

Fire Services Department Community Emergency Responder Scheme Launched (with photos)

To enhance fire safety awareness and the emergency preparedness of the public, the Fire Services Department (FSD) launched the Fire Services Department Community Emergency Responder (FSDCER) Scheme today (December 14). Participants will receive training on fire prevention and emergency preparedness, as well as cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator to help safeguard community safety.

The launching ceremony of the FSDCER Scheme, funded by the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, was officiated by the Director of Fire Services, Mr Andy Yeung; the Deputy Director of Fire Services (Public Safety and Corporate Strategy), Mr Derek Armstrong Chan; and newly appointed chairmen of the FSDCER Honorary Presidents' Scheme from the 18 districts, at the Fire and Ambulance Services Academy.

Addressing the ceremony, Mr Yeung said that the FSD launched the Fire Safety Ambassador Scheme as early as 1997. In light of the increasing willingness for the public to save lives during emergencies, the FSD has introduced the new FSDCER Scheme. The Scheme draws on successful experiences from both the Mainland and overseas, aiming to enhance the public's knowledge of emergency preparedness and instil a sense of responsibility and dedication to the community. By participating in the Scheme's trainings and activities, the public can equip themselves with knowledge on fire prevention and emergency responses to handle various emergency situations.

Mr Yeung emphasised that community safety is a shared responsibility of every member of the public. A parent-child scheme has therefore been introduced, with the participants' minimum age expanding from 12 years old to 6 years old, in order to encourage family participation. With the new initiative, children can be nurtured with fire safety awareness and the ability to handle emergency situations from a young age. They will also be instilled with a sense of safety and responsibility towards the community.

The FSDCER Scheme is now open for registration for Hong Kong citizens aged 12 or above, while children aged 6 to 11 can participate as parent-child members. Interested parties can submit their applications online (eform.cefs.gov.hk/form/fsd082/en). After fulfilling requirements of online studies, a practice session and an assessment, participants will be appointed as FSDCERs.

