Second batch of Tengah flats up for sale in May

Nearly half of 2,180 units to be in town’s Garden District that will feature ‘farmway’ for recreation

Barbara Tan

Nearly 2,200 flats in the upcoming "farmway" town of Tengah will be offered for sale when two housing projects in the estate are launched this November.

One is a 1,620-unit project called Garden Vale @ Tengah, the first batch of flats to go on sale in Tengah’s new Garden District. The other is the 3,060-unit Plantation Grove project, located opposite the Plantation Grove project which was launched last November.

Both projects are situated near an MRT station on the LTA’s new Jurong Line, which is projected to open in 2027.

In January 2014, the lower age limit for Build-To-Order (BTO) flats to be launched in Tengah was reduced from 40 years to 21 years, and the upper limit from 55 years to 45 years.

The Community Health Assist Scheme (Chas) was launched in 2012 to allow mid- and lower-income people aged 40 and older to see a private doctor or dentist at subsidised rates.

Since its introduction, the scheme has contributed to the drop in the number of people who receive medical care at polyclinics, said Dr Jeremy Lim of consultancy Kua Yu-Lin, the Chamber of Singapore's 9,000 professional doctors.

Dr Lim told The Straits Times that the Chas card for all Singaporeans with chronic conditions may further reduce the demand for medical care from private practitioners, creating a challenge for the private healthcare sector to "survive and thrive".

The Community Health Assist Scheme allows patients to go to their own private doctors and dentists to receive the highest Chas subsidies, said Dr Lim.

"It is expected to have an impact when the scheme is fully rolled out by next year," he said.

The popularity of the scheme continued in 2016, with a record 685,000 people getting a total of $47 million in Chas subsidies, said Dr Lim.

He noted that fewer people have been using the polyclinics in the past two years.

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In addition, all passengers are automatically checked against Border Force systems and watchlists.

The move, announced last December, was hailed by British Home Secretary Amber Rudd as a "transformation" in the way the UK manages its borders.

For each visit, the passengers’ passports are scanned, and details are cross-referenced against passport databases and watchlists.

The website also said the UK was among the most visited worldwide for Singaporeans. The Straits Times reported last month that more than 120,000 Singaporeans visited the UK in 2017, according to data from VisitBritain.org.

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