

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

運輸及房屋局

香港九龍何文田佛光街 33 號



Transport and Housing Bureau

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10 January 2017

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

Dear Mr Lo,

Legislative Council Panel on Housing
Meeting on 5 December 2016

I enclose the supplementary information requested by Members at the meeting on 5 December 2016 relating to the “excess lead in drinking water in public rental housing estates” incident (**Annex**).

Yours sincerely,

(Original signed)

(Jerry Cheung)

for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c. Food and Health Bureau

**Legislative Council Panel on Housing
Meeting on 5 December 2016**

**“Excess Lead in Drinking Water in
Public Rental Housing Estates” Incident**

Supplementary Information

At the Legislative Council Panel on Housing meeting held on 5 December 2016, Members requested the Government to provide supplementary information on matters relating to the “excess lead in drinking water in public rental housing (PRH) estates” incident. The supplementary information is set out below:

- (a) About 2 000 building materials are covered in the risk assessment exercise conducted by the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA). The main categories of materials covered are set out at **Appendix**.
- (b) For the 126 children who have been tested to have borderline raised blood lead levels, the Department of Health (DH) has been conducting developmental surveillance for them. Up till now, 30 of them have been found to have mild developmental problems for which surveillance and follow-up are required; another 11 children have been found to have signs of developmental delay. Children identified with mild developmental problems or developmental delay have been referred to appropriate rehabilitation services, such as training, special education support, and clinical service, etc. Children showing no signs of developmental problems have already been referred to the Maternal and Child Health Centres or the Student Health Service for enhanced developmental surveillance to facilitate appropriate follow-up.

Child development is a continuous process which may change as the child grows. Therefore, the DH will conduct continuous monitoring on the development of these children.

- (c) As reported to the Legislative Council previously, on 11 November 2015, the HA announced that tenants of the 11

PRH developments in which excess lead in drinking water was found would receive subsidies for offsetting part of the water and sewage charges payable. The cost for implementing this subsidy scheme, involving around \$20 million, is provided by the four contractors concerned. Under the scheme, each domestic household and each non-domestic tenant in a domestic block in the 11 affected PRH developments receives a subsidy of \$660. Since 1 January 2016, the subsidy has been allocated to a subsidy reserve for each of the tenants on a daily basis throughout 366 days, for paying the tenant's water bills within three years. The water consumption of each tenant varies. If the subsidy is less than the sum of water charges and sewage charges payable, any excess amount will have to be paid by the tenants themselves. If the subsidy is larger than the sum of charges payable, any unutilised amount will remain in the subsidy reserve until the three-year period expires. In cases where existing tenants move out of any of these affected developments during the three-year period, any unutilised subsidy will apply to the new tenants moving in.

Transport and Housing Bureau
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Main categories of building materials covered in the risk assessment exercise conducted by the Hong Kong Housing Authority

(A) Architectural (over 1 000 materials), main categories as follows -

- i) Aluminium window components
- ii) Timber and Metal door components
- iii) Glazing
- iv) Gatesets
- v) Kitchen components
- vi) Bathroom fittings and fixtures
- vii) Finishes
- viii) Ironmongery
- ix) Masonry/Brick/Block work
- x) Metal work
- xi) Plumbing materials
- xii) Carpentry & Joinery
- xiii) Drainage materials
- xiv) External landscape works
- xv) Play/fitness equipment
- xvi) Sundry etc.

(B) Building Services (over 600 materials), main categories as follows -

(1) Electrical Installation

- (i) Low voltage switchgear and associated equipment
- (ii) Cubicle type switchboards
- (iii) Cables, cable ducts and cable trays
- (iv) Steel conduits, fittings & boxes
- (v) Steel trunking and fittings
- (vi) Plastic conduit, fittings & boxes
- (vii) Lightning & earthing system components
- (viii) Bell and audible warning system components
- (ix) Wiring accessories
- (x) Lamps, luminaires, & associated control-gears
- (xi) Standby diesel generating sets & accessories

- (xii) Communal aerial broadcast distribution system components
- (xiii) Security system components
- (xiv) Doorphone system components
- (xv) CCTV and intercom system (for temporary refugee space) components
- (xvi) Public address system components
- (xvii) Carpark control and management system components

(2) Fire Services and Water Pump Installation

- (i) Pipework and fittings
- (ii) System component fittings
- (iii) Pressure vessels
- (iv) Pump sets
- (v) Hydrant/Hosereel system components
- (vi) Automatic sprinkler system components
- (vii) Gas extinguishing system components
- (viii) Fire alarm and control system components
- (ix) Motors, starters and electric works
- (x) Portable equipment
- (xi) Rainwater harvesting system components

(3) Lift and Escalator Installation

(a) Lift Installation

- (i) Guides and fixing
- (ii) Car counterweight buffers
- (iii) Counterweights
- (iv) Suspension
- (v) Terminal stopping and final limit switches
- (vi) Guarding
- (vii) Lift car and associated components
- (viii) CCTV system components
- (ix) Lift car doors and landing doors
- (x) Landing fixtures and indicators
- (xi) Safety gear and governor
- (xii) Overload device
- (xiii) Lift machinery for electric lift
- (xiv) Controller
- (xv) lift alarm system components

(b) Escalator Installation

- (i) Steps and associated components
- (ii) Tracks
- (iii) Landing plates
- (iv) Balustrading
- (v) Handrails
- (vi) Truss
- (vii) Driving machinery
- (viii) Braking system components
- (ix) Safety & alarm devices and control system components

(4) **Air-conditioning and Mechanical Ventilation System Installation**

(Adopting General Specification for Air-conditioning, Refrigeration, Ventilation and Central Monitoring & Control System Installation in Government Buildings issued by Architectural Services Department)

- (i) Air cleaning equipment
- (ii) Ductwork and accessories
- (iii) Air handling and treatment equipment
- (iv) Automatic control system components
- (v) Central control and monitoring system components
- (vi) Central refrigeration machine, direct expansion and heat rejection plant
- (vii) Electric motors and electrical work
- (viii) Noise and vibration control equipment
- (ix) Pipes, valves, cocks and strainers
- (x) System monitoring instrument
- (xi) Thermal Insulation
- (xii) Unitary air-conditioner
- (xiii) Water handling equipment
- (xiv) Chemical dosing system components

(5) **Refuse Handling System Installation**

- (i) Refuse handling equipment and accessories
- (ii) De-odourizing agent, storage tanks, pumpsets and pipeworks
- (iii) Dosing equipment

(C) Structural (over 60 materials), main categories as follows -

- i) Concrete
- ii) Reinforcement
- iii) Formwork and Falsework
- iv) Piling related Materials
- v) Structural Glass
- vi) Lifting Appliance

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