

Additional Info: Chronology of Changes since 1999

2009:

Implemented the **Lease Buyback Scheme (LBS)** as another option for the elderly to unlock the value of their flats and receive a life-long monthly income to supplement retirement needs

Appointed trained **housing counsellors** at all branch offices to help homeowners find a long term housing solution

Enhanced the Additional Housing Grant scheme by increasing the AHG quantum to a maximum of \$40,000 and raising the ceiling of monthly income to \$5,000

Tightened the Rental Eligibility Criteria to ensure that rental flats were available for the truly needy

Launched guidebook on **harmonious HDB living** and the introduction of a 'Good Neighbour Award' to improve neighbourliness in HDB estates and promote better social behavior

2008:

Announced the first batch of **Home Improvement Programme (HIP) and Neighbourhood Renewal Programme (NRP)** precincts. The two new programmes offered greater flexibility in the provision of flat improvement works and precinct facilities and greater consultation with residents

Launched **Energy SAVE** programme to involve all HDB households to adopt energy saving habits and reduce energy consumption in HDB estates.

2007:

Introduced the **HDB Loan Eligibility Letter (HLE)** to help flat buyers plan their finances more effectively for their purchase

Introduced the **Revitalisation of Shops (ROS)** scheme to enhance vibrancy and competitiveness of HDB shops through the upgrade of the shopping environment and business operations

Launched HDB's **first eco-precinct** - the Treelodge@Punggol

Improved priority for first-timers applying for HDB flats

Launched first **integrated development comprising Studio Apartments and bigger flat types** under the BTO system

Resumed the building of rental flats

Announced the **Remaking of Heartland (ROH)** programme for Punggol, Yishun and Dawson.

2006:

Made Home Ownership more accessible for lower-income: Announcement of **Additional CPF Housing Grant (AHG)** for lower-income families

Resumed building of 2-room flats - more housing options for low-income families

Launched **Universal Design (UD)** features to facilitate ageing-in-place and cater for life-cycle needs of residents

Introduced **welcome parties** for newly-completed BTO projects as an initiative to promote community bonding

Implemented the **alignment of rental rate** to income for renewal of term tenancy

2005:

Announced the **Design, Build and Sell Scheme (DBSS)** for the private sector to take on the full spectrum of housing provision, from designing to selling

Introduced new technology such as the light-weight lift shaft and Machine Roomless Lift to **reduce cost and time to implement lift upgrading**

Announced Pilot **Restructuring Programme for Shops** to allow tenants of shops to retire or restructure their business where there is an over-supply of shops and where business is poor

Launched **ASSURE3** a fixed period warranty scheme - an assurance that flats would be free from spalling concrete, water seepage from exterior and leakage around ceiling pipes for a fixed period

2004:

Engaged residents in the creation of a safe and secure living environment - multi-pronged approach to **windows safety**

Resumed building of 3-room flats to cater for Singaporean families with household incomes not exceeding \$3,000

Launched the **Pinnacle@Duxton** – HDB's 1st 50-storey blocks

Relaxed housing policy to **allow singles who are at least 35 years old to buy any resale HDB flat** under the Single Singapore Citizen Scheme

Converted existing monthly tenancy of **rental flats** to **2-year term tenancy**

2003:

Restructured HDB and formed HDB Corporation Pte Ltd

Introduced **Option To Purchase as the standard form of contract** for HDB resale transactions to provide better protection for buyers

Introduced of **housing loans from banks/financial institutions** for purchase of HDB flats - buyers have a wider choice of loan packages

Launched **Home Office Scheme** - greater flexibility and freedom of use of residences within HDB estates while encouraging responsible home usage at the same time

Relaxed policy on **subletting of whole flats**

Revised income ceiling for 1 & 2-room rental flats under Public Rental Scheme

2002

Implemented **2-year term tenancy for rental flats**

2001:

Pilot **Build-To-Order (BTO)** system to manage supply to better meet the needs of flat buyers.

Announced the **Lift Upgrading Programme (LUP)**

Lifted restriction on flat location under Single Singapore Citizen Scheme

2000:

Introduced the **Special Housing Assistance Programme** to assist low-income households

1999:

Launched the **Technopreneur Home Office Scheme**