

Panel on Housing

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 29 November 2005)

Proposed timing for discussion

1. Programme for provision of drain pipes for air-conditioners in existing public housing blocks

The subject was proposed by the Administration.

5 January 2006

2. Disposal of surplus Home Ownership Scheme (HOS) flats and Private Sector Participation Scheme (PSPS) flats

The Panel discussed the subject at various meetings in the 2003-04 session. 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 PSPS flats in the wake of the agreement reached by the Administration with the developer of the Hunghom Peninsula PSPS project over the disposal of the flats concerned. At the meeting on 7 June 2004, the Panel further discussed the proposed use of surplus HOS flats for reprovisioning departmental quarters for disciplinary services. Disposal of Kingsford Terrace PSPS flats was also discussed at the Panel meeting on 5 July 2004. At the meeting on 6 December 2004, the Panel further discussed the disposal of the Hunghom Peninsula PSPS flats. The Panel may wish to follow up the general issue of disposal of HOS flats, recently discussed at the meeting on 12 April 2005, from time to time.

5 January 2006

3. Public consultation on policy on public housing rent

The subject was proposed by the Administration.

February 2006

4. Review of income and asset limits for Waiting List applicants

The subject was proposed by the Administration.

March 2006

Proposed timing for discussion

5. Provision of District Open Space adjacent to public housing estates

The subject was proposed by the Administration.

Second quarter of 2006

6. Impact of the relaxation of security of tenure on tenants

Proposed by Mr Frederick FUNG. He expressed concern that landlords were able to evict tenants without compensation after the relaxation of security of tenure. Tenants, particularly those who were marginally not eligible for PRH, also had difficulties in finding suitable alternative accommodation due to the surge in rentals after the relaxation. Similar concerns were raised in the referrals from Duty Roster Members circulated vide LC Paper Nos. CB(1) 2301/04-05 and CB(1) 67/05-06.

To be decided

7. 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 PRH flats.

To be decided
(Upon receipt of information paper to be provided by the Administration)

8. 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

9. 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

**Proposed timing for
discussion**

10. 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

11. Briefing by the Estate Agents Authority

The subject was proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

12. 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