

Incidents on deposits or impurities in drinking water in public rental housing (PRH) estates under the Housing Authority which were related to the public fresh water supply network in the past three years

Date	District	Affected PRH estates	Details on Provision of Water Wagon and Water Tank	Investigation Result and Cause	Mitigation Measures	Follow-up Measures
6 August 2020	Kwai Chung	Kwai Chung (I), Kwai Chung (II), On Yam, Shek Lei (I), Shek Lei (II), Lei Muk Shue, Shek Wai Kok, Tai Wo Hau, Kwai Shing East, Kwai Shing West, Lai Yiu, Shek Yam and Shek Yam East Estates (Age of buildings ranging from 14 to 54 years)	4 water wagons and 28 water tanks were provided for 2 and 3 days respectively.	Owing to a faulty event at Tsuen Wan Water Treatment Works (WTW), the residual calcification of the hydrated lime used in the water treatment process; and the deposits containing iron and manganese from the water pipes entered into public fresh water supply network. These substances were not harmful to human and did not affect drinking water safety.	The fault in the WTW was rectified on the night of the incident. Flushing of the public fresh water supply network and the internal plumbing system of the concerned PRH estates was also completed.	After the review of this water quality incident, WSD has appropriately adjusted the operational and monitoring details in the WTW, including adjusting the relevant monitoring set points and increasing water sampling points. WSD will also strengthen the training to the WTW operational staff on emergency response and issue operational guidelines to avoid recurrence of similar incident.
2 December 2020	Tseung Kwan O	Po Lam and Hau Tak Estates (Age of buildings ranging from 23 to 33 years)	1 water wagon and 14 water tanks were provided for 1 day and 10 days respectively.	Detached internal bitumen lining from the public fresh water steel pipes due to ageing. Bitumen is an inert material and the health risk to people is	WSD was aware of the problem on 23 November 2020 and commenced the flushing of the public fresh water supply network on the same day. WSD also	WSD will continue to install strainers at strategic locations in the public fresh water supply network; and has engaged a consultant to study and formulate

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				negligible. Drinking water sampling test indicated that the bituminous materials did not affect drinking water safety.	installed strainers on 4 December 2020 in the public fresh water supply network in the vicinity of the affected estates.	long-term strategy to deal with fresh water steel pipes with detachment risks of internal bitumen lining, including progressively replacing or rehabilitating the relevant steel pipes.