

Appointments to Family Council

The Government announced today (March 29) the re-appointment of Professor Daniel Shek Tan-lei as the Chairman of the Family Council, as well as the appointment and re-appointment of non-official members to the Council for a term of two years with effect from April 1, 2019.

The Home Affairs Bureau thanked the outgoing members, Mrs Patricia Chu Yeung Pak-yu, Professor Lam Tai-hing, Mr Lee Luen-fai, Dr Gordon Tsui Luen-on and Miss Gabriella Wong Siu-ling, for their contributions and dedication to the work of the Council during their term of service.

The membership list of the Council for the new term is as follows:

Chairman

Professor Daniel Shek Tan-lei

Ex-officio members

Dr Lam Ching-choi, Chairperson of the Elderly Commission

Ms Chan Yuen-han, Chairperson of the Women's Commission

Mr Lau Ming-wai, Vice-Chairperson of the Youth Development Commission

Non-official members (re-appointments)

Ms May Chan Suk-mei

Ms Sonia Cheng Chi-man

Ms Cheung Lai-chu

Dr Lam Chi-yan

Mr Dominic Lee Tsz-king

Professor Alvin Leung Seung-ming

Mrs Cecilia Wong Ng Kit-wah

Mr Clement Woo Kin-man

Ms Emily Yip Lai-wa

Ms Amarantha Yip Yun-wan

Non-official members (new appointments)

Ms Lavender Cheung Wang-yim

Mr Eugene Fong Yick-jin

Professor Albert Lee

Ms Cindy Pun Siu-fung

Dr Margaret Wong Fung-yee

Official members

Secretary for Home Affairs or his representative

Secretary for Labour and Welfare or his representative

Secretary for Education or his representative
Head of the Policy Innovation and Co-ordination Office or his representative

Since its establishment in 2007, the Council has served as a cross-sector and cross-bureau platform for examining family-related policies and promoting a culture of loving families in the community. Membership of the Council comprises official members, non-official members from various backgrounds, as well as the Chairpersons of the Elderly Commission and the Women's Commission, and the Vice-Chairperson of the Youth Development Commission as ex-officio members.

Government announces appointments to Communications Authority

The Government today (March 29) announced that the Chief Executive has re-appointed Ms Winnie Tam Wan-chi as the chairperson of the Communications Authority (CA) for a term of two years from April 1, 2019, to March 31, 2021.

The Chief Executive has also appointed two new members, Professor Vincent Lau Kin-nang and Mr Simon Wong Kwong-yeung, to the CA, and re-appointed the Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) as the Vice-chairperson, and Mr Stephen Hung Wan-shun, Mrs Yvonne Law Shing Mo-han and Mr Benjamin Tang Kwok-bun as members, all for a term of two years from April 1, 2019, to March 31, 2021.

Commenting on the appointments, the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Edward Yau, said, "I am pleased that Ms Tam has been re-appointed as the chairperson of the CA. With her rich experience and professional background, I am confident that she will continue to lead the CA to rise to the challenges ahead in the broadcasting and telecommunications sectors."

Mr Yau welcomed the two new members to the CA, who come from the academic and research and development sectors respectively, saying that their rich experience and areas of expertise will be valuable to the CA's work. He also thanked outgoing members Mr Thomas Lo Sui-sing and Professor Xu Yan for their contributions to the CA.

Brief profiles of the newly-appointed non-official members are as follows:

Professor Vincent Lau

Professor Vincent Lau is the Chair Professor of the Department of

Electronic and Computer Engineering of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. He is currently a member of the Telecommunications Regulatory Affairs Advisory Committee which advises the Director-General of Communications on all economic and technical regulatory issues related to the development of telecommunications in Hong Kong.

Mr Simon Wong

Mr Simon Wong is the Chief Executive Officer of the Logistics and Supply Chain MultiTech R&D Centre. He is currently a member of the Assessment Panel of the Innovation and Technology Fund for Better Living, the Enterprise Support Assessment Panel and the Hong Kong Logistics Development Council.

