The Company is committed to maintain the quality of corporate governance so as to ensure better transparency of the Company, protection of shareholders' and shareholders' rights and enhance shareholders' value.

CORPORATE STRATEGY, BUSINESS MODEL AND CULTURE

The Board has established the Group's purpose, values and strategies and was satisfied that they are aligned with the culture of the Group. Acting with integrity, lead by example, all Directors promote the desired culture to instil and continually reinforce across the Group's values of "acting lawfully, ethically and responsibly".

Guided by the requirements of the national strategy and led by its business strategy to achieve "quality growth, valuable assets, cash profits and capable organisation", the Group continued to improve its core capabilities such as quality delivery and smart operation in order to consolidate its fundamentals.

The Group has always adhered to its "customer-oriented and innovation-driven" operation philosophy. Through the reform of its regional companies, the Group has made solid efforts to carry out localised operation in local markets, built up differentiated competitiveness for regional market.

The Group embeds the concept of sustainability development into its medium-term and long-term development strategies, and lays the solid foundations for BEWG's high quality and sustainable development by building up the fundamentals of corporate sustainability in multiple dimensions, such as innovation, data, clients and brands as well as organizational talent sustainability.

The Group actively promotes a culture of integrity for raising business ethics awareness among employees.

The Group will continuously review and adjust, when necessary, its business strategies and keep track of the changing market conditions to ensure prompt and proactive measures that will be taken to respond to the changes and meet the market needs to foster the sustainability of the Group.

Details of the Group's business performance and financial review for the year 2024 are set out in the "Management Discussion and Analysis" section of this annual report. Disclosures on the Group's corporate culture can be found in the Group's 2024 Sustainability Report which will be available on the website of the Company under the "Sustainability Report" section and website of the Stock Exchange at the same time as the publication of this annual report.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board Composition

During the year and up to the date of this annual report, the Board comprises the following directors of the Company ("Director(s)"):

Executive Directors (the "EDs")

Mr. Xiong Bin (Chairman)

Mr. Jiang Xinhao (resigned on 6 January 2025)

Mr. Zhou Min (Chief Executive Officer)

Mr. Li Haifeng

Mr. Ke Jian (resigned on 6 February 2024)

Ms. Sha Ning

Mr. Zhang Wenjiang (appointed on 6 February 2024)

Mr. Tung Woon Cheung Eric

Mr. Li Li

Non-executive Directors (the "NEDs")

Mr. Wang Dianchang (resigned on 27 June 2024)

Mr. Li Tianzhi (appointed on 27 June 2024 and resigned on 6 December 2024)

Mr. Yuan Jianwei (appointed on 6 December 2024)

Independent Non-executive Directors (the "INEDs")

Mr. Shea Chun Lok Quadrant

Mr. Guo Rui

Mr. Chau On Ta Yuen

Mr. Dai Xiaohu

Ms. Chan Siu Chee Sophia

One of the INEDs namely, Mr. Shea Chun Lok Quadrant, has the professional and accounting qualifications required by Rules Governing the Listing Securities (the "Listing Rules") on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange"). There is no relationship among members of the Board in respect of financial, business, family or other material/ relevant relationship. The biographical details of the current Directors are set out in the section headed "Directors and Senior Management" in this annual report.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Continued)

Board Composition (Continued)

All Directors are appointed with letters of appointment and subject to retirement by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election at the annual general meetings in accordance with the amended and restated bye-law of the Company ("Bye-laws"). Pursuant to bye-law 99(B) of the Bye-laws, at each annual general meeting, one-third of the Directors (or if their number is not a multiple of three, the number nearest to but not less than one-third) shall retire from office by rotation, provided that every Director shall be subject to retirement by rotation at least once every three years. Pursuant to bye-law 91 of the Bye-laws, any Director appointed to fill a casual vacancy or as an addition to the Board is subject to re-election at the first annual general meeting after his or her appointment.

Mr. Li Tianzhi, who was appointed as a NED on 27 June 2024 following the resignation of Mr. Wang Dianchang as a NED, obtained the legal advice referred to in Rule 3.09D of the Listing Rules prior to his appointment on 26 June 2024. Mr. Li Tianzhi has confirmed that he understood his obligations as a director of the Company.

Mr. Yuan Jianwei, who was appointed as a NED on 6 December 2024 following the resignation of Mr. Li Tianzhi as a NED, obtained the legal advice referred to in Rule 3.09D of the Listing Rules prior to his appointment on 2 December 2024. Mr. Yuan Jianwei has confirmed that he understood his obligations as a director of the Company.

Role and Function

The function of the Board is to formulate and give direction of the Group's corporate strategy and business development. The Board has met regularly during the year to approve material contracts, connected transactions, director's appointment or reappointment, significant policy and to monitor the financial performance of the Group in pursuit of its strategic goals. Day to day operation of the Company is delegated to the chief executive officer and the management of the Company.

