

Panel on Housing

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 30 March 2006)

**Proposed timing for
discussion**

1. Proposed directorate establishment of Housing Department

Proposed by the Administration. The Administration will consult the Panel on the proposed creation of two supernumerary posts and redistribution of responsibilities among existing directorate staff in the Housing Department. Subject to the Panel's agreement, the Administration plans to submit the proposals for consideration by the Establishment Subcommittee on 14 June 2006 and the Finance Committee on 7 July 2006.

9 May 2006

2. Comprehensive Structural Investigation of Aged Public Housing Estates

Proposed by the Administration. The Administration will brief the Panel on the Housing Authority (HA)'s initiative to conduct comprehensive structural investigation on public housing estates aged 40 years or more, and the outcome of such investigation on two aged estates, namely, Sai Wan Estate and So Uk Estate.

9 May 2006

3. Policy on express allocation of PRH flats

Proposed by Mr Albert CHAN. He would like the Administration to brief the Panel on the policy and existing arrangements on express allocation of public rental housing (PRH) flats. The Administration has provided updated information on the Policy on Express Flat Allocation Scheme vide LC Paper No. CB(1)249/05-06(01) on 9 November 2005.

To be decided

Proposed timing for discussion

4. Allocation of PRH flats for the elderly to other PRH applicants

Proposed by Mr WONG Kwok-hing. He called upon the Panel to discuss the general issue of allocating PRH flats for the elderly to other categories of PRH applicants.

To be decided

5. New policy on one-person applicants for PRH

Proposed by Mr Albert CHAN. He was concerned about the impact of the new policy on one-person PRH applicants and would like the Panel to follow up the issue.

To be decided

6. Flat supply in the private sector

Raised by Mr LEE Wing-tat. He would like to be briefed on the latest progress in this regard.

To be decided

7. Review of public housing policy to take into account changes in demographics in Hong Kong

The ageing population and the continuous decline in birth rate have aroused public concern on the need for a review of the existing housing policies to take into account such demographic changes. To address the problem of ageing population, members urged the Administration to significantly raise the asset limits for the elderly households and relax the PRH eligibility criteria for the elderly in general. The subject was also discussed at the meeting between LegCo Members and the Tsuen Wan District Council on 6 January 2005 and various proposals on how assistance to the elderly could be improved through adjusting the public housing policy were referred to the Panel for necessary follow-up. The referral and the relevant extracts of minutes were circulated to Panel members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)996/04-05 on 25 February 2005.

To be decided

**Proposed timing for
discussion**

8. Demarcation and management of common areas in public housing estates sold under the Tenants Purchase Scheme (TPS)

The issue was raised at the meeting between LegCo Members and the Kwai Tsing District Council (KTDC) on 8 December 2005. Concerns about the principles and guidelines on the demarcation of common areas under TPS, and the obligations between HA and The Link Management Ltd. as reflected in the sale agreement on the divestment of HA's retail facilities were referred to the Panel for appropriate follow-up on the policy issues concerned. The referral and the relevant extracts of minutes were circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)1189/05-06 on 28 March 2006.

To be decided

9. Provision and management of facilities in public housing estates

Relevant cases were raised at the meeting between LegCo Members and KTDC on 8 December 2005. KTDC members' views on the programme to replace hollow main doors of public housing units and the need to install lift towers and footbridges in public housing estates built on slopes were referred to the Panel for appropriate follow-up on the policy issues concerned. The referral and the relevant extracts of minutes were circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)1189/05-06 on 28 March 2006.

To be decided