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For Immediate Release

### **Competition Commission Publishes Handy Guide to Competition Ordinance for Public Sector**

The Competition Commission (Commission) today (11 May) published a handy “Guide to Competition Ordinance” (Guide) for the public sector to assist personnel from the government, public bodies and law enforcement agencies in understanding the key elements of the Competition Ordinance (Ordinance) and identifying signs of anti-competitive practices in the marketplace.

The Guide provides an overview of the Ordinance and describes the key anti-competitive practices in the market that the public sector should take note of, such as bid rigging, market sharing and price fixing. It also features useful red flags for officials to strengthen detection of such practices and to report suspected contraventions to the Commission.

Mr. Rasul Butt, Senior Executive Director of the Commission, said, “Anti-competitive practices deprive consumers, businesses and the public sector of the benefits arising from competition, which include better prices, quality and more choices of products and services.”

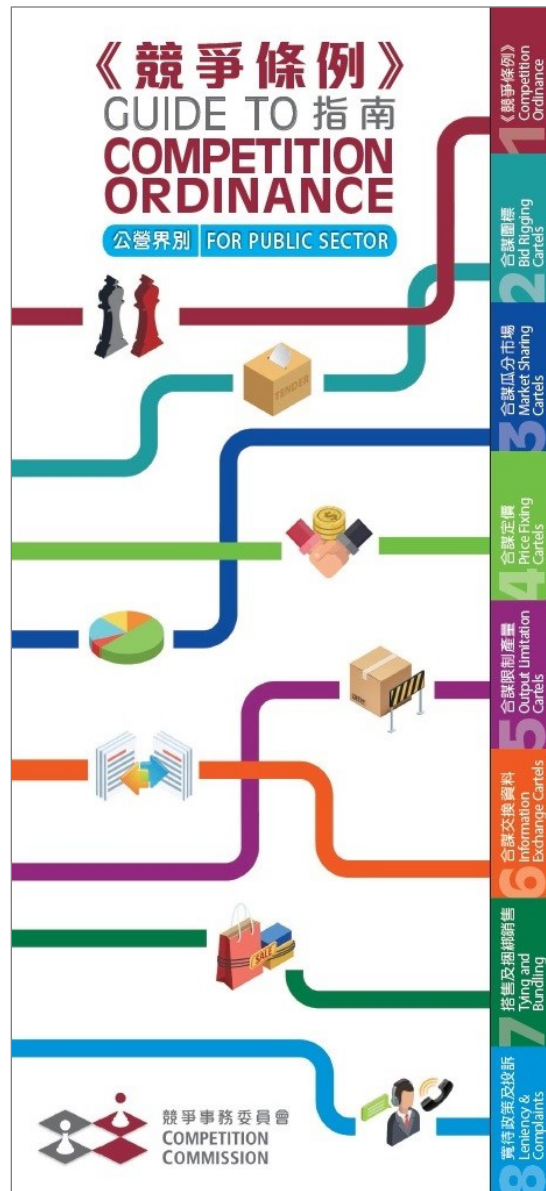
“Public procurement accounts for a significant proportion of the demand for goods and services in our economy and the activities and functions of the public sector also affect the daily lives of everyone in Hong Kong. It is therefore very important for public officers to be equipped with the knowledge of how to identify potential collusive conduct in their work and to stay vigilant in detecting potential contraventions of the Ordinance. We strongly encourage all parties including public officers and law enforcers to report suspected cases to the Commission.”

Officials in the public sector also have a role in formulating and implementing public policies. This Guide is supplemented with a quick checklist as a first step to assist them in identifying and assessing the competition risks and impacts of new, or existing, policies and initiatives. The Commission has also set up a dedicated contact for officials if further advice is needed.

The Guide and the quick checklist on competition assessment are now available on the Commission website. Their printed copies will also be distributed through the network of government departments, public organisations and enforcement agencies.

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Photo Caption:



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