Newly appointed Director will receive a comprehensive induction package covering the statutory and regulatory obligations of a director of a listed company. The Company continuously updates Directors on the latest developments regarding the Listing Rules and other applicable regulatory requirements, to ensure compliance and enhance their awareness of good corporate governance practices. All Directors are encouraged to participate in continuous professional development to develop and refresh their knowledge and skills. The Company arranged trainings for Directors in the form of seminar and provision of training materials. Guidance notes and memorandum are issued to Directors where appropriate, to ensure awareness of best corporate governance practices.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Continued)

Role and Function (Continued)

According to the records maintained by the Company, the Directors who were held office during the year ended 31 December 2024 received the following training in respect of the roles, functions and duties of a director of a listed company in compliance with the requirement of the Corporate Governance Code (the "CG Code") contained in Appendix C1 of the Listing Rules on continuous professional development during the year ended 31 December 2024.

	Corporate Governance/ Updates on Laws, Rules & Regulations Attended		Accounting/Financial/ Management or Other Professional Skills Attended	
	Read	Seminars/	Read	Seminars/
Name of Director	Materials	Briefing	Materials	Briefing
ED.				
EDs	,	,		
Mr. Xiong Bin (Chairman)	√ √	√		
Mr. Jiang Xinhao (resigned on 6 January 2025) Mr. Zhou Min (Chief Executive officer)	V	V		
	V	V		
Mr. Li Haifeng	•	•		
Mr. Ke Jian (resigned on 6 February 2024)	_	_ /		
Ms. Sha Ning	V	V		
Mr. Type Weep Chaupe Frie	√	V	/	/
Mr. Tung Woon Cheung Eric Mr. Li Li	√	V	•	V
Wir. Li Li	•	V		
NEDs				
Mr. Wang Dianchang (resigned on 27 June 2024)	_	_		
Mr. Li Tianzhi (appointed on 27 June 2024 and resigned on 6 December 2024)	✓			
Mr. Yuan Jianwei (appointed on 6 December 2024)	✓	✓		
INEDs				
Mr. Shea Chun Lok Quadrant	/	J	/	1
Mr. Guo Rui	/	1		i i
Mr. Chau On Ta Yuen	/	1		
Mr. Dai Xiaohu	/	/		
Ms. Chan Siu Chee Sophia	/	/		
2 ora orroo oopriid				

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Continued)

Board Meeting and General Meeting

The Company held four Board meetings and one general meeting during the financial year ended 31 December 2024 in compliance with provisions set out the corporate governance code in Appendix C1 of the Listing Rules. Directors present in those Board meetings were either in person or through electronic means of communication. Attendance records of the Board meetings and general meetings for the year ended 31 December 2024 are set out below:

	Number of	Number of
	Board meetings	general meetings
Name of Director	attended/held	attended/held
EDs		
Mr. Xiong Bin (Chairman)	4/4	1/1
Mr. Jiang Xinhao (resigned on 6 January 2025)	4/4	0/1
Mr. Zhou Min (Chief Executive officer)	4/4	0/1
Mr. Li Haifeng	4/4	0/1
Mr. Ke Jian (resigned on 6 February 2024)	N/A	N/A
	(Note 1)	(Note 1)
Ms. Sha Ning	4/4	0/1
Mr. Zhang Wenjiang (appointed on 6 February 2024)	4/4	0/1
Mr. Tung Woon Cheung Eric	4/4	1/1
Mr. Li Li	4/4	0/1
NEDs		
Mr. Wang Dianchang (resigned on 27 June 2024)	2/2	0/1
	(Note 2)	(Note 2)
Mr. Li Tianzhi (appointed on 27 June 2024 and resigned on 6 December 2024)	2/2	N/A
	(Note 3)	(Note 3)
Mr. Yuan Jianwei (appointed on 6 December 2024)	N/A	N/A
	(Note 4)	(Note 4)
INEDs		
Mr. Shea Chun Lok Quadrant	4/4	1/1
Mr. Guo Rui	3/4	0/1
Mr. Chau On Ta Yuen	4/4	0/1
Mr. Dai Xiaohu	4/4	0/1
Ms. Chan Siu Chee Sophia	4/4	0/1

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Continued)

Board Meeting and General Meeting (Continued) **Notes:**

- 1. Mr. Ke Jian resigned as an ED on 6 February 2024 without attending the first to fourth board meeting held during the year and the annual general meeting held on 5 June 2024.
- 2. Mr. Wang Dianchang resigned as a NED on 27 June 2024 without attending the third to fourth board meeting held during the year.
- 3. Mr. Li Tianzhi was appointed as a NED on 27 June 2024 and resigned on 6 December 2024 without attending the first to second board meeting held during the year and the annual general meeting held on 5 June 2024.
- 4. Mr. Yuan Jianwei was appointed as a NED on 6 December 2024 without attending the first to fourth board meetings held during the year and the annual general meeting held on 5 June 2024.

To supplement the formal Board meetings, the chairman of the Board (the "Chairman") held regular gatherings with EDs to consider issues in an informal settings.

During the year, the Chairman held one meeting with the INEDs without the EDs present.

BOARD DIVERSITY POLICY

With a view to enhancing the Board's effectives and corporate governance, the Board believes that increasing diversity at the Board level is essential to maintaining a competitive edge in the evolving market environment.

