

Government establishes Tree Review Panel

The Development Bureau (DEVB) announced today (December 16) the establishment of the Tree Review Panel to advise DEVB on complex tree cases.

The two members of the Panel are Dr Greg Moore and Mr Guy Watson, who are overseas experts in arboriculture. The Panel will take effect today for a term of three years.

Dr Moore is currently an Honorary Doctor of the School of Ecosystem and Forest Sciences of the University of Melbourne, Australia, and has taught plant science and arboriculture for 40 years. He has contributed to the development of Australian Standards in arboriculture and often teaches arboriculture around the world (including in Hong Kong).

Mr Watson is an experienced consulting arborist in the United Kingdom. He authored a number of field guides related to tree management published by the Arboricultural Association in the United Kingdom and has years of experience in teaching professional tree inspection courses in the United Kingdom and Hong Kong.

A DEVB spokesman said, "The two overseas experts have extensive tree management knowledge and experience in field assessment and diagnosis of trees, and are also familiar with local tree species and their features. As such, they have the ability to provide in-depth and professional research, analysis and advice on complex tree cases. They will also advise on matters related to the policy and technical aspects of tree management having regard to the prevailing circumstances."