<u>Contract awarded for Kwai Tsing</u> District Health Centre

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) announced today (March 4) that the operation service contract for the Kwai Tsing District Health Centre (DHC) has been awarded through open tender to the Kwai Tsing Safe Community and Healthy City Association (the operator).

Under the contract, the operator is required to commence three-year operation of a Core Centre no later than October 1 this year. It will also set up five satellite centres in different parts of Kwai Tsing within one year after commencement of the Core Centre. The total contract amount is \$284.06 million.

Located at Kowloon Commerce Centre in Kwai Chung with about 1 500 square metres of net operating floor area, the Core Centre will provide various healthcare services including health promotion and educational activities, health assessment and chronic disease management. It will open 10 hours a day and six days a week.

"We will work closely with the operator to prepare for the commissioning of the Core Centre and the satellite centres. The operator is required to develop a network of medical and healthcare practitioners including doctors, nurses, pharmacists, allied health professionals such as physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dietitians and Chinese medicine practitioners, with a view to providing multiple access and service points for a good range of co-ordinated care and support services within the district, offering a convenient alternative to frequenting hospitals," a spokesman for the FHB said.

"The Kwai Tsing DHC is a pilot scheme with a brand new operation mode and funding support from the Government. It aims to illustrate the effectiveness of public-private partnership and medical-social collaboration in providing primary healthcare services which cater for the needs and characteristics of the district, as well as to enhance public awareness of a healthy lifestyle, disease prevention and self-management of health."

"Taking into account the experience of the pilot DHC in Kwai Tsing District, the Government will gradually set up DHCs in all 18 districts," the spokesman said.