In accordance with the Listing Rules, the Board adopted a board diversity policy in 2013 which aims to set out the approach to achieve diversity on the Board. The Board endeavours to ensure that it has a balance of skills, experience and diversity of perspectives to the requirements of the business of the Group. Selection of candidates will be based on a range of diversity perspectives, including but not limited to gender, age, cultural and educational background, professional experience, skills, knowledge and length of service. The ultimate decision will be based on merit and contribution that the selected candidates will bring to the Board.

Independent

Under the Board diversity policy, the Board shall include a balanced composition of EDs and INEDs (including NED) so that there is a strong independent element on the Board, which can effectively exercise independent judgment.

As of 31 December 2024, five out of fourteen directors were INEDs. The board composition remained a definite number of INEDs who are free from any business or other relationship that may interfere with the independent judgement of the INEDs.

Gender

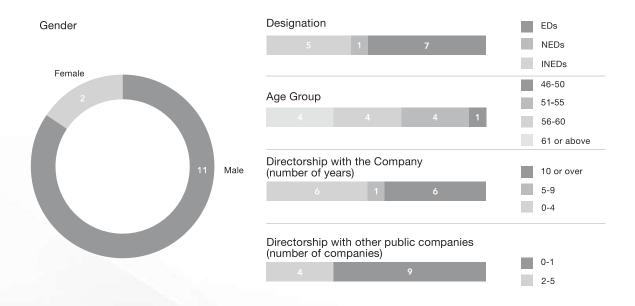
Under the Board diversity policy, the Board targets to appoint and maintain gender diversity in respect of the Board and targets to refrain from having a single gender in respect of the Board. Ms. Sha Ning was appointed as an ED on 3 January 2020 and Ms. Chan Siu Chee Sophia was appointed as an INED on 15 September 2023. The Board considers that the gender diversity in respect of the Board taking into account the business model and specific needs of the Company is satisfactory.

BOARD DIVERSITY POLICY (Continued)

Skill and Experience

To enhance the Board diversity while maintaining an appropriate balance between continuity of experience and Board refreshment and possessing a balance of skills appropriate for the requirements of the business of the Company. Mr. Zhang Wenjiang was appointed as ED on 6 February 2024. Mr. Li Tianzhi was appointed as NED on 27 June 2024 and subsequently resigned on 6 December 2024, Mr. Yuan Jianwei was appointed as NED on 6 December 2024 to fill the casual vacancy arising from the resignation of Mr. Li Tianzhi. The nomination committee of the Company (the "Nomination Committee") took into consideration of their academic background, qualification and extensive experience.

As at the date of this annual report, there are thirteen Directors with extensive experience and/or professional backgrounds to formulate and give direction of the Group's corporate strategy and business development. The composition, experience and balance of skills on the Board are regularly reviewed by a core of members with longstanding and deep knowledge of the Group alongside new Directors who bring fresh perspectives and diverse experiences to the Board. The process for the nomination of Directors is led by the Nomination Committee that is set out in the section headed "Nomination Committee" in this corporate governance report. The following chart illustrates how the Company achieves diversity on the Board:



The name of the current Directors and their biographies (including their roles, function, terms of office, skills and experience) are set out in this annual report headed "Directors and Senior Management".

BOARD DIVERSITY POLICY (Continued)

Skill and Experience (Continued)

The Board places emphasis on diversity (including gender diversity) across all levels of the Group. The employee gender ratio of the Group as at 31 December 2024 was approximately 53% male to 47% female. The Group when hiring employees considers a number of factors, including but not limited to gender, age, cultural and education background, qualification, ethnicity, professional experience, skills, knowledge and length of service, and the Group will make sure achieving gender diversity across the workforce. The Board considers that the gender diversity in workforce is currently achieved.

BOARD SUCCESSION

Board succession planning is an ongoing process for the Company. There are regular reviews and discussions on succession planning, complemented by an active search when required for people presenting the right skill and diversity mix. The Nomination Committee manages board succession in light of the Board's overall needs, term limits and retirements.

DIRECTORS' AND OFFICERS' LIABILITY INSURANCE AND INDEMNITY

The Company has arranged appropriate directors' and officers' liability insurance for its directors and officers covering the costs, losses, expenses and liabilities arising from the performance of their duties. The insurance policy covers legal action against its directors and officers to comply with the requirement of the CG Code. During the year, no claim was made against the directors and officers of the Company.

CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

During the financial year ended 31 December 2024, the positions of the chairman and the chief executive officer of the Company were held separately. The Chairman is Mr. Xiong Bin and the chief executive officer of the Company (the "Chief Executive Officer") is Mr. Zhou Min. The segregation of duties of the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer ensures a clear distinction in the Chairman's responsibility to provide leadership for the Board and the Chief Executive Officer's responsibility to manage the Company's business. Their roles are clearly defined to ensure their respective independence. There is no relationship between the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer in respect of financial, business, family or other material/relevant relationship.

NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

All NEDs (including INEDs) are appointed with specific term of three years.

Taking into account INEDs' ability to exercise independence of judgment in relation to the Company's affairs by offering or raising independent advices, the Board considers that the INEDs can provide independent advices on the Company's business strategies, results and management so as to safeguard the interests of the Company and its shareholders.

