

Government announces quarterly land sale programme for July to September 2018

The Government announced today (July 3) the quarterly land sale programme for the second quarter of 2018-19, i.e. July to September 2018.

"In the second quarter of 2018-19, the Government will sell by tender five residential sites, which are estimated to produce about 1 850 flats in total. Including supply from other sources, the private housing land supply in the second quarter of 2018-19 is estimated to have a capacity to produce about 2 750 flats in total," the Secretary for Development, Mr Michael Wong, said.

Five residential sites will be put up for sale in the second quarter of 2018-19, with one each in Lantau, the Peak and Tuen Mun respectively, and the remaining two in Kai Tak. In the same quarter, the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) plans to tender Package 2 of the Ho Man Tin Station project, which can provide about 900 flats.

Mr Wong reviewed the private housing land supply situation in the first half of 2018-19. The private housing land supply in the first quarter of 2018-19, which comprises one residential site put up for sale by the Government, the MTRCL's Yau Tong Ventilation Building project and Package 3 of the Wong Chuk Hang Station project, the Urban Renewal Authority's project at Tung Chau Street/Kweilin Street in Sham Shui Po, and private development/redevelopment projects, has a capacity to provide about 3 260 flats in total. Together with the supply in the second quarter, the total private housing land supply in the first half of 2018-19 is estimated to produce about 6 000 flats.

In addition, an industrial site in Fanling, which is capable of providing about 18 800 square metres of gross floor area, is currently being tendered.

On the reallocation of sites originally designated for private housing development to public housing use, Mr Wong remarked that the Government has been reviewing the situation in response to the community's needs for housing land.

"While the pool of available sites to be rolled out for private housing in the short term will be reduced after the reallocation of some private housing sites for public housing development, the Government will, taking into account other land supply sources and market conditions, continue to put up for sale suitable private housing sites in the remaining two quarters to meet the annual target of providing land with a capacity to produce about 18 000 private units," he said.

"As in the past, we will spare no effort in identifying additional sites for development under a multi-pronged strategy to meet the community's demand for land for housing, economic and other community use," he added.

In line with past practice, the Government will retain the flexibility to make adjustments in the course of the year after the announcement of the annual land sale programme.

The list of the sites to be tendered in July to September 2018 is attached. The actual tender timetable will be drawn up taking into account the progress of necessary preparatory work. The Lands Department will separately announce the detailed land sale arrangements before individual sites are tendered.

Opening remarks by SDEV on land sale programme for July to September 2018

Following is the transcript of the opening remarks by the Secretary for Development, Mr Michael Wong, at a media session today (July 3) on the land sale programme for July to September 2018:

In the second quarter of 2018-19, the Government will sell by tender five residential sites, estimated to produce about 1 850 flats. The sites are located one each in Lantau, the Peak and Tuen Mun respectively, with the remaining two in Kai Tak. Separately, Package 2 of MTR's Ho Man Tin Station project will produce about 900 flats. The private housing land supply in this quarter is therefore estimated to produce about 2 750 flats in total.

Together with the residential land supply in the first quarter, the total private housing land supply in the first half of 2018-19 from all sources is about 6 000 flats.

While the pool of available sites to be rolled out for private housing in the short term will be reduced after the re-allocation of some private housing sites for public housing development, the Government will, taking into account other land supply sources and market conditions, continue to put up for sale suitable private housing sites in the remaining two quarters to meet the annual target of providing land with a capacity to produce about 18 000 private units.

Thank you.

Tender for the re-opening of 10-year Government Bonds under the Institutional Bond Issuance Programme to be held on July 11, 2018

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), as representative of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government (HKSAR Government), announces today (July 3) that a tender of 10-year Government Bonds (Bonds) through the re-opening of existing 10-year Government Bond issue 10GB2706 under the Institutional Bond Issuance Programme will be held on July 11, 2018 (Wednesday) for settlement on July 12, 2018 (Thursday).

An additional amount of HK\$1.2 billion of the outstanding 10-year Bonds (issue no. 10GB2706) will be on offer. The Bonds will mature on June 29, 2027 and will carry interest at the rate of 1.25 per cent per annum payable semi-annually in arrears. The Indicative Pricings of the Bonds on July 3, 2018 is 92.15 with an annualised yield of 2.231 per cent.

Under the Institutional Bond Issuance Programme, tender is open only to Recognized Dealers which are appointed as Primary Dealers. Anyone wishing to apply for the Bonds on offer can do so through any of the Primary Dealers on the current published list, which can be obtained from the Government Bond Programme's website at www.hkgb.gov.hk; Each tender must be for an amount of HK\$50,000 or integral multiples thereof.

Tender results will be published on the HKMA's website, the Government Bond Programme's website, the Reuters screen (HKGBINDEX), and Bloomberg (GBHK <GO>) not later than 3pm on the tender day.

