

For Information

Legislative Council Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting

Mobile Telephone Coverage at Tin Fu Court, Tin Yuet Estate and Tin Hang Estate, Tin Shui Wai

Introduction

In relation to mobile telephone service coverage at Tin Fu Court, Tin Yuet Estate and Tin Heng Estate, a member asked the Administration to report on the service coverage of these areas.

Background

2. Tin Fu Court, Tin Yuet Estate and Tin Heng Estate (the “new estates”) are new public housing estates situated at the northern part of the Tin Shui Wai residential area. The ready date of tenancy of Tin Fu Court and Tin Yuet Estate was January 2001 while that of Tin Hang Estate was July 2001.

3. Currently, mobile telephone service in the northern part of the Tin Shui Wai residential area is provided by the radio base stations installed at Tin Wah and Tin Shui Estates, which are to the south of the “new estates”. The Office of Telecommunications Authority (“OFTA”) conducted on-site inspections in June and October 2001. The inspections revealed that the quality of mobile service at street level of the new estates was acceptable. However, due to the physical distance and blocking of the radio signals by the new estates, the mobile service at indoor environment of the new estates is not satisfactory.

4. After the inspections, OFTA has followed up with all the six mobile operators on the improvement works to be carried out to improve the mobile service at the new estates. To improve the service quality permanently, the mobile network operators will install new radio base stations at Tin Yuet and Tin Chak Estates to serve the northern part of the Tin Shui Wai residential area.

5. The mobile network operators have submitted seven applications for new radio base stations at Tin Yuet/Tin Chak Estates to the Housing Department during May to December 2001. For the five applications which were submitted earlier during May to mid November 2001, the Housing Department has already approved one of them and reverted to the operators for re-submission on the remaining four applications. For the two later applications in late November/early December 2001, Housing Department is actively processing the applications. Once approved, the new base stations would be ready for service in about six week's time. It is expected that the mobile service at Tin Fu Court, Tin Yuet Estate and Tin Heng Estate would be progressively improved and the service quality would reach a satisfactory level once all new base stations are in service. OFTA will continue to work with the operators and Housing Department to facilitate the provision of satisfactory mobile telephone services to the residents of the new estates.

Office of Telecommunications Authority
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