

## Advisory Committee on Mental Health meeting to be held this Friday

In response to the tragic incident that occurred in Diamond Hill on June 2, the Advisory Committee on Mental Health (Advisory Committee) will convene a meeting this Friday evening (June 9) to have discussion on the incident and make recommendations to the Government on enhancing the public mental health.

The Chief Executive announced earlier that the Health Bureau would convene an Advisory Committee meeting as soon as possible to explore ways to address mental health issues in Hong Kong in a more integral, safe and comprehensive approach.

The Advisory Committee meeting will cover the following topics: (1) the service model of the Hospital Authority's (HA) psychiatric services and manpower of relevant professions; (2) rehabilitation services and support for persons in mental recovery in the community, as well as mental health support for carers and specific groups in society; (3) reducing public misunderstanding towards persons with mental health needs; and (4) handling of videos and online information that involve violence or have widespread impact on public mental health.

The Health Bureau and the Advisory Committee are highly concerned about the incident and will continue to work closely with the HA and bureaux and departments including the Labour and Welfare Bureau, the Education Bureau, the Department of Health, the Social Welfare Department, as well as other stakeholders in the community to review and further enhance the mental health services in Hong Kong.

The Advisory Committee once again appealed to the public not to be unnecessarily fearful of persons with mental health needs. The public should continue to support them and encourage them to seek help.

Established in December 2017, the Advisory Committee advises the Government on mental health policies, assisting the Government in formulating policies, strategies and measures related to mental health with a view to enhancing mental health services in Hong Kong.