

## [FEHD closes two unlicensed food premises in Yau Ma Tei \(with photos\)](#)

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD), together with relevant departments, enforced closure orders today (May 8) against two food premises in Yau Ma Tei that have been persistently operating without a licence and causing serious street obstruction.

The two food premises, located at Shop C-D and Shop A respectively on the ground floor of 29-35 Temple Street, have been operating without a licence and occupying the pavement and carriageways continuously, causing serious obstruction and environmental hygiene problems, as well as a great nuisance to residents nearby. From July 2022 to March this year, the FEHD received 437 complaints concerning the two restaurants, and conducted 132 blitz enforcement operations and instituted 306 prosecutions against their irregularities.

A spokesman for the FEHD said, "The FEHD has been taking enforcement and regulatory actions against the blatant contraventions of these two food premises in question and deploying additional manpower to step up the enforcement actions. However, both restaurants continued to operate without a licence and obstruct public areas persistently, breaching the Food Business Regulation (Cap. 132X) and other related legislation repeatedly. The FEHD obtained closure orders from the court on April 30 against the premises concerned to completely rectify their irregularities."

As the closure orders came into force today, staff of the FEHD and relevant departments entered the premises concerned this morning. They removed six gas cylinders that may pose a fire hazard and disposed of perishable food items from the premises, disconnected gas and water supplies and proceeded to lock and seal all entrances and exits.

The spokesman said, "While the closure orders shall remain in force, the owner of the premises concerned may apply to the court to rescind the orders if measures are taken to ensure that there will be no reappearance of irregularities in the future."

According to the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132), unless with written permission from the FEHD, no person may enter or remain on any closed premises, failing of which is an offence and is liable on conviction to a maximum fine of \$100,000, imprisonment for 12 months and a daily fine of \$1,750. Moreover, any person who removes or defaces a closure order affixed to any premises, or breaks or interferes with any lock or seal made on closed premises without lawful authority or reasonable excuse, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a maximum fine of \$25,000 and imprisonment for six months.

The spokesman stressed that the FEHD will continue to crack down on unlicensed food premises to safeguard food safety and public health.

Operators are urged not to defy the law, while members of the public are urged to not patronise these premises.



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## [Urgent removal of Old and Valuable Tree between Bonham Road and Hospital Road, Pok Fu Lam infected with brown root rot disease](#)

A spokesman for the Highways Department (HyD) said today (May 8) that the department, if weather and site conditions permit, will commence urgent removal works early next week for an Old and Valuable Tree (OVT), which is also a stone wall tree, on a slope between Bonham Road and Hospital Road in Pok Fu Lam infected with brown root rot disease (BRRD) in order to ensure public safety.

The OVT concerned is a 17-metre-tall *Ficus microcarpa*, which is listed on the Register of OVTs with registration number HYD CW/1. Part of the tree crown spans across Hospital Road. The tree was confirmed with BRRD infection in early 2019. Since then, the HyD has been, in accordance with the guidelines of the Tree Management Office (TMO) of the Development Bureau, strengthening maintenance works and conducting regular inspections to closely monitor the tree's health and structural conditions. A series of measures have been taken to improve the tree's health, including quarterly tree risk assessments, regular pruning to reduce the weight of the tree crown and the overall loading, spraying of fungicide, and application of soil conditioner. Regularly surveying has been conducted to monitor the displacement of the tree. In addition, the HyD has been supporting and stabilising the tree using large concrete blocks and cables since 2021.

However, a large crack was identified at one of the main prop roots during a regular maintenance inspection by the HyD in 2023. After Typhoon Saola and the Black Rainstorm Warning Signal in early September 2023, the HyD

observed significant degrees of outward tilting or displacement at various positions of the main trunk and branches, indicating a threat to the tree's stability. The HyD subsequently carried out tree pruning works in September 2023 and March 2024 in order to reduce the loading of the tree crown. Nevertheless, the HyD observed rapid deterioration of roots with severe decay and breakage in early April 2024, indicating that BRRD had further degraded the woody tissue of roots and caused irreversible structural damage to the tree. As the tree gradually loses main support from its roots, there is a risk of tree failure during inclement weather or typhoon seasons, posing a serious threat to public safety. After consulting the Urban Forestry Advisory Panel with the assistance of the TMO, and notifying the Central and Western District Council of the proposed tree removal, if weather and site conditions permit, the HyD will launch the urgent tree removal works early next week, which is expected to complete in two days, and will make appropriate adjustments based on weather and on-site conditions.