The Company has received a written annual confirmation from each of the INEDs confirming his independence pursuant to Rule 3.13 of the Listing Rules. INEDs are also required to inform the Company as soon as practicable if there is any change of circumstances which may affect his or her independence. No such notification has been received during the year ended 31 December 2024. The Company considers all of the INEDs are independent during their tenure.

MODEL CODE FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS BY DIRECTORS

The Company has adopted the Model Code as set out in Appendix C3 of the Listing Rules as the code of conduct in respect of securities transactions of the Directors (the "Model Code"). Having made specific enquiry of all Directors, the Company has confirmed that all Directors have complied with the required standards set out in the Model Code and its code of conduct regarding Directors' securities transactions during the year under review.

BOARD COMMITTEES

The Board has established four board committees to strengthen its functions and corporate governance practices namely, audit committee (the "Audit Committee"), Nomination Committee, remuneration committee (the "Remuneration Committee") and sustainability committee (the "Sustainability Committee"). The Audit Committee, Nomination Committee, Remuneration Committee and Sustainability Committee perform their specific roles in accordance with their respective written terms of reference.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee currently comprises three INEDs namely, Mr. Shea Chun Lok Quadrant (chairman of the Audit Committee), Mr. Guo Rui and Mr. Chau On Ta Yuen. The Audit Committee members performed their duties within written terms of reference formulated by the Company in accordance with the requirements of the Listing Rules from time to time.

The Audit Committee is mainly responsible for considering all relationships between the Company and the auditing firm (including the provision of non-audit services), monitoring the integrity of the Company's financial statements and issues arising from the audit as well as the review of the Group's risk management and internal control systems whereby the Board had delegated such responsibility to Audit Committee.

In addition, the Audit Committee had been delegated the responsibility to perform the following including:

Corporate Governance Duties

- 1. to develop and review the Company's policies and practices on corporate governance and make recommendations to the Board;
- 2. to review and monitor the training and continuous professional development of Directors and senior management;
- 3. to review and monitor the Company's policies and practices on compliance with legal and regulatory requirements;
- 4. to develop, review and monitor the code of conduct and compliance manual (if any) applicable to employees and Directors;
- 5. to review the Company's compliance with the CG Code and disclosure in the corporate governance report.

BOARD COMMITTEES (Continued)

Audit Committee (Continued)

Corporate Governance Duties (Continued)

Summary of work done during the year: reviewed the financial statements for the period from 1 January 2024 to 30 June 2024 and for the year ended 31 December 2024, considered and approved the audit work of the auditors, and reviewed the business and financial performance of the Company, the risk management and internal control systems, the Company's compliance with the CG Code and environmental, social and governance reporting guide and disclosure in the corporate governance report and sustainability report, reviewed the need of change of auditor and considered and assessed the qualification of Messrs. Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu ("Deloitte"), and reviewed the audit planning provided by Deloitte including their responsibilities, scope of work and the risk assessment. The chairman of the Audit Committee, Mr. Shea Chun Lok Quadrant attended the 2024 annual general meeting and would answer questions raised by the shareholders of the Company in relation to the work done of Audit Committee during the year.

The Audit Committee held three meetings and conducted by way of two unanimous written resolution to resolve audit related matters during the financial year ended 31 December 2024. Details of attendance of each Audit Committee members are as follows:

Number of Audit Committee meetings attended/held

Name of Audit Committee members

Mr. Shea Chun Lok Quadrant (Chairman of Audit Committee)	3/3
Mr. Guo Rui	3/3
Mr. Chau On Ta Yuen	3/3

Nomination Committee

The Nomination Committee currently comprises one ED namely, Mr. Xiong Bin (chairman of the Nomination Committee) and two INEDs namely, Mr. Guo Rui and Mr. Shea Chun Lok Quadrant.

All new appointments and re-appointments to the Board are subject to the approval of the Board. The Nomination Committee members performed their duties within written terms of reference formulated by the Company in accordance with the requirements of the Listing Rules from time to time.

BOARD COMMITTEES (Continued)

Nomination Committee (Continued)

The major responsibilities of the Nomination Committee include:

- 1. to review the structure, size and composition (including the skills, knowledge and experience) of the Board at least annually and make recommendations on any proposed changes to the Board to complement the Company's corporate strategy;
- 2. to identify individuals suitably qualified to become members of the Board and select or make recommendations to the Board on the selection of individuals nominated for directorships;
- 3. to assess the independence of the INEDs; and
- 4. to make recommendations to the Board on the appointment or re-appointment of Directors and succession planning for Directors, in particular the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer.

