

# Government to push ahead with primary healthcare

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) today (September 20) launched a dedicated website with a brand new logo to tie in with the service commencement of the first District Health Centre (DHC) in Hong Kong next Wednesday (September 25).

Unveiling the development direction of primary healthcare as well as the website and logo of the DHC to the media this afternoon, the Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, said the upcoming opening of the first DHC marks a key step forward in primary healthcare service provision in Hong Kong.

Professor Chan said, "As announced in the Chief Executive's Policy Address in 2017, the current-term Government will allocate resources to push ahead with primary healthcare to enhance district-based primary healthcare services. The setting up of the DHC is an important step in changing the healthcare system in Hong Kong.

"Through the vision of district-based, public-private partnership and medical-social collaboration, the DHC is a key component of the public healthcare system and a brand new service model of the FHB in a bid to change the treatment-led focus of our healthcare services and enhance the public's awareness of disease prevention as well as their self-health management capability, with a view to relieving pressure on specialist and hospital services in the long run.

"Following the commencement of the first DHC in Kwai Tsing District next Wednesday, we will continue to identify suitable sites for setting up DHCs in all districts. Among them, we have obtained support from the respective District Councils in seven districts."

The Primary Healthcare Office in the FHB will be responsible for monitoring the performance of DHC operators and driving DHC service development and primary healthcare services based on evidence and data as well as developing standards.

The new DHC logo consists of a dot in the centre and three crescents symbolising three tiers of person-centred primary healthcare services of the DHC. The outer crescent represents primary prevention for the healthy general public, the middle crescent stands for secondary prevention for individuals at high health risk, and the inner crescent refers to tertiary prevention for patients with chronic diseases. The three crescents also represent the three key values of the DHC, namely, "district-based", "public-private partnership" and "medical-social collaboration". The logo will be adopted in the DHCs across all 18 districts.

The new FHB website ([www.fhb.gov.hk/dhc/en](http://www.fhb.gov.hk/dhc/en)) enables the general public

and healthcare service providers to access information about the DHC and the progress of developments in different districts, with links to service details. It also contains useful information and tools regarding primary healthcare.