<u>Application period for Legal Talent</u> <u>Recruitment Scheme (Trainee</u> <u>Solicitors) to be extended</u>

The Department of Justice (DoJ) announced today (November 4) that the deadline for application for the Legal Talent Recruitment Scheme (Trainee Solicitors), launched by the DoJ and the Law Society of Hong Kong (LawSoc) in July this year, will be extended to January 28, 2022, to allow more time for eligible law firms to prepare their applications.

Funded by the Anti-epidemic Fund, the Scheme provides a monthly salary subsidy of \$6,800 for a maximum of 12 months to each eligible law firm for one newly created job opening for a trainee solicitor, with up to 130 new job openings for trainee solicitors in total.

The Scheme will not only create new job opportunities during the time of the pandemic, but will also ensure a steady and sufficient supply of legal talents in alignment with Government's policy objectives to nurture legal talents to advance the rule of law and strengthen Hong Kong's development as a centre for international legal and dispute resolution services under the National 14th Five-Year Plan and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area development plan.

The LawSoc is responsible for administering the Scheme, including processing and assessing the applications, as well as arranging disbursement of the subsidy. The application form and the guidance notes are available at the LawSoc's website (www.hklawsoc.org.hk).