

## Message from the Chairman



Welcome to our eighth Sustainability Report, *Quest for Excellence in Low Carbon Housing*. I am pleased to present our initiatives and achievements on the planning, design, construction, management and maintenance of a sustainable public housing programme to provide affordable housing to low-income families in Hong Kong.

To support the government's commitment to reducing energy consumption, we have introduced and launched a number of novel as well as practical low-carbon and energy saving initiatives in our new public housing estates. These initiatives include the installation of grid-connected photovoltaic systems and solar and wind energy installations to generate electricity for use in common areas of our estates. We have also adopted Light Emitting Diode (LED) lighting systems and a two-level lighting system for general illumination.



We have developed our own Carbon Emission Estimation model and applied it to 19 new design projects. This has enabled us to predict and benchmark the carbon emission levels throughout the project life cycle and to set achievable targets for improvement. During the year, we received energy certificates for 85 buildings: a clear demonstration of our commitment to achieving energy saving in all our buildings. Our ex-Yuen Long Estate public rental housing project was one of the first projects in Hong Kong to obtain "Provisional Platinum" rating under BEAM Plus Version 1.2 for passive design in March 2013.

As a forward-looking public sector developer, we are the first organisation in Hong Kong to obtain ISO 50001 Energy Management System (EnMS) certification for the design of all residential buildings in new housing estates. Such system provides a systematic approach to strengthen and improve our energy management and performance in the design of communal building services installations in domestic buildings. We have obtained ISO 50001 certification for Kwai Shing West Estate, the first residential estate and the first public rental housing estate in Hong Kong to attain such certification. We are now planning to implement ISO 50001 EnMS and obtain certification for all public rental housing estates

in the coming two years. To cascade this approach through the supply chain, we will also require some of our listed construction contractors to obtain ISO 50001 certification as well.

Our public rental housing and subsidised home ownership housing provide homes for nearly 50% of Hong Kong's population. Developing and upholding a sustainable living environment for our tenants is the vision and mission of all of us at the Hong Kong Housing Authority and the Housing Department. I am proud of the on-going efforts to ensure the sustainability of our housing programme, and would like to take this opportunity to thank all concerned for their hard work and dedication.

Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung, GBS, JP  
*Chairman, The Hong Kong Housing Authority*  
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