

(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 6 June 2016

In response to your referral on 7 June 2016 enclosing a letter from the Land Justice League dated 6 June 2016 suggesting to set up bazaars in 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 respective DC Chairmen to discuss and follow up on the proposals at DCs.

3. Regarding any proposals of setting up bazaars in open areas in

public housing estates, the Hong Kong Housing Authority (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 the 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