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

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本局檔號 Our Ref. HD/PS 9/2/1/179 來函檔號 Your Ref.

Secretary General of the Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road Central Hong Kong (Attn: Mr. Anthony Chu)

Dear Mr. Chu,

Follow-Up Item of Meeting of LegCo Panel on Housing held on 4 January 2007

Thank you for your letter of 15 January 2007. At the meeting of LegCo Panel on Housing on 4 January 2007, a Member suggested that the Housing Department (HD) should conduct environmental impact assessments for the improvement and repair works at Choi Hung Estate and Model Housing Estate. Our response is as follows.

The improvement and repair works at Choi Hung Estate and Model Housing Estate are very small in scale, for which environmental impact assessments are not required under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance. Nevertheless, in carrying out improvement and repair works in public housing estates, the HD has been committed to adopting environmental-friendly practices and ensuring the compliance of the relevant requirements by contractors. In fact, for years we have been making efforts to minimise the impact of such works on the living environment of residents. For example, starting from last year, workers are

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required to bring along industrial vacuum cleaner and suck up dust right away in the process of the works, enclose the works area with sheets of cloth, and properly clean up the flats concerned upon completion of the works. We would also explain to the tenants in detail the possible impact of the works before they start.

We have been collecting, through various channels, the views of residents of Choi Hung Estate and Model Housing Estate on the improvement and repair works to be conducted in their estates. We will submit an information paper to the Panel in due course to report on the views collected and the measures to be taken by the HD to minimise the impact on the residents in the process of the works.

Yours sincerely,

(Vic C H Yau) for Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands