Four LCSD sports centres temporarily <u>closed</u>

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (September 14) that the following four sports centres in Kwun Tong and Islands Districts, which will be designated as temporary shelters operated by respective District Offices of the Home Affairs Department, will be temporarily closed from 2pm tomorrow (September 15) until further notice.

Kwun Tong District
Arena of Lei Yue Mun Sports Centre *

<u>Islands District</u> Praya Street Sports Centre Mui Wo Sports Centre Peng Chau Sports Centre

* Other facilities in Lei Yue Mun Sports Centre may also be temporarily closed at a later time if necessary.

LCSD and Shanghai Museum sign letter of intent to strengthen cultural exchange and co-operation (with photos)

The Director of Leisure and Cultural Services, Ms Michelle Li, today (September 14) signed a Letter of Intent on Cultural Exchange and Cooperation with the Director of the Shanghai Museum, Mr Yang Zhigang, with the aim of strengthening co-operation between Hong Kong and Shanghai in preserving and showcasing cultural heritage.

Under the five-year plan, the two sides will not only hold joint exhibitions but also share their expertise and experience in organising forums and exchange sessions. A collaborative scheme in heritage conservation will be set up to strengthen the training and mutual exchange of the professionals between the two sides. In addition, a mechanism will be established for exchanging information about major exhibitions to be coorganised with foreign museums. Both sides will also jointly publish and exchange educational materials and creative products.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department has long held a good and

close relationship with the Shanghai Museum. They jointly organised an exhibition entitled "Selection from the Guoyun Lou Collection of the Shanghai Museum" in 2003, which showcased 72 invaluable pieces of Chinese paintings from the collection of the Shanghai Museum. A series of gallery talks and sharing sessions by experts were also organised, allowing members of the public to appreciate the Chinese arts from different perspectives.



Illegal worker jailed

An Indonesian illegal worker holding a recognisance form was jailed by Shatin Magistrates' Courts yesterday (September 13).

During a joint operation conducted by the Immigration Department (ImmD) and the Hong Kong Police Force codenamed "Powerplayer" on August 6, enforcement officers raided a restaurant in Wan Chai. A female Indonesian illegal worker, aged 28, was arrested. When intercepted she was washing dishes. Upon identity checking she produced for inspection a recognisance form issued by the ImmD, which prohibits her from taking employment. Further investigation revealed that she was a non-refoulement claimant. An employer suspected of employing the illegal worker was arrested and the investigation is ongoing.

The illegal worker was charged at Shatin Magistrates' Courts yesterday with taking employment after landing in Hong Kong unlawfully and remaining in Hong Kong without the authority of the Director of Immigration or while being a person in respect of whom a removal order or deportation order was in force. She pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 15 months' imprisonment.

The ImmD spokesman warned that, as stipulated in section 38AA of the Immigration Ordinance, illegal immigrants or people who are the subject of a removal order or a deportation order are prohibited from taking any employment, whether paid or unpaid, or establishing or joining in any business. Offenders are liable upon conviction to a maximum fine of \$50,000

and up to three years' imprisonment. The Court of Appeal has issued a guideline ruling that a sentence of 15 months' imprisonment should be applied in such cases.

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 initial screening on 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 interference, medical services, counselling, shelter, temporary accommodation and other supporting services. The ImmD calls on TIP victims to report crimes to the relevant departments.

<u>Meeting of Legislative Council</u> <u>Committee</u>

The following is issued on behalf of the Legislative Council Secretariat:

The Legislative Council (LegCo) Committee will hold an open meeting during the week from 17 September 2018 to 21 September 2018 in the LegCo Complex. Details of the meeting are available in the meeting schedule attached.

The information in the meeting schedule is subject to change. Please

refer to the "LegCo Calendar" on the LegCo Website (<u>www.legco.gov.hk</u>) for the latest details of meetings.

Members of the public are welcome to observe open meetings of LegCo Committees. Interested individuals and groups are advised to make advance booking of seats by calling the LegCo Secretariat at 3919 3399 during office hours. Members of the public can also listen to or watch all open meetings via the "Webcast" system on the LegCo Website.

<u>HAD to open temporary night heat</u> <u>shelters</u>

The Home Affairs Department will open 19 temporary night heat shelters tonight (September 14) for people in need of the service.

The shelters will be open from 10.30pm until 8am tomorrow.

For further information, please call the department's enquiries hotline before midnight on 2835 1473.

The 19 night heat shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Districts:

Central and Western — Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall 3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex 2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern — Causeway Bay Community Centre Waiting Lobby, 3/F, 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Southern – Lei Tung Community Hall Lei Tung Estate, Ap Lei Chau

Wan Chai — Wan Chai Activities Centre LG/F, Wan Chai Market, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai

Kowloon Districts:

Kowloon City -Hung Hom Community Hall Multi-purpose Room, 1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices 42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom Kwun Tong -Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre 71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin Sham Shui Po -Shek Kip Mei Community Hall G/F, Block 42, Shek Kip Mei Estate Nam Cheong Street, Sham Shui Po Wong Tai Sin -Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre Hall, G/F, 45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan Yau Tsim Mong -Henry G Leong Yaumatei Community Centre 60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei New Territories Districts: Islands -Tung Chung Community Hall G/F, Tung Chung Municipal Services Building, 39 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung Kwai Tsing -Kwai Shing Community Hall Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung North -Cheung Wah Community Hall Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling Sai Kung -Hang Hau Community Hall G/F, Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex, 38 Pui Shing Road, Hang Hau, Tseung Kwan O Sha Tin -Lung Hang Estate Community Centre Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin Tai Po -Tai Po Community Centre 2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan – Lei Muk Shue Community Hall G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan Tuen Mun – Butterfly Bay Community Centre Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun Yuen Long – Long Ping Community Hall Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long Yuen Long – Tin Yiu Community Centre Tin Yiu Community Centre Tin Yiu Estate, Tin Shui Wai

The temporary night heat shelters will resume their functions as either community centres or community halls in the daytime for hire by the local community and cannot continue to be open as heat shelters. People may choose to take refuge from the heat during the daytime in the common areas in any of the 21 designated community centres or community halls. Their opening hours are from 9am to 10pm. For addresses of the community centres or community halls, please browse the following webpage: https://www.had.gov.hk/file_manager/en/documents/public_services/emergency_se