LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PANEL ON WELFARE SERVICES

Subcommittee on Improving Barrier-free Access and Facilities for Persons with Disabilities

Barrier Free Facilities under The LINK's Management and Their Connectivity with the Barrier Free Facilities under Housing Department's Management

The Housing Department (HD) has maintained close communication with The LINK since end 2010 on connectivity of barrier free access facilities at the interface. Amongst various barrier free access provisions, tactile guide path is the major concern of connectivity. HD had implemented an improvement programme in all public rental housing estates between 2006 and 2009 to cater special needs of the visually impaired persons (VIPs). The tactile guide path provision was one of the major improvement items.

- 2. As planning and progress of the barrier free access improvement works between HD and The LINK is different, for enhanced coordination, particularly on the connectivity of tactile guide paths, a joint working group has been established in early 2011 and scheduled to meet bi-monthly with a view to resolving controversial issues and reviewing progress on connectivity of barrier free access facilities.
- 3. At regular interval, the LINK would furnish HD with a list of premises to be improved in coming months. By doing so, practicability, programme of work and related arrangement could be better communicated and coordinated.
- 4. According to the schedule planned by the LINK, barrier free access improvement works in the following premises will be commenced in coming 6 months and HD will continue the proactive approach in liaison with the LINK in ensuing connectivity of the tactile guide path -

- (1) Wo Che Plaza
- (2) Kwai Fong Plaza
- (3) Chun Shek Shopping Centre
- (4) Yat Tung Shopping Centre
- (5) Sun Tin Wai Shopping Centre
- (6) Mei Lam Shopping Centre
- (7) Homantin Plaza
- (8) Shun On Shopping Centre
- (9) Lok Wah (South) Shopping Centre

Housing Department July 2011