<u>Latest situation of online</u> <u>appointments for Universal Community</u> <u>Testing Programme</u>

As at 6pm today (August 30), over 420 000 people have successfully registered for the Universal Community Testing Programme (UCTP), to be launched on September 1, since the online booking system commenced operation yesterday (August 29).

Eighty community testing centres have been fully booked on September 1, the first day of the UCTP, accounting for more than half of all the 141 community testing centres. A list of these community centres is at annex.

For the period between September 1 and 7, five community testing centres have been fully booked. These are Sau Mau Ping Community Hall, Yau Tong Community Hall, Sheung Tak Community Hall, Sha Kok Community Hall and Ma On Shan Sports Centre. As places are still available at other community testing centres, members of the public may consider signing up at other centres if their first choice is fully booked.

The UCTP aims at identifying asymptomatic COVID-19 patients. The Government has not set any target on the number of participants in the programme and will provide voluntary virus testing for all citizens to cut the transmission chain in the community.

The Government will closely monitor the booking situation and the operation of the programme to consider whether to extend the programme for not more than seven days.