<u>Government appoints Executive Director</u> <u>of Urban Renewal Authority</u>

The Government announced today (December 28) that the Chief Executive has, on the recommendation of a selection panel, appointed Mr Ben Lui Saushun as Executive Director of the Urban Renewal Authority (URA) for a term of three years with effect from January 1, 2019.

Mr Lui will assist the Managing Director of the URA in managing the URA's work on building rehabilitation, acquisition and clearance, works and contracts, and legal matters.

Mr Lui was selected through an open recruitment exercise for the Executive Director post of the URA. A consultancy firm was appointed by the Government to conduct the exercise and candidates were considered by a selection panel set up by the Development Bureau.

The Secretary for Development, Mr Michael Wong, said, "Mr Lui is a professional engineer with extensive experience in implementing large scale development projects and facilities management. We look forward to working closely with him in his new capacity in furthering the important task of urban renewal in Hong Kong.

"I would also like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Mr Pius Cheng, who is retiring upon completion of his term of office, for his invaluable contributions towards the URA in various capacities over the years. Since taking up the position of Executive Director in 2014, with his profound knowledge and extensive experience, Mr Cheng has made significant contributions to the URA's work on urban renewal, in particular building rehabilitation."

The selection panel, chaired by the Permanent Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands), comprises the Chairman of the URA, Mr Victor So Hingwoh; the Managing Director of the URA, Mr Wai Chi-sing; the Director of Lands (Official Non-Executive Director of the URA Board); and the Non-Executive Director of the URA Board, Mr Nelson Lam Chi-yuen.

Under the existing establishment of the URA, there are two Executive Directors underpinning the Managing Director of the URA in taking forward the work of urban renewal.

A brief biography of Mr Ben Lui is set out below:

Mr Lui is an engineer. He was Vice-President, Projects & Facilities (later retitled as Chief Project Development Officer) of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation from 2011 to 2017. He was Project

Director of Kerry Development (China) Limited and Group Director of Projects of Shangri-La International Hotel Management Limited from 2006 to 2011.