

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



I am pleased to present the Hong Kong Housing Authority's (HA's) twelfth Sustainability Report. "Sustainable Community Fostering Harmony" is this year's theme. The report presents our continuous efforts to create a better community. We support local and international sustainability agendas and implement a variety of environmental, social and economic initiatives. By stocktaking works done this year, the HA reviews actions taken and projects long-term objectives.

To the HA, the essence of a sustainable community is to enable living in a caring and inclusive environment. Public housing estates embrace not only a living place but also our relentless devotion to creating a quality environment for our tenants and the general public. We believe providing quality housing helps improve social harmony and stability within the community.

In 2016/17, we completed 11,300 public rental housing units and 3,000 subsidised sales flats. Through implementing green building practices proactively, we have achieved Gold ratings or above under the BEAM Plus for New Buildings, and received quite a number of industry accolades. We were delighted to be honoured in the Green Building Leadership category of the Green Building Awards 2016. Together with ISO 14001 Environmental Management System and ISO 50001 Energy Management System certification for all our estates, this honour affirms our outstanding performance and contribution in the aspect of sustainability.

"Caring" is one of the core values of the HA, and we always give our stakeholders high priority. This year, we successfully incorporated neighbourhood-friendly planning, sustainable and innovative building design, and active community engagement into our Subsidised Sale Flats Development at Fat Tseung Street West. The involvement of stakeholders has given us the opportunity to refine the design in response to local residents' concerns, and to enhance the accessibility and infrastructure of the neighbourhood. The Fat Tseung Street West Development was awarded the highest rating, Platinum, in the BEAM Plus Neighbourhood Pilot-testing Project by the Hong Kong Green Building Council. It has set an example of our approach to bringing harmony to the community through sustainability practices.

We strive for continuity of green management from the planning to operational stages of each estate. As a highlight, riding on the success of attaining the Grand Award in the 2012 Quality Building Award, our efforts in Lam Tin Estate were further recognised by the 2016 Hong Kong Environmental Excellence Awards with the Gold Award for Property Management (Residential). In this estate, a community farm is provided for tenants to plant fruit and vegetables. Yard waste is recycled as compost for on-site gardening. Some of our security guards act as Green Ambassadors sharing environmental messages with residents. The honour attained in the case of Lam Tin Estate not only recognises our environmental achievements, but also affirms the collaborative spirit of the HA and our service providers in nourishing the social coherence in our estates.

We recognise the pivotal role community plays in bringing about sustainability. Hence, we have engaged tenants, schools and organisations in the vicinity of newly completed estates to participate in the Action Seedling campaign to boost their awareness of greening in new estates. In existing estates, we have initiated various environmental campaigns to engage our tenants. “Green Delight in Estates” and “Let’s Join Hands to Reduce Waste in Our Estates” are two major educational programmes launched in our estates to promote waste reduction and green living practices.

People are the most important assets of an organisation. As we have many new recruits in recent years, knowledge transfer is a key means to maintain service quality. To uphold our quality of work and meet the challenges ahead, in April 2016, we launched the Development and Construction Division Academy apart from our long-established Training and Development Centre. The Estate and Management Division has organised “Housing Management Series” and the “Wisdom of Housing Management”, etc. The aim is to build a knowledge-based community through the provision of timely, continuous and comprehensive training to our staff. We hope that all new members of the HA can learn from experienced personnel through such training.

I am thankful for the concerted efforts of our colleagues and the continuous support of our stakeholders in safeguarding the sustainability of our public housing development. With enthusiasm, hard work and dedication, let us continue to excel in creating sustainable and harmonious communities in Hong Kong.

Chan Fan, Frank
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