

# Latest arrangements on LCSD public services

In view of the latest situation, the Government has announced that the special work arrangement for government departments will be extended up to and including February 23. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) announced today (February 14) that various LCSD cultural and leisure facilities will continue to be temporarily closed and recreational, sports and cultural programmes to be held will also be cancelled until March 2 (Monday).

A spokesman for the LCSD said that in order to safeguard public health, social distancing is of paramount importance to prevent the further spread of the epidemic. Temporary closure of venues and cancellation of programmes can avoid people from gathering. It also helps reduce chances of social gathering before and after participating in activities, and reduce the risk of the spread of the novel coronavirus in the community.

Land sports facilities and aquatic facilities temporarily closed include all sports centres, sports grounds, grass pitches, artificial turf soccer pitches, tennis courts, squash courts, bowling greens, golf facilities, public swimming pools, beaches, Tuen Mun Recreation and Sports Centre, water sports centres and holiday camps. Cultural facilities include all museums, performance venues, public libraries and their study rooms, mobile libraries, and music centres of the Music Office.

During the temporary closure period, URBIX will maintain Internet and mobile app ticketing and hotline services. Public libraries will continue to provide online services such as e-Books and e-Databases. Non-fee charging land-based leisure facilities including parks, playgrounds, outdoor hard-surface pitches, skateboard grounds, skateparks, roller skating rinks and cycling grounds will maintain services.

Meanwhile, processing and acceptance of individual and block booking applications for the department's non-fee charging land recreation and sports facilities as well as block booking applications for the fee charging land recreation and sports facilities are suspended until further notice.

Application for use of wedding venues, amphitheatres and non-fee charging leisure venues for non-designated use/sales activities is suspended until further notice.

The LCSD will continue to monitor the situation closely and review the arrangements in a timely manner. Refund arrangements will be announced later.