

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(1)948/19-20  
(These minutes have been seen  
by the Administration)

Ref : CB1/PL/HG/1

**Panel on Housing**

**Minutes of special meeting**  
**held on Tuesday, 26 May 2020, at 4:30 pm**  
**in Conference Room 2 of the Legislative Council Complex**

**Members present** : Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH (Chairman)  
Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung  
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP  
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP  
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP  
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-ye, GBS, JP  
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP  
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH  
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen  
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP  
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP  
Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP  
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung  
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP  
Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP  
Hon SHIU Ka-fai, JP  
Hon SHIU Ka-chun  
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH  
Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai  
Hon Jeremy TAM Man-ho  
Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH, JP  
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS  
Hon CHAN Hoi-yan

**Members absent** : Hon James TO Kun-sun  
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP  
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP  
Hon CHAN Han-pan, BBS, JP  
Hon CHU Hoi-dick  
Hon HO Kai-ming  
Hon YUNG Hoi-yan, JP  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP

**Public Officers  
attending**

Agenda Item I

Dr Raymond SO, BBS, JP  
Under Secretary for Transport and Housing

Mr CHAN Nap-ming, BBS  
Project Director 1, Task Force on Transitional Housing  
Transport and Housing Bureau

Mr Stephen WONG  
Project Director 2, Task Force on Transitional Housing  
Transport and Housing Bureau

**Clerk in attendance** : Mr Derek LO  
Chief Council Secretary (1)5

**Staff in attendance** : Mr Fred PANG  
Senior Council Secretary (1)5

Ms Michelle NIEN  
Legislative Assistant (1)5

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**I. Transitional housing**

(LC Paper No. CB(1)652/19-20(01) — Administration's paper on  
transitional housing and  
related matters

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LC Paper No. CB(1)652/19-20(02) — Paper on transitional housing prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat (updated background brief))

Relevant papers

(LC Paper No. CB(1)627/19-20(01) — Letter dated 8 May 2020 from Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin regarding transitional housing (Chinese version only)

LC Paper No. CB(1)659/19-20(01) — Administration's response to the letter dated 8 May 2020 from Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin regarding transitional housing (LC Paper No. CB(1)627/19-20(01))

LC Paper No. CB(1)669/19-20(01) — Hong Kong Housing Society's response to the letter dated 8 May 2020 from Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin regarding transitional housing (LC Paper No. CB(1)627/19-20(01)))

The Chairman advised that the work period of the Subcommittee to Follow Up Issues Related to Inadequate Housing and Relevant Housing Policies ("the Subcommittee") under the Panel on Housing ("the Panel") had expired in mid-December 2019. As members of the Panel and the public were concerned about transitional housing, this meeting was held for the Panel to discuss with the Administration the subject matter. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr Vincent CHENG, Chairman of the Subcommittee, briefed the Panel the work of the Subcommittee and the major concerns expressed by the Subcommittee's members at its meetings, and the Under Secretary for Transport and Housing ("USTH") briefed members on the latest progress of how the Government assisted and facilitated the community to implement transitional housing initiatives and related matters.

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2. Members noted a member of the public's submission dated 12 May 2020 on "Community Housing Movement", which was copied to the Panel and tabled at the meeting.

*(Post-meeting note: The submission was issued to members via email on 27 May 2020.)*

Supply of transitional housing

3. Mr KWOK Wai-keung said that transitional housing aimed to cater for imminent housing need and expressed concern about the slow implementation of transitional housing projects. He opined that the time and resources required to meet the three-year supply target of 15 000 transitional housing units should not be more than those for providing the same number of public rental housing ("PRH") units.

4. USTH replied that the Administration endeavoured to make good use of temporarily idle land to support non-government organizations ("NGOs") to provide transitional housing to help address the housing difficulties faced by grassroots families. To facilitate the implementation of transitional housing projects to meet the three-year supply target, the Administration set up the Task Force on Transitional Housing ("Task Force") which comprised five officers and was operating with a minimal staff deployment. Compared with developing transitional housing at vacant sites, the implementation of public housing development projects would take much more time and resources.

