<u>"Anti-epidemic Support Scheme for</u> <u>Property Management Sector" under the</u> <u>"Anti-epidemic Fund" launched today</u>

To support the property management (PM) sector in anti-epidemic efforts, the Government has established the "Anti-epidemic Support Scheme for Property Management Sector" (ASPM) under the "Anti-epidemic Fund". The Home Affairs Department (HAD) issued today (February 24) the application form to the property management sector.

The objective of the ASPM is to provide financial support to frontline PM workers (i.e. cleansing and security workers) in private residential and composite (i.e. commercial cum residential) buildings, with a view to improving their personal protection and environmental hygiene, and giving recognition to their services. The ASPM will also alleviate the additional costs arising from heightened cleansing efforts and the burden on the residents.

The ASPM will provide the following support for the private residential and composite buildings:

(a) "Anti-epidemic Hardship Allowance" – to subsidise eligible PM companies (PMCs)/owners' organisations (00s) to give each frontline PM worker a monthly "Anti-epidemic Hardship Allowance" of \$1,000 for four months (February to May 2020), subject to a cap of six headcounts per eligible building block. The cap of a property is the sum of the headcounts of the eligible building blocks therein; and

(b) "Anti-epidemic Cleansing Subsidy" — eligible PMCs/00s will be given a lump sum "Anti-epidemic Cleansing Subsidy" of \$2,000 for every eligible building block. The total subsidy for a property is the sum of the subsidy for the eligible building blocks therein.

The ASPM is expected to benefit over 200 000 frontline PM workers serving around 33 000 residential and composite building blocks (involving around 800 PMCs and/or 10 000 00s) .

The HAD will commission the Property Management Services Authority to implement the ASPM. Interested parties may refer to the dedicated website of HAD (<u>www.had.gov.hk/en/pmsa/index.htm</u>) for the application form and the introduction of the ASPM. The application form applicable to OOs and other updates of the ASPM will also be uploaded soon.