

Press in June 1996

<i>Press June 27, 1996</i>	
Headline :	<i>Improvements to Harmony Blocks</i>
Content :	<p>The following is issued on behalf of the Housing Authority :</p> <p>The Housing Authority's Building Committee today (Thursday) endorsed the implementation of a number of measures to further improve Harmony blocks to meet tenants' rising expectations.</p> <p>Building contracts for Harmony blocks would from March 1, 1997 include the new specifications for wall finish, wall tiling, cooking bench and sink unit and window grilles, a spokesman for the Authority said.</p> <p>He said that public housing tenants generally had higher expectations for the workmanship standards than before.</p> <p>"The measures should enable the average workers to achieve better workmanship quality," he said.</p> <p>"With the implementation of these refinement works, smoothness of wall finish and wall tiles will improve, the cooking bench and sink unit will be installed in such a way to facilitate the installation of kitchen cupboards, window grilles will be strengthened and the visual appearance improved," he said.</p> <p>"It is estimated that the improvements will result in an increase of between 0.08 per cent to 0.82 per cent of the overall cost of a Harmony block," he said.</p> <p>Meanwhile, the Committee also endorsed the introduction of a new liquidated damages provision in future building construction contracts for Home Ownership Scheme (HOS) courts to further protect the interests of buyers of HOS flats.</p> <p>The provision would allow the recovery from building contractors of any possible compensation that might be payable by the Authority to purchasers due to delay in building completion, the spokesman said.</p> <p>"This provision will take effect 90 days after the due (or extended) date for completion," he said. End Thursday, June 27, 1996</p>

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