Press November 13, 1995

Headline: No lack of facilities in redevelopment estates

Content:

The following is issued on behalf of the Housing Authority:

Plans are in hand with the Housing Department to maintain the provision of shopping and community services to residents of the Valley Road Estate during the redevelopment period.

"Before an estate proceeds to redevelopment, the Department will ensure that while the work is smoothly carried out, tenants' daily life will not be adversely affected," the Assistant Director of Housing (Development), Mr T. C. Yuen, said when he met the concerned residents and explained to them at a meeting today (Tuesday).

"The provision of basic facilities to residents during the transitional period is one of our major concerns and the Valley Road Estate is no exception," said Mr Yuen, adding that such arrangements are usual practice.

Under the current Comprehensive Redevelopment Programme (CRP), tenants of Blocks 6 to 11 will move out in 1998/99 while the remaining blocks will be considered for redevelopment at next year's CRP review.

Mr Yuen pointed out that shops at Block 6 and the nearby market stalls would be retained while ground floor areas at Block 5 would be used for community purposes to meet the needs of tenants in the remaining blocks. Blocks 7 to 11 would be demolished as scheduled.

"Iron gates will be provided at ground floor lobbies and security guards will be deployed when redevelopment of Blocks 6 to 11 is formally announced," he said, adding that Housing staff will closely liaise with the Police for crime prevention. Staff of the Department consulted the Estate's Mutual Aid Committees last month and have obtained their agreement in principle.

Letters are being sent to residents of the Estate to inform them of the proposed measures and to help remove their worries of a lack of basic facilities, he said.

He stressed to the residents that the Department would take all possible measure within its means under its existing policies to help redevelopment residents.

Residents of Valley Road Estate are welcome to approach the Estate Office either in person or by calling 2363 0011 should they have further queries.

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