

政府總部  
民政事務局

香港灣仔  
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GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT  
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19 September 2008

Ms Betty Ma  
Clerk to Panel on Welfare Services  
Legislative Council  
8 Jackson Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Ma,

**Panel on Welfare Services**  
**Community Development Services**

I refer to the letter of the Chairman of the Panel on Welfare Services dated 17 July to the Secretary for Home Affairs. I have been asked to reply on his behalf.

Neighbourhood Level Community Development Projects (NLCDPs) were introduced in the 1970s and were implemented by Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO) in transient communities where the provision of community facilities and welfare services was inadequate or non-existent. Since then, the mode of provision of social welfare service and community building facilities has experienced significant improvements. At present, there remain 18 NLCDPs in various districts. One of them is expected to be closed upon the planned clearance of the Lower Ngau Tau Kok Estate. With regard to Members' concern about the availability of resources to meet local demand for community services, Members can rest assured that the resources released from the closure of NLCDPs will continue to be allocated to Home Affairs Department's expenditure envelope for providing community services, having regard to the actual circumstances in various districts. As for the reconvening of the NGO Forum on Community Development, since there has not been any change to the policy on NLCDPs and we have no intention to change the existing policy, we do not see the need to convene the Forum at present.

.../

Members may also wish to note that the notes of the last meeting of the Forum have been issued to members of the Forum.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Chan." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

( Tony Chan )  
for Secretary for Home Affairs