<u>Transport Department's special</u> <u>arrangements for licence renewals on</u> <u>Budget Day</u>

To align with the Government's announcement to fully resume normal public services with effect from tomorrow (February 18), a spokesman for the Transport Department (TD) said today (February 17) that the TD will fully resume licensing services on the same date.

To avoid members of the public from rushing to submit applications for renewal of expiring and expired vehicle and driving licences before Budget Day, the TD will implement the following arrangements:

* All vehicle licences eligible for renewal on or before Budget Day (February 24), i.e. vehicles that are registered at the time of renewal and with licence expiry dates falling on or before June 23, can be renewed at the present rate, whether for four months or 12 months, at any time up to and including June 23.

* All full Hong Kong driving licences and driving instructor's licences eligible for renewal on or before Budget Day (February 24), i.e. those expiring on or before June 23 and those that have expired for less than three years at the time of renewal, can be renewed at the present rate at any time up to and including June 23.

* The special arrangements only apply to the applications for renewal of vehicle licences, full driving licences and driving instructor's licences that meet the conditions above. They do not apply to any other licensing services.

"It is not necessary for eligible licence holders to rush to the TD licensing offices to renew their licences on speculation that those licence fees may increase in the coming Budget. The aforementioned arrangements are not related to the content of the Budget, on which the TD has no information," the spokesman stressed.