香港特別行政區政府

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

發展局

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24 August 2007

Ms Anita Sit Clerk to Panel Panel on Planning, Lands and Works Legislative Council 8 Jackson Road Central Hong Kong

Dear Ms Sit,

Mandatory Building Inspection Hong Kong Housing Society's Assistance to Eligible Building Owners

At the Panel meeting held on 24 July 2007, some Members enquired about the number of buildings to be covered by Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS)'s assistance regarding the first inspection when the mandatory building inspection scheme is introduced. The information requested is provided below.

Under the HKHS's existing voluntary Building Management and Maintenance Scheme (BMMS), buildings with an average rateable value per residential unit of not exceeding \$78,000 per annum for urban properties and \$59,000 per annum for New Territories properties are eligible for receiving its financial assistance. Currently, over 11,000 buildings (or 85% of the buildings aged 30 or above) are covered by HKHS's BMMS.

The HKHS will adopt similar eligibility criteria in future when providing financial assistance to owners to support the implementation of mandatory building inspection. Hence, the HKHS estimates that the total number of buildings aged 30 or above which would be eligible for HKHS's

assistance in the context of mandatory building inspection would also be around 80%. The HKHS reviews the threshold of rateable value from time to time in the light of changing circumstances. The last revision was done earlier this year. The HKHS will also consider owners' requests on a case-by-case basis to ensure that owners in need would be provided with proper assistance.

(YC Chan) for Secretary for Development

c.c.

HKHS (Attn: Ms Yu Chun) 2882 2432