

Bills Committee on Urban Renewal Authority Bill

Concerns raised at the meetings on 15 and 16 May 2000

Members requested the Administration -

- (a) to consider setting up advisory committees in each district for the purpose of collecting public views on redevelopment matters. A member is of the view that residents' representatives should sit on these advisory committees;
- (b) to explain the circumstances under which tenants affected by redevelopment projects would be allowed to opt for cash compensation. A member is concerned whether tenants who refuse to accept interim housing would be eligible for choosing cash compensation. As tenants who have accepted cash compensation will be subject to certain conditions, the Administration is requested to advise what these conditions are;
- (c) to negotiate with the Housing Authority (HA) again on the terms of the preliminary agreement. Members have made the following proposals -
 - (i) Urban Renewal Authority (URA) purchase 1,000 public rental flats annually from HA and allocate these flats to tenants affected by redevelopment projects in accordance with its criteria;
 - (ii) URA rent 1,000 public rental flats from HA and sublet these flats to tenants affected by redevelopment projects in accordance with its criteria; and
 - (iii) URA be given the power to allocate a certain percentage of the annual quota of public rental flats from HA in accordance with its criteria; and
- (d) to explain the establishment and operation of the urban renewal social work teams to be set up by URA with reference to the experience of the Land Development Corporation.