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Quality-control initiative: Ahmad Phesal (right) exchanging MoA documents with Sirim QAS International Sdn Bhd chairman Dr Zainal Abidin Mohd Yusof (right). Looking on is DBKL director Datuk Salleh Yusop.

DBKL sets sights on high standards

Pact signed pact with Sirim to ensure contractors provide high-quality work

By **FARAH FAZANNA ZULZAHA**
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KUALA Lumpur City Council (DBKL) has signed a memorandum of agreement (MoA) with Sirim QAS International Sdn Bhd.

This is believed to be the first between a local authority and the quality-control body in Malaysia.

Kuala Lumpur mayor Datuk Seri Ahmad Phesal Talib said the signing would ensure all work by DBKL contractors was of high quality and complies with the standards set by Sirim QAS International.

"We have received numerous complaints from Kuala Lumpur residents about potholes, burst water pipes and malfunctioning lifts, among others," he said.

He added the problems were caused by low quality materials used by the contractors.

"We hope these problems could be reduced

through the agreement with Sirim," said Ahmad Phesal.

DBKL will also be able to ensure projects are done more efficiently and provide value for money.

"KL residents can now be assured that future and present DBKL projects will be properly inspected to achieve the standards and they can enjoy a better quality of life," said the mayor.

He added that the cooperation is not meant to be a fault-finding exercise but would ensure contractors appointed by DBKL or its officers adhere to the guidelines and meet the standards.

Ahmad Phesal said DBKL previously cooperated with the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) and Public Works Institute of Malaysia (Ikram).

"With Sirim QAS International's participation, we hope to go further in providing the best services to Kuala Lumpur residents and visitors," he said.