<u>Buildings Department gradually resumes</u> <u>public services</u>

To align with the Government's recent announcement that government departments will resume public services gradually from April 1 with a view to largely resuming normal public services from April 21, the Buildings Department (BD) announced today (March 31) that it will gradually resume more public services from tomorrow (April 1).

The Building Information Centre at 2/F and the Receipt Counter at the ground floor of the BD Headquarters at North Tower, West Kowloon Government Offices, 11 Hoi Ting Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon, will be reopened between 10am to 4pm from Monday to Friday for inspection and copying services for private building records, and receipt of documents from members of the public respectively. There will be limits on the number of customers to be served at any one time in order to reduce social contacts. In addition, a drop-in box and a tender/quotation box will be provided at G/F of the BD Headquarters from 8.30am to 5.30pm from Monday to Friday to supplement the counter services.

The Receipt and Dispatch Counter at the office of the BD's New Buildings Divisions on 7/F, 14 Taikoo Wan Road, Taikoo Shing, Hong Kong, will open from 9.30am to 5.30pm from Monday to Friday for collection of statutory applications and related documents and forms for new building works. Applicants will be contacted for collecting processed plans and related documents by appointment.

The General Enquiry Counter at G/F of the BD Headquarters and all meeting rooms (except for holding essential meetings to meet statutory requirements such as Minor Works Contractors Registration Committee meetings) of the BD will not be open to the public until further notice.

The BD appeals to the public to minimise visiting the department's offices in person unless they genuinely require its public services urgently. The public may call 1823 to make emergency reports. For general enquiries and reports, members of the public may call 1823 or inform the department by email (enquiry@bd.gov.hk), online reporting (eform.one.gov.hk/form/bd0001/en), fax (2537 4992) or post (North Tower, West Kowloon Government Offices, 11 Hoi Ting Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon). In addition, electronic information can be submitted to the BD via receipt@bd.gov.hk.