<u>Police to conduct dispersal operation</u> soon

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Please broadcast the following message as soon as possible and repeat it at suitable intervals:

A large number of protestors currently (July 27) gathered in Nam Pin Wai, Yuen Long, holding iron poles, self-made shields and even removing fences from roads. Furthermore, some protestors surrounded and vandalised a Police vehicle, causing danger to the life of the Police officers onboard.

In face of the deteriorating situation, Police will soon embark on a dispersal operation from the west towards the east. Police appeal to members of the public to mind their own safety, leave the area in the direction of the MTR Yuen Long Station and avoid travelling to Yuen Long area.

Yuen Long Police Station Report Room service suspended

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Please broadcast the following message as soon as possible and repeat it at suitable intervals:

As a large group of people surrounded Yuen Long Police Station and Police is conducting dispersal operation currently (July 27), the Report Room service in Yuen Long Police Station has been suspended until further notice. For emergencies, please call 999.

Police's provision of emergency service to members of the public has been severely affected by protestors. Police appeal to people at scene to leave as soon as possible.

World Breastfeeding Week 2019 calls for community support for breastfeeding

The Department of Health (DH), in collaboration with the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative Hong Kong Association, the Hong Kong Committee for UNICEF (UNICEF HK) and the Hospital Authority (HA) today (July 27) held an event to celebrate World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) 2019, aiming to protect, promote and support breastfeeding through enhancing cross-sectoral collaboration.

WBW is celebrated annually in the first week of August in more than 170 countries. The theme for this year is "Empower Parents: Enable Breastfeeding". Addressing the event, the Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, said breastfeeding brings immediate and long-term benefits to both mothers and babies. Such benefits are proportional to duration and exclusiveness. Sustained breastfeeding relies not only on the hard work and perseverance of breastfeeding mothers but also support from their family members and the community as a whole.

Professor Chan said, "In 2014, the Food and Health Bureau set up the Committee on Promotion of Breastfeeding, which provides specific recommendations on strategies and action plans to strengthen the protection, promotion and support for breastfeeding. Its objective is to enhance the sustainability of breastfeeding and promote breastfeeding as a norm for baby care widely accepted by the general public. The Government has already implemented initiatives in accordance with recommendations by the Committee on various fronts."

Professor Chan continued, "Breastfeeding outcomes improve significantly when there is adequate and timely professional support from healthcare facilities on antenatal education and in delivery and early postnatal periods."

She pointed out that the HA and the DH have been implementing the Baby Friendly Hospital (BFH) Initiative and the pilot scheme of the Baby-Friendly Maternal and Child Health Centre (MCHC) Designation respectively over the past few years. Two HA hospitals have already been accredited as BFHs. As for private hospitals, she said she was glad to see that Gleneagles Hong Kong Hospital joined the BFH Initiative last year. Meanwhile, three MCHCs are working through the final level of accreditation under the pilot scheme. She is looking forward to more participation from other healthcare facilities.

In addition, the Government has all along endeavoured to build up a breastfeeding-friendly environment in workplaces, public venues and the community. The Government encourages the implementation of the Breastfeeding Friendly Workplace (BFW) policy at workplaces to enable lactating staff to continue breastfeeding after returning to work. Currently, over 75 government

bureaux and departments have implemented the BFW policy to provide an inclusive environment for lactating staff to express breast milk in the workplace to continue breastfeeding their babies.

The Government has been proactively promoting the provision of baby care facilities in government premises and public venues. The Government last December imposed a mandatory requirement for the provision of baby care facilities and lactation rooms in the sale conditions of government land sale sites for new commercial developments. Such facilities must also be provided in certain new government premises. To date, more than 320 baby care rooms have been set up in the premises of government departments and organisations.

In the wider community, the Government has collaborated with UNICEF HK for many years in promoting the Breastfeeding Friendly Premises initiative. To date, more than 130 venues, including restaurants, shopping malls, public transport facilities and theme parks, have shown support and provided a breastfeeding-friendly environment. The Government will continue to work with various sectors and organisations to put forward more breastfeeding-friendly initiatives.

Professor Chan said, "Through the concerted efforts of different parties, the local breastfeeding rate has been increasing steadily in the past 20 years. The breastfeeding rate on hospital discharge recorded a significant increase from 51 per cent in 1998 to 88 per cent in 2018 while the exclusive breastfeeding rate among 4-month-old babies grew from 6 per cent to 29 per cent in the same period."

She pointed out that understanding and acknowledgement from youngsters towards breastfeeding is of paramount importance in the continuous promotion and support of breastfeeding. The DH this year held the "Supporting Mothers' Breastfeeding Journey" Secondary School Short Video Competition, in which students were encouraged to create video clips on breastfeeding to deepen their understanding of the importance of sustained breastfeeding. The competition received a strong response with over 280 students' participation.

She praised the high standard of the entries, which displayed creativity and were impactful. She gave her heartiest congratulations to the awardees and expressed her hope that they will continue to support breastfeeding and help the new generation grow in a healthier way.

Breastfeeding offers the finest and most natural nutrition for babies, benefits babies' growth and development and promotes emotional bonding between mothers and babies. The World Health Organization recommends that babies should be breastfed exclusively in the first six months. Thereafter, solid foods should be introduced to fulfil babies nutritional requirements while breastfeeding can continue until the child is 2 years old or beyond.

More information on breastfeeding is available at the DH's Family Health Service <u>designated webpage</u>.

HAD to open temporary night heat shelters

The Home Affairs Department will open 18 temporary night heat shelters tonight (July 27) for people in need of the service.

The shelters will be open from 10.30pm until 8am tomorrow.

For further information, please call the department's hotline before midnight on 2835 1473.

The 18 night heat shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Districts:

Central and Western —
Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall
3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex
2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern —
Causeway Bay Community Centre
3/F, 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Southern — Lei Tung Community Hall Lei Tung Estate, Ap Lei Chau

Wan Chai — Wan Chai Activities Centre LG/F, Wan Chai Market, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai

Kowloon Districts:

Kowloon City — Hung Hom Community Hall 1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices 42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong —
Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre
71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po -

Shek Kip Mei Community Hall G/F, Block 42, Shek Kip Mei Estate Sham Shui Po

Wong Tai Sin — Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre 45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong — Henry G. Leong Yaumatei Community Centre 60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

New Territories Districts:

Islands -

Tung Chung Community Hall G/F, Tung Chung Municipal Services Building, 39 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung

Kwai Tsing — Kwai Shing Community Hall Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung

North — Cheung Wah Community Hall Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling

Sai Kung — Hang Hau Community Hall G/F, Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex, 38 Pui Shing Road, Hang Hau, Tseung Kwan O

Sha Tin —
Lung Hang Estate Community Centre
Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin

Tai Po — Tai Po Community Centre 2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan — Lei Muk Shue Community Hall G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan

Tuen Mun —
Butterfly Bay Community Centre
Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun

Yuen Long — Tin Yiu Community Centre

Police appeal to members of the public to leave Yuen Long District as soon as possible

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Please broadcast the following message as soon as possible and repeat it at suitable intervals:

Police are aware that in Yuen Long area, some protestors were gathering in Nam Pin Wai, behaving in a disorderly manner. Given that some protestors were holding iron poles, self-made shields and even removing fences from roads, Police are concerned about possible deterioration of the situation. Police appeal to members of the public to stay calm and leave the area as soon as possible as a chaotic scene may ensue within a short period of time.