

LCSD launches trial of artificial intelligence drowning detection system at Kwun Tong Swimming Pool

After several months of system testing and enhancements, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) will conduct a trial of an artificial intelligence drowning detection system at the outdoor secondary pool of Kwun Tong Swimming Pool during opening hours starting from July 31 to strengthen lifesaving services at public swimming pools.

This system is developed and authorised by the Sports Artificial Intelligence Laboratory and the Technology Transfer Office of the University of Hong Kong, with funding support from the Innovation and Technology Fund of the Innovation and Technology Commission. Applying artificial intelligence detection technology, the drowning detection system analyses the videos and images captured by the camera, distinguishes the motions of swimmers and calculates the probability of drowning using artificial intelligence algorithms, so as to enhance water safety. If a suspected drowning is detected, the system will alert the lifeguards, enabling them to perform rescue work as soon as possible. The system will neither collect or show the facial or body images, nor retain any images or footage to protect the privacy of swimmers.

The LCSD will conduct a review on the effectiveness of the trial at the end of the swimming season. The trial will serve as one of the references for developing a drowning detection system that is suitable for use in public swimming pools.