

1 February 2019

## First Household Benefits under CLP's Power Connect Programme to Subsidise Rewiring Work for Subdivided Units

CLP Power Hong Kong (CLP Power) yesterday (31 January) completed work on the first project under its new **Power Connect** programme which provides subsidies to landlords of subdivided units to do rewiring work for the installation of individual electricity meters. The programme allocates HK\$5 million a year for this purpose to improve the home safety and living environment of underprivileged people living in subdivided units. The **Power Connect** programme began in January this year with the aim of encouraging energy saving and promoting community care.

Rewiring work was completed yesterday at a subdivided unit in Cheung Sha Wan where Mrs Suen has lived with her family of four for four years. "There have been occasions in the past that the electricity has tripped when every household in the flat uses power at the same time, and the way the electricity was metered led to higher power bills," she said. "I was pleased when my landlord applied to take part in the **Power Connect** programme. I think the rewiring work and the installation of individual meters will definitely improve our home safety and living conditions."

Mr Cheung, the landlord, said he wanted to help his tenants and applied for the subsidy when he learnt of the programme. He said: "I am not familiar with the technical works necessary for installing individual meters for the tenants as it involves quite a lot of issues. With the referral of a social worker and the assistance of CLP Power, the works have finally been done."

CLP Power Chief Corporate Development Officer Ms Quince Chong visited Mrs Suen's home yesterday and said she hoped many more landlords would now apply to take part in the programme. Ms Chong said that rewiring work for the installation of individual meters in subdivided unit must be approved by the landlord and meet safety requirements. Some landlords may not know exactly how to arrange the works as it may involve communal areas over multiple floors, for instance, and this can be a complicated process.

“The **Power Connect** programme addresses these issues and provides subsidies and one-stop services to encourage landlords to rewire subdivided units for the benefit of tenants. We hope we can work together with society as a whole to improve the living conditions of people in subdivided units.”

CLP Power has teamed up with 27 non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for the **Power Connect** programme. NGOs refer eligible applicants to CLP Power, and a registered electrical contractor appointed by CLP Power then handles rewiring, inspection of devices, and the issuing of completion certificates for the installation of individual electricity meters. This would help improve the home safety and living conditions of tenants. In a flat with three subdivided units, for example, the total subsidy provided by CLP Power would be around HK\$45,000.

The **Power Connect** programme is a new initiative funded by the Community Energy Saving Fund and launched under the new Scheme of Control Agreement. In addition to the HK\$5 million subsidies for the landlord of subdivided units, another HK\$20 million has been allocated to provide subsidies for up to 40,000 households with each receiving a HK\$500 electricity subsidy. The total includes 10,000 households in subdivided units. Residential customers who sign up for the scheme can choose to support a particular underprivileged group such as single elderly people and elderly couples, disabled people, and low-income families. To find out more, please see the attachment or visit [powerconnect.clp.com.hk](http://powerconnect.clp.com.hk).

#### **About CLP Power Hong Kong Limited**

CLP Power Hong Kong Limited (CLP Power) is a Hong Kong utility subsidiary wholly owned by CLP Holdings Limited, a company listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and one of the largest investor-owned power businesses in Asia. CLP Power operates a vertically integrated electricity supply business in Hong Kong, and provides a highly reliable supply of electricity and excellent customer service to six million people.

**Photo captions:**

Photo 1



CLP Power Chief Corporate Development Officer Ms Quince Chong (right) visits Mrs Suen (left), the tenant of the first subdivided unit subsidised by the **Power Connect** programme. The programme provides a subsidy of HK\$500 for each household, subsidies for landlords to carry out rewiring work for the installation of individual electricity meters, and the donation of energy efficient appliances to residents of community houses.

Photo 2



CLP Power Chief Corporate Development Officer Ms Quince Chong (right) visits a subdivided unit in Cheung Sha Wan which is the first to benefit from rewiring works under the **Power Connect** programme. Tenant Mrs Suen (left), said she appreciated the programme and believed the work would improve the safety and living environment of her family's home.

Photo 3 to 5



CLP Power is concerned about the welfare and living conditions of households living in subdivided units. The **Power Connect** programme provides a range of support measures to improve the living conditions of tenants. Photos of rewiring work for the installation of smart meters.

- Ends -

## **Annex: CLP Power Connect Programme Fact Sheet**

CLP launched the Power Connect programme in 2019, encouraging residential customers to reduce electricity use throughout the year and support the underprivileged. Participants may choose the disadvantaged group they want to support, including single elderly people and elderly couples, disabled people and low-income families. The programme will offer an electricity subsidy of HK\$500 each for an estimated 40,000 households in need and subdivided unit tenants, nominated by non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

The programme will also provide subsidies to landlords of subdivided units nominated by NGOs for the rewiring work needed for the installation of individual electricity meters. Energy efficient appliances will be given to residents of community houses.

### **Support people living in subdivided units**

#### **1. Electricity Subsidy**

A one-off HK\$500 electricity subsidy will be given to 10,000 households living in subdivided units to alleviate their electricity expenses.

- a. Applicants must meet all the following criteria:
  - Living in a subdivided unit in poor conditions;
  - The subdivided unit is located in a building with CLP electricity supply;
  - No individual CLP electricity account is created for the subdivided unit;
  - A Hong Kong ID card holder for not less than one year; and have resided in Hong Kong for at least one year since acquiring the Hong Kong resident status.
  
- b. To support the people living in subdivided units, CLP has invited 27 community partners to join hands to launch this programme, as well as nominate and handle applications.
  
- c. Application Deadline and Subsidy Disbursement

	Application Received	Anticipated Date of Disbursement
Stage One	Before 31 May 2019	Before the end of July 2019
Stage Two	Before 31 October 2019	Before the end of December 2019

## **2. Rewiring Work**

Offer subsidies for the landlords of subdivided units to carry out rewiring work needed for the installation of individual electricity meters to improve home safety and the living conditions of subdivided unit tenants.

- a. Applicants must meet all the following criteria:
  - The applicant must be the landlord of a subdivided unit which is located in a building with CLP electricity supply;
  - No individual CLP electricity account is created for the subdivided unit;
  - A Hong Kong ID card holder for not less than one year; and have resided in Hong Kong for at least one year since acquiring the Hong Kong resident status;
  - Each subdivided household has individual door and the landlord has obtained consent from the building management regarding the rewiring work;
  - Only one application can be made for each CLP registered residential address.
- b. Eligible landlords of subdivided units must be nominated by and submit application through CLP community partners.
- c. CLP will appoint a registered electrical contractor to arrange site inspection upon receipt of the application. Upon approval by CLP, all the work will be handled by registered electrical contractors, who will handle rewiring, inspection of devices, and the issuing of completion certificates for the installation of individual electricity meters.

## **3. Free Energy Efficient Appliances**

- a. The Hong Kong Council of Social Service and non-governmental organisations can apply for appropriate energy efficient appliances for the community houses they operated, so as to help reduce the electricity consumption and related expenses of the residents.

## **4. Details of Support for People Living in Subdivided Units**

Website: [www.clp.com.hk/cesfsdu](http://www.clp.com.hk/cesfsdu)

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