<u>Latest arrangement on PlanD public</u> services

In line with the latest adjustment to public services in response to the latest situation of COVID-19 announced by the Government, and to reduce social contacts and the risk of spreading the disease in the community, the Planning Department (PlanD) announced today (March 23) that starting from today, the department will provide essential and limited public services only until further notice.

The Planning Enquiry Counter (PEC) on 17th floor of North Point Government Offices (NPGO) will continue to make available documents required under the Town Planning Ordinance for public inspection, while other counter services will be suspended. Meanwhile, the PEC on the 14th floor of Sha Tin Government Offices will be temporarily closed and no public services will be provided.

District Planning Offices of the PlanD will suspend all fieldwork, including posting of site notices for planning applications. No site notices will be posted for planning applications published during this period until further notice. Notices of planning applications will continue be published in the prescribed newspapers and posted on the Town Planning Board's (TPB) website (www.info.gov.hk/tpb). Members of the public are invited to pay attention to such notices in the newspapers and on the TPB website.

To reduce the risk of the spread of the disease in the community, members of the public are encouraged to avoid visiting the PEC. They may make enquiries through the telephone hotline (2231 5000) or email (enquire@pland.gov.hk), and can visit the PlanD's website (www.pland.gov.hk) for general planning information.

Meanwhile, the receipt and dispatch counter of the department (18/F, NPGO) will continue to maintain basic services during office hours (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday).

The Town Planning Board Secretariat's Reception Counter will continue to maintain services for collection of submissions made under the Town Planning Ordinance via the drop-in box located on the 15th floor of NPGO during office hours (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday). Other counter services will be temporarily suspended until further notice. Members of the public can continue to make enquiries through the telephone hotline (2231 4810) or email (tpbpd@pland.gov.hk), and can visit the TPB's website for statutory planning information.

City Gallery will continue to be temporarily closed until further notice. All educational activities and docent services will be cancelled during the closure period.

For enquiries, please call the hotline 2231 5000 during office hours or visit the PlanD's website.