<u>Legal Aid Department staff member</u> <u>preliminarily tested positive for</u> COVID-19

The Legal Aid Department (LAD) today (February 7) said that a Legal Aid Counsel had preliminarily tested positive for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

The officer, who had no recent travel history, works at LAD headquarters on 26/F, Queensway Government Offices, and is responsible for processing civil legal aid applications and last performed duties on February 4 without any contact with members of the public. The officer's body temperature was normal on the last day of work and had been wearing a mask while performing duties.

The LAD has closed the Application and Processing Section on 24/F, the Information and Application Services Unit on 25/F, and Civil Litigation (1) on 26/F of the Queensway Government Offices for arranging thorough cleaning and disinfection at the premises concerned. In the meantime, all LAD staff of the offices concerned will work from home. For urgent civil legal aid applications, members of the public can attend Kowloon Branch Office at G/F, Mongkok Government Offices, 30 Luen Wan Street, Mong Kok, Kowloon.

The LAD is highly concerned about the COVID-19 epidemic. Staff are reminded to pay attention to personal hygiene and to stay vigilant. They should seek medical advice immediately if feeling unwell.