

## Anti-epidemic Fund Steering Committee convenes seventh meeting

The Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, chaired the seventh meeting of the Anti-epidemic Fund Steering Committee this afternoon (December 24).

The Legislative Council Finance Committee approved this Monday (December 21) an injection of \$6.4 billion to the Anti-epidemic Fund to roll out various measures to provide relief to businesses and individuals directly affected and hard hit by the further tightening of social distancing measures. The Steering Committee deliberated and approved the funding commitment for 19 measures at the meeting.

Mr Cheung said, "Compared to the relief measures introduced in September, the subsidy rate for eligible premises or individuals covered by this round of measures has increased. I fully understand that the affected businesses and individuals would like to receive the subsidy early. Hence, I have asked all relevant bureaux and departments to expedite the processing of applications so as to provide timely relief to the beneficiaries."

The Steering Committee is chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration to monitor the implementation of the measures and the use of Fund, and to examine the progress reports from relevant bureaux and departments, on a regular basis.