

Transcript of remarks by STH

Following is the transcript of remarks at a media session by the Secretary for Transport and Housing, Mr Frank Chan Fan, after attending radio programmes this morning (June 30):

Reporter: Mr Secretary, there is criticism that the six measures announced by Government yesterday do little to address the crux of the matter, that is the home prices remain out-of-reach for most people. What do you have to say to this criticism?

Secretary for Transport and Housing: We have to make it very clear that the policy objective of the six initiatives are basically to enhance the linkage between affordability of those who are going to buy subsidised units, and also to enhance the supply of subsidised housing as well as to provide mitigation or relief measures for those who live in inadequate housing situation. The last two initiatives are basically to foster a more efficient delivery of built private flats for purchase or for rental usage. Therefore, as far as those six initiatives are concerned, they basically fulfil their policy objectives. The pricing issue is a different issue, which is different from what the six initiatives are aiming at.

Reporter: So you are saying these criticisms are not fair?

Secretary for Transport and Housing: I would say that the criticism is not related to the six initiatives as well as those policy objectives that we are aiming at.

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