## **Bills Committee on Stamp Duty (Amendment) Bill 2013**

## List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion at the meeting on 25 April 2014

The Administration has been requested to provide written response on the following issues:

- (a) explain why the exemption from the enhanced ad valorem stamp duty arrangement in respect of acquisition of a residential property on behalf of a Hong Kong Permanent Resident ("HKPR") minor by his/her trustee/guardian is not applicable to the purchase of Tenants Purchase Scheme flats, and consider extending the exemption to cover the acquisition of such flats;
- (b) in respect of the acquisition of a residential property on behalf of a HKPR minor by his/her trustee/guardian, clarify which party (the HKPR minor or his/her trustee/guardian) would be the declarer to declare that the minor is a HKPR and is not a beneficial owner of any other residential property in Hong Kong; and
- (c) given the actual beneficial ownership of a property may belong to a person/company other than the purchaser due to the great variety of trust arrangements:
  - (i) consider clarifying the meaning of "beneficial owner" as defined in the Bill so that it applies only to the purchaser and not any other person/company by virtue of any trust arrangements, and set out in the relevant declaration form that the purchaser and the beneficial owner of an acquired property is the same person; and
  - (ii) the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury should address the point on "beneficial owner" in his speech on the resumption of the second reading debate on the Bill.

Council Business Division 1 Legislative Council Secretariat 2 May 2014