

**Summary of Decisions
Made by the Subsidised Housing Committee**

Paper Number : SHC 36/2003

Paper Title : Rent Allowance for Elderly Scheme

Date of Meeting : 25 September 2003

Summary of Recommendations

Members were invited to give their approval to the following proposals –

- (a) to terminate the pilot Rent Allowance for Elderly Scheme (RAES) with immediate effect by (i) ceasing to approve any new applications; and (ii) offering public rental housing units to existing beneficiaries under the Scheme upon expiry of their current leases;
- (b) to delegate to an Assistant Director of Housing the authority to grant temporary extension of allowances if short-term extension is required;
- (c) to revise the maximum monthly rent allowance for 2003/04 to \$1,750, \$2,450 and \$3,120 for 1, 2 and 3-person households in respect of the short-term extensions, and to uphold the top-up principle in setting the maximum rent allowance for Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients; and
- (d) to declassify the paper and place it on Housing Authority's homepage upon approval of the proposals.

Decision

Upon thorough deliberation of the above proposals at the meeting, the following decisions were taken by Members –

- (a) to phase out the pilot RAES with immediate effect by ceasing to accept any new applications;
- (b) to allow existing beneficiaries, upon expiry of their current private leases, to opt between public rental housing units and cash rent allowances until all cases have been phased out through natural wastage, provided that they still meet the prevailing eligibility criteria;

- (c) to revise the maximum monthly rent allowances for 2003/04 to \$1,750, \$2,450 and \$3,120 for 1, 2 and 3-person households in respect of lease extensions while existing leases not yet due for expiry will not be affected;
- (d) to uphold the top-up principle in setting the maximum rent allowance for CSSA recipients ; and
- (e) to declassify the paper and place it on Housing Authority's homepage.

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