HB 9/2/1/115 2509 0268

2509 9988

3 January 2002

Miss Becky YU
Clerk to Panel
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Miss YU,

LegCo Panel on Housing Meeting on 3 December 2001

During discussion of "relief measures provided by the Housing Authority and the Housing Society for owners whose properties have become negative equity" at the captioned meeting, I explained that under current arrangements, past beneficiaries of subsidised home ownership schemes in hardship are allowed to apply for public rental housing on a discretionary basis. On the figures which I quoted as illustration, the Chairman had asked for information on their success rates (paragraph 28 of the draft minutes refers).

The Housing Department has advised that no statistics is kept on the number of unsuccessful applications due to past participation in subsidised home ownership schemes. Therefore, we have no information on the success rates of applications from past beneficiaries of subsidised home ownership schemes on a discretionary basis.

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We shall be pleased to further discuss this discretionary arrangement at the coming meeting of the LegCo Panel on Housing on 7 January 2002.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Joey LAM) for Secretary for Housing

c.c. Director of Housing (Attn: Mr K H LAU) 2715 8871