

LegCo Select Committee to Hold Public Hearings:

The following is issued on behalf of the Legislative Council Secretariat:

The Legislative Council Select Committee on Building Problems of Public Housing Units will conduct a public hearing today (Tuesday, April 24) to continue to obtain evidence from Mr J A Miller, Director of Housing. The Select Committee has agreed that if necessary, Mr Miller will be invited to attend a public hearing again on Saturday, April 28, 2001, to continue to give evidence.

The Select Committee has also decided to cancel the public hearing originally scheduled for Thursday, May 10, 2001, due to administrative reasons. The Select Committee will summon Mr Dominic Wong Sing-wah, Secretary for Housing, to attend the public hearing to be held on Saturday, May 12, 2001. The public hearing will be continued on May 15, 2001, if necessary.

The major areas of study for the Select Committee's hearings at the current stage are the Housing Department's relationship with the Housing Authority and the Housing Bureau; the organisation of the Housing Department; the role of the Housing Department in formulating and implementing public housing policies, including making public housing production forecasts and taking measures to ensure building quality.

The hearings of the Select Committee will be conducted by four stages. According to the approved work plan, the areas of study of the three subsequent stages include:

- Examination and comparison of the existing working mechanisms for the production of housing units subject to and exempted from the Buildings Ordinance;

- Ascertaining the causes of and/or circumstances leading to the building problems in the production of public housing units in Tin Chung Court, Shatin Area 14B Phase 2, Tung Chung Area 30 Phase 3 and Shek Yam Estate Phase 2;

- Identification of improvement measures to enhance the building quality of public housing units.

The Select Committee will submit a report to the Legislative Council upon completion of work.

End/Tuesday, April 24, 2001

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