The spokesman emphasised that the department will continue to adopt a prudent approach in inspecting and maintaining trees under its care, and will only consider removing problematic trees in the absence of other viable risk mitigation measures.

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## **HA activates service demand surge measures**

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The Hospital Authority (HA) spokesperson today (May 8) announced that the HA has activated service demand surge special measures to cope with the increasing service demand due to increased activity in influenza and respiratory viruses. The HA will closely monitor various statistics and situation.

The HA spokesperson said, "Public hospitals have implemented a series of measures, including increasing manpower, opening temporary beds and mobilising hospital beds flexibly to cope with the increasing service demand for accident and emergency (A&E) departments and inpatient services. Laboratory services will be enhanced and ward rounds of senior clinicians in evenings, weekends and holidays will be increased. The HA will also facilitate patient admissions, transfers and discharges to expedite hospital bed turnover. Service capacity of general out-patient clinics (GOPCs) will be enhanced. The geriatric departments will provide assessment and discharge support to elderly people at A&E departments. The community geriatric assessment team will provide teleconsultations to elderly people who are in need and living in residential care homes."

Latest surveillance data showed that increased activity in influenza and some respiratory pathogens has been observed. The HA will closely monitor the medical needs of the patients concerned and provide suitable treatments. The HA also appeals to members of the public who have not received seasonal influenza vaccination (SIV) to receive vaccination as soon as possible. Especially the elderly and children, who are at higher risk of getting influenza and its complications, should receive SIV early. SIV is the most effective means to prevent seasonal influenza and its complications, as well as reducing the risk of severe disease and death.

Moreover, 14 GOPCs will provide public holiday GOPC services on the Birthday of the Buddha (May 15) (see table below) to cope with the increasing service need from members of the public and alleviate the service pressure on A&E departments during the holiday. Patients may book an appointment either through the telephone appointment system or the "Book GOPC" function of the "HA Go" mobile app.

The spokesperson said non-urgent patients should avoid attending A&E departments. They are advised to attend GOPCs, private doctors or the 24-hour clinics of private hospitals as far as practicable. To choose a suitable family doctor and related clinic service, members of the public can browse the Primary Care Directory of the Health Bureau ([www.pcdirectory.gov.hk](http://www.pcdirectory.gov.hk)).

The HA will closely monitor the situation and flexibly deploy resources and manpower when necessary, and will keep increasing its service volume in order to provide appropriate services for patients.

GOPC service arrangements on the Birthday of the Buddha (May 15):

Region	List of GOPCs	Address	Telephone number for booking	General enquiries
Hong Kong Island	Aberdeen Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic	10 Aberdeen Reservoir Road, Aberdeen	3543 5011	2555 0381
	Shau Kei Wan Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic	1/F, 8 Chai Wan Road, Shau Kei Wan	3157 0077	2560 0211
	Violet Peel General Out-patient Clinic	LG, Tang Shiu Kin Hospital Community Ambulatory Care Centre, 282 Queen's Road East, Wanchai	3157 0000	3553 3116

Kowloon	Kwun Tong Community Health Centre	UG/F, 60 Hip Wo Street, Kwun Tong	3157 0687	2389 0331
	Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital Family Medicine Clinic	G/F, Out-patient Block, Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital, 118 Shatin Pass Road, Wong Tai Sin	3157 0118	2354 2267
	Robert Black General Out-patient Clinic	600 Prince Edward Road East, San Po Kong	3157 0113	2383 3311
	Yau Ma Tei Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic	1/F, 145 Battery Street, Yau Ma Tei	3157 0880	2272 2400

New Territories	Lady Trench General Out-patient Clinic	213 Sha Tsui Road, Tsuen Wan	3157 0107	2614 4789
	Lek Yuen General Out-patient Clinic	G/F, 9 Lek Yuen Street, Sha Tin	3157 0972	2692 8730
	Shek Wu Hui Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic	G/F, 108-130 Jockey Club Road, Shek Wu Hui, Sheung Shui	3157 0965	2670 0211
	Tai Po Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic	G/F, 37 Ting Kok Road, Tai Po	3157 0906	2664 2039
	Tseung Kwan O (Po Ning Road) General Out-patient Clinic	G/F, 28 Po Ning Road, Tseung Kwan O	3157 0660	2191 1083
	Tuen Mun Clinic	11 Tsing Yin Street, San Hui, Tuen Mun	3543 0886	2452 9111
	Yuen Long Jockey Club Health Centre	269 Castle Peak Road, Yuen Long	3543 5007	2443 8511

