<u>Special arrangements at LCSD venues</u> <u>during Mid-Autumn Festival</u>

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) will extend opening hours and make special arrangements at some of its venues for the public to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival.

Details of extended opening hours and special arrangements for selected venues are as follows:

September 13 and 14 (Mid-Autumn Festival and the day following Mid-Autumn Festival)

Jordan Valley Park (Kwun Tong District) September 13: 5am to 1am (extended by two hours) September 14: 5am to 11.30pm (extended by half an hour) Hong Kong Velodrome Park (Sai Kung District) – Artificial Lake September 13: 6.30am to 2am (extended by three hours) September 14: 6.30am to 1am (extended by two hours) September 13 (Mid-Autumn Festival) Hong Kong Park (Central and Western District) Outdoor facilities 6am to midnight (extended by one hour) Aldrich Bay Park (Eastern District) Water Feature and Fisherman Hut Pavilion 6.30am to 11.30pm (extended by one hour) Ngau Chi Wan Park (Wong Tai Sin District) 6.30am to midnight (extended by one hour) Tsing Yi Park (Kwai Tsing District) 5.30am to midnight (extended by half an hour) Tsing Yi Northeast Park (Kwai Tsing District) 5.30am to midnight (extended by half an hour) North District Park (North District) 6am to midnight (extended by one hour) September 14 (the day following Mid-Autumn Festival)

Central Lawn of Victoria Park (Wan Chai District)
Temporarily closed from 2am to 5am for cleaning operations

The LCSD appeals to the public to keep places clean and tidy and not to burn wax or fly sky lanterns when celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival.

"To provide a better environment for members of the public to enjoy the festive occasion, we appeal to them not to burn or melt wax. They should not sprinkle or pour liquids onto hot wax. Metal cans or non-flammable containers should be used to collect melted wax for easy disposal into litter bins after the containers cool down," a spokesman for the LCSD said.

"Moreover, members of the public should not throw glow sticks or other objects onto trees, as doing so may cause damage to the trees and affect the cleanliness of venues. Furthermore, they should not fly sky lanterns as it might cause injuries or damage to property."

The spokesman said patrols will be stepped up at the department's venues including parks, public beaches and barbecue sites on September 13 and 14. About 1 000 staff will be deployed to take enforcement action against littering, wax burning, throwing objects onto trees and flying sky lanterns on these two nights.

Members of the public may call the LCSD's hotline on 2414 5555 to report any wax burning or flying sky lantern cases, or other irregularities found at LCSD venues.

According to the Pleasure Grounds Regulation, no person shall, in any pleasure ground, melt or burn any wax; sprinkle or pour any liquid onto any hot wax; damage any part of any tree, shrub or plant; or fly kites, model aircraft, balloons or other devices (including sky lanterns). According to the Bathing Beaches Regulation, no person shall, on any bathing beach, do any act which is likely to endanger or obstruct any other person using the beach, or damage, deface or pollute the beach or anything situated thereon. Any person who is convicted is liable to a maximum fine of \$2,000 and 14 days' imprisonment.

Littering offenders will be issued with a fixed penalty notice with a fine of \$1,500, while those who burn wax, throw objects onto trees or fly sky lanterns might be prosecuted.