

**LegCo Panel on Housing**  
**Follow-up to meeting on 6 December 1999**

**Shared non-self-contained accommodation in public housing estates**

**Q1. To provide the Administration's plan to meet the target production of self-contained one-person flats.**

A1. The target production of self-contained one-person flats for the period from 2000/2001 to 2005/06 is as follows :

<b>Year</b>	<b>Estimated no. of flat</b>
2000/01	11300
2001/02	4200
2002/03	4300
2003/04	2500
2004/05	1800
2005/06	300
Total :	24400

**Q2. To consider including the provision of self-contained one-person flats as one of the committed categories within Housing Authority.**

A2. The Housing Authority will continue to improve the quality of housing for the public. The conversion of vacant flats in existing estates into "converted one-person units" has already been suspended for years. Resources have instead been pulled to boost the production of self-contained one-person flats in the following ways:

- (a) doubling the number of one-person flats in Harmony Blocks;
- (b) incorporating an additional block (Annex Block) in the Harmony Block design;
- (c) converting 3-bedroom flats which are surplus to the requirements into self-contained one-person flats, subject to detailed study on technical viability and planning implications;
- (d) reviewing the production and flat-mix of new housing projects to be completed after 2003/04 with a view to increasing the overall supply of small flats including one-person flats; and

- (e) arranging on-going trawling exercises for creation of small vacant flats suitable for re-allocation to single persons.

The Housing Authority will produce some 25 000 self-contained one-person flats in the years up to 2005/06.

**Q3. To consider setting up a prioritised programme for the rehousing of elderly who have problems in sharing accommodation.**

A3. Under the existing policy, separate accommodation will be considered for tenants of "converted one-person units" in disputes if professional counseling efforts are in vain. Since the number of such dispute cases warranting an arrangement of alternative accommodation is insignificant, the existing practice is considered to be adequate and effective. The launch of any prioritised rehousing programme at the present stage will unduly increase the demand for self-contained one-person flats which still far outweighs the supply.

**Q4. To bring the matter to the attention of the Rental Housing Committee of the Housing Authority for a review of the situation.**

A4. The Rental Housing Committee of the Housing Authority has recently reviewed issues concerning the "converted one-person units". As there is still a substantial outstanding demand for one-person flats from various categories including the Waiting List, redevelopment and squatter clearance, etc, it is considered not timely to abolish the "converted one-person units". Instead, the following measures will be implemented to resolve the problem -

- (a) to continue suspension of converting vacated flats in existing estates into "converted one-person units";
- (b) to continue the current practice of rehousing tenants of "converted one-person units" who have genuine difficulties to live in shared facilities;
- (c) to encourage elderly tenants of "converted one-person units" to move to Housing for Senior Citizens;

- (d) to encourage tenants of existing "converted one-person units" to apply for subsidized home ownership flats by granting those having no domestic property second priority Green Form status; and
- (e) to continue allocation of existing stock of "converted one-person units". However, where all the "converted one-person units" within a partitioned flat are vacated, arrangement will be made for reversion of the flat into its original design.

The Housing Authority will continue to increase the production of self-contained one-person flats in the coming years. A review of the policy on the "converted one-person units" will be conducted in 2001, when the supply of self-contained one-person flats is expected to improve.

Housing Department  
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