Service hours:  
9am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm

## [LCQ19: Developing Kowloon East](#)

Following is a question by the Hon Tang Ka-piu and a written reply by the Secretary for Development, Ms Bernadette Linn, in the Legislative Council today (May 8):

Question:

The 2011-2012 Policy Address put forward the Energizing Kowloon East initiative, which aims to transform Kowloon East (KE) into the second core business district (CBD2) through the development of the office belt and tourism and leisure facilities at Kai Tak as well as the revitalisation of industrial buildings. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

(1) of the numbers and gross floor areas (GFAs) of (i) industrial buildings, (ii) commercial buildings (broken down into (a) Grade A offices, (b) Grade B offices and (c) other office sub-sectors), and (iii) business buildings providing accommodation for a mix of industrial and commercial uses in CBD2, and set out in Table 1 a breakdown by age of the building (i.e. (I) 0 to 10 years, (II) 11 to 20 years, (III) 21 to 30 years, (IV) 31 to 40 years, (V) 41 to 50 years and (VI) 51 years or above);

Table 1

Use of building		Age of building	Number of building	GFA
(i)		(I)		
		.....		
		(VI)		
(ii)	(a)	(I)		
		.....		
		(VI)		
	(b)	(I)		
		.....		
		(VI)		
	(c)	(I)		
		.....		
		(VI)		
(iii)		(I)		
		.....		
		(VI)		

(2) among the applications received by the Government for the new round of the revitalisation scheme for industrial buildings launched in 2018, of the respective numbers of applications involving industrial buildings in CBD2 that were approved and rejected, and the reasons for the rejection of the applications;

(3) whether it has compiled statistics on the numbers and areas of sites in CBD2 which are currently (i) idle sites for which no development plan has been finalised and (ii) sites for temporary use only with no long-term development plan, and set out in Table 2 a breakdown by landowner (i.e. (a)

the Government and (b) the private sector);

Table 2

Type of site	Landowner	Number of sites	Site area
(i)	(a)		
	(b)		
(ii)	(a)		
	(b)		

(4) of the respective numbers and floor areas of the properties (i) owned and (ii) rented by the Government in CBD2, and set out in Table 3 a breakdown by use of the property (i.e. (a) district service centres of government departments, (b) headquarters of government departments, and (c) others);

Table 3

Property owned/rented by the Government	Use	Number of properties	Floor area
(i)	(a)		
	(b)		
	(c)		
	Total		
(ii)	(a)		
	(b)		
	(c)		
	Total		

(5) whether it has compiled statistics on the numbers of companies in (i) innovation and technology (I&T), (ii) culture, (iii) sports, (iv) tourism and (v) other industries (a) operating business and (b) headquartered in CBD2, and the numbers of jobs provided by such companies and their gross output, with a breakdown as set out in Table 4; and

Table 4

Industry of company	Operating business/setting up headquarters	Number of companies	Number of jobs provided	Gross output
(i)	(a)			
	(b)			
.....	(a)			
	(b)			



(v)	(a)			
	(b)			

(6) given that in reply to my question on July 5 last year, the Government indicated that KE has the potential to promote I&T and arts, culture and creative industries given its historical background in industrial development and the ambience of cultural workers moving in one after another in recent years, whether the authorities have plans to further promote the development of the industries of I&T, culture, sports and tourism in KE, and to develop KE into a "city of entrepreneurship" for the aforesaid industries; if so, of the specific measures; if not, the reasons for that?

Reply:

President,

The Government promulgated the Energizing Kowloon East initiatives in 2011, with the objectives to transform Kowloon East comprising the Kai Tak Development Area, the Kwun Tong Business Area and the Kowloon Bay Business Area into Hong Kong's second core business district (CBD2) and to ensure a steady supply of quality office space in support of the economic growth of Hong Kong and strengthening Hong Kong's global competitiveness. In 2017, relevant initiatives including enhancing connectivity and improving the environment, etc, have been extended to the San Po Kong Business Area. Since 2011, the commercial gross floor area (GFA) in Kowloon East has increased by a double to currently about 3.4 million square metre.

