

(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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Transport and Housing Bureau

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13 July 2016

Mr Derek Lo  
Clerk to Panel on Housing  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road, Central  
Hong Kong

Dear Mr LO,

**Panel on Housing**

**Follow-up to Meeting on 10 May 2016**

In response to your referral dated 6 June 2016 enclosing a letter jointly from concern groups suggesting to set up bazaars in various public housing estates, I am authorised to reply as below.

2. The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) had written to the Chairmen of respective District Councils (DCs) to explain its stance and the considerations that need to be taken into account regarding the proposals from various local organisations on the setting up of bazaars. FHB also suggested the Chairmen of respective DCs to discuss and follow up on the proposals at DCs.

3. From time to time, the Housing Department receives applications from community organisations for holding different activities in public housing estates under the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA). Interested organisations may submit their applications to the respective estate management offices. However, such activities shall not involve any commercial element. The estate management offices will process the applications in accordance with established procedures and requirements. In addition, venues in designated shopping centres and public housing estates under HA are also available for letting out at a fee for holding short-term promotional and sales activities.

4. Regarding any proposals of setting up bazaars in open areas in public housing estates, HA will consider the need and circumstances of the estates concerned, in accordance with the Government's policy and established arrangement on the setting up of bazaars. At the same time, HA has to carefully examine the impact of such proposals on individual estates. In general, public housing estates are densely populated. Open spaces on the ground level are often used for public passage, sitting-out areas or common spaces for residents' use. HA has to thoroughly consider residents' need for common spaces, as well as the views of residents, other stakeholders and the local community on the change in its use. At the same time, HA also needs to consider whether the proposals would cause environmental hygiene problems, obstruction of public passages, nuisances to residents or illegal hawking activities, etc. Furthermore, some public housing estates are located on land lots subject to land leases, which set out restrictions on floor area and land use. Hence, approval from the Lands Department and consent from other owners may be required for implementation of such proposals.

Yours sincerely,

( Original signed )

( Jerry Cheung )  
for Secretary for Transport and Housing