<u>Buildings Department's special work</u> <u>arrangement</u>

In view of the severity of the local epidemic situation, the Government needs to take measures to significantly reduce the flow of people and social contacts to stop the virus from spreading in the community. The Buildings Department (BD) announced today (February 3) that it will continue to provide emergency and essential public services starting from tomorrow (February 4) until February 11. The services will be mainly handling public reports on building safety and unauthorised building works in progress, statutory submissions for new developments, registration of contractors, advisory services for licensing authorities, and implementation of Operation Building Bright 2.0.

Submission of the following applications and documents in person should be through:

- 1. A drop-in box located at G/F, BD Headquarters, North Tower, West Kowloon Government Offices, 11 Hoi Ting Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon, for documents from members of the public from 8:30am to 5:30pm from Monday to Friday. BD will issue receipts/acknowledgements of submissions in due course;
- A tender/quotation box located at G/F, BD Headquarters for tender/quotation documents from 8.30am to 5.30pm from Monday to Friday; and
- 3. The receipt and dispatch counter at the office of the BD's New Buildings Division on 7/F, 14 Taikoo Wan Road, Taikoo Shing, Hong Kong for collection of statutory applications and related documents and forms for new building works from 9.30am to 4.30pm from Monday to Friday.

Under the special work arrangements, the handling time of the BD's services may be longer than usual.

The Building Information Centre at 2/F of the BD Headquarters (a hotline on 3842 5375 has been set up to handle enquiries on requests for inspection of building records), the receipt counter and general enquiry counter at G/F of the BD Headquarters and all meeting rooms of the BD will not be open to the public until further notice. All appointments, meetings (except meetings essential to meet statutory requirements such as Minor Works Contractor Registration Committee meetings) and inspections scheduled for the period will be rescheduled to later dates and the individuals concerned will be notified in due course.

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.