<u>More application forms for Caring and</u> <u>Sharing Scheme to be available</u>

In view of the public demand, additional Chinese application forms for the Caring and Sharing Scheme will be available in batches from today (January 23) for collection by members of the public at the Home Affairs Enquiry Centres of the Home Affairs Department, the Working Family Allowance Office and the Student Finance Office of the Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency.

"About 900 000 of the first tranche of 1 million Chinese application forms have been distributed so far and additional copies will be available in batches in the coming days. Application forms can also be downloaded from the website of the Scheme (<u>css.gov.hk</u>)," a Government spokesman said.

"According to the Scheme, the application period will begin on February 1 and run for three months until April 30. This is to ensure that the general public will have ample time to fill in and submit the application forms," the spokesman added.