

THE HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY

Matters Arising from the Minutes of Meeting Held on 5 March 1998

Estate Liaison Officer Scheme

The “Estate Social Service for the Elderly Scheme” (commonly known as “Estate Liaison Officer Scheme”) has been introduced by the Housing Authority since 1990 with a view to establishing contact with elderly people living alone in public housing estates, identifying their personal needs and the resources required, encouraging their participation in social activities and volunteer work and setting up support networks for them. The Scheme is now implemented in 26 public housing estates.

2. The territory-wide “Social Networking for the Elderly” project has been implemented by the Social Welfare Department since October 1996. The objectives of the project are to identify and maintain a list of the single elderly persons requiring networking service in each district, and to identify service providers and volunteers from local organizations/groups to establish a network for the purpose of maintaining regular contacts with the elderly and providing care for them in the community. An assessment will be conducted on this two-year project before its completion to evaluate its effectiveness. The outcome of assessment will be announced in July/August 1998.

3. Since the above two schemes are of similar nature, the Housing Department decided to suspend the expansion of the “Estate Liaison Officer Scheme” in November 1996. Review will be conducted pending completion of the assessment on the Social Networking for the Elderly Scheme by the Social Welfare Department.

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