Summary of work done during the year: reviewed and evaluated the structure, size and composition (including the skills, knowledge and experience) of the Board to complement the corporate strategy of the Company, made recommendation to the Board on new appointments, reviewed and recommended the re-appointment of the retiring Directors at the annual general meeting of the Company and assessed independence of the INEDs, proposed appointment of Mr. Zhang Wengjian as ED to fill the casual vacancy arising from the resignation from Mr. Ke Jian, proposed appointment of Mr. Li Tianzhi as NED to fill the casual vacancy arising from the resignation from Mr. Wang Dianchang, and proposed appointment of Mr. Yuan Jianwei as NED to fill the casual vacancy arising from the resignation from Mr. Li Tianzhi. The chairman of the Nomination Committee, Mr. Xiong Bin attended the 2024 annual general meeting and would answer questions raised by the shareholders of the Company in relation to the work done of Nomination Committee during the year.

The Nomination Committee has adopted in 2019 a nomination policy (the "Nomination Policy") which sets out the selection criteria and procedures of appointment and re-appointment of a Director. In evaluating and selecting candidate(s) for directorship, the Nomination Committee shall follow the criteria of nomination and appointment of the directors set out in Nomination Policy, including but not limited to the integrity, skills and expertise, professional and educational backgrounds; potential time commitment for the Board and/or committee responsibilities; and the ongoing updates of the board diversity policy of the Company. The Nomination Committee shall make recommendation to the Board to appoint the appropriate person among the candidates nominated for directorship. Suitable candidate(s) shall be appointed as director(s) by the Company in accordance with the Bye-laws and the Listing Rules.

During the year, no Nomination Committee meeting was held but by way of six unanimous written resolutions, the Nomination Committee had reviewed nomination related matters.

BOARD COMMITTEES (Continued)

Remuneration Committee

The Remuneration Committee currently comprises two INEDs namely, Mr. Guo Rui (chairman of the Remuneration Committee), Mr. Shea Chun Lok Quadrant and one ED namely, Mr. Tung Woon Cheung Eric.

The Remuneration Committee members performed their duties within written terms of reference formulated by the Company in accordance with the requirements of the Listing Rules from time to time. The Remuneration Committee adopted the operation model where it performs an advisory role to the Board and to make recommendations to the Board on the remuneration packages of Directors and senior management with the Board retaining the final authority to approve Directors' and senior management remuneration. It is the Company's policy to offer remuneration packages which are competitive and sufficient to retain such individuals and no director is involved in decision of his own remuneration.

The policy and structure of the Group for employees' remuneration proposals were with reference to the corporate goals, prevailing market rate and duties and responsibilities with the Group.

Summary of work done during the year: reviewed the policy and structure of the Group for employees' remuneration proposals with reference to the corporate goals, prevailing market rate and duties and responsibilities with the Group and made recommendations to the Board regarding the Share Award Scheme adopted in December 2018 which was extended until 16 December 2028, and management bonus. A member of the Remuneration Committee, Mr. Shea Chun Lok Quadrant attended the 2024 annual general meeting and would answer questions raised by the shareholders of the Company in relation to the work done of Remuneration Committee during the year.

During the year, no Remuneration Committee meeting was held but by way of one unanimous written resolutions, the Remuneration Committee had reviewed remuneration related matters.

Sustainability Committee

The Sustainability Committee currently comprises two EDs namely Mr. Li Li (chairman of the Sustainability Committee) and Mr. Tung Woon Cheung Eric and an INED namely Mr. Guo Rui. The Sustainability Committee members performed their duties within written terms of reference formulated by the Company in accordance with expectation from stakeholders. The Sustainability Committee is responsible for monitoring and reporting to the Board on the implementation and effectiveness of the environmental, social and governance ("ESG") management. It also prioritises the material ESG issues, evaluates the risks and opportunity due to climate change, reviews and monitors the achievement of environmental targets and evaluates the impacts of the ESG performances of the Company on its stakeholders, including employees, shareholders, customers, suppliers, business associates and local communities.

During the year, the Sustainability Committee held one meeting, the Sustainability Committee had reviewed the environmental, social and governance related matters.

RELATIONSHIP WITH STAKEHOLDERS

The Group recognises that employees, customers and business partners are keys to its sustainable development. The Group is committed to establishing a close and caring relationship with its employees, providing quality services to its customers and enhancing cooperation with its business partners. The Company provides a fair and safe workplace, promotes diversity to its staff, provides competitive remuneration and benefits and career development opportunities based on their merits and performance. The Group also puts ongoing efforts to provide adequate trainings and development resources to the employees so that they can keep abreast of the latest development of the market and the industry and, at the same time, improve their performance and self-fulfillment in their positions. The Group understands that it is important to maintain good relationship with customers and provide the services in a way that satisfy needs and requirements of the customers. The Group enhances the relationship by continuous interaction with customers to gain insight on the changing market demand for the services so that the Group can respond proactively. The Group has also established procedures in place for handling customers' complaints and ensure customers' complaints are dealt with in a promptly and timely manner. The Group is also dedicated to develop good relationship with suppliers and contractors as long-term business partners to ensure stability of the business of the Group.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND PERFORMANCE

The Group is committed to supporting the environmental sustainability. The Group is committed to maintaining sustainable working practises and pays close attention to ensure all resources are efficiently utilised. The environmental policies and performance of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024 containing the information required under Appendix C2 to the Listing Rules are set out in 2024 Sustainability Report which will be published on the website of the Stock Exchange and the website of the Company at the same time when the annual report of the Company will be published.

AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

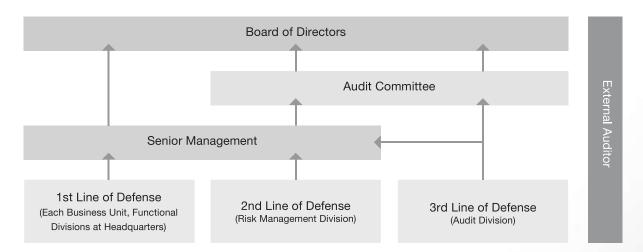
The Audit Committee is responsible for considering the appointment of the external auditors and reviewing the non-audit functions performed by the external auditors, including whether such non-audit functions could lead to any potential material adverse effect on the Company. During the year under review, external auditors' remuneration for audit services was approximately HK\$10.9 million and for non-audit service assignments was approximately HK\$3.4 million, which represented agreed-upon procedures engagement such as for the interim financial report, taxation advisory and compliance services of the Group. The Audit Committee had satisfied that the non-audit services in 2024 did not affect the independence of the external auditors.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL

The Board has the overall responsibility for evaluating and determining the nature and extent of the risks that may be exposed to the Group and ensuring that the Group maintains sound and effective risk management and internal control systems in order to safeguard the interest of shareholding and the assets of the Group. The Board had delegated such responsibility to the Audit Committee which shall oversee management in designing, implementing and monitoring the risk management and internal control systems.

The Board has been provided with sufficient explanation and necessary information enabling it to make an informed assessment of financial and other information put before the Board for approval.

The risk management framework of the Group is designed of "Three Layers + Three Lines of Defense" model as shown below:



RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL (Continued)

First Line of Defence

Each business unit and headquarters functional division of the Group, as a risk owner, identifies, evaluates and monitors its own risk.

Second Line of Defence

The risk management division has set up a risk management mechanism regarding corporate objectives so as to identify, control, acknowledge and manage the risks faced by the Group. In particular, the Group applies strict guidelines and procedures that monitor and control each investing unit for its investment, with the aim to mitigate risk exposure and external impacts and ensure that the risk management process is in line with the relevant objective.

Third Line of Defence

The audit division carries out an independent review of key business process and controls in accordance with its normal procedures. Its recommendations and remedial measures will be taken to rectify the deficiencies accordingly.

The Group has made reference to the Enterprise Risk Management-Integrated Framework set down by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) and adopted it as its own framework, which covers risk identification, risk assessment, risk implementation treatment plan as well as risk investigation and reporting.

Any internal audit findings and control deficiencies were communicated with the relevant functional division and business units of the Group. Relevant control activities were enhanced and post-audit reviews were conducted as and when appropriate. Remedial activities were taken by the Group regarding findings and deficiencies for prior year.

Policy and procedures were laid down to cover issues including project development, tendering, financial reporting, human resources and computer systems and to define clearly the line of authority for each employee. As every functional division and business unit of the Group was required to undertake a series of self-assessment in accordance with the Group's policy and procedures, the audit division was not aware of any internal withholding of internal control deficiency of the Group during the year under review.

The risk management division assessed the potential risk exposure of the Group by means of interview and questionnaire and to discuss with all levels of staff the importance of risk management and internal control systems, share risk perception and enhance the effectiveness of the risk management function. Appropriate risk management activities were carried out and implemented by the Group during the year. Every division and business unit of the Group was invited to discuss such potential risks which might affect their ability to achieve the Group's financial, operational, compliance control objectives and had identified significant risks (including ESG risks) affecting the corporate objectives, namely policy, market competition and government relations.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL (Continued)

Third Line of Defence (Continued)

During the year, the risk management division has presented updated reports to the Audit Committee on implementation of risk management and the effectiveness of the risk management (including ESG risks) and internal control systems of the Group. The Audit Committee closely monitored and reported to the Board annually such effectiveness on an ongoing basis.

During the year, the audit division performed the annual audit by adopting a risk-based approach and covered the areas of internal environment, risk assessment, control activities, information and communications as well as internal control.

As at 31 December 2024, both the Audit Committee and the Board were not aware of any material internal control deficiencies and were satisfied that the risk management and internal control systems of the Group are effective and adequate.

During the year, the Board believes that there is an adequacy of resources in term of staff qualifications and experience, training programmes and budget of the Group's internal audit function as well as those relating to the Company's ESG performance and reporting.

The Group has set up a whistleblower policy and a set of comprehensive procedures to the employees, business partners and other concerned parties to raises concerns, in confidence, to the Board about possible improprieties within the Group. The identity of the whistleblower will be treated with the strictest confidential.

The Group has set up the inside information policy and procedure for the handling and dissemination of inside information. The inside information policy mainly focuses on the obligations of the Group, external communication guidelines and compliance and reporting procedures. The Group shall take all reasonable measures from time to time to ensure that proper safeguards in existence to prevent any breach of disclosure requirement.

The Group has adopted appropriate measures to review the implementation of the Group's existing continuing connected transactions. During the year, the relevant companies had monitored strictly pursuant to the pricing policies and terms of the continuing connected transactions in the actual course of business operation and did not exceed those relevant annual caps as disclosed.

