Transcript of remarks by STH

Following is the transcript of remarks at a media standup by the Secretary for Transport and Housing, Mr Frank Chan Fan, after attending the Hong Kong Housing Authority Regular Open Meeting today (January 25):

Reporter: There are a number of calls from the members just now for the redevelopment of old housing estates, will the government take this suggestion seriously and is there plan to change the eligibility criteria for elderly applicants for PRH?

Secretary for Transport and Housing: As of today, we have no plan to change the eligibility of the elderly but we will keep close watch on government policy, community aspiration and on-going development. As far as the redevelopment of public (rental) housing (is concerned), we do have taken it very seriously in terms of the availability of public rental housing for those in need of adequate housing and also to expedite the moving in (of the tenants) of the public rental housing. Also we have to take into account the cost-effectiveness of redevelopment, the potential of redevelopment. All these factors we have to take into account so as to make the best use of public housing resources to enable more people to live in public rental housing, and also subsidised sale flats.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)