

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

房屋及規劃地政局  
香港何文田佛光街 33 號



Housing, Planning and Lands  
Bureau

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26 May 2005

Clerk to the Legislative Council Panel on Housing  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road  
Central  
Hong Kong  
(Attn: Miss Becky YU)

Dear Miss Yu,

**Legislative Council Panel on Housing**  
**Follow-up action arising from the meeting on 18 March 2005**

At Panel meeting on 18 March 2005, during discussion of the quality of potable water in public rental housing estates, Members asked the Housing Department to conduct a survey on the quality of potable water in public housing estates completed after 1996. They also asked about reports on water discolouration from tenants of Shek Yam Estate.

**Water quality survey**

The Housing Department attaches great importance to the proper and regular maintenance of the fresh water supply systems to ensure the quality of fresh water in housing estates. The arrangements and procedures for routine maintenance such as regularly cleaning water tanks, conducting water sample tests, and proper documentation of results etc. have all along complied with the requirements under the Fresh Water Plumbing Quality Maintenance Recognition Scheme even before formal participation in the Scheme.

At Members' request, we have reviewed the records of the fresh water supply systems in all the 71 housing estates completed after 1996 for the past four months. Lined galvanised steel pipes are being used in these estates. Our records show that no water discolouration had been caused by corrosion of these lined galvanised steel pipes. Of the four reports about water discolouration received, only three were substantiated. Water discolouration in these cases was not caused by pipe corrosion and the problem was resolved after cleaning the water meters of the concerned flats. The use of lined galvanised steel pipes in fresh water supply systems is satisfactory.

### **Complaints about water discolouration in Shek Yam Estate**

Shek Yam Estate comprises three housing blocks. Resident intake started in 2000. Since then, the property management agency has received only one enquiry about water discolouration from a member of the Estate Management Advisory Committee. Random inspections were conducted in every block in Shek Yam Estate. No problem of water discolouration has been detected.

Please let me know if you require further information.

Yours faithfully,

( Miss Joey Lam )  
for Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands