

立法會
Legislative Council

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(These minutes have been cleared
by the Chairman)

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**Subcommittee on
Rehousing Arrangements for Residents Affected
by Clearance of Squatter Areas**

**Minutes of fifth meeting
held on Monday, 29 May 2000, at 2:30 pm
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

Members present : Hon LEE Cheuk-yan (Chairman)
Hon CHAN Yuen-han
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung

Members absent : Hon LEE Wing-tat
Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, JP

Clerk in attendance : Mrs Mary TANG, Chief Assistant Secretary (1)6

Staff in attendance : Miss Becky YU, Senior Assistant Secretary (1)3

The Chairman informed members that the Subcommittee's request to meet the Chairman of the Housing Authority (HA), the Chairman of Rental Housing Committee of HA, the Secretary for Housing, and the Director of Housing to exchange views on the rehousing arrangements for residents affected by squatter clearance had been declined. These officers had not accepted the Subcommittee's invitation to attend the meeting, although the Chairman had indicated that the meeting could be closed to the public should they wish. Instead, the Administration had proposed to send the Deputy Secretary for Housing and the Deputy Director of Housing to meet with members. As the Subcommittee had already met with the representatives of the Housing Bureau and the Housing Department at its earlier meetings, the Chairman considered that it would not serve the purpose to continue discussion with the same level of officers. Therefore, he had decided to hold an internal discussion with members on the way forward.

2. The Chairman said that as the Housing Panel would be holding its last regular meeting of the current session on 5 June 2000, he suggested that a report setting out the deliberations of the Subcommittee be submitted to the Panel for discussion at the meeting. The report should set out the following requests which had been pursued by the Subcommittee but to no avail -

- (a) Provision of Interim Housing in the urban areas;
- (b) Review of the 1984/85 Squatter Occupancy Survey, the 923 policy and the comprehensive means test; and
- (c) Review on the rehousing policy for elderly residents affected by clearance of squatter areas.

3. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung expressed dissatisfaction that the senior officers of the Housing Authority and the Administration had declined to have direct dialogue with the Subcommittee on policy issues. He suggested that the matter be brought to the Housing Panel at its meeting on 5 June 2000 such that consideration could be given to bringing the matter to the attention of the House Committee. Miss CHAN Yuen-han expressed regret that the officers had declined the invitation.

4. The Chairman further pointed out that the refusal of senior officers responsible for the formation of housing policies to have direct dialogue with a Subcommittee of the Legislative Council with a responsibility for specific housing policy had undermined the relationship between the Executive and the Legislature. He agreed that the matter should be brought before the House Committee, which would be requested to liaise with the Administration regarding the attendance of senior officers at meetings of Legislative Council Committees and Subcommittees. Members agreed that the draft report be circulated to the Subcommittee for comments before submission to the Housing Panel for discussion on 5 June 2000.

(Post-meeting note: A report on the deliberations of the Subcommittee was submitted to the Housing Panel for discussion at its meeting on 5 June 2000 vide LC Paper No. CB(1) 1727/99-00. Members of the Panel noted the Subcommittee's concerns about the need for direct dialogue with key decision-makers on policy issues and agreed that the concerns be duly reflected to the House Committee at its meeting on 9 June 2000 by the Chairman of the Housing Panel.)

Any other business

5. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 2:50 pm.

Legislative Council Secretariat
27 September 2000