

[BGS accepted as a member of IGSN](#)

During the recent International Geo Sample Number (IGSN) General Assembly meeting in New Orleans, USA, the BGS was elected as one of IGSN's newest members. Other new members elected during the meeting were Australian National Data Service (ANDS), US Geological Survey (USGS) and IFREMER (France).

[Appeal for information on missing man in Sham Shui Po \(with photo\)](#)

Police today (February 26) appealed to the public for information on a man who went missing in Sham Shui Po.

Kwan Siu-wa, aged 65, went missing after he was last seen on Nam Cheong Street yesterday afternoon (February 25). Staff of his hostel made a report to Police on the same day.

He is about 1.75 metres tall, 68 kilograms in weight and of fat build. He has a round face with yellow complexion and short black hair. He was last seen wearing a brown jacket, trousers, blue slippers and carrying a red recycle bag.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing man or may have seen him is urged to contact the Regional Missing Person Unit of Kowloon West on 3661 8131 or 9020 6542, or email to rmpu-kw-2@police.gov.hk, or contact any police station.



[Subsidised housing owners alerted to suspicious letters](#)

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

A spokesman for the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA) today (February 26) reminded owners of flats sold under various subsidised housing schemes including Home Ownership Schemes and Tenants Purchase Schemes to be alert to suspicious letters.

Recently, the media reported that individual subsidised housing flat owners had received letters which suggested that they had obtained unlawful refinancing for their properties, contrary to the Housing Ordinance. The owners concerned were instructed to make a payment to a designated virtual currency account, or their cases would be reported to the relevant regulatory bodies and the banks.

The spokesman urged owners of flats sold under subsidised housing schemes to be on guard against such letters and not to make any such payments. If they have any doubts, they may contact the Police immediately.

The spokesman also took the opportunity to remind owners that under the Housing Ordinance, prior to the payment of premium, subsidised housing flat owners shall not mortgage, charge, assign or otherwise alienate their subsidised housing flat without prior approval from the Director of Housing, and such a transaction would also be void under Section 17B.

“Under Section 27A of the Housing Ordinance, entering into a void alienation under Section 17B is an offence and the offender is liable to a fine of \$500,000 and imprisonment for one year,” he said, adding that the HA would take appropriate action to prosecute offenders whenever unauthorised alienation cases are discovered.

[LegCo spring luncheon \(with photos\)](#)

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

The President of the Legislative Council (LegCo), Mr Andrew Leung, hosted a spring luncheon today (February 26) in the Dining Hall of the LegCo Complex for the Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, Executive Council Members, senior government officials and LegCo Members. More than 100 guests and Members attended the luncheon to celebrate the Lunar New Year.

Mr Andrew Leung wished Hong Kong prosperity and harmony in the Year of the Dog, as well as continuous improvement of the executive-legislative relationship. Meanwhile, he wished the guests and Members continue to serve the public with virtues in various positions.



[Labour changes its mind and wants the UK to belong to “a customs union”](#)

The Labour Manifesto was quite clear in 2017 that they wanted the UK to see through Brexit, including running our own trade policy. They laid out considerable details about the features of a global trade policy they wanted for us, which clearly ruled out staying in the or a customs union. Many pro Brexit voters voted Labour because they stood on a pro Brexit ticket.

Of course an Opposition party can change its mind. This particular change of mind has two big downsides for Labour. one is pro Leave voters who voted Labour will not be happy with this. The second is there is no obvious offer of “a customs union” on the table from the rest of the EU. They have told us we have to leave without cherry picking, so why would this much debated variant be on the table? Both Leave and Remain campaigns, and the UK government., told us before the referendum that leaving the EU meant leaving both the single market and the customs union. I don't see that anything has changed since then.