5. Mr Andrew WAN and Dr Fernando CHEUNG expressed concern on the progress of achieving the three-year supply target of transitional housing. Mr WAN opined that amid the low supply of PRH units in the coming two years, the limited number of completed transitional housing units in 2020 would not be adequate to cater for the demand. USTH replied that the Administration had set the target of providing 15 000 transitional housing units for the three-year period from 2020-2021 to 2022-2023. A transitional housing project was relatively simpler to implement, but it would still take time to complete. As set out in Annex 1 to LC Paper No. CB(1)652/19-20(01), relevant NGOs had completed a total of 790 transitional housing units, and many transitional housing projects were underway. The Administration estimated that a relatively larger number of units would be provided towards the later part of the three-year period.

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6. The Chairman said that the supply of transitional housing was far less than the number of inadequately-housed households, and there was significant room for improvement in the development of such housing. Mr Vincent CHENG said that families of inadequate housing, including sub-divided units ("SDU"), and their children were in a difficult situation in the past few months under the pandemic as they had to stay in congested and unpleasant living environment. Provision of transitional housing was a short-term measure to alleviate their housing difficulties. Noting that a considerable number of transitional housing units would be provided in the projects currently under in-depth studies, he enquired how the Administration would expedite the progress of these projects and whether the owners/developers concerned could provide a longer period for NGOs to develop and operate these projects on their land/premises. Mr CHENG further opined that the future supply of transitional housing units should not be limited to 15 000 only. He enquired whether there was room to provide more transitional housing units through making good use of available land resources.

7. USTH replied that it would be desirable if more transitional housing units could be provided to meet the demand. The Administration/Task Force would strive to facilitate the early completion of transitional housing projects for meeting the target of providing 15 000 units, and would report the progress of these projects to the Panel in due course. As regards the projects under in-depth studies, the NGOs concerned targeted to complete them in the later part of the three-year period. The owners/developers concerned would consider allowing these NGOs to continue their projects on their land/premises for a longer period subject to the operation situation of these projects in the initial years, and the Administration would discuss the matter with these owners/developers at an appropriate time.

Support for transitional housing projects

8. The Chairman opined that NGOs were originally engaged in social services, and might find it difficult to take forward projects to build transitional housing especially when the support measures provided for them in this regard were ineffective or unfocused. He asked whether the Administration would engage construction professionals to assist these NGOs.

9. Mr SHIU Ka-chun opined that NGOs who wished to carry out transitional housing projects were only allowed to submit claims for the recovery of the expense that had been incurred by the advanced preparatory work for their projects after the projects had materialized. In view of the manpower and resources involved in such projects, he enquired whether the

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Administration's professional support to NGOs could cover the advanced preparatory work for such projects, and simplify the relevant application procedures. USTH replied that the funding scheme approved by the Finance Committee in March 2020 to support the implementation of transitional housing projects ("the Funding Scheme") would provide financial support to facilitate NGOs to carry out their transitional housing projects, including the administrative overheads for the implementation of the projects. The Administration had laid down guidelines on the amount of subsidy to cover the administrative overheads.

10. Mr SHIU Ka-chun opined that some owners/developers might not renew the agreements for allowing relevant NGOs to continue providing transitional housing on their land/premises in future, and enquired on how the Administration would assist these NGOs, the tenants and the social work teams concerned. He requested the Administration to provide information on the number of transitional housing projects whose agreement would expire in the two years from 2020.

*(Post-meeting note: The Administration's supplementary information was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)/882/19-20(01) on 17 July 2020.)*

11. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired whether there would be cases where owners who originally agreed to allow relevant NGOs to provide transitional housing units on their land for a certain period did not continue to execute the agreement, hence affecting the tenants. In view of the possible impacts of the National People's Congress's decision regarding the enactment of a national security law for Hong Kong, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired about the Administration's contingency plans to deal with the situation that an NGO could not continue to run its transitional housing project, and whether the Administration would take up the operation of the project so that the tenants could continue living in the transitional housing units. USTH replied that an NGO providing transitional housing on a plot of land and the land owner would enter into an agreement setting out the rights and obligations of the two parties, the date by which the NGO would return the land to the owner, the NGO's right to renew the tenancy and the exit mechanism for the two parties. The Administration would provide support and advice to facilitate them to reach the agreement.