WHISTLE-BLOWING SYSTEM

The Group attaches great importance to integrity and compliance work, pays close attention to anti-bribery, anti-corruption, and anti-unfair competition. The Group has established a whistleblowing policy and system to allow our employees and stakeholders to raise concerns on any potential business misconduct and malpractice confidentially. The Discipline Inspection and Supervision Department was also set up to handle matters arising from whistleblower reports in an effective manner. The whistle-blowers are able to raise concern to the Audit Committee. The Group is also committed to ensuring the protection of the whistle-blower against detrimental or unfair treatment.

ANTI-BRIBERY AND ANTI-CORRUPTION SYSTEM

The Group has in place an anti-bribery and anti-corruption policies and systems for all its employees to eliminate bribery, extortion, and other frauds. Employees are required to act with integrity and to report any suspected bribery and corruptions cases to Discipline Inspection and Supervision Department of the Company.

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

The Directors are responsible for the preparation of accounts for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Group and of the results and cash flows for that period. In preparing the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024, the Directors have selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently; adopted appropriate Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards and Hong Kong Accounting Standards; made adjustments and estimates that are prudent and reasonable; and have prepared the accounts on a going concern basis. The Directors are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company.

The responsibility of Messrs. Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, the Company's external auditors, is set out on page 87 to 91 of the "Independent Auditors' Report" in this annual report.

COMPANY SECRETARY

Mr. Tung Woon Cheung Eric, as the ED, is also the company secretary of the Company (the "Company Secretary"), reports to the Board and has day-to-day knowledge of the Company's affairs. During the year ended 31 December 2024, Mr. Tung has complied with the relevant professional training required under Rule 3.29 of the Listing Rules. The biographical details of Mr. Tung is set out in the section headed "Directors and Senior Management" on page 56 in this annual report.

DIVIDEND POLICY

The Company adopted a dividend policy. It aims to provide shareholders of the Company with stable and sustainable returns.

The recommendation of the payment of any dividend is subject to the absolute discretion of the Board, and any declaration of final dividend will be subject to the approval of the shareholders of the Company. Any payment of the dividend by the Company is also subject to any restrictions under the laws of Bermuda, the Bye-Laws and any applicable laws, rules and regulations.

The declaration and payment of any dividend shall be determined at the sole discretion of the Board having taken into account, inter alia, the Group's financial performance, retained earnings and distributable reserves of the Group, the Group's working capital requirements and future expansion plans, the Group's liquidity position, general economic conditions, business cycle of the Group's business, contractual restrictions of the Group, the shareholders' and the investors' expectation and any other factors that the Board deems relevant.

SHAREHOLDERS' RIGHTS

Convening a special general meeting by shareholders ("SGM")

- 1. The Board shall on the written requisition of any one or more shareholders of the Company who hold at the date of the deposit of the requisition in aggregate not less than one-tenth of such of the paid-up capital of the Company that carries the right of voting at the SGM, forthwith proceed duly to convene the SGM ("Requisition"). The Requisition, which may consist of several documents in like form each signed by one or more requisitionists, must state the objects of the SGM and deposited at the Company's registered office in Bermuda at Clarendon House, 2 Church Street, Hamilton HM 11, Bermuda and the head office and principal place of business in Hong Kong at Rooms 6706-07, 67th Floor, Central Plaza, 18 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong, for the attention of the Company Secretary.
- 2. The Requisition will be verified by the branch share registrar of the Company in Hong Kong, and if the Requisition is proper and in order, the Company Secretary will ask the Board to convene a SGM by serving sufficient notice in accordance with the requirements under the Bye-laws to all the registered shareholders. On the contrary, if the Requisition has been verified as not in order, the shareholders concerned will be advised of this outcome and accordingly, a SGM will not be convened as requested.
- 3. If the Board does not within 21 days from the date of the deposit of the Requisition proceed duly to convene a SGM, the requisitionists, or any of them representing more than one half of the total voting rights of all of them, may themselves convene a SGM in the same manner, as nearly as possible, as that in which SGM may be convened by the Board as a physical meeting at only one location, but any meeting so convened shall not be held after the expiration of three months from the aforesaid date of the deposit of the Requisition.
- 4. All reasonable expenses incurred by the requisitionists as a result of the failure of the Board to convene such a SGM shall be reimbursed to them by the Company.

Procedures for directing shareholders' enquiries to the Board

Shareholders may at any time send their enquiries to the Board for the attention of the Company Secretary via email (mailbox@bewg.com.hk) or directed to the Company's head office and principal place of business in Hong Kong at Rooms 6706-07, 67th Floor, Central Plaza, 18 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong. Shareholders may also make enquiries with the Board at the general meetings of the Company.

SHAREHOLDERS' RIGHTS (Continued)

Procedures for putting forward proposals at shareholders' meetings other than a proposal of a person for election as director If a shareholder of the Company wishes to put forward proposals at the annual general meeting (the "AGM")/SGM which is to be held, such shareholder, who is duly qualified to attend and vote at such general meeting, shall follow the procedures as set out below which are required in accordance with the Bye-laws and the Listing Rules.