After consultation with the relevant policy bureaux and departments, the replies to the various parts of the question raised by the Member are as follows:

(1) The statistics on the commercial, industrial and industrial/office developments in Kowloon East (i.e. the Kai Tak Development Area, Kwun Tong Business Area and Kowloon Bay Business Area) by building age are as follows:

Uses	Building age	Numbers*	GFA
Commercial#	0-10 years	56	About 1 500 000 sq m
	11-20 years	35	About 1 300 000 sq m
	21-30 years	8	About 400 000 sq m
	31-40 years	6	About 200 000 sq m

Industrial	0-10 years	7	About 60 000 sq m
	11-20 years	2	About 20 000 sq m
	21-30 years	17	About 300 000 sq m
	31-40 years	68	About 1 700 000 sq m
	41-50 years	67	About 1 000 000 sq m
	51 years or above	77	About 700 000 sq m
Industrial/Office	11-20 years	1	About 10 000 sq m
	21-30 years	10	About 200 000 sq m

\* as at December 2023.

# including new developments, redevelopments and converted commercial buildings in Kowloon East (i.e. Kai Tak Development Area, Kwun Tong Business Area and Kowloon Bay Business Area), but excluding the commercial portions of residential/commercial developments in the Kai Tak Development. We do not have relevant information by grading of commercial developments.

(2) Another round of revitalisation scheme for industrial buildings was promulgated in 2018. It includes to allow relaxation of the maximum permissible plot ratio by up to 20 per cent for industrial redevelopment sites located outside "Residential" zones in main urban areas and new towns, for which the modified lease should be executed after the town planning approval to put the relaxed plot ratio into effect (redevelopment of industrial buildings); and to exempt the waiver fees incurred for wholesale conversion of industrial buildings aged 15 years or above in "Commercial", "Other Specified Uses" annotated "Business" and "Industrial" zones into permissible planning uses on the condition that the applicants should designate 10 per cent of the floor area for specific uses prescribed by the Government upon completion of such conversion works (wholesale conversion of industrial buildings).

As at the end of March 2024, the Town Planning Board has received and approved 23 applications for redevelopment of industrial buildings within the CBD2 with relaxation of the maximum permissible plot ratio (excluding applications withdrawn by the applicant and applications involving the same site). For those industrial redevelopment projects requiring lease modification, the Lands Department has received eight applications for lease modification (excluding applications withdrawn by the applicant), of which seven cases have been approved with the lease modifications completed while the remaining one case is still under processing. Regarding wholesale conversion of industrial buildings, as at the end of March 2024, the Lands Department has received one application (excluding applications withdrawn by the applicant) for special waiver for industrial buildings within CBD2 and the application has been approved.

(3) Relevant details of government sites which have been formed and pending the implementation of planned commercial uses in Kowloon East are as follows:

Location	Number of sites	Site area
Kai Tak Development Area	3	About 7.8 ha
Kowloon Bay Action Area	To be determined	About 3.4 ha

All the above mentioned sites are being put to temporary use at present. We do not have information on the construction timetable of the private lands.

(4) According to the information provided by the Government Property Agency (Agency), the number and the floor area of government-owned properties located within private developments under the management of the Agency and private properties leased via the Agency in Kowloon East (Kai Tak Development Area, Kwun Tong Business Area and Kowloon Bay Business Area) are as follows.

Type of property	Number	Internal floor area
Government-owned properties	Involving individual premises in one building	About 6 600 sq m
Leased properties	Involving 141 leases	About 104 000 sq m

(Note: The Agency has no statistics on the usage of the properties for district service centre or headquarters by government departments.)

Apart from the above properties within private developments, the Government possesses various kinds of facilities and specialised buildings, some of which are used as Government offices, such as Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Headquarters Building, Inland Revenue Centre and Trade and Industry Tower in Kai Tak; Water Supplies Department Kowloon East Regional Building and Central Mail Centre in Kowloon Bay; and Kowloon East Government Offices and Energizing Kowloon East Office in Kwun Tong etc.

(5) According to the Survey on Business Establishments in Kowloon East 2018, the distribution of the establishments by industry within the scope of survey (i.e. the Kwun Tong Business Area and the Kowloon Bay Business Area) is shown in the following table:

Industry	No. of establishments		Percentage of total establishments in Kowloon East (%)
	Head office	Non-head office	
Manufacturing	3 481	314	14.0
Construction	1 933	98	7.5

Import/export, wholesale and retail trades	9 342	1 282	39.2
Restaurants and hotels	177	29	0.8
Transportation, storage and logistics	890	206	4.0
Telecommunications services and information technology services	1 234	128	5.0
Banking and financial services and insurance	1 950	267	8.2
Real estate and professional and business services	2 682	182	10.6
Publishing, media and multi-media and creative and performing arts activities and specialised design activities	1 363	85	5.3
Healthcare services, and research and development on natural sciences	204	42	0.9
Social and personal services	1 063	117	4.3
Waste management	67	1	0.3

(Note: The above categorisation of industries is in accordance with the Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification promulgated by the Census and Statistics Department. The survey does not cover the number of jobs created by the respective companies and their gross output. The Energizing Kowloon East Office is conducting another round of survey on business establishments in Kowloon East.)

