

香港特別行政區政府
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

房屋及規劃地政局

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4 November 2005

Clerk to LegCo Panel on Housing
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong

(Attn: Miss Becky Yu)

Dear Miss Yu,

**Legislative Council Panel on Housing
Policy on Express Flat Allocation Scheme**

At our meeting with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman on 1 November to discuss the Panel's workplan for the 2005-06 legislative session, we undertook to provide information on the Housing Authority's Express Flat Allocation Scheme.

The Express Flat Allocation Scheme is aimed at expediting the letting of less popular public rental flats, e.g. flats in relatively remote areas or older housing estates; flats with less desirable floor level, orientation, surroundings or facilities; and flats which had been involved in unpleasant incidents. The Scheme also allows eligible applicants on the Waiting List to gain earlier access to public rental housing.

For each exercise under the Express Flat Allocation Scheme, invitations are issued to eligible Waiting List applicants. Priority in flat selection will be determined in accordance with the applicants' place on the Waiting List. Flat selection is not subject to locational restriction but has to meet the allocation criteria on flat size. Applicants who have successfully selected flats and have their eligibility for public housing verified will be allocated the flats they have chosen. The applications of those who are unable to secure an allocation will continue to be processed in the normal manner according to prevailing policies and procedures.

Since introduction of the Express Flat Allocation Scheme in 1997, the Housing Department has conducted ten exercises, with the total number of applications amounting to 77 700 (including repeat applications from the same applicants in different exercises). About 5 600 families have been allocated public housing flats in advance of normal turn. For the tenth exercise launched in May 2005, vetting and letting procedures are still in progress.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Joey Lam)
for Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

c.c. AA/SHPL
DD(AC)