<u>Suspected case tests negative for</u> MERS-CoV

The Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health today (February 28) reported that the suspected case of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) pending results yesterday (February 27), upon preliminary testing, tested negative for MERS Coronavirus.

Fanling Swimming Pool temporarily closed

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at regular intervals:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (February 28) that Fanling Swimming Pool in North District has been temporarily closed for cleaning and superchlorination following the discovery of a small amount of faeces in the pool.

It will be reopened at 9pm today.

The department appeals to swimmers to be considerate and to keep the swimming pools clean. They are advised not to swim after a full meal and should use the toilet facilities if necessary before swimming.

SEN visits North District

The Secretary for the Environment, Mr Wong Kam-sing, visited North District this afternoon (February 28) to learn more about the implementation of the municipal solid waste (MSW) charging trial project at Ka Fuk Estate. He also called at the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups (HKFYG) Leadership Institute and exchanged views with members of North District Council (NDC) on environmental issues.

Accompanied by the Chairman of NDC, Mr So Sai-chi, and the District Officer (North), Mr Chong Wing-wun, Mr Wong first paid a visit to the NDC to listen to members' views on the Government's environmental policies and exchange views on district environmental issues.

Mr Wong then went to Ka Fuk Estate, Fanling, to learn about the trial implementation of MSW charging under actual circumstances and tour the waste reduction and recycling facilities of the estate. Ka Fuk Estate is one of the public housing estates participating in the trial project which commenced last November. The Environmental Protection Department stepped up education and publicity efforts at the estate by briefing the residents on MSW charging and distributing simulated designated garbage bags to give them hands-on experience and better prepare them for the implementation of MSW charging. Mr Wong inspected the collection and handling of garbage bags at the estate and chatted with residents participating in the trial project about their experience of practising waste reduction at source and clean recycling in the community.

Mr Wong said the Government will continue to roll out extensive public education, publicity and engagement drives to enhance public awareness of and identification with MSW charging and work closely with various stakeholders to prepare for its implementation.

Before concluding his visit, Mr Wong went to the HKFYG Leadership Institute. Located at the Former Fanling Magistracy, the institute is one of the projects under Batch III of the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme. Mr Wong exchanged views with youths at the institute, and encouraged them to walk the talk by practising waste and carbon reduction in their daily lives, as well as promoting the message of "use less, waste less" with a view to joining together in combating climate change.

Temporary traffic arrangements for tram track renewal works in Central district this Saturday

The Transport Department (TD) today (February 28) reminded the public that to facilitate tram track renewal work at Des Voeux Road Central, a part of the traffic lanes of Pedder Street will be temporarily closed from about 10am this Saturday (March 2) to 6am next Monday (March 4).

Appropriate traffic signs will be erected on-site to guide motorists.

The TD anticipates that the traffic in the vicinity of the above road sections will be relatively busy. Motorists should exercise tolerance and

patience in case of traffic congestion. Members of the public are advised to stay alert to the latest traffic news through the media or the department's website (www.td.gov.hk).

Over 400 young musicians to perform in Music Office Annual Gala

More than 400 young musicians from the orchestras, bands and choirs of the Music Office of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department will perform in the 2019 Music Office Annual Gala at 3pm on March 31 (Sunday) at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall.

The programme includes a wide variety of Chinese and Western music, which will be staged by the Music Office Youth Choir, the Hong Kong Youth Strings, the Hong Kong Youth Symphony Orchestra, the Hong Kong Youth Symphonic Band and the Hong Kong Youth Chinese Orchestra, under the batons of Dr Angelina Au, Dr Joseph Kam, Lee Sing-wan, Pak Wing-heng and Tsui Ying-fai respectively.

Highlights include the solemn choral work "Crucifixus", the Mendelssohn strings classic "Sinfonia for String Orchestra No. 2 in D major", the overwhelming romantic "Capriccio Bohemien Op. 12" by Rachmaninoff, the festive and exotic symphonic band repertoire "La Fiesta Mexicana", and the grandeur of Peng Xiuwen's "Terra Costa Warriors Fantasia".

Awards will also be presented to outstanding trainees and members of the Music Office's bands, choirs and orchestras at the concert.

Tickets priced at \$75, \$95 and \$115 are now available at URBTIX (www.urbtix.hk). For telephone credit card bookings, please call 2111 5999. For programme enquiries and concessionary schemes, please call 2796 1003 or 2796 7537 or visit www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/mo/activities/upcoming/2019moag.html.