Membership of the CA from April 1, 2019 will be as follows:

Chairperson

Ms Winnie Tam Wan-chi

Vice-chairperson

Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries)

Non-official members

Ms Karen Chan Ka-yin
Mr Stephen Hung Wan-shun
Professor Vincent Lau Kin-nang
Mrs Yvonne Law Shing Mo-han
Mr Hubert Ng Ching-wah
Dr Anthony William Seeto Yiu-wai
Mr Benjamin Tang Kwok-bun
Mr Simon Wong Kwong-yeung
Professor Ray Yep Kin-man

Official member

Director-General of Communications

Schedule for issuing press releases on statistical data

Following is a reminder of the press releases on statistical data to be issued between April and July 2019. The schedule for issuing press releases

on statistical data in 2019 was provided to the media in September 2018. No change has been made to the original schedule.

April 2019

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Date	Press Release
1	Retail sales statistics for February 2019
16	Volume and price statistics of external merchandise trade for February 2019
18	Unemployment and underemployment statistics for January – March 2019
23	Consumer Price Index for March 2019
26	Business expectations for second quarter 2019
29	External merchandise trade statistics for March 2019

May 2019

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Date	Press Release
2	Advance estimates on Gross Domestic Product for first quarter 2019 (Note1)
3	Retail sales statistics for March 2019
7	Restaurant receipts and purchases statistics for first quarter 2019
16	Volume and price statistics of external merchandise trade for March 2019
17	Revised figures on Gross Domestic Product for first quarter 2019 (Note1)
20	Unemployment and underemployment statistics for February – April 2019
23	Consumer Price Index for April 2019
27	External merchandise trade statistics for April 2019
31	Retail sales statistics for April 2019

June 2019

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Date	Press Release
4	Statistics on vessels, port cargo and containers for first quarter 2019
10	Quarterly business receipts indices for service industries for first quarter 2019
11	Construction output statistics for first quarter 2019
11	Statistics on trade involving outward processing in the mainland of China for first quarter 2019
14	Index of industrial production and producer price index for the industrial sector for first quarter 2019
17	Gross National Income and external primary income flows for first quarter 2019
17	Volume and price statistics of external merchandise trade for April 2019
18	Chain volume measures of Gross Domestic Product by economic activity for first quarter 2019
19	Unemployment and underemployment statistics for March – May 2019

21	Consumer Price Index for May 2019
21	Employment and vacancies statistics for March 2019
21	Balance of Payments and International Investment Position statistics for first quarter 2019
25	External merchandise trade statistics for May 2019
27	Wage and payroll statistics for March 2019
July 2019 =====	
Date	Press Release
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2	Retail sales statistics for May 2019
16	Volume and price statistics of external merchandise trade for May 2019
18	Unemployment and underemployment statistics for April – June 2019
19	Business expectations for third quarter 2019
22	Consumer Price Index for June 2019
25	External merchandise trade statistics for June 2019
31	Advance estimates on Gross Domestic Product for second quarter 2019 (Note2)

Note1: Starting from the reference period of the first quarter of 2019, C&SD will issue press releases on advance estimates on quarterly GDP. C&SD will compile and release revised figures on GDP in the "Gross Domestic Product (Quarterly) Report" when more data become available. The revised figures on GDP for the first quarter of 2019 will also be included in the "First Quarter Economic Report 2019" and the press release to be issued by the Office of the Government Economist under the Financial Secretary's Office on the economic situation in the first quarter of 2019 and first update of GDP and price forecasts for 2019 as a whole. No separate press release on the revised figures on GDP will be issued by C&SD.

Note2: Starting from the reference period of the first quarter of 2019, C&SD will issue press releases on advance estimates on quarterly GDP. C&SD will compile and release revised figures on GDP in the "Gross Domestic Product (Quarterly) Report" when more data become available. The revised figures on GDP for the second quarter of 2019 will also be included in the "Half-yearly Economic Report 2019" and the press release to be issued by the Office of the Government Economist under the Financial Secretary's Office on the economic situation in the second quarter of 2019 and second update of GDP and price forecasts for 2019 as a whole. No separate press release on the revised figures on GDP will be issued by C&SD.

The schedule for regular press releases in the other months of 2019 can be downloaded at the website of the Census and Statistics Department (www.censtatd.gov.hk/press_release/index.jsp).

[Firing practice for April 2019](#)

Firing practice will take place at two military sites, namely the San Wai/Tai Ling Firing Range and the Tsing Shan Firing Range, next month (April).

Red flags or red lamps will be hoisted at the firing areas before and

during firing practice. For their safety, people are advised not to enter the firing area.

