

Anti-epidemic Fund to support vehicle maintenance workshops

The Government today (June 22) announced that the Anti-epidemic Fund will cover vehicle maintenance workshops by granting a one-off non-accountable subsidy of \$50,000 to each eligible vehicle maintenance workshop. This is to assist vehicle maintenance workshops in coping with the operating pressure under the COVID-19 epidemic. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) expects to accept applications starting mid-July.

Eligible vehicle maintenance workshops can submit applications regardless of their registration status under the Voluntary Registration Scheme for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops of the EMSD. Workshops wishing to apply for the subsidy must fulfil the following major criteria including having operated a vehicle maintenance business in a fixed place (with vehicle working bay(s)) on or before February 1, 2020, and maintaining a business operation on the day of application. As well, applicants will have to provide records of operation of the vehicle maintenance workshops during the period from February 1 to May 31, 2020, e.g. information about the employed vehicle mechanics, vehicle maintenance service records, electricity bills or water bills of the workshops. However, vehicle maintenance workshops that benefited from the Retail Sector Subsidy Scheme under the Anti-epidemic Fund will not be subsidised in this exercise.

Relevant preparation work is underway and the EMSD will soon announce the detailed arrangements, including the application period, application procedures and documents required.