

Tender period extended for Kwu Tung North and Fanling North New Development Areas, Phase 1: Development of Long Valley Nature Park

The Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) today (August 9) announced that the tender period for the contract for Kwu Tung North and Fanling North New Development Areas, Phase 1: Development of Long Valley Nature Park (Contract No. ND/2019/03) has been extended to noon on September 20.

The CEDD invited tenders for the contract on June 21. The original tender period was scheduled to expire at noon on August 16.

The extension of the tender period was gazetted today. Details of the tender notice are available on the CEDD's website (www.cedd.gov.hk/eng/tender-notice/engineering-contracts/tender-notice/index.html).

The CEDD has appointed AECOM Asia Company Limited as the consultant to design and supervise the works. For enquiries, please call the company at 3922 9000 during office hours.

EMSD announces test results of LPG quality in July 2019

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) today (August 9) announced that the department collected nine liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) samples from auto-LPG filling stations and LPG terminals on a random basis in July 2019 for laboratory tests. The results showed that the LPG quality of all these samples complied with auto-LPG specifications.

The detailed test results are available on the EMSD's website (www.emsd.gov.hk/en/rl/lpg_sample_analysis_simple). Enquiries can also be made to the EMSD's hotline on 2333 3762.

In addition, the EMSD has been vetting independent third-party test reports submitted by LPG supply companies for each shipment to ensure that the quality of imported LPG complies with the specified requirements.

Tender period extended for Kwu Tung North New Development Area, Phase 1: Site Formation and Infrastructure Works

The Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) today (August 9) announced that in response to requests from interested tenderers, the tender period for the contract for Kwu Tung North New Development Area, Phase 1: Site Formation and Infrastructure Works (Contract No. ND/2019/01) has been extended to noon on August 30.

The CEDD invited tenders for the contract on June 21. The original tender period was scheduled to expire at noon on August 16.

The extension of the tender period was gazetted today. Details of the tender notice are available on the CEDD's website (www.cedd.gov.hk/eng/tender-notice/engineering-contracts/tender-notice/index.html).

The CEDD has appointed AECOM Asia Company Limited as the consultant to design and supervise the works. For enquiries, please call the company at 3922 9000 during office hours.

Update on cluster of respiratory infection cases in Siu Lam Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Regarding an earlier announcement on a cluster of patients infected with Enterovirus/Rhinovirus in a male ward for severe intellectual disability, the spokesperson for Siu Lam Hospital gave the following update today (August 9):

Two more 64-year-old patients in the ward presented with respiratory symptoms. Appropriate viral tests were arranged for the patients and their test results were positive for Rhinovirus. The patients concerned are being treated under isolation with stable condition.

Admission to the ward has been suspended and restricted visiting has

been imposed. Infection control measures have already been stepped up according to established guidelines. All other patients in the ward are under close surveillance.

The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow-up.

Twelve immigration offenders arrested

The Immigration Department (ImmD) mounted a territory-wide anti-illegal worker operation codenamed "Twilight" from August 5 to 8. A total of seven illegal workers and five suspected employers were arrested.

During the operation, ImmD Task Force officers raided 32 target locations including companies, food stalls, a garbage collection point, restaurants and a warehouse. The illegal workers comprised two men and five women, aged 26 to 56. Among them, two men and three women were suspected of using and being in possession of forged Hong Kong identity cards. Meanwhile, two men and three women, aged 36 to 63, were suspected of employing the illegal workers.

"Any person who contravenes a condition of stay in force in respect of him shall be guilty of an offence. Also, visitors are not allowed to take employment in Hong Kong, whether paid or unpaid, without the permission of the Director of Immigration. Offenders are liable to prosecution and upon conviction face a maximum fine of \$50,000 and up to two years' imprisonment. Aiders and abettors are also liable to prosecution and penalties," an ImmD spokesman said.

The spokesman warned that it is an offence to use or possess a forged Hong Kong identity card or a Hong Kong identity card related to another person. Offenders are liable to prosecution and a maximum penalty of a \$100,000 fine and up to 10 years' imprisonment.

The spokesman reiterated that it is a serious offence to employ people who are not lawfully employable. The maximum penalty is imprisonment for three years and a fine of \$350,000. The High Court has laid down sentencing guidelines that the employer of an illegal worker should be given an immediate custodial sentence. According to the court sentencing, employers must take all practicable steps to determine whether a person is lawfully employable prior to employment. Apart from inspecting a prospective employee's identity card, the employer has the explicit duty to make enquiries regarding the person and ensure that the answers would not cast any reasonable doubt concerning the lawful employability of the person. The court will not accept failure to do so as a defence in proceedings. It is also an offence if an employer fails to inspect the job seeker's valid travel

document if the job seeker does not have a Hong Kong permanent identity card. The maximum penalty for failing to inspect such a document is imprisonment for one year and a fine of \$150,000.

Under the existing mechanism, the ImmD will, as a standard procedure, conduct an initial screening of vulnerable persons, including illegal workers, illegal immigrants, sex workers and foreign domestic helpers, who are arrested during any operation with a view to ascertaining whether they are trafficking in persons (TIP) victims. When any TIP indicator is revealed in the initial screening, the officers will conduct a full debriefing and identification by using a standardised checklist to ascertain the presence of TIP elements, such as threat and coercion in the recruitment phase and the nature of exploitation. Identified TIP victims will be provided with various forms of support and assistance, including urgent intervention, medical services, counselling, shelter, temporary accommodation and other supporting services. The ImmD calls on TIP victims to report crimes to the relevant departments.