

HB 9/2/1/114 (TC 33/2001)

2509 0268

2509 9988

5 January 2002

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

Dear

LegCo Panel on Housing
Meeting on 5 November 2001

At the captioned meeting of the LegCo Panel on Housing, Secretary for Housing briefed Members on the Chief Executive's Policy Address 2001. During the session, Members asked for more information on clearance of rooftop structures, in particular on the number of rooftop dwellers not covered by the freezing survey.

For clearance of illegal rooftop structures, a freezing survey is conducted in parallel with the issue of statutory enforcement order under Section 24(1) of the Buildings Ordinance by the Buildings Department. The aim is to register genuine residents occupying the affected structures who may be in need of rehousing. Actual clearance is carried out at least three months after the freezing survey to allow sufficient time for rehousing.

/.....

Since 1997, the Housing Department has conducted freezing surveys on 895 buildings against which enforcement action has been initiated. Of the 2 015 households registered during these surveys, 792 households have been rehoused to different types of public housing or have received allowances in lieu of rehousing. Some 285 cases are still in progress. While some of the remaining households have moved out voluntarily without requesting rehousing, the others were not eligible for rehousing due to various reasons, e.g. failing the property ownership restriction, having alternative accommodation, not able to pass the Comprehensive Means Test, etc. No statistics on these cases had been kept.

Since no freezing survey is carried out on illegal rooftop structures not yet issued with enforcement orders, we have no information on the number of occupants in these structures.

Please let me know if you require further information.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Joey LAM)
for Secretary for Housing

c.c. Director of Housing

(Attn: Mr K H LAU)

2715 8871