

# Government to start distributing anti-epidemic service bags tomorrow

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government announced today (April 1) that, through mobilising support on different fronts by the Home Affairs Bureau and the Home Affairs Department, the packaging work for anti-epidemic service bags has been completed smoothly in three consecutive days. The Government will start distributing the anti-epidemic service bags widely to all households in Hong Kong from 10am tomorrow (April 2). The daily operation is targeted to be completed within seven days, from morning till evening. The anti-epidemic service bags, which are free of charge, will be distributed by the District Offices in their districts mainly through the channels below. Members of the public are not required to queue up or register.

1. Distribution by the Housing Department and the Hong Kong Housing Society to households of their public housing;
2. Distribution to households of private housing estates through owners' corporations, other owners' organisations or property management companies;
3. Distribution to "three-nil" buildings or grassroots families through door-to-door visits by volunteers and civil servants;
4. Distribution to households living in rural or remote areas through the Heung Yee Kuk or Rural Committees; and
5. Distribution to homeless people through non-governmental organisations.

The service bags will be first distributed to the grassroots, such as tenants of "three-nil" buildings and subdivided units, in order to accord priority for access to anti-epidemic resources to those most in need, and will then be delivered to the residents in other buildings. For households that cannot be reached during door-to-door distribution, the staff distributing the bags will leave a collection slip for the households to collect the anti-epidemic service bags during the second phase.

To plug the gaps, the District Offices will set up about 90 distribution points in 18 districts during the second phase (from April 7 to 13) for people who cannot receive anti-epidemic service bags through the above channels, including households who cannot be reached during door-to-door visits, to collect the bags at the stations.

The Government expresses gratitude to members of the Legislative Council, the Hong Kong Community Anti-Coronavirus Link, the Anti-Coronavirus Link of 18 districts, over 350 local organisations and non-governmental organisations, clansman organisations, charity groups, volunteers, uniformed groups, youth organisations, religious groups and ethnic minorities service organisations for mobilising over 17 000 volunteers to participate in the packaging work at 133 assembly points. Moreover, the Government thanks civil servant colleagues from the 13 bureaux and their family departments, as well as the Department of Justice, for their active co-operation and mobilisation of nearly 2 000 colleagues to assist in the packaging work, allowing the

Government to complete the packaging work of the 3.5 million anti-epidemic service bags smoothly in only three days.

The Acting Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Jack Chan, said, "The work of distributing the anti-epidemic service bags fully demonstrates the spirit of concerted co-operation among the Government, all sectors of the community and the public in fighting the epidemic. We again express our gratitude to the country. We firmly believe that with the staunch support from our motherland, as long as Hong Kong citizens are united in one heart to fight the epidemic, Hong Kong will definitely win this battle."