

# **LCSD strongly appeals to public to avoid visiting temporarily closed beaches**

â€œIn view of the critical situation of COVID-19, all gazetted beaches of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) have been temporarily closed. Lifesaving services at the beaches have also been suspended.

An LCSD spokesman today (July 24) strongly appealed to members of the public again to heed the Government's advice to stay at home as much as possible and not to go swimming or sunbathing at closed beaches in order to prevent crowds from gathering, reduce the chances of spreading the virus in the community and avoid accidents.

The LCSD has strengthened the cordoning off of beaches to prevent the public from entering. Apart from showering facilities and changing rooms, toilets at beaches have also been closed. While some beach areas may not be completely blocked off due to terrain constraints, the LCSD urges the public to be self-disciplined, and not to enter the beach areas or attempt to damage venue facilities.

The spokesman stressed that entering a closed beach is an offence and offenders may face prosecution. Staff of the LCSD will step up patrols of the beaches concerned. Enforcement action will be taken as appropriate if the advice is ignored. Police assistance will be sought if there is any action involving criminal damage.