

[Translation]

香港特別行政區政府

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

運輸及房屋局

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27 May 2016

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Room 1017
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Dr Hon CHEUNG,

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2016-17
(Question Serial No. R034 - R036)

I refer to the above questions which you raised during the examination of the estimates of expenditure for 2016-17 regarding the public rental housing (PRH) units reserved for Urban Renewal Authority (URA) by the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA). Our reply is as follows.

In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) entered between URA and HA in June 2002 and revised in June 2012, PRH units will be reserved for rehousing clearerees of URA. URA shall pay HA reservation fees equivalent to the amount of monthly rent payable for the reserved units.

HA draws up the annual PRH allocation plan every year to project the number of units required for various categories in the coming year. The number of units set aside for URA's clearance projects in the approved annual PRH allocation plan and number of PRH units actually used by URA in the past five years are set out below.

Financial Year	Number of PRH units reserved for URA's clearance projects in the approved Annual PRH Allocation Plan	Number of PRH units actually used by URA for rehousing purposes
2011-2012	180	131
2012-2013	180	105
2013-2014	280	153
2014-2015	150	227 ^{Note}
2015-2016 (As at end December 2015)	240	124

Note : Most of the displaced residents of URA's six "demand-led" redevelopment projects were rehoused during the year. In addition, rehousing of affected tenants in one of those projects was advanced in light of the demolition order issued by the Buildings Department. As a result, the number of PRH units taken up by URA in the year was more than the number reserved in the Allocation Plan.

As agreed in the MOU, URA has to pay the relevant reservation fees and actual fees for using the flats for rehousing purposes. Since there are often changes in URA's redevelopment projects, the new and recycled units actually reserved by HA will also be changed from time to time. Hence, HA does not have the relevant statistics.

Yours sincerely,

(Original Signed)

(Jerry CHEUNG)

for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.

Clerk to the Legislative Council Finance Committee (Attn: Mr Daniel SIN)
Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Attn: Ms Emily TSANG)