Panel on Housing

List of follow-up actions (position as at 4 April 2018)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
1. Briefing by the Secretary for Transport and Housing on the Chief Executive's 2017 Policy Address		 The Administration was requested to provide the following information: (a) the number of public rental housing ("PRH") applicants on the Waiting List ("WL") who had been waiting for more than three years and had not been provided the first flat offer; (b) with statistics/figures, the circulation of PRH flats in the past five years, and how the relevant existing policies, including but not limited to Home Ownership Scheme, Tenant Purchase Scheme, Marking Scheme for Estate Management Enforcement in Public Housing Estates, policies on tackling under-occupation in PRH estates, Well-off Tenants Policies/revised Well-off Tenants Policies, facilitated/affected the circulation of PRH flats; (c) the average time taken between surrender of a PRH unit by the sitting tenant and reallocation of the PRH unit to a WL applicant; (d) whether the Hong Kong Housing Authority ("HA") could choose not to implement the initiative of 	The Administration's response was circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(1)696/17-18(01) on 14 March 2018.

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		regularizing the Green Form Subsidized Home Ownership Scheme ("GSH") in the Policy Address after considering the relevant details/reviewing the scheme; at what time HA/the Administration would decide the ratio between the supply of PRH units and GSH flats; and	
		(e) with respect to the concern that purchasers of GSH flats would be those tenants of small PRH units who wished to move to flats of larger sizes and hence the PRH units surrendered by GSH flat purchasers for reallocation to WL applicants would be smaller ones, how the Administration would address the above concern in its planning for the production of PRH to cater for households of different sizes.	
2. Public Housing Construction Programme 2017-18 to 2021-22 and Challenges and difficulties in taking forward public housing development projects		 The Administration was requested to provide the following information: (a) details on land plots, if any, which had originally been earmarked for private housing developments before being designated for the Hong Kong Housing Authority ("HA") to provide public housing; 	The Administration's response was circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(1)696/17-18(01) on 14 March 2018.
		(b) with copy of the relevant information, if any, posted on HA's website, the proportion of the public rental housing ("PRH") applicants who were housed to	

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		PRH in the past few years (say, three to five years) and their waiting time was three years or less;	
		(c) the Administration's response to the following suggestions/questions –	
		 (i) adjust the split between new public and private housing supply from the current ratio of 60:40 to 70:30 so that 10% of the new housing supply might be converted into Green Form Subsidized Home Ownership Scheme ("GSH") units in future with the current target for public housing units (which were not GSH units) maintained at 60% of the new housing supply; 	
		 (ii) whether and when the Administration/HA would achieve its target of providing the first flat offer to general PRH applicants at three years on average; and 	
		(iii) the Administration should provide in collaboration with HA public housing at the spade-ready sites in urban areas resumed by the Urban Renewal Authority.	

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3. Testing of drinking water of public rental housing estates under the Enhanced Water Quality Monitoring Programme and the latest progress of the follow-up actions in respect of the excess-lead-in-water incident	4.12.2017	The Administration was requested to provide, with respect to the enquiry about the seriousness of the problem of excess lead in drinking water found in the excess-lead-in-water incident, the relevant results of the water sampling tests that had been conducted for the concerned public rental housing estates, including details about the water sample(s) with excess lead and the water sample(s) which recorded the highest content of lead (in micrograms per litre).	The Administration's response was circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(1)696/17-18(01) on 14 March 2018.
4. Long Term Housing Strategy Annual Progress Report 2017	9.1.2018	 The Administration was requested to provide the following information: (a) whether the Administration would provide assistance to public rental housing applicants on the Waiting List who had been waiting for three years or above and had not been provided the first flat offer, in order to help them cope with the high flat rentals, if yes, the details; if no, the reasons; (b) whether the Administration would provide rent assistance to the inadequately housed households (the total of which was estimated to have exceeded 110 000), if yes, the details; if no, the reasons; 	The Administration's response was circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(1)696/17-18(01) on 14 March 2018.

