

Part 2 public engagement exercise of study on development of Wetland Conservation Parks System launched

The Government launched today (November 21) Part 2 of the public engagement (PE) exercise of the study on the development of the Wetland Conservation Parks (WCPs) System to collect views from the public and different sectors of the community on the initiative.

There are large areas of diverse wetland habitats in the northern and northwestern New Territories of Hong Kong, comprising freshwater and brackish wetlands which are recognised for their high ecological, recreational and amenity values, as well as other important functions. To conserve these important habitats more effectively, enhance their ecological values and increase the environmental capacity of the Northern Metropolis, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department commissioned a consultant to take forward the Strategic Feasibility Study on the Development of the WCPs System (the Feasibility Study) in August 2022.

The Feasibility Study aims to review the existing conditions of the proposed areas of the WCPs System with respect to ecological values, land use/planning, aquaculture activities, and eco-education/recreation facilities etc, and formulate recommendations on the development of the WCPs System (including locations/boundaries, functions, positioning and management models etc, of each proposed park). The consultant will take into account the views collected during the Part 1 PE exercise earlier this year and the current Part 2 PE exercise when preparing the final recommendations for submission to the Government. The Feasibility Study is expected to be completed in the first half of 2024.

The two-month Part 2 PE exercise will end on January 20, 2024. During this period, the consultant will conduct briefing sessions and meetings with relevant stakeholders to seek their views. Members of the public can also refer to the preliminary recommendations under the Feasibility Study on the dedicated website of the PE exercise (www.afcd.gov.hk/english/conservation/con_wet/wcps_system/wcps_system.html), and send in their comments by e-mail (wcps_system@afcd.gov.hk).