Following are the dates and times for the firing practice sessions in April 2019:

San Wai/Tai Ling Firing Range

Date	Time
April 1 (Monday)	8am-9pm
April 2 (Tuesday)	8am-9pm
April 3 (Wednesday)	8am-9pm
April 4 (Thursday)	8am-9pm
April 6 (Saturday)	8am-9pm
April 8 (Monday)	8am-9pm
April 9 (Tuesday)	8am-9pm
April 10 (Wednesday)	8am-9pm
April 11 (Thursday)	8am-9pm
April 12 (Friday)	8am-9pm
April 13 (Saturday)	8am-9pm
April 15 (Monday)	8am-9pm
April 16 (Tuesday)	8am-9pm
April 17 (Wednesday)	8am-9pm
April 18 (Thursday)	8am-9pm
April 23 (Tuesday)	8am-9pm
April 24 (Wednesday)	8am-9pm
April 25 (Thursday)	8am-9pm
April 26 (Friday)	8am-9pm
April 27 (Saturday)	8am-9pm
April 29 (Monday)	8am-9pm
April 30 (Tuesday)	8am-9pm

Tsing Shan Firing Range

Date	Time
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April 1 (Monday)	8am-9pm
April 2 (Tuesday)	8am-9pm
April 3 (Wednesday)	8am-9pm
April 4 (Thursday)	8am-9pm
April 6 (Saturday)	8am-9pm
April 8 (Monday)	8am-9pm
April 9 (Tuesday)	8am-9pm
April 10 (Wednesday)	8am-9pm
April 11 (Thursday)	8am-9pm
April 12 (Friday)	8am-9pm
April 13 (Saturday)	8am-9pm
April 15 (Monday)	8am-9pm
April 16 (Tuesday)	8am-9pm
April 17 (Wednesday)	8am-9pm
April 18 (Thursday)	8am-9pm
April 23 (Tuesday)	8am-9pm
April 24 (Wednesday)	8am-9pm
April 25 (Thursday)	8am-9pm
April 26 (Friday)	8am-9pm
April 27 (Saturday)	8am-9pm
April 29 (Monday)	8am-9pm
April 30 (Tuesday)	8am-9pm

[Housing Authority to pass on rates concession to tenants](#)

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

The Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA) will pass on the rates concession for the four quarters of 2019-20, as set out in the Budget Speech of the Financial Secretary in February, to its domestic and non-domestic tenants starting from April 2019.

"Following approval by the Subsidised Housing Committee of the HA, the apportioned amount of rates concession will be transferred to domestic tenants on a monthly basis over a 12-month period from April 2019 to March 2020 by offsetting an equivalent amount in the rent payable by them, subject to a ceiling of \$1,500 per quarter for each rateable property," a spokesman for the HA said today (March 29). For tenancies that do not cover the entire month, the transfer of the rates concession will be made on a pro-rata basis.

"The rates concession passing-on arrangement will apply to all domestic lettings including interim housing licensees and Comprehensive Social Security Assistance recipients," the spokesman said.

"Similarly, the Commercial Properties Committee of the HA approved that the rates concession for the financial year of 2019-20 for the HA's non-

domestic properties (excluding car parks) will also be passed on to the non-domestic tenants or licensees on a 'no loss, no gain' principle. Their monthly rates from April 2019 to March 2020 will be waived subject to the capping limit of \$1,500 per quarter for each rateable property," the spokesman said.

For the HA's 12 single-operator markets, viz Ching Long, Hung Fuk, Kwai Chung, Lei Muk Shue, Mun Tung, On Tai, Ping Yan, Shek Mun, Shui Chuen O, Tin Yan, Yan Tin and Ying Tung, the operators will also pass on the rates concession to their licensees in full.

"Given the small amount of rates concession to individual car park users and the significant administrative costs involved for its distribution to these users, the Commercial Properties Committee of the HA endorsed the exclusion of car parks from this exercise in line with all the previous rates concession exercises. The rates concession for car parks received by the HA would be invested in enhancing the HA's car park facilities, such as the installation of electric vehicle charging facilities in suitable sites, replacement of energy-efficient lighting to promote environmental protection and upgrading of security systems," the spokesman said.

The maximum total amount of rates concession to be passed on to domestic and non-domestic tenants/licensees by the HA is estimated to be about \$2,595 million and \$39.2 million respectively. They will be individually notified of the arrangements.