

# Results of CPC election announced

The Education Bureau (EDB) today (April 26) announced that 21 candidates had been elected to the 13th Council on Professional Conduct in Education (CPC) under the teacher-nominated and the organisation-nominated categories.

Voting for the teacher-nominated category was conducted on April 10. Thirteen candidates were elected to the council. They were:

<u>Teacher-nominated Category</u>	<u>Name of Elected Candidate</u>	<u>Number of Votes</u>
<u>Secondary Schools</u>		
Aided	Mr Chen Yan-kai	6 897
	Mr Fong King-lok	6 572
	Mr Andy Lai Kam-chi	5 343
Government	Mr Cheung Yat-fung	Uncontested
	Dr Tsang Sui-ming	1 297
Direct Subsidy Scheme (DSS) and Private		
<u>Primary Schools</u>		
Aided	Ms Wong Mo-yee	9 057
	Mr Chung Chun-yu	8 193
	Mr Wong Yuen-ho	6 927
Government	Ms Siu Chang-kwun	822
Direct Subsidy Scheme (DSS) and Private	Ms Law Pei-lee	Uncontested
<u>Special Schools</u>		
	Mr King Chi-yu	Uncontested
<u>Kindergartens</u>		
	Ms Elaine Kwan Shuk-ling	5 095
	Mr Fung Ka-chun	4 069

Votes for the organisation-nominated category were counted yesterday (April 25) by representatives of the EDB, witnessed by the representative from the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Ms Yvonne Ching, and the representative from the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, Mr

Raymond Lui.

Eight candidates were elected in this category. Five of them were: Mr Li Chin-wa (Teacher Education Universities); Mr Richard Cheung Chung-lap, Mr Alan Chow Ping-yan, Mr Tse Chang-keung (School Sponsoring Bodies); and Mr Cheung-wong (Associations of Teachers).

The other three, Ms Lee Suet-ying, Dr Leung Ping-wa and Mr Wong Wing-tung (School Councils and Associations of School Principals), were elected uncontested.

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The list of council members of the new term has been uploaded to the council's website ([cpc.edb.org.hk](http://cpc.edb.org.hk)).

The Committee on Home-School Co-operation will nominate three parent representatives to the council, and the Permanent Secretary for Education will nominate four council members, comprising an EDB representative and three lay members.

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## **Business expectations for second quarter of 2019**

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) released today (April 26) the results of the Quarterly Business Tendency Survey for the second quarter (Q2) of 2019.

### Business situation

For all surveyed sectors taken together, the proportion of respondents expecting their business situation to be better (12%) in Q2 2019 over Q1 2019 is broadly similar to that expecting it to be worse (13%).

When compared with the results of the Q1 2019 survey round, the proportion of respondents expecting a worse business situation in Q2 2019 as compared with the preceding quarter has decreased to 13%, against the corresponding proportion of 21% in Q1 2019.

Analysed by sector, more respondents in the information and communications sector expect their business situation to be better in Q2 2019 as compared with Q1 2019, relative to those expecting a worse business situation. In the construction sector, however, more respondents expect their business situation to be worse, as compared to those expecting a better business situation.

A Government spokesman cautioned that the results of the survey should

be interpreted with care. He said, "In this type of survey on expectations, the views collected in the survey are affected by the events in the community occurring around the time of enumeration, and it is difficult to establish precisely the extent to which respondents' perception of the future accords with the underlying trends." The enumeration period for this survey round was from March 4, 2019 to April 15, 2019.

#### Volume of business/output

Respondents in quite a number of the surveyed sectors expect their volume of business/output to increase on balance in Q2 2019 as compared with Q1 2019. In particular, more respondents in the information and communications; manufacturing; financing and insurance; and real estate sectors expect their volume of business/output to increase, as compared to those expecting it to decrease. On the other hand, more respondents in the construction sector expect their volume of output to decrease, as compared to those expecting it to increase.

#### Employment

Respondents in quite a number of the surveyed sectors expect their employment to increase on balance in Q2 2019 as compared with Q1 2019. In particular, more respondents in the accommodation and food services; financing and insurance; and information and communications sectors expect their employment to increase in Q2 2019 over Q1 2019.

#### Selling price/service charge

Respondents in quite a number of the surveyed sectors expect their selling prices/service charges to go up on balance in Q2 2019 as compared with Q1 2019. However, more respondents in the construction sector and manufacturing sector expect the tender prices/selling prices to go down, as compared to those expecting an increase in tender prices/selling prices.

#### Further information

The survey gathers views on short-term business performance from the senior management of about 560 prominent establishments in various sectors in Hong Kong with a view to providing a quick reference, with minimum time lag, for predicting the short-term future economic performance of the local economy.

The survey covers 10 major sectors in Hong Kong, namely manufacturing; construction; import/export trade and wholesale; retail; accommodation and food services (mainly covering services rendered by hotels and restaurants); transportation, storage and courier services; information and communications; financing and insurance; real estate; and professional and business services sectors.

Views collected in the survey refer only to those of respondents on their own establishments rather than those on the respective sectors they are

engaged in, and are limited to the expected direction of quarter-to-quarter change (e.g. "up", "same" or "down") but not the magnitude of change. In collecting views on the quarter-to-quarter changes, if the variable in question is subject to seasonal variations, respondents are asked to provide the expected changes after excluding the normal seasonal variations.

