

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

政府總部
運輸及房屋局

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22 January 2021

Clerk to Panel on Welfare Services
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road,
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn: Ms Maisie LAM)

Dear Ms LAM,

**Follow-up to the Request for Information on
The Cash Allowance Trial Scheme**

Thank you for your letter of 14 January 2021 regarding the request for information on the Cash Allowance Trial Scheme (the Trial Scheme). Our response is set out as follows.

Under the three-year Trial Scheme, cash allowance will be provided to eligible General Applicant (GA) households who are not living in public housing, not receiving the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) and have waited for public rental housing (PRH) for more than three years without being given the first PRH flat offer.

The Housing Department has been preparing for the launch of the Trial Scheme, and aims to start receiving applications in mid-2021 and disbursing cash allowance from July 2021 onwards as announced in the 2020 Policy Address.

It is estimated that around 90 000 GA households may be eligible for the Trial Scheme upon its launch in mid-2021. Additional GA households may become eligible once they have waited for PRH for more than three years, while some GA households will cease to receive cash allowance under the Trial Scheme when they are no longer eligible (e.g. having been provided with the first PRH flat offer). The actual number of beneficiaries after the launch of the Trial Scheme will be subject to a variety of factors, such as the proportion of GA household members receiving CSSA then, the latest number of PRH flats available for allocation, etc..

The Government has briefed the Legislative Council Panel on Housing on the Trial Scheme at the meeting of 14 January 2021. The relevant Panel paper can be found at: <https://www.legco.gov.hk/yr20-21/english/panels/hg/papers/hgcb1-293-3-e.pdf>.

Yours sincerely,



(Nelson SO)

for Secretary for Transport and Housing

cc. Secretary for Labour and Welfare
(Attn: Ms Martina LEE)