

Contracts awarded for "DHC Express" in 11 districts

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) announced today (April 30) that the service contracts for the operation of "District Health Centre (DHC) Express" in 11 districts (namely Central and Western District, Wan Chai District, Eastern District, Yau Tsim Mong District, Kowloon City District, Kwun Tong District, North District, Tai Po District, Sai Kung District, Sha Tin District and Islands District) have been awarded to the following non-governmental organisations (NGOs) through an invitation for proposals. A total sum of \$596 million in non-recurrent expenditure will be involved in the implementation of "DHC Express" in the 11 districts over three years.

Districts	NGOs to operate DHC Express
Central and Western	The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation
Wan Chai	Methodist Centre
Eastern	The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation
Yau Tsim Mong	The Lok Sin Tong Benevolent Society, Kowloon
Kowloon City	The Lok Sin Tong Benevolent Society, Kowloon
Kwun Tong	United Christian Medical Service
North	Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association
Tai Po	United Christian Medical Service
Sai Kung	Haven of Hope Christian Service
Sha Tin	The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation
Islands	The Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council

"DHC Express" will provide prevention-focused primary healthcare services on different levels, including health promotion and education, health risk factor assessment and chronic disease management. Apart from serving as a district health resource hub that links different service providers of various aspects of primary healthcare services in the community, "DHC Express" will also leverage on a private healthcare network in the community to enable members of the public to receive the necessary care and

services when needed.

Operators of "DHC Express" are required to identify suitable premises for a core centre as their primary service site. "DHC Express" in the various districts is targeted to commence services in the fourth quarter this year.

The Government is funding NGOs to provide focused primary healthcare services in an interim arrangement in the above 11 districts, with a view to laying a foundation for the establishment of a prevention-focused primary healthcare system. The Government is working in parallel to take forward the works projects for the permanent sites of District Health Centres (DHCs) in all districts. Services of "DHC Express" will be migrated as appropriate to the DHCs of the respective districts in due course.