

Hot topics in the House



Private developers not ruled out for Vers

Private developers may have a role in redeveloping ageing Housing Board flats under a new scheme to pace out the redevelopment and rejuvenation of such flats over 20 to 30 years. Minister for National Development Lawrence Wong said yesterday that this had not been ruled out for the Voluntary Early Redevelopment Scheme (Vers), though any redevelopment must support the Housing Board's mission to provide affordable and quality homes for Singaporeans.



Tighter rules for use of motorised personal mobility devices

After a spate of fires involving motorised personal mobility devices, the law was updated yesterday to require that such devices comply with a safety standard. Devices which fall short of the standard will be allowed for use only until end-2020. The change was among several under the Land Transport (Enforcement Measures) Bill which imposes stricter rules on the use of such motorised devices.



NEA officers given more powers to enforce smoking bans

Officers from the National Environment Agency (NEA) will have the powers to enter places where smoking is prohibited, without a warrant, to investigate smoking violations, under the Smoking (Prohibition in Certain Places) Bill passed yesterday. It will also be illegal to obstruct or prevent them from collecting evidence. These new powers will ensure that the NEA can effectively maintain Singapore's smoking bans.