- 1. Shareholder(s) of the Company holding (i) not less than one-twentieth of the total voting rights of all shareholders having the right to vote at the general meeting; or (ii) not less than 100 shareholders, can submit a written request stating the resolution intended to be moved at the AGM; or a statement of not more than 1,000 words with respect to the matter referred to in any proposed resolution or the business to be dealt with at a particular general meeting.
- 2. The written request/statements must be signed by the shareholder(s) concern and deposited at the Company's registered office in Bermuda at Clarendon House, 2 Church Street, Hamilton HM 11, Bermuda and the head office and principal place of business in Hong Kong at Rooms 6706-07, 67th Floor, Central Plaza, 18 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong, for the attention of the Company Secretary, not less than six weeks before the AGM in the case of a request requiring notice of a resolution and not less than one week before the general meeting in the case of a statement.
- 3. The request will be verified by the branch share registrar of the Company in Hong Kong, and if the request is proper and in order, the Company Secretary will ask the Board of the Company (i) to include the resolution in the agenda for the AGM; or (ii) to circulate the statement for the general meeting, provided that the shareholder(s) concerned have deposited a sum of money reasonably determined by the Board sufficient to meet the Company's expenses in serving the notice of the resolution and/or circulating the statement submitted by the shareholder(s) concerned in accordance with the statutory requirements to all the registered shareholders. On the contrary, if the requisition has been verified as not in order or the shareholder(s) concerned have failed to deposit sufficient money to meet the Company's expenses for the said purposes, the shareholder(s) concerned will be advised of this outcome and accordingly, the proposed resolution will not be included in the agenda for the AGM; or the statement will not be circulated for the general meeting.

For a proposal in relation to the election of a person as a Director of the Company, shareholders may take reference to the procedures made available under headed the "Investor Relations" and "Corporate Governance" section ("Procedures for Shareholders to Propose a Person for Election as a Director") of the Company's website.

INVESTOR RELATIONS

Shareholders Communication Policy

The Company is committed to a policy of open and regular communication and reasonable disclosure of information to its shareholders so that they can exercise their rights in an informed manner. Information about the Company is disseminated to the shareholders through the following multi-channels:

- 1. Delivery of interim, annual reports as well as circulars to all shareholders of the Company;
- 2. Publication of announcements regarding interim results, annual results or other announcements in accordance with the continuing disclosure obligations under the Listing Rules as well as online sustainability reports and media releases on the websites of the Company and the Stock Exchange;
- 3. A dedicated investors and analyst briefing call to be conducted immediately following the release of an interim results or annual results;
- 4. Investor meetings upon request through various channels including but not limited to meetings such as one-on-one/ group meeting in person, virtual-conference, conference-calls and emails;
- 5. Timely updates with research analysts, in order to deliver insights in a fair and objective manner;
- 6. Publication of latest news and issues of the Company concerned by shareholders or potential investors through the 'Investor Relations' section of official website of the Company and enterprise social media, in order to spread over all kinds of investors especially for medium and small investors; and
- 7. Convening the annual general meeting or special general meetings is an effective communication channel between the Board and shareholders of the Company.

The aforesaid channels allow the Company to receive feedback from its shareholders and institutional shareholders. In addition, the Company has dedicated email accounts for taking enquiries from shareholders or potential investors.

The Board believes that effective and proper investor relations play an important role in creating shareholders' value, enhancing the corporate transparency as well as establishing market confidence.

The Audit Committee is responsible for the review of the implementation and effectiveness of the shareholders' communication policy ("Policy"). The Audit Committee had undertaken the review and the implementation and effectiveness of the Policy was confirmed.

INVESTOR RELATIONS (Continued)

Communication with shareholders

During the financial year ended 31 December 2024, the Group has proactively taken the following measures in order to ensure effective shareholders' communication and enhance our transparency:

- 1. A number of the Board members attended the 2024 annual general meeting during the year to provide shareholders with opportunities to understand the latest development of the Group and raise questions;
- 2. The Group maintained timely and effective contacts with research analysts, institutional shareholders and potential investors through various channels including but not limited to meetings such as virtual-conference meeting, conference-calls and emails; and
- 3. updated the Company's latest news and developments regularly through the 'Investor Relations' section of the Company's official website and enterprise social media, in order to spread over all kinds of investors especially for medium and small investors.

The above measures will provide them with the access to the latest development of the Group as well as the water industry.

Constitutional documents

There is no change on the constitutional documents of the Company since the amendments to the Bye-laws made on 27 June 2023. A consolidated version of the Memorandum of Association and the amended and restated bye-laws of the Company is available on both the websites of the Company and the Stock Exchange.

COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS

The Group is not aware of any instances of material breach of or non-compliance with the applicable laws and regulations such as the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622), Listing Rules, and other applicable local laws and regulations in various jurisdictions during the year ended 31 December 2024.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

During the year ended 31 December 2024, in the opinion of the Board, the Company complied with all applicable code provisions set out in the Corporate Governance Code as set out in Appendix C1 of the Listing Rules.