

Secretary for Home Affairs visits Hong Kong Arts Development Council

The Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Lau Kong-wah, visited the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC) today (April 16) to understand the work of the HKADC in implementing the "Support Scheme for Arts and Cultural Sector".

The HKADC launched the "Support Scheme for Arts and Cultural Sector" in March and has already released \$80,000 each to 42 HKADC Year Grantees, as well as \$15,000 each to about 200 HKADC-funded events. In addition, the HKADC will also release \$15,000 to each non-HKADC-funded project and a maximum of \$7,500 to each freelance arts worker. Relevant applications have been open since March 20 and the HKADC expects to begin releasing funds starting from next week.

Furthermore, if a freelance arts worker has taught any interest class in a school or a subvented non-governmental organisation, he/she may apply for the schemes to be implemented under the second round of the Anti-epidemic Fund (AEF) from the Education Bureau or Social Welfare Department. The Finance Committee (FC) of the Legislative Council will discuss the schemes under the second round of the AEF tomorrow (April 17). Subject to the FC's approval, the relevant bureau/department will finalise the implementation details.

The Home Affairs Bureau hopes that the new relief measures can take care of the needs of the sector. The Bureau will continue to join hands with the sector in this difficult time.