

# Government appeals to all sectors to step up efforts in reducing social contacts in community

In response to the developments in controlling the spread of the novel coronavirus epidemic, a Government spokesman today (February 8) urged all sectors to step up efforts in reducing social contacts and appealed to the public to stay at home as far as possible.

The spokesman said that in order to safeguard public health, social distancing is of paramount importance to prevent the further spread of the epidemic. The Government has urged all statutory and advisory bodies, including all District Councils, to cancel activities and meetings in the coming two weeks. District Offices will not provide venues and secretarial service for convening meetings.

Various cultural, sports and district activities have also been cancelled. About 3 000 programmes have been cancelled due to the closure of all performing venues under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and the West Kowloon Cultural District. Public libraries, museums and sports facilities have been temporarily closed already.

The spokesman urged the general public to comply with the measures that the Government rolled out earlier to reduce the risk of the spread of the virus in the community.