

SHA meets the trade unions of property management sector affiliated to the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions on enhancing the "Anti-epidemic Support Scheme for Property Management Sector" (with photo)

The Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Caspar Tsui, today (April 22) met Legislative Council Member, Ms Alice Mak, and representatives from the trade unions affiliated to the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions, namely the Hong Kong General Union of Security and Property Management Industry Employees and the Hong Kong Environmental Services, Logistics and Cleaning Employees Association, to exchange views on the enhancement of the "Anti-epidemic Support Scheme for Property Management Sector" (ASPM) under the "Anti-epidemic Fund".

The participants welcomed the Government's initiative of launching the ASPM, and considered that the ASPM could effectively support frontline workers of the property management (PM) sector in fighting the epidemic. They also proposed enhancements to the ASPM, so that buildings other than the private residential buildings may also be benefited.

"We will proactively respond to public views on enhancing the ASPM, with a view to benefiting more frontline PM workers who have been working hard in this difficult times. In this regard, we are going to extend the ASPM to cover industrial and commercial buildings, and will suitably adjust the funding cap for these buildings. We will continue to adhere to the principles of 'simplicity', 'quick disbursement of funds' and 'better loose than tight' in processing relevant applications. We hope frontline PM workers can continue to remain steadfast in their duties and fight the virus together," said Mr Tsui.

The Home Affairs Department will announce the details of the second phase of the ASPM shortly. The first phase of the ASPM remains open for application. As of April 22, the Property Management Services Authority (PMSA), which has been implementing the ASPM, has received over 8 100 applications, of which over 1 800 applications have been approved, involving subsidies of over \$63 million, and benefiting over 14 000 building blocks, which account for more than 40 per cent of the private residential and composite buildings in Hong Kong. Please refer to the website of the PMSA (www.pmsahk.org.hk/en/index.html) for the name of the properties for which applications have been approved.

The application deadline of the ASPM has been extended to May 31. Eligible PM companies and owners' organisations which have not applied are

reminded to submit their applications to the PMSA as soon as practicable. For details on the ASPM, please contact the PMSA at 3696 1156 or 3696 1166, or visit the website of the PMSA.

