<u>Labour Department staff member</u> <u>preliminarily tests positive for</u> <u>COVID-19</u>

The Labour Department (LD) announced today (March 4) that a staff member has preliminarily tested positive for COVID-19.

The staff member concerned, who works in the Minor Employment Claims Adjudication Board on the 10th floor of Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices, last went to the office yesterday (March 3). He had no contact with members of the public in his daily work. He had been wearing surgical masks and properly maintaining social distancing with other people while performing duties. His body temperature was normal during temperature screening at work.

The LD has arranged to fully clean and sterilise the workplace of the staff member concerned, including the common areas, in accordance with the guidelines of the Centre for Health Protection (CHP). The service counters of the Minor Employment Claims Adjudication Board, the Labour Relations Division (Kowloon West Branch Office), the Employees' Compensation Division, the Occupational Medicine Unit (Kowloon), and the Operations Division (Kowloon Region) of the Occupational Safety Service on the same floor will suspend services until further notice. Members of the public who have made prior service appointments with these offices will be informed of the alternative arrangements individually.

The LD is highly concerned about the case and will maintain close liaison with the CHP in its anti-epidemic work. It will continue to implement various disease prevention measures, and remind all staff to stay vigilant in regard to personal hygiene at all times. If they feel unwell, they should seek medical advice immediately and inform the department.