe Management Measures for workers on employer-provided transportation
- Dedicated transportation can include employer-provided transportation (e.g. private bus, vans and lorries) and personal vehicles (inclgd, cycling and walking)
- For employer-provided vans and lorries for ferrying workers, there is a minimum clear floor space of 0.496 sqm per passenger, which translates to a 25% reduction in the Maximum Passenger Capacity

Type of Accommodations	Types of workers		
	Type A: Project specific construction workers (i.e. working on one construction project site)	Type B: Non-project specific construction workers (i.e. working on multiple construction project sites)	Type C: Construction Account Workers (i.e. not working on construction project sites)
PBD/FCD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employers to provide point-to-point dedicated transportation for all workers. • <u>No public transport is allowed</u> 		
Ancillary FCD			
CTQ/TOLQ			
HDB/PRP			
Government Sourced Facilities			

Note: Requirements are applicable to WPH and S Pass Holders

Safe Management Officers, Safe Distancing Officers, COVID-Safe Worker Leaders

- To appoint Safe Management Officers (SMO), Safe Distancing Officers (SDO), COVID-Safe Worker Leader (CSWL) roles to work with FWs to comply with safe distancing measures as stated in the safe accommodation guidelines
- Appointed SMO/SDO under the Safe Worksite Criteria may double up as SMO/SDO under the Safe Accommodation Criteria
- At least 1 CSWL to be appointed per room (CTQ/TOLQ/PBD/FCD) or per unit (HDB/PRP)

Roles and Responsibilities

Safe Management Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate and implement Safe Management measures • Conduct risk assessments and implement mitigation measures • Communicate measures and corrective actions to Safe Distancing Officers and all workers • Conduct regular inspections of accommodations • Report any non-compliance to Developers and Builders • Document all non-compliances and take immediate action to rectify • Keep records of inspections and checks conducted • Review measures if constant non-compliance detected
Safe Distancing Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist SMOs in conducting regular inspections • Report to SMOs and document any non-compliance • Notify SMOs if non-compliance detected • Carry out possible corrective actions while complying with Safe Accommodation Guidelines.
COVID-Safe Worker Leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure roommates conduct daily temperature exercises twice a day and gather their health status. • Keep track of roommates movements at all times. • Notify Employers and Dorm Operators of suspected COVID cases, or roommate feeling unwell with fever and flu-like symptoms. • Notify SDO of roommates who are not complying with requirements.

Commonly Asked Questions

FAQs on Dedicated Accommodation

Q1: If my workers are living in a government decanted facility, is such accommodation considered safe?

A1: Yes, these workers are considered to be in a safe accommodation. However, if your workers are required to work in a single construction project site, they should be cohorted with the workers of the project site. If your workers are not working in a single construction project site, they may continue to stay in the GSF until their temporary license has ended.

If you wish to transfer your worker from the facility to a dedicated accommodation, MOM will evaluate and make the arrangements.

Q2: If I have 6 workers staying in a 3 bedroom HDB unit, can workers from each bedroom work on different projects?

A2: Construction site workers residing in the same HDB/PRP address must all be employed under the same company and that these workers are all working on the same project.

For sub-contractor or specialist firm that requires workers to be roving between sites or working short periods on a site, these workers can stay in the same HDB unit but segregated based on projects.

FAQs on Dedicated Accommodation

Q3: What are the specifications required for the Construction Temporary Quarters (CTQs) and the Temporary Occupation License Quarters (TOLQs)?

A3: During this COVID-19 situation, the provision of more on-site housing such as CTQs and TOLQs is critical to support the government's efforts in thinning out of the Purpose Built Dormitories (PBDs)/ Factory Converted Dormitories (FCDs) to create more elbow space, as well as to create a safer workforce for the Safe Restart as on-site workers are segregated away from other workers from other projects.

