

Gazettal of regulations on waiver of water and sewage charges for non-domestic accounts

The Government published in the Gazette today (April 29) the Waterworks (Amendment) (Charge Concessions) Regulation 2020 and the Sewage Services (Sewage Charge) (Amendment) (Charge Concessions) Regulation 2020 to give effect to the helping measures on the waiver of the water and sewage charges for non-domestic accounts, as previously announced by the Chief Executive and the Financial Secretary. The measures aim to assist enterprises to cope with current economic challenges. About 250 000 non-domestic accounts are expected to benefit from these initiatives.

"The measures are to waive 75 per cent of the water and sewage charges for non-domestic accounts for 12 months from December 1, 2019, to November 30, 2020, subject to a monthly cap of \$20,000 and \$12,500 respectively for each meter covered by a water bill. After the publication in the Gazette, the regulations will be tabled at the next sitting of the Legislative Council for negative vetting," a Government spokesman said.

The estimated Government revenue foregone for water and sewage charges is about \$660 million and \$360 million respectively.