

## **SJ to lead delegation to visit Shenzhen and Foshan**

The Secretary for Justice, Mr Paul Lam, SC, will lead an around 20-person delegation, comprising representatives from the Hong Kong Bar Association, the Law Society of Hong Kong and related sectors, to depart for a three-day visit to Shenzhen and Foshan tomorrow (August 6).

Mr Lam and the delegation will attend a conference in Shenzhen titled "Resolve2Win – Legal Services of Hong Kong, Opportunities for All", organised by the Department of Justice and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, to promote Hong Kong's legal and dispute resolution services.

During his visit to Shenzhen and Foshan, Mr Lam will meet with government leaders over dinner and engage with federations of industry and commerce. He will also visit local enterprises to understand how Hong Kong professional talent can assist enterprises in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area by providing high-quality and diverse legal and professional services.

Mr Lam and the delegation will return to Hong Kong on August 8. The Deputy Secretary for Justice, Mr Cheung Kwok-kwan, will be the Acting Secretary for Justice during the period.

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## **CS to visit Beijing**

The Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Chan Kwok-ki, will depart for Beijing tomorrow evening (August 6). He will call on relevant central ministries and institutions to exchange views on, and experiences of, taking forward patriotic education. The Convenor of the Working Group on Patriotic Education, Ms Starry Lee, will join the trip.

Mr Chan will return to Hong Kong on August 8. During his absence, the Deputy Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Cheuk Wing-hing, will be the Acting Chief Secretary for Administration.

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## **Pilot Scheme for Electric Public Light**

## Buses accepts second round of applications

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) today (August 5) announced that the Pilot Scheme for Electric Public Light Buses (e-PLBs) is open now for the second round of applications until August 26.

"We are conducting operational trials under the Pilot Scheme in phases. Same as in the first round of applications, Kowloon Tong (Suffolk Road) and Yue Man Square Public Transport Interchanges (PTIs) will continue to serve as trial points. Successful operators will be subsidised with 80 per cent of the vehicle price for each e-PLB joining the Pilot Scheme. It is expected that approval will be granted to all successful applications next month with a view to commencing the second round of trials in the fourth quarter this year," an EPD spokesperson said.

The spokesperson added that, drawing from the experiences gained from the first round of applications and the feedback from the operators and prequalified suppliers of e-PLBs, a number of enhancement measures will be adopted in the second round, including streamlining the release of subsidy. Operators of green minibuses may apply for the release of subsidy at 80 per cent of the vehicle price of the e-PLB to the relevant prequalified supplier directly from the Government. In addition, the participating operators are also required to charge the e-PLBs with pantograph and plug-in chargers separately during the trial period in accordance with the charging time proportion specified by the EPD to collect the relevant data for more effective assessment of the operation arrangements and performance of different charging modes.

Operators of green minibuses interested in taking part in the Pilot Scheme should submit their applications to the EPD before the deadline. Details about the Pilot Scheme and its application can be found on the EPD website ([www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/air/guide\\_ref/pseplb.html](http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/air/guide_ref/pseplb.html)).

To promote the local application of e-PLBs, the Government has earmarked \$80 million for the implementation of the Pilot Scheme to test and assess the operation and performance of e-PLBs and the associated quick charging facilities. The EPD rolled out the first round of applications in October 2023, and signed agreements with two operators in December 2023 to subsidise each of them to buy one e-PLB to participate in the trials. The relevant e-PLBs have been undergoing the operational trials at the above two PTIs since the end of March this year.

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# Tender of one-year HONIA-indexed Floating Rate Notes under Institutional Bond Issuance Programme to be held on August 14

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

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), as representative of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government (HKSAR Government), announced today (August 5) that a tender of one-year HONIA-indexed Floating Rate Notes (Notes) under the Institutional Bond Issuance Programme will be held on Wednesday, August 14, 2024, for settlement on Thursday, August 15, 2024.

A total of HK\$1.5 billion one-year Notes will be tendered. The Notes will mature on August 15, 2025 and will carry interest indexed to the Hong Kong Dollar Overnight Index Average (HONIA), payable quarterly in arrears.

Under the Institutional Bond Issuance Programme, tender is open only to Recognized Dealers which are appointed as Primary Dealers. Anyone wishing to apply for the Notes on offer can do so through any of the Primary Dealers on the current published list, which can be obtained from the Hong Kong Government Bonds website at [www.hkgb.gov.hk](http://www.hkgb.gov.hk). Each tender must be for an amount of HK\$50,000 or integral multiples thereof.

Tender results will be published on the HKMA's website, the Hong Kong Government Bonds website, the Refinitiv screen (HKGBINDEX), and Bloomberg (GBHK <GO>) not later than 3pm on the tender day.

## HKSAR Government Institutional Bond Issuance Programme tender information

Tender information of one-year HONIA-indexed Floating Rate Notes under the Institutional Bond Issuance Programme:

Issue Number	: 01GH2508
Stock Code	: 4282 (HKGB FRN 2508)
Tender Date and Time	: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 9.30am to 10.30am
Issue and Settlement Date for Tender	: Thursday, August 15, 2024
Amount	
Amount on Offer	: HK\$1.5 billion
Issue Price	: At par
Maturity	: 1 year
Maturity Date	: August 15, 2025

Interest Rate : Indexed to the sum of the annualised compounded average of daily HONIA in each interest period and the highest accepted spread at tender, subject to a minimum of 0 per cent per interest period. Details on calculation of interest rate are available at the Information Memorandum on the Hong Kong Government Bonds website at [www.hkgb.gov.hk](http://www.hkgb.gov.hk).

Interest Period End Dates : November 15, 2024  
February 17, 2025  
May 15, 2025  
August 15, 2025

Interest Payment Dates : November 19, 2024  
February 19, 2025  
May 19, 2025  
August 19, 2025

Method of Tender : Competitive tender

Tender Amount : Each competitive tender must be for an amount of HK\$50,000 or integral multiples thereof. Any tender applications for the Notes must be submitted through a Primary Dealer on the current published list.

Other Details : Please see Information Memorandum available on the Hong Kong Government Bonds website at [www.hkgb.gov.hk](http://www.hkgb.gov.hk) or approach Primary Dealers.

Expected Listing Date : August 16, 2024

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## **Interest rate of second interest payment for Silver Bond Series due 2026**

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

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority, as representative of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, announced today (August 5) the relevant per annum interest rate for the second interest payment of Silver Bond Series due 2026 (Issue Number 03GB2608R) (the Bonds) issued under the Retail Bond Issuance Programme of the Government Bond Programme.

According to the Issue Circular dated July 14, 2023, for the Bonds, the second interest payment of the Bonds is scheduled to be made on August 19, 2024, and the relevant interest rate is scheduled to be determined and announced on August 5, 2024, as the higher of the prevailing Floating Rate

and Fixed Rate.

On August 5, 2024, the Floating Rate and Fixed Rate are as follows:

Floating Rate: +1.60 per cent (Annex)

Fixed Rate: +5.00 per cent

Based on the Floating Rate and Fixed Rate set out above, the relevant interest rate for the second interest payment is determined and announced as 5.00 per cent per annum.