As part of the review to enhance the specifications of permanent dormitories to improve our resilience in dealing with pandemics, MOM/MOH is requiring for all new foreign workers (FWs) accommodations to meet the new permanent dormitories specifications such as increasing the liveable area of workers. More details can be found on the Joint MND-MOM Media Release on New Dormitories with Improved Standards for Migrant workers.

Q4: Manpower requirements for projects will change overtime and manpower required on site may diminish or increase. How can contractors ensure that the workers are properly cohorted for project duration when worker movements are uncertain?

A4: Contractors should plan for the movement of workers in advance and submit updates on their worker cohorting plans.

FAQs on Dedicated Accommodation

Q5: What is the purpose of cohorting by teams?

A5: To minimise physical interaction between the workers in the different segregated teams when they are at work and at their place of residence. Based on the Safe worksite definition of teams, Construction workers or building elements supply workers have to be grouped by trade, building operation or activity to be carried out.

This applies to Work Permit Holders and S Pass holders only

Q6: Are my administrative workers allowed to stay with my construction FWs in the dormitories?

A6: The administrative workers will have to be staying separately from other construction FWs within the same dormitory to fulfil the segregation requirements.

FAQs on Dedicated Accommodation

Q7: My S Pass Holders are staying with their family. Do they have to be cohorted together with the construction WPHs as well?

A7: No, they do not need to be cohorted. Precautions should be taken within the household unit if there are family members working at different construction sites so as to protect the family members.

Q8: Are Private Residential Properties (PRP) considered a dedicated accommodation?

A8: Yes, provided the construction site workers who are staying in the PRP are working on the same project or sub-contractor/specialist contractor/construction account workers staying at the PRP are from the same employer.

Q9: My project is very small and my workers are currently housed in HDB/PRP units so it does not make sense to move my workers into a dedicated accommodation. Is it necessary to move my workers out of their units into another accommodation?

A9: For small projects (less than \$3 million), workers will be allowed to remain in their HDB/PRP units and do not need to be cohorted into another dedicated accommodation. However, workers living in the same HDB/PRP address must all be employed under the same employer and ensure that no other workers working on different projects are staying together.

FAQs on Dedicated Accommodation

Q10: Can a Factory-Converted Dormitory (FCD) housing only workers of the same contractor but working on different sites be considered a dedicated accommodation?

A10: Yes. Workers working on different project sites have to be cohorted by projects and segregated by floors to prevent intermixing.

Q11: Can a Construction Temporary Quarters (CTQ) housing workers of the site, and workers of the same contractor/subcontractor but working at other sites be considered a dedicated accommodation?

A11: No. The workers are not allowed to work on 2 sites

(However, there may be a scenario where workers staying in the CTQ is not working in the project because the project is not allowed to start, so this workers can travel to another worksite to work)

FAQs on SMO, SDO, CSWL

Q14: How many SMOs and SDOs are to be appointed? What happens if my SMOs or SDOs are not a FW staying in the dormitories?

A14: The Safe Accommodation Criteria does not impose the number of SMOs and SDOs. These roles are identified under the Safe Worksite requirements and reference can be taken from there.

However, we do require the employers to appoint a FW per room to take on a COVID Safe Worker Leader (CSWL) role to influence the roommates in adhering to good safe management measures.

In the event that none of the SMOs or SDOs stay in the dormitory, the SMOs and SDOs can work with the CSWLs for updates and make routine checks on the workers at their accommodation

FAQs on Safe Transportation

Q15: Are workers allowed to take public transport?

A15: As stated in our COVID-safe restart criteria, all workers will have to be provided with dedicated transport by their employers.

Q16: Will workers be able to use their own mode of transport to get to worksites? E.g. bicycle, motorbike, Grab, taxi etc.

A16: Based on current MOM guidelines, workers will not be allowed to commute by Grab or Taxi. However, use of personal vehicles such as motorbikes, bicycles etc. will be allowed. Walking will also be allowed if the worksite is deemed as reasonably close by.