Bills Committee on Urban Renewal Authority Bill

Concerns raised at the meeting on 29 May 2000

Members requested the Administration -

- (a) to compare the respective cash compensation for tenants affected by land resumption as stipulated in law, offered by the Land Development Corporation and to be offered by Urban Renewal Authority (URA);
- (b) to consider exercising flexibility in waiving the condition whereby any person who has received the cash compensation in lieu of rehousing should not be eligible for any form of rehousing or housing assistance for three years. Some members are of the view that once affected tenants are in turn for allocation under the Waiting List, they should be allocated a public rental flat irrespective of whether the three-year period has expired;
- (c) to request the Law Society of Hong Kong to remind its members to include a standard clause in a Sale and Purchase Agreement which deals with the possibility of the resumption of the property concerned by the Government before the transaction is completed;
- (d) to mention at the Second Reading debate on the Bill all undertakings made by the Administration in the course of deliberation which have not been reflected in the Bill;
- (e) to confirm that the results of the non-obtrusive impact assessment and the detailed impact assessment conducted respectively before and after the publication of a proposed project would be released for public inspection;
- (f) to explain in greater detail the setting up of district advisory committees to assist URA in gathering public views. Some members are concerned whether representatives of resident organizations would be appointed to these committees; and
- (g) to explain how URA would handle all those projects which have been announced by the Land Development Corporation.