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Application mechanism and operation of transitional housing projects

12. Mr Vincent CHENG opined that the eligibility criteria and application procedures for transitional housing should not be too complicated, and the Administration should have a monitoring role in this regard. Mr KWOK Wai-keung enquired whether the Administration would consider putting in place a single point of entry and maintaining a single waiting queue for all transitional housing units so that households who needed such housing were not required to queue up for multiple transitional housing projects undertaken by different NGOs.

13. Dr Fernando CHEUNG opined that to simplify the application process for transitional housing, the Administration should develop a centralized platform, such as webpages, mobile apps, etc. to enable transitional housing applicants to identify the projects that would match their needs and family circumstances. The Administration should also liaise with social work teams to provide outreaching services in the districts where inadequate housing was commonly found to help shortlist the transitional housing projects suitable for a needy household and provide referral services.

14. USTH replied that as each NGO had its own missions and objectives and each transitional housing project might be implemented to address certain specific needs of target groups served by the relevant NGO, the Administration considered it appropriate to allow certain flexibility for NGOs in operating their projects. The suggestion of putting in place a centralized application platform or a single waiting list for transitional housing would require careful consideration as it might compromise such flexibility. In view that the number of transitional housing projects would continue to increase, the Administration understood the importance of increasing the convenience for transitional housing applicants, and would collaborate more closely with transitional housing project operators on streamlining their application process and providing applicants with clearer information. The Task Force would also upload to its dedicated website more useful information about such projects.

15. Mr SHIU Ka-chun opined that apart from maintaining flexibility, the Administration also needed to deal with the difficulties encountered by transitional housing applicants due to differences among transitional housing projects in their operations, including eligibility criteria for applications. Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Mr Vincent CHENG expressed a similar view, and asked whether the Administration would draw up basic eligibility criteria for transitional housing. Dr Fernando CHEUNG further enquired whether the

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Administration would put in place appropriate standards regarding the tenancy period, rent level, size of transitional housing units and the facilities inside such units such as whether there were independent toilet and kitchen. The Chairman enquired whether the Administration would develop guidelines with respect to application mechanism for transitional housing and its operation, such as tenancy period and rent.

16. USTH replied that although NGOs might need to work out the operation details of their transitional housing projects according to unique service emphasis of their projects, the Administration had put in place some general guidelines for them to follow. For examples, for a transitional housing project which was funded under the Funding Scheme, the Administration would require the project operator to allocate a major portion of the transitional housing units for applicants who were living in inadequate housing and had been waiting for PRH for three years or more, so that the project operator might use the remaining units to achieve its other missions or cater for applicants with special urgent needs. The average living space in transitional housing units should be about seven square metres per person. The length of tenancy should be generally two years. The Administration also expected that the rent level of transitional housing should be lower than the relevant market rent with a ceiling of no more than 40% of the prevailing PRH income limit, although in practice, most NGOs determined the rent level based on the latest rent allowance under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme or no more than 25% of the household income. Of the transitional housing projects under operation, the average rent level was currently not more than 30% of the household income. USTH advised that apart from providing these general guidelines, the Task Force would maintain close co-operation with transitional housing project proponents and provide comments to them on the design and operation of their transitional housing projects. The Task Force might also give advice to them about the local community's views and aspirations on their projects.

Tenancy period

17. In view that the length of tenancy of transitional housing was generally two years, Mr Andrew WAN opined that if tenants of transitional housing were required to move out from their units upon expiry of such a short tenancy period, they might have to move back to SDUs or other inadequate housing while continuing to wait for PRH allocation. He asked whether the Administration would liaise with relevant owners/developers to allow NGOs to provide transitional housing on their land/premises for a longer period, so that tenants might live in such housing for a longer time, such as two more years after expiry of the first two-year tenancy. USTH replied that some



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NGOs were operating more than one transitional housing project, and they might make use of their resources flexibly to provide suitable assistance to their tenants upon expiry of the two-year tenancy. The Administration considered it desirable if owners/developers allowed NGOs to provide transitional housing on their land/premises for a long period. In the case that an owner/developer could provide the land/premises for a short period only, the Administration would still endeavour to assist the NGO concerned to provide transitional housing on it where appropriate in order to help address the imminent housing difficulties faced by needy families.

