

# Upgrading of Eastern District Health Centre Express to District Health Centre and change of Kwai Tsing District Health Centre operator announced

The Health Bureau (HHB) announced today (May 22) that the operation service contract for the Eastern District Health Centre (DHC) has been awarded through open tender to the Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation (HKSR) to upgrade the existing Eastern DHC Express (DHCE) to the Eastern DHC, which is expected to commence operations in the fourth quarter of this year. Meanwhile, the existing operation service contract for the Kwai Tsing DHC will expire in the third quarter this year. After an open tender exercise, the HHB has awarded the operation service contract of the Kwai Tsing DHC to the Yan Chai Hospital Board. Both service contracts are for three years.

The core centre of the Eastern DHC will be located at the Siu Sai Wan Health Integrated Building, 11 Harmony Road, Siu Sai Wan, Chai Wan, with a total floor area of about 1 000 square metres, representing an increase of about three times the size of the current Eastern DHCE. The core centre will provide additional consultation rooms, rehabilitation facilities and an audio-visual assessment room. Facilities for health education activities will also be enhanced. According to the operation service contract, the HKSR is required to establish two satellite centres in the district within the first year of operation to enhance service accessibility. The core centre and two satellite centres will operate six days a week with a minimum of 10 hours of service per day.

Moreover, after changing the operator of the Kwai Tsing DHC, its core centre will remain on 30/F, Tower 2, Kowloon Commerce Centre, 51 Kwai Cheong Road, Kwai Chung. The main services provided, including chronic disease management and community rehabilitation services, will remain unchanged. Meanwhile, the satellite centres will be relocated. In accordance with the operation service contract, the Yan Chai Hospital Board is required to establish four satellite centres in the district within the first year of operation. The core centre and four satellite centres will operate six days a week with a minimum of 10 hours of service per day.

After changing the operator of the Kwai Tsing DHC, the existing members can continue to use the services of the DHC without the need for re-registration. The Primary Healthcare Commission (PHC Commission) will discuss with the relevant operators and implement the handover of the Kwai Tsing DHC services and premise to ensure a smooth transition. The PHC Commission will also discuss with the relevant operators and implement the transitional plan for upgrading the Eastern DHCE to a DHC. Both DHCs will continue to co-

ordinate primary healthcare services in the districts, serving as case managers to support primary healthcare doctors while also acting as resource hubs for district healthcare services that connect various public and private service organisations across sectors in the community. The DHCs will continue to assist citizens in pairing with family doctors, providing comprehensive advice on disease prevention through the Life Course Preventive Care Plan, promoting the Chronic Disease Co-Care Pilot Scheme, as well as offering health education and promotion, health risk assessments, community rehabilitation services, dedicated nurse clinic and allied health services, and more.

The Chief Executive announced in the 2024 Policy Address the upgrading of more DHCEs to DHCs. With the Eastern DHC, the Central and Western DHC and the Yau Tsim Mong DHC expected to commence operations within this year as announced earlier, the total number of DHCs across the city will increase to 10 this year. The PHC Commission will continue to implement the relevant upgrading plans to establish DHCs across the 18 districts at the earliest juncture, with a view to strengthening the prevention-oriented, district-based, and family-centric primary healthcare network.