

Panel on Housing

List of outstanding items for discussion (position as at 3 June 2004)

Proposed timing for discussion

1. Divestment of the Housing Authority's retail and carparking facilities

The subject was discussed at the meetings of the Panel on 3 November 2003, 1 December 2003 and 3 May 2004. In consideration of the need to address the many concerns raised by members and the affected parties, the Chairman suggested that the subject be discussed again, possibly at the July meeting. The Chief Executive Officer of the company set up to manage the divested facilities and the affected parties may be invited to attend the meeting.

July 2004

2. Sales descriptions of uncompleted residential properties

Arising from a referral from Duty Roster Members (DRMs) on problematic uncompleted residential properties in Mainland China (LC Paper No. CB(1)529/98-99), members wish to be consulted on the regulations governing the sales descriptions of overseas uncompleted residential properties.

Early 2004

The Administration proposes to brief members on review of sales description of local uncompleted residential properties.

3. Review of domestic rent policy

On the advice of the Administration and with the concurrence of the Chairman, the subject was scheduled for discussion upon the completion of the domestic rent review.

To be confirmed

In the Judicial Review in respect of the Housing Authority (HA)'s decisions to defer the review of public rental housing (PRH) rents in 2001 and 2002, the Court

**Proposed timing for
discussion**

of First Instance ruled in favour of the two applicants for the Judicial Review. Pursuant to this outcome, a special meeting was called on 16 July 2003 to discuss the issue of median rent-to-income ratio (MRIR) for PRH flats. During the meeting, the issue of rent review was raised. A motion urging the Administration to review the rent of PRH units following the High Court's making of an order in respect of the Judgement was passed. It was decided that the Panel should discuss the way forward contemplated by the Administration after the judgment concerning the MRIR case had been delivered by the Court of Appeal.

4. General Rent Allowance Scheme

The subject was proposed by the Administration.

To be confirmed

5. Development of infrastructure to tie in with housing projects

To monitor the progress of the infrastructural development to tie in with housing projects. Members may wish to consider the issue in conjunction with the Panel on Transport.

To be confirmed

6. Eligibility criteria required of residents of interim housing and affected by works projects for public rental housing

Duty Roster Members (DRMs) handled a complaint case about eligibility criteria required of residents of the Shek Lei (II) Interim Housing Estate when applying for public rental housing. The deputation requested that interim housing residents be waived of the eligibility criteria on income and assets limits for PRH, and for acceleration of allocation of PRH. Hon Albert HO, Panel Chairman, one of the DRMs, instructed that the subject be put on the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion.

To be confirmed

Tai Po District Council (TPDC) members also raised at their meeting with LegCo Members on 4 March 2004

**Proposed timing for
discussion**

concerns about the rehousing eligibility of residents affected by the project at Ma Wat River. According to TPDC members, affected residents were dissatisfied that, while their homes would be demolished by the Government because of the project, they would be subject to the income and asset limits for rehousing to PRH flats.

7. Disposal of surplus Home Ownership Scheme (HOS) flats

The subject was proposed by members at the regular meeting of the Panel on 2 February 2004. Subsequently, two joint meetings with the Panel on Planning, Lands and Works were held on 17 February and 8 March 2004 to discuss the disposal of surplus HOS and Private Sector Participation Scheme (PSPS) flats in the wake of the agreement reached by the Administration with the developer of the Hung Hom Peninsula PSPS project over the disposal of the flats concerned. Disposal of Kingsford Terrace PSPS flats would also be discussed at the Panel's regular meeting in June.

To be confirmed

8. Assistance to elderly owners of dilapidated buildings

The issue was referred to the Panel by the Complaints Division after a meeting of LegCo members with the Society for Community Organization on 23 February 2004 on how the Government can help solve the housing problems faced by elderly occupier-owners of dilapidated buildings. The issue was subsequently discussed at the April regular meeting of the Panel. The Administration was requested to review the "property ownership restriction" for public rental housing. The Chairman has instructed that the item be put on the list for follow-up in due course.

To be confirmed