

Import of poultry meat and products from areas in US suspended

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (April 22) that in view of a notification from the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) about outbreaks of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza in Roosevelt County of the State of New Mexico and Grant County of the State of Kansas in the United States (US), the CFS has instructed the trade to suspend the import of poultry meat and products (including poultry eggs) from the above-mentioned areas with immediate effect to protect public health in Hong Kong.

A CFS spokesman said that according to the Census and Statistics Department, Hong Kong imported about 37 770 tonnes of chilled and frozen poultry meat and about 83.84 million poultry eggs from the US last year.

"The CFS has contacted the American authority over the issue and will closely monitor information issued by the WOAH and the relevant authorities on the avian influenza outbreaks. Appropriate action will be taken in response to the development of the situation," the spokesman said.

Red flags lowered at Repulse Bay Beach and Deep Water Bay Beach

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 (April 22) that since the water off Repulse Bay Beach and Deep Water Bay Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island is now suitable for swimming, the red flags have been lowered.

The red flags were hoisted at the beaches earlier on after a red tide was found.

Hospital Authority holds UK recruitment events (with photos)

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

Hospital Authority (HA) representatives participated in recruitment events in London and Manchester of the United Kingdom (UK), organised by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, for two consecutive days on April 20 and 21 (UK time). The events were held with around 300 medical students and medical practitioners participating in person or online. The delegation, composed of representatives from the HA, the two medical schools in Hong Kong and the Department of Health, in collaboration with the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London and the Hong Kong Medical Society of the UK, promoted to overseas healthcare talent the latest pathways for working in Hong Kong, registration arrangements, specialist training development, etc, all of which received an overwhelming response.

The HA Chief Executive, Dr Tony Ko, said, "In addition to the recruitment event in London, we also visited another big city – Manchester. We are delighted to have the opportunity to meet with medical students and medical practitioners there in person and online to introduce the latest situation of the public healthcare system in Hong Kong. Their responses were very positive, as they acknowledged the various pathways to practicing in Hong Kong conveniently under the new registration scheme. We also exchanged views regarding the working environment, remuneration packages, career prospects of working in the Hong Kong public healthcare sector as well as the advantages of healthcare services development. The participants were enthusiastic and expressed that they will seriously consider returning to serve patients in Hong Kong."

Dr Ko said that the HA has strengthened its work in recruiting overseas healthcare talent, including establishing a Global Healthcare Professional Recruitment Centre to co-ordinate all overseas recruitment programmes. The HA has also regularised overseas recruitment activities by arranging for representatives to go to different places to promote and recruit healthcare talent. In addition to actively attracting medical students to return to Hong Kong to work upon graduation, the HA also hopes to attract overseas medical practitioners to serve patients by joining the HA. Therefore, the HA has integrated and simplified the recruitment process to provide a one-stop enquiry service through an online platform and instant messaging apps for healthcare professionals who are interested in working or taking part in exchanges in Hong Kong through various registration schemes and the Global Healthcare Talent Scheme, etc. The HA will arrange a designated team to contact and assist in matching them to suitable jobs, and assist applicants in arranging other procedures for working in Hong Kong, so as to make it as convenient as possible for overseas healthcare professionals to join the HA.

The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the Chinese University of Hong

Kong, Professor Philip Chiu; Associate Dean Professor Simon Ng; Associate Dean of the Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine of the University of Hong Kong Professor Leo Poon; Assistant Dean Professor Kelvin To; and Assistant Director of Health Dr Jackie Leung also participated in the recruitment events in person and online. Participants could make enquiries and learn about the different working environments of public healthcare services directly, including clinical work in public hospitals, teaching and research work in universities, various positions in public health and primary healthcare, etc.

Apart from showing an interest in obtaining a full registration, the opportunity to receive specialist training and the arrangements for obtaining specialist qualifications in Hong Kong, the participants were also briefed by non-locally trained doctors serving in the HA so that they could learn more about the attractions and advantages of returning to work in Hong Kong.

Dr Ko said, "The response to this recruitment event in the UK has been very satisfactory. We are confident in recruiting many suitable non-locally trained doctors to join the HA to serve patients. The HA will continue promotions in different countries and regions proactively, making every effort to recruit eligible non-locally trained doctors to join Hong Kong's public healthcare sector to meet the growing demand for services."

The HA will maintain close contact with the participants and verify the qualifications of those interested in working in Hong Kong. According to their schedule for arriving in Hong Kong, the HA will assist them in relevant appointments and approval procedures so that they can start working in the HA as soon as possible. Other medical students and medical practitioners interested in working in Hong Kong are also welcome to make enquiries related to job applications through an online platform and instant messaging software (see appendix). The HA will arrange for a designated team to follow up and provide assistance.





[Hong Kong ICT Awards 2024 opens for enrolment](#)

The Hong Kong ICT Awards (HKICTA) 2024 opens for enrolment today (April 22). Entries of locally developed information and communications technology (ICT) products and solutions are invited to compete for the Grand Awards in the eight award categories, and the top accolade of the competition – the Award of the Year. The deadline for enrolment is July 12, 2024.

The HKICTA 2024 is organised by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) with each award category to be led by a local industry association or professional body. The award categories and respective Leading Organisers are listed below:

| Award categories | Leading Organisers |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Digital Entertainment Award | Hong Kong Digital Entertainment Association |
| FinTech Award | Institute of Financial Technologists of Asia |
| ICT Startup Award | Hong Kong Wireless Technology Industry Association |
| Smart Business Award | Hong Kong Computer Society |
| Smart Living Award | Hong Kong Information Technology Federation |
| Smart Mobility Award | GS1 Hong Kong |
| Smart People Award | The Hong Kong Council of Social Service |
| Student Innovation Award | Hong Kong Education City |

A Grand Award will be granted in each category, and the Award of the

Year will be selected by a Grand Judging Panel from the eight Grand Awardees.

In a bid to foster the innovative use of artificial intelligence (AI), each of the eight categories will establish a new distinguished accolade: the Best Use of AI Award, magnifying and honouring outstanding achievements in harnessing the power of AI in respective areas.

Established in 2006, the HKICTA is an annual signature event of the local ICT industry which aims to recognise and promote outstanding ICT inventions and applications, thereby encouraging the pursuit of innovation and excellence among Hong Kong's ICT professionals and enterprises to develop innovative applications meeting business and social needs, use innovation and technology (I&T) to bring benefits to the community, and foster Hong Kong's I&T and smart city development. Through concerted efforts of the ICT sector, academia and the Government, the HKICTA has always been highly regarded by the information technology industry, and the winners may also be nominated to compete in other regional and international competitions on behalf of Hong Kong and be sponsored to participate in overseas I&T exhibitions. The award acts as an encouragement and recognition to the winners, and facilitates their access to both Mainland and overseas markets.

Details of the HKICTA are available on the thematic website (www.hkictawards.hk). Enquiries can be made to the OGCI0 at 3974 5224 or by emailing hkictawards@ogcio.gov.hk.

Red flag hoisted at Silver Mine Bay Beach

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (April 22) that according to the Beach Water Quality Forecast System of the Environmental Protection Department, the Beach Water Quality Forecast Index of Silver Mine Bay Beach in Islands District is 4, which means the water quality is "Very Poor". The red flag has been hoisted and beachgoers are advised not to enter the water to safeguard their health.