Land resumption for urban renewal projects in To Kwa Wan gazetted

The Lands Department today (September 6) announced the resumption of land at Chun Tin Street/Sung Chi Street, Bailey Street/Wing Kwong Street, Hung Fook Street/Ngan Hon Street, Hung Fook Street/Kai Ming Street, Wing Kwong Street and Kai Ming Street/Wing Kwong Street in To Kwa Wan (the concerned land) for the implementation of six urban renewal projects.

The projects were included in the Urban Renewal Authority's Business Plans for 2015-16 and 2016-17. The sites, covering a gross site area of about 2.1 hectares, will be redeveloped for residential use with retail and commercial facilities. Other facilities such as a communal car park, public parking spaces and open space/community facilities will also be provided within the relevant sites together with road improvement works. Their implementation will help improve the overall living environment of the area.

A total of 1 809 private property interests at the concerned land will be resumed under the Lands Resumption Ordinance. The affected interests will revert to the Government on the expiration of three months from the date on which the resumption notices are affixed on-site. Details of the private land affected were published by notices in the Government Gazette (<u>Chun Tin</u> <u>Street/Sung Chi Street</u>, <u>Bailey Street/Wing Kwong Street</u>, <u>Hung Fook</u> <u>Street/Ngan Hon Street</u>, <u>Hung Fook Street/Kai Ming Street</u>, <u>Wing Kwong Street</u> and <u>Kai Ming Street/Wing Kwong Street</u>) today.

Apart from statutory compensation, eligible owners of domestic properties will be offered an ex-gratia home purchase allowance or a supplementary allowance as appropriate. Eligible domestic tenants will be offered rehousing to public rental housing units provided by the Hong Kong Housing Authority or the Hong Kong Housing Society, or an ex-gratia cash allowance.

Eligible commercial property occupiers, including owners and tenants, may opt for an ex-gratia allowance in lieu of the right to claim statutory compensation for business and related losses.

If statutory claims made by the affected owners and tenants of both domestic and commercial properties under the Lands Resumption Ordinance cannot be settled by agreement, the owners and tenants may apply to the Lands Tribunal for adjudication. Professional fees reasonably incurred by the claimants in making such claims may be reimbursed by the Government.