18. In response to Mr SHIU Ka-chun's enquiry on whether an existing tenant of transitional housing provided by an NGO would not be allowed to apply for transitional housing provided by the same organization again upon expiry of the existing tenancy, USTH advised that if an NGO had imposed such restriction, the tenant concerned might consider applying for the transitional housing provided by other NGOs.

Progress of individual transitional housing projects

19. Mr Vincent CHENG opined that the progress of the transitional housing project at Nam Cheong Street, Sham Shui Po was slow. He enquired about the reason and the feasibility of shortening the construction period of transitional housing projects. USTH replied that the responsible NGO for the "Nam Cheong Street Modular Social Housing Project" had commenced the construction works since mid-2019, and the project had been generally completed. The intake of residents was expected to commence in mid-2020. Although the construction progress had been affected by the pandemic, the NGO was able to complete the construction works in about one year's time. In light of the experience gained from this pilot project, the Task Force would formulate the implementation strategy of similar transitional housing projects in future. Mr Vincent CHENG opined that the time taken to carry out the advanced works for this pilot project was long. The Administration should take reference from the experience of this project to speed up the implementation of other transitional housing projects. To enable the public to have a better understanding of the progress of transitional housing projects, the Administration should provide a regular update on them, including the time taken for completing each stage of the projects, etc.

20. USTH replied that the Task Force would monitor all approved projects under the Funding Scheme, and require successful applicants to submit annual reports to the Administration regarding the projects. Taking into account these reports, the Administration would annually report the approved applications and implementation progress of transitional housing projects to the Panel.

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Land sites for transitional housing

21. Mr Andrew WAN expressed concern that the Administration had left government sites idle for a long time, including vacant school premises ("VSPs") and those suitable for temporary uses to be granted under short-term tenancies. He opined that some of these sites had an area of more than one hectare, and the idle time for these sites was sufficiently long enough for the Administration to plan and develop transitional housing projects on them. He enquired whether the problem of fiefdoms among government departments had existed so that the Administration/Task Force had not made good use of these sites during their idle time for providing transitional housing. Mr WAN cited Tsuen Wan Lutheran School, Kai Oi School in Mong Kok and St. Joseph's Anglo-Chinese School in Kowloon Bay as examples, and opined that although NGOs had applied to the Administration for using some idle VSPs for providing transitional housing or other alternative uses, the applications had not been handled promptly. He enquired whether this situation reflected the bureaucratic practices of the Government.

22. Mr SHIU Ka-chun expressed a similar concern about the Administration's approach of handling the applications for using the three VSPs mentioned by Mr Andrew WAN for alternative uses, and criticized that the relevant bureau had informed an applicant that the VSP concerned would be used for other purposes but might continue to keep the premises idle for many years. He opined that the relevant application mechanism and vetting procedures lacked transparency. The Chairman enquired about how the Task Force and relevant bureaux/departments would strengthen their co-ordination with a view to enhancing the administrative efficiency and transparency in the processing of NGOs' applications for using VSPs or other vacant government sites for providing transitional housing.

23. USTH replied that the Task Force would provide a guide to application for the Funding Scheme in its dedicated website. Since its establishment, the Task Force had convened seven inter-bureaux/departamental meetings to maintain coordination within the Government on transitional housing matters, including the latest situation of potential sites and buildings for providing such housing. He advised that individual vacant government sites/premises might not be suitable for transitional housing because they had been earmarked for long-term development or under processing for short-term or temporary uses. To increase transparency, the Administration had uploaded the details about the application mechanism for vacant government sites including VSPs onto the relevant website. As regards the applications for alternative uses of the VSPs mentioned by members at the meeting, the

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Administration had been following up the matters with relevant organizations. The Administration acknowledged that there was always room for improving its administrative efficiency, and representatives in the inter-bureaux/departmental meetings convened by the Task Force had studied measures to enhance the efficiency of transitional housing-related procedures. For example, the Administration had a case shortened the lead time between the announcement of a transitional housing project and the submission of the project proposal to the Town Planning Board from more than a year to less than six months.

