<u>Housing Authority sets rents for four</u> new estates

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Housing Authority:

Rents for a total of 13 604 flats in the 14 non-standard blocks of four new public rental housing (PRH) estates under the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA) will be set at the best rent level in their respective districts. The best rent level of a respective district is expressed in terms of dollars per square metre of internal floor area and determined with reference to the location and comparable value of the estates concerned.

The best rent at \$63.10 per square metre per month for the flats in Tuen Mun District will apply to 1 020 flats in Moon Tin House of Moon Tin Estate and 2 604 flats in Yip Sin House, Yip Tak House and Yip Tsz House of Yip Wong Estate.

The best rent at \$67.30 per square metre per month for the flats in Tung Chung District will apply to 5 200 flats in Chun Choi House, Chun Wa House, Chun Wing House, Chun Kit House and Chun Sau House of Chun Tung Estate and 4 780 flats in Cheung Yat House, Cheung Yuet House, Cheung Sing House, Cheung Fai House and Cheung Yiu House of Cheung Tung Estate.

"Under this rent-fixing exercise, 100 per cent of the flats are set at a rent level below \$2,500 per month," a spokesman for the HA said today (October 31), adding that PRH rents, which are inclusive of rates, management fees and maintenance costs, are heavily subsidised.

"PRH applicants who are allocated new flats but cannot afford the rents may request refurbished flats at lower rents. They may also apply for assistance under the Rent Assistance Scheme for flats in older block types where applicable," the spokesman added.