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ESTATE AGENTS AUTHORITY

Dear Licensees,

Re: Housing (Amendment) Ordinance 2025

The Estate Agents Authority (“EAA”) is writing to alert licensees to the passage of the Housing (Amendment) Ordinance 2025 (“Amendment Ordinance”) by the Legislative Council on 11 June 2025.

The Amendment Ordinance seeks to combat tenancy abuse in public rental housing (“PRH”) more effectively through a series of measures to ensure the prudent use of public housing resources. The full text of the Amendment Ordinance can be found at: www.elegislation.gov.hk/hk/2025/25!en

Licensees’ attention is drawn in particular to the new section 28A of the Housing Ordinance (Cap. 283), which will take effect from 31 March 2026.

Under section 28A(1), a person commits an offence if the person:

- (a) lets, or agrees or offers to let, a PRH flat to another person;
- (b) occupies or agrees to occupy, a PRH flat let by another person; or
- (c) carries on a trade or business, or allows another person to carry on a trade or business, in a PRH flat.

Under sections 28A(3) and (4), a person who, without reasonable excuse, assists another person in doing an act mentioned in sub-section (1)(a) or (b) cited above for valuable consideration commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of \$500,000 and to imprisonment for one year.

Licensees are kindly reminded that should any licensee participate in any act which contravenes the Housing Ordinance or breaches the EAA’s *Code of Ethics* in the handling of PRH flats, the EAA will take such matters seriously and take appropriate actions, including suspension or even revocation of licences.

Estate Agents Authority

21 July 2025