24. Mr Andrew WAN criticized the Administration for rejecting the suggestion of using the vacant land earmarked for the Phase 2 development of the Hong Kong Disneyland Resort ("Phase 2 site") for providing transitional housing despite its support earlier on for a proposal to develop part of the site as a flower-themed garden. He referred to the plan of the Administration to build temporary quarantine facilities at the Phase 2 site using Modular Integrated Construction, and enquired whether the Transport and Housing Bureau ("THB") would strive for the allocation of the site and the facilities on it for providing transitional housing in future.

25. USTH replied that the Administration had explained on various occasions that temporary residential use of the Phase 2 site was not permitted under the agreement made between the Government and Hongkong International Theme Parks Limited. Different from transitional housing which provided residential accommodations for several years, the temporary quarantine facilities were permitted at the Phase 2 site because users of such facilities would leave the site after they had finished their quarantine period and long-term provision of supporting facilities to cater for their daily living and travel needs was not required. Mr Andrew WAN suggested that THB should discuss with the company concerned the proposal of using the Phase 2 site for developing transitional housing, and the Administration should relay his suggestion to the Secretary for Transport and Housing. The Chairman requested the Administration to consider Mr WAN's request.

Wholesale conversion of industrial buildings for transitional housing

26. In view that no industrial buildings ("IBs") had yet been converted into transitional housing, the Chairman enquired on how the Administration would improve the measures for encouraging such wholesale conversion. USTH replied that there were so far no success cases of conversion of IBs into transitional housing mainly because IB owners might not be interested in converting their IBs to transitional housing if the rental income from transitional housing did not justify the cost of investment involved in the

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conversion. It was one of the work objectives of the Administration to encourage wholesale conversion of IBs to transitional housing, and the Task Force had been working out more effective proposals in this regard.

Design and locations of transitional housing projects

27. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen referred to three transitional housing projects in the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(1)652/19-20(01)) which respectively provided one residential unit only, and enquired about the number of households living in such units. He expressed concern about the cost-effectiveness of implementing such projects and whether the Administration would continue to support a transitional housing project providing one residential unit only in future.

28. USTH replied that the residential unit provided in each of the three transitional housing projects mentioned by Mr CHAN was accommodating a single household. These projects could be put into implementation because individual owners were willing to provide their units for transitional housing purpose and some NGOs undertook to assist in operating these projects. He explained that in considering whether to carry out a transitional housing project, NGOs would consider not only its cost-effectiveness, but also whether the project could assist needy families and promote social capital development.

29. Mr SHIU Ka-chun requested the Administration to provide the number and proportion of transitional housing units in the projects set out in Annex 1 to LC Paper No. CB(1)652/19-20(01) which were provided with shared kitchen/toilet facilities. In response to Mr SHIU's enquiry on whether the Administration would require that the transitional housing units in future projects should be provided with independent kitchen and toilet facilities, USTH advised that the Administration understood that some tenants found shared kitchen/toilet facilities undesirable, and most of the new transitional housing projects would provide independent toilet and kitchen/cooking area.

*(Post-meeting note: The Administration's supplementary information was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)/882/19-20(01) on 17 July 2020.)*

30. Dr Fernando CHEUNG reiterated his view that transitional housing units provided in remote locations might not be suitable for SDU families who needed to live close to their places of work and schools. Mr Jeremy TAM expressed a similar view, and opined that a grassroots household might live in an SDU in the urban area instead of a transitional housing unit in a

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remote location, such as Kwu Tung and Ta Kwu Ling, etc., if the extra cost that the household had to pay for renting the SDU instead of the transitional housing unit was less than the additional travelling time and expenses incurred by the household members to travel between the transitional housing and their places of work/schools, THB should ensure that there was an adequate provision of transport facilities/services for transitional housing before intake of residents. Mr Vincent CHENG opined that the Administration should put in place effective measures to cater for the daily living and travel needs of residents of transitional housing provided in inconvenient locations, including the T-Home - Trackside Villas in Tai Po.

31. USTH replied that the Administration had all along paid heed to the daily needs of residents of transitional housing. For example, to cater for the shopping need of residents of transitional housing at Kong Ha Wai, the Administration would arrange the provision of retail facilities in the vicinity. The Task Force would also collaborate with NGOs to strengthen employment support to families living in transitional housing. THB would continue to liaise with the Transport Department to enhance the transport support for transitional housing, such as providing additional public transport services and public transport lay-bys, etc. As regards the T-Home - Trackside Villas, the Administration was liaising with the project operator to provide suitable transport facilities for the residents.