Survey results are generally presented as "net balance", i.e. the difference between the percentage of respondents choosing "up" and that choosing "down". The percentage distribution of respondents among various response categories (e.g. "up", "same" and "down") reflects how varied their business expectations are. The "net balance", with its appropriate sign, indicates the direction of expected change in the variable concerned. A positive sign indicates a likely upward trend while a negative sign indicates a likely downward trend. However, the magnitude of the "net balance" reflects only the prevalence of optimism or pessimism, but not the magnitude of expected change, since information relating to such magnitude is not collected in the survey.

Furthermore, owing to sample size constraint, care should be taken in interpreting survey results involving a small percentage (e.g. less than 10%) of respondents in individual sectors.

Chart 1 shows the views on expected changes in business situation for the period Q2 2018 to Q2 2019.

Table 1 shows the net balances of views on expectations in respect of different variables for Q2 2019.

The survey results are published in greater detail in the "Report on Quarterly Business Tendency Survey, Q2 2019". Users can download the publication free of charge at the website of the C&SD ([www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp300.jsp?productCode=B1110008](http://www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp300.jsp?productCode=B1110008)).

Users who have enquiries about the survey results may contact the Business Expectation Statistics Section of the C&SD (Tel: 3903 7263 or email: [business-prospects@censtatd.gov.hk](mailto:business-prospects@censtatd.gov.hk)).

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## **HKMA Annual Report 2018**

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) today (April 26) published its annual report for 2018 including the financial statements of the Exchange Fund. The report reviews trends and major events in monetary and banking affairs, and reports on the HKMA's work during 2018. It also sets out the HKMA's work plans for 2019.

The HKMA Annual Report 2018 is available on the [HKMA website](#) free of charge. It may also be purchased by post or at the HKMA Information Centre on 55th Floor, Two International Finance Centre at HK\$100 per copy.

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## [Transcript of remarks by SFH at media session \(with photos\)](#)

Following is the transcript of remarks made by the Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, during her visit to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) headquarters today (April 26):

Reporter: Are you worrying that it will be a little bit difficult to impose the new law...?

Secretary for Food and Health: I think the objective of amending the law or this public consultation is to strengthen our existing law in terms of increasing the awareness of animal welfare among the public. On one hand, we want to strengthen the duty of care. On the other hand, we will also review the existing penalty as well as strengthen education. Regarding the details of how to ensure or how to prove the owners of the animals would provide the duty of care, perhaps I can ask Dr Thomas Sit (Assistant Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Inspection & Quarantine)) to give more details.

Reporter: The duty of care is quite a new concept in the city and the public might be confused. For example, fish mongers in wet markets, are they responsible for killing live fishes constituting cruelty? Please explain how to avoid this kind of public confusion. The second question is that some people say that the duty of care only applies to animals who have responsible persons. Is it correct to say this law doesn't provide any protection to abandoned ones? My last question is that the law is expected to become effective in 2021 and some say that it is taking too long. What is the biggest hurdles in expediting the process?

Secretary for Food and Health: I would first talk about the principles of the duty of care. As Dr Sit has just said, other than the general concept of having the duty of care, we will couple with publicity and education when we issue the law, so that everybody understands what we mean by the duty of care. Secondly, as Dr Sit has already said, we would have a set of criteria in order to make the public understand what the requirements or expectations for the duty of care are. Thirdly, I think having an education campaign coupled with the issue of the law as well as enforcement are very important. I know a number of you actually have questions about enforcement. Of course, at this point of time, even before we start the public consultation, we are only working with the framework of the suggested amendments. After we have

completed the public consultation, we would have a chance to analyse all the comments that we have received from the public and finalise the details of the amendment framework. But we still have to go through the Legislative Council, to go through the Bills Committee and get comments from legislators as well as the public. At that point of time, more details will come out. As Dr Sit has just said, there will be a Code of Practice, or a set of guidelines that provides more details, in addition to the law. After we know the details of the amendments we are going to make, I am sure the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will look into whether manpower is enough to carry out enforcement. We will deal with that at a later stage. Regarding the timetable, this consultation would take three months and we need time to look into the comments that we receive during the consultation. It really depends on how many comments we have received and then we can analyse them. After analysing the comments, we will finalise the framework and have to work with the Department of Justice to draft the law. So it would take a bit of time in terms of the process. We don't envisage any big hurdles. I think it is just like any other laws that we are going to amend. It takes time.

Reporter: Some cases of amendments do not take so long.

Secretary for Food and Health: It depends on the complexity of the law, the comments that we receive from the public during the consultation and whether there are any conflicting comments, etc. So, we really cannot predict in a fine manner at this stage.

Reporter: The heaviest sentence handed down by the court for imprisonment so far is 16 months. That is during a period of 13 years, from 2006 to 2019. How can we ensure that the increase in penalty would be effective, given that the heaviest penalty handed down so far is only 16 months? Can you tell us how many people have gone to jail so far?

Secretary for Food and Health: Perhaps Dr Sit can supplement the numbers. The objectives of this public consultation and also the amendments to the law are to try our best, not only to enhance animal welfare in Hong Kong, but also to see whether there are any loopholes or whether there are any gaps in the existing law we need to fill. So, those are also the things that we will look into.

Reporter: Does it mean that you are quite happy with the "18 months" proposal put forward by the Hong Kong Medical Association ?

Secretary for Food and Health: I think we need to look into the details first. As I have said although the "18 months" proposal seems to be equal for all employers and organisations listed for limited registration, namely the Hospital Authority, the Department of Health, the University of Hong Kong and the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the devil is in the details. I think we need to look into the details as to how to define the wording prescribing for the experience because that may pose an obstacle as well. I think it is important to know more details about the proposal first.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)



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## Effective Exchange Rate Index

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Friday, April 26, 2019 is 103.9 (same as yesterday's index).