

Subsidies totalling \$85 million approved under Anti-epidemic Subsidy Scheme for the Laundry Trade

The Environment Bureau (ENB) announced today (September 25) that the Anti-epidemic Subsidy Scheme for the Laundry Trade under the Anti-epidemic Fund has been satisfactorily completed.

A spokesman for the ENB said that the Environmental Protection Department, which is in charge of implementing the Scheme, had been carrying out vetting upon receiving applications since June this year. Within around three months, the department approved 1 387 applications involving subsidies totalling \$85 million, and it has posted cheques to the approved applicants.

"The Scheme received positive feedback from the laundry trade. The number of applications received and the subsidies granted were close to our estimation. The timely completion of the Scheme helped the trade to relieve its imminent problems, including taking care of the livelihood of the approximately 30 per cent of their employees who are aged 65 or above," the spokesman added.

Following the completion of the vetting process, the Scheme's telephone hotline (3107 8403) will cease operation at 5pm on September 30. Laundry trade members with any questions on the Scheme may email them to laundry_subsidy@epd.gov.hk, which will continue to operate until October 30.