

For information
on 19 July 2004

Legislative Council Panel on Health Services

**Disposal of Electric Appliances and Furniture Items
in Temporary Quarters for Healthcare Staff at
Tin Yan Estate and King Hin Court**

PURPOSE

This paper informs Members of the Administration's proposal to dispose of the electric appliances and furniture items (the store items) in the temporary quarters for healthcare staff set up in April 2003 at the Tin Yan Estate, Tin Sui Wai and King Hin Court, Diamond Hill during the outbreak of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

BACKGROUND

2. During the outbreak of SARS in Hong Kong last year, with the assistance of the Housing Department (HD) and the former Government Supplies Department (currently the Government Logistics Department), urgent arrangements were made to acquire various store items at a cost of about \$17.70 million for furnishing some 2,360 units in Tin Yan Estate and King Hin Court as temporary quarters for frontline healthcare staff to minimize the chance of infection among them and their families -

- (a) Blocks 2 and 3, Tin Yan Estate – a total of 1,344 units have been fully furnished with air-conditioners, gas stoves, water heaters, refrigerators, television sets, beds, sofas, tables, chairs, and other minor furniture items (Note: for the 672 units at Block 1, Tin Yan Estate, only gas stoves and water heaters have been installed. Out of these 672 units, air-conditioners have been installed in only 150 units); and

- (b) King Hin Court – a total of 344 units have been furnished with gas stoves, television sets, refrigerators, beds, sofas, tables, chairs and other minor furniture items (Note: the air-conditioners and water heaters therein are properties of HD).

3. Although the World Health Organisation has removed Hong Kong from the list of areas with local transmission of SARS on 23 June 2003, the living units at Tin Yan Estate and King Hin Court have been put on the reserve to prepare for possible outbreaks in the flu season earlier this year. Hong Kong was spared from the attack of SARS despite its sporadic outbreak in neighbouring countries during the past flu season. In the past year, the Administration and the Hospital Authority also put in tremendous efforts in strengthening our preparedness and alertness against the disease. The Administration and the community as a whole have now become much more prepared. Having considered the overall circumstances, we have decided that it is time we should return the blocks to HD.

PROPOSAL

4. In releasing the reserved blocks at Tin Yan Estate and King Hin Court to HD to better meet the public demand for public housing, it is also necessary to dispose of the existing store items installed at Tin Yan Estate and King Hin Court. A list of the store items installed at Tin Yan Estate and King
----- Hin Court which require disposal are at Enclosures 1 and 2 respectively.

5. In accordance with the provisions of the Government Stores and Procurement Regulations, we shall dispose of the store items in question in the following manner -

- (a) circulate the store items amongst other Government Bureaux and Departments for possible transfer to meet their operational needs; and
- (b) for the remaining store items which are not required by other Government Bureaux and Departments and of a saleable value, they will be disposed of by means of tendering or auctioning with the assistance of the Government Logistics Department.

ALTERNATIVE APPROACH CONSIDERED

6. We have considered the alternative approach of retaining and storing the store items for possible use in future. We have not adopted this approach because of the following problems associated with it -

- (a) additional administrative cost will have to be incurred, e.g. for the air-conditioners (1,552 units), gas stoves (2,360 units), water heaters (2,016 units), beds and plastic wardrobes (about 3,300 units) to be retained for future use, a dismantling and make-good cost of about \$1.50 million will be required. Suitable storage space of about 3,000 sq.m. will also be required and the annual rental involved is in the region of \$1.26 million. Besides, a transportation cost of about \$1.10 million will be required for delivering the store items from Tin Yan Estate and King Hin Court to the storage space and security guard service at a cost of about \$288,000 per annum has to be acquired to attend to the storage space on an ongoing basis; and
- (b) some store items will be damaged in the process of dismantling and delivery and some store items will deteriorate due to normal wear and tear with the passage of time.

7. Members are invited to note the content of this paper.

Health, Welfare and Food Bureau
15 July 2004

Electric Appliances and Furniture Items
at Tin Yan Estate

Enclosure 1

	<u>Item</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	Air-conditioner	1,552
2	TV Set (21")	1,071
3	Refrigerator	672
4	Gas Stove	2,016
5	Water Heater	2,016
6	Basic 2-seater Sofa	3
7	Battery	556
8	Bed Sheet & Pillow Case	2,051
9	Bucket	400
10	Chopstick (each pack contains 10 pairs)	400
11	Dinning Table	848
12	Dobule Iron Bunk	429
13	Face Towel	1,025
14	Electric Fan	1,067
15	Floormat	120
16	Folding Chair with backrest	4
17	Folding Table	447
18	F-type Antenna	1,072
19	Household Bleach (bottle)	1,200
20	Kettle	1,060
21	Laundry Powder (packet)	400
22	Liquid Soap (bottle)	400
23	Mattress	854
24	Mop (Head & Handle)	400
25	Notebook Computer	2
26	Pillow	1,029
27	Plastic Basin	400
28	Plastic Chair	2,153
29	Plastic Clothing Hangers	5,600
30	Plastic Cup	1,025
31	Plastic Refuse Bag	4,000
32	Plastic Rice Bowl	1,025
33	Plastic Spoon	400
34	Portable Radio	800
35	PVC Sofa Bed (3-seater)	400
36	Quilt	1,029
37	Round Shape Clothing Hangers with Clips	400
38	Dust Bin	1,067
39	Saucepan	775
40	Sideboard	852
41	Single Bed	475
42	Sofa Bed	672
43	Table	227
44	Thermo Flask	1,061
45	Toilet Brush	400
46	Toilet Paper (roll)	4,000
47	Toothbrush	1,025
48	Toothpaste	400
49	Plastic Wardrobe	1,075
	Total	50,355

Electric Appliances and Furniture Items
at King Hin Court

Enclosure 2

	<u>Item</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	TV Set (21")	344
2	Refrigerator	344
3	Gas Stove	344
4	Basic 2-seater Sofa	344
5	Bed with Foam Mattress	660
6	Blanket	660
7	Chair	660
8	Desk	660
9	Dinning Table	344
10	F-type Antenna	344
11	Pillow	660
12	Sideboard	344
13	Plastic Wardrobe	660
	Total	6368