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		 (c) the Administration's response to the following suggestions – (i) the Administration should use idle sites including restored landfills (such as Kwai Chung Park and those in Tseung Kwan O) to reprovision the facilities on the lands which were held under private recreational leases (such as clubs, golf courses) and were suitable for housing development, so that the lands released after the reprovisioning could be used for providing housing; and (ii) in planning a public housing project, the Administration should spearhead efforts across Government bureaux/departments to roll out comprehensive plans covering not only the provision of housing units but also development of/improvements to the community, transport and other ancillary facilities in the area concerned so that the local community would consider that taking forward the plans would bring about enhancements to the community and hence support the project. 	

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 Measures to facilitate the mobility needs of elderly residents by the Hong Kong Housing Authority 	5.2.2018	The Administration was requested to provide information about the number of applications for home modification/adaptation works in public rental housing units that had been received from tenants/handled by the Hong Kong Housing Authority in the past few years.	
6. Quality management of products used in public housing developments	5.2.2018	 The Administration was requested to provide the following information: (a) with respect to the concern whether the Hong Kong Housing Authority ("HA") could cope with the workload relating to the quality management/control of building materials used in public housing developments (including the risk treatment measures applied to the five building construction work stages as mentioned in paragraph 7 of LC Paper No. CB(1)523/17-18(01)) given the considerable number of HA's building projects underway/project sites, details of the manpower deployment to undertake the relevant work; and (b) details about the HA/Housing Department's guidelines in relation to the quality management/control of building materials, and the penalties that could be imposed on non-compliance cases. 	Response awaited

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 Receiving public views on the implementation of the revised Well-off Tenants Policies of the Hong Kong Housing Authority 	5.2.2018	 The Administration was requested to provide the following information: (a) with figures, the administrative expenses incurred/to be incurred by the Hong Kong Housing Authority ("HA")/Administration in the implementation of the revised Well-off Tenants Policies (such as cost of additional manpower, publicity and printing expenses, etc.); and (b) public views raised during consultations on the revised Well-off Tenants Policies, and how the Administration/HA had followed up/responded to them. 	-
 Review of income and asset limits for public rental housing for 2018-19 	5.3.2018	 The Administration was requested to provide the following information: (a) how the Hong Kong Housing Authority calculated the job income of a public rental housing ("PRH") applicant who was a daily-paid casual employee working for some of the days in a month (for example, working for ten days in a month and with a pay of \$500 a day) in order to determine the applicant's eligibility for PRH; and (b) details on whether the estimated PRH production for the next five years as mentioned in the 2018-19 Budget 	response was circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(1)731/17-18(01) on

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		Speech, i.e. about 75 000 units, was higher than the total PRH production in the five-year period from 2013-2014 to 2017-2018.	
9. Review of the Green Form Subsidised Home Ownership Scheme Pilot Project		 The Administration was requested to provide the following information: (a) the number of public rental housing ("PRH") units completed in 2017; (b) the cost for the Hong Kong Housing Authority ("HA") to refurbish a PRH unit recovered from PRH tenants for allocation to a PRH applicant; (c) whether and how HA/the Administration would project/take into account the number and sizes of PRH units that would be recovered from the Green Form Subsidised Home Ownership Scheme unit ("GSH") buyers in future when planning for the PRH production/the number of new PRH units of different sizes to be produced; and (d) whether the Administration would give up or modify the policy outlined in paragraph 23 of the Speech by the Chief Executive in delivering the 2017 Policy Address to the Legislative Council in October 2017 that "future public housing developments should include more GSH units instead of PRH units", given 	

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		that HA considered it prudent to implement GSH at a more modest pace to gather experience, reduce risk of unsold flats and minimize impact on the waiting time for PRH applicants (as advised in paragraph 17 of the Administration's paper LC Paper No. CB(1)627/17-18(05)); if yes, the details; if no, the reasons.	

Council Business Division 1 Legislative Council Secretariat 4 April 2018