

# Financial support to be provided to aviation support service operators at Hong Kong International Airport under Anti-epidemic Fund

The Government will provide a one-off non-accountable subsidy to aviation support service operators at Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) under the fifth round of the Anti-epidemic Fund. The Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK) is accepting applications from qualifying companies from today (January 28).

The COVID-19 pandemic has seriously impacted Hong Kong's air traffic. The passenger throughput at HKIA had declined by 98 per cent in the period of January to November 2021 compared with the same period in 2019. This has made a significant impact on the passenger aviation industry, especially for aviation support service operators whose business is highly dependent on the passenger traffic at HKIA. In view of this, the Government is providing a one-off non-accountable subsidy to the aviation support service operators at HKIA under the fifth round of the Anti-epidemic Fund to help the industry through this difficult time under the pandemic.

Eligible aviation support service operators should be licensees or franchisees of, or holders of operating permits issued by, the AAHK whose business is adversely impacted by the drop in passenger traffic at HKIA during the pandemic. The AAHK will vet the applications from the relevant companies and disburse a one-off subsidy between \$3 million and \$8 million depending on company size.

The Government together with the AAHK will continue to closely monitor the business situation of the aviation industry and implement relevant measures at appropriate junctures to weather the hard times, as well as to prepare the industry for the post-pandemic recovery.