HKSAR Government Institutional Bond Issuance Programme Tender Information

Tender information of re-opening of 10-year Government Bonds under the Institutional Bond Issuance Programme:

Issue Number	:	10GB2706 (Re-open)
Stock code	:	4235 (HKGB 1.25 2706)
Tender Date and Time	:	July 11, 2018 (Wednesday) 9.30am to 10.30am

Issue and Settlement

Date for tender amount : July 12, 2018 (Thursday)

Amount on Offer : HK\$1.2 billion

Maturity : 10 years

Remaining Maturity : Approximately 8.97 years

Maturity Date : June 29, 2027

Interest Rate : 1.25 per cent p.a. payable semi-annually in arrears

Interest Payment Dates :
December 31, 2018
June 28, 2019
December 30, 2019
June 29, 2020
December 29, 2020
June 29, 2021
December 29, 2021
June 29, 2022
December 29, 2022
June 29, 2023
December 29, 2023
June 28, 2024
December 30, 2024
June 30, 2025
December 29, 2025
June 29, 2026
December 29, 2026
June 29, 2027

Method of Tender : Competitive tender

Each competitive tender must be for an amount of HK\$50,000 or integral multiples thereof. Any tender applications for the Bonds must be submitted through a Primary Dealer on the current published list.

Tender Amount : The accrued interest to be paid by successful bidders on the issue date (July 12, 2018) for the tender amount is HK\$22.26 per minimum denomination of HK\$50,000.

(The accrued interest to be paid for tender amount exceeding HK\$50,000 may not be exactly equal to the figures calculated from the accrued interest per minimum denomination of HK\$50,000 due to rounding).

Other details : Please see Information Memorandum available on the Government Bond Programme's website at www.hkgb.gov.hk or approach Primary Dealers.

Expected commencement date of dealing on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited : The tender amount is fully fungible with the existing 10GB2706 (Stock code: 4235) listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong.

Price/Yield Table of the re-opening Government Bonds at tender for reference* only:

Yield-to-Maturity	Price	Yield-to-Maturity	Price
1.231	100.19	2.231	92.16
1.281	99.77	2.281	91.78
1.331	99.35	2.331	91.40
1.381	98.94	2.381	91.03
1.431	98.52	2.431	90.65
1.481	98.11	2.481	90.27
1.531	97.70	2.531	89.90
1.581	97.29	2.581	89.53
1.631	96.89	2.631	89.16
1.681	96.48	2.681	88.80
1.731	96.08	2.731	88.43
1.781	95.68	2.781	88.07
1.831	95.28	2.831	87.70
1.881	94.89	2.881	87.34
1.931	94.49	2.931	86.99
1.981	94.10	2.981	86.63
2.031	93.71	3.031	86.27
2.081	93.32	3.081	85.92
2.131	92.93	3.131	85.57
2.181	92.55	3.181	85.22
2.231	92.16	3.231	84.87

* Disclaimer

The information provided here is for reference only. Although extreme care has been taken to ensure that the information provided is accurate and up-to-date, the HKMA does not warrant that all, or any part of, the information provided is accurate in all respects. You are encouraged to conduct your own enquiries to verify any particular piece of information provided on it. The HKMA shall not be liable for any loss or damage suffered as a result of any use or reliance on any of the information provided here.

Two Hong Kong resident employers and four illegal workers jailed

Two Hong Kong resident employers and four Indonesian illegal workers were jailed at Shatin and Tuen Mun Magistrates' Courts on June 29 and 30 respectively.

During an operation conducted by the Immigration Department (ImmD) codenamed "Twilight" on November 1, 2017, and a joint operation conducted by the ImmD and the Hong Kong Police Force codenamed "Champion" on February 6, enforcement officers raided a restaurant in Tsuen Wan and a container terminal in Kwai Chung respectively. Two Vietnamese illegal workers and one Bangladeshi illegal worker were arrested. Two Hong Kong resident employers of the illegal workers were also arrested during the operations.

The illegal workers were jailed by Shatin Magistrates' Courts earlier. The two Hong Kong resident employers were charged at Shatin Magistrates' Courts on June 29 for being an employer of a person who was not lawfully employable as they did not take all practicable steps to ascertain whether the applicants were lawfully employable prior to employment. After trial, they were sentenced to three months' imprisonment and six weeks' imprisonment.

In addition, during a joint operation conducted by the ImmD and the Hong Kong Police Force codenamed "Powerplayer" on June 27, enforcement officers raided a restaurant in Jordan. Two Indonesian female illegal workers, aged 38 and 39, were arrested. When intercepted, they were performing kitchen work. Upon identity checking, they produced for inspection recognisance forms issued by the ImmD, which prohibit