32. Mr Jeremy TAM opined that transitional housing units might be provided in some industrial areas, and enquired whether the Administration would add social welfare facilities in these areas through the Government's initiative to purchase premises for the provision of welfare facilities or its revitalization measures for industrial buildings. USTH replied that the NGOs which developed larger-scale transitional housing projects, such as the project in Kong Ha Wai, would set up their work bases in the vicinity for providing support services to the residents of transitional housing.

Support for residents of transitional housing and needy families

33. The Chairman opined that the Administration all along encouraged and supported NGOs to undertake transitional housing projects, instead of inviting HA or other public bodies which had expertise in housing construction to take part in such projects mainly because NGOs would provide support services for residents of transitional housing after their intake. He enquired whether the Administration had reviewed the effectiveness of such support services. Dr Fernando CHEUNG enquired whether the Funding Scheme would provide financial support to an applicant organization, such as an NGO providing more than a thousand units in a transitional housing project, to set up a social work team to assist its residents of transitional housing.

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34. USTH replied that the Funding Scheme mainly provided financial support for NGOs to carry out the works required to make fit the potential sites/premises for transitional housing projects on a one-off basis. NGOs operating transitional housing might deduct the expenses of the supporting services provided for their residents from rental income. In response to Dr Fernando CHEUNG's enquiry on whether the Task Force comprised representatives from the Labour and Welfare Bureau ("LWB")/Social Welfare Department who might assist in putting in place suitable support services for needy residents of transitional housing, USTH advised that LWB had sent representatives to attend the inter-bureaux/departmental meetings convened by the Task Force.

35. Mr SHIU Ka-chun said that amid the pandemic, Lok Sin Tong had launched a programme in April 2020 to provide one-off rent allowance of \$5,000 to assist the low-income families of its "Social Housing Scheme" to pay the rent in May and June 2020, and enquired whether the Administration would consider providing rent subsidies to needy families. In view that the Community Care Fund's relocation allowance was currently provided to the beneficiaries of the "Community Housing Movement" launched by the Hong Kong Council of Social Service ("HKCSS"), he enquired whether the Administration would arrange the provision of relocation allowance to other needy families including the beneficiaries of transitional housing projects undertaken by NGOs other than HKCSS, SDU households, etc. USTH replied that the Administration would provide support and assistance as far as practicable to NGOs which planned to apply for relevant subsidies provided by the Community Care Fund, including the relocation allowance.

Funding Scheme

36. In response to Mr Vincent CHENG's concerns about the efficiency of the Assessment Committee's work relating to vetting applications of the Funding Scheme, and whether members of the Assessment Committee understood the need for transitional housing in the community, USTH advised that as the Task Force would convene inter-bureaux/departmental meetings to study the feasibility of the projects proposed by NGOs, the Assessment Committee would mainly assess the technical, financial and social aspects of the proposed projects and look into the experience and capability of the project applicants, etc. Tentatively, the Assessment Committee would hold one meeting every three months, and might increase the number of meetings subject to the number of applications received.

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Letting Scheme for Subsidised Sale Developments with Premium Unpaid

37. The Chairman opined that the Hong Kong Housing Society ("HS") had launched the "Letting Scheme for Subsidised Sale Developments with Premium Unpaid" on a pilot basis in September 2018, and had subsequently enhanced the scheme, but the number of applications for the scheme had remained low. In view that HA had endorsed the enhanced letting scheme in July 2019, he enquired whether the Administration was satisfied with the implementation of the enhanced scheme, and whether the relevant authorities would step up publicity and enhance the arrangements to facilitate applications for the scheme. USTH replied that the enhanced Letting Scheme had started to receive applications from tenants in December 2019, and it was too early to draw conclusions on the scheme performance at this stage. He advised that HA and HS would conduct a mid-term review of the effectiveness of the scheme in the light of operational experiences after one year of operation.

**II. Any other business**

38. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 5:54 pm.

Council Business Division 1  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
1 September 2020