(6) The Government has been introducing related policies in Kowloon East in a timely manner to meet the need of Hong Kong in the time of economic transition. Kowloon East used to be an important industrial base in the heyday of manufacturing industry in Hong Kong. In view of the relocation of Hong Kong's manufacturing industry to the mainland, industrial land in Kowloon Bay and Kwun Tong have been rezoned to "Business" use which allowed conversion of industrial buildings to office use and redevelopment into commercial/office buildings under the planning regime. Subsequently, the Government introduced two rounds of revitalisation scheme for industrial buildings to facilitate the redevelopment and wholesale conversion of industrial buildings, followed by the introduction of the scheme to charge

land premium at standard rates for lease modifications of redevelopment of industrial buildings to encourage revitalisation of industrial building. A number of industrial buildings in Kowloon East have been or will be redeveloped or converted into office, shop and services and hotel uses. Besides, to ensure a steady and adequate supply of quality office space in Kowloon East, the Government has disposed eight pieces of government land in Kowloon East for commercial development since the promulgation of the Energizing Kowloon East initiatives. Flexibility has been allowed in the planning of these commercial sites for the establishment of innovation and technology uses.

Against this context and driven by a series of policy measures, Kowloon East has been transformed into CBD2 with a diversity of industries. In terms of the supply of commercial properties, apart from Grade A office, there are different types of affordable properties of good quality which provide space for developing business by different types of companies. Notwithstanding that the Government has no plan to designate particular site in Kowloon East for innovation and technology use, or to deploy specific measures to promote innovation and technology in Kowloon East, with the unique history of the area, diversified supply of properties especially that manufacturing activities are still active in the area, innovation and technology companies would be convenient in pairing up with the research, academic and industry sectors or other businesses supporting services, while the converted industrial buildings in the area with relatively lower rent would be attractive to startups. These would attract innovation and technology companies to move into Kowloon East. In fact, a number of innovation and technology startups have gradually been stationed in Kowloon East in recent years.

Besides, the Energizing Kowloon East Office (the Office) has been collaborating with private and public sectors to utilise Kowloon East as a Smart City Lab. For example, an indoor-outdoor navigation with voice guidance for the visually impaired/people in needs at MTR stations and some large shopping malls in Kowloon East has recently been introduced under the facilitation of the Office. Others include a proof of-concept trial at the Kwun Tong Typhoon Shelter on Real-time Water Quality Monitoring System completed earlier on and an ongoing trial of Smart Recycling Systems. At the same time, the Office would assist and facilitate different groups in organising promotional activities on smart city development and STEM as means to facilitate the development of innovation and technology.

Regarding culture, sports and tourism development aspects, the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau will fully utilise the opportunities brought by the Kai Tak Sports Park (KTSP), East Kowloon Cultural Centre and Kai Tak Cruise Terminal, and their collaboration with other facilities in the district, to develop culture, sports and tourism as well as bring new experiences to visiting tourists. As an incubator for the development of arts and technology, the East Kowloon Cultural Centre which is adjacent to Kowloon East CBD2 will bring new cultural experience to the community. Whereas for KTSP, it will provide venues for hosting mega sports and entertainment events, thereby giving impetus to the development of relevant sectors.

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# Tender of one-year HONIA-indexed Floating Rate Notes under Institutional Bond Issuance Programme to be held on May 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 (May 8) that a tender of one-year HONIA-indexed Floating Rate Notes (Notes) under the Institutional Bond Issuance Programme will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, for settlement on Thursday, May 16, 2024.

A total of HK\$1.5 billion one-year Notes will be tendered. The Notes will mature on May 16, 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.hkgeb.gov.hk](http://www.hkgeb.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

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

Issue Number	: 01GH2505
Stock Code	: 4279 (HKGB FRN 2505)
Tender Date and Time	: Tuesday, May 14, 2024 9.30 am to 10.30 am
Issue and Settlement Date for Tender	: Thursday, May 16, 2024
Amount	
Amount on Offer	: HK\$1.5 billion
Issue Price	: At par

Maturity : 1 year  
Maturity Date : May 16, 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 : August 16, 2024  
November 18, 2024  
February 17, 2025  
May 16, 2025  
Interest Payment Dates : August 20, 2024  
November 20, 2024  
February 19, 2025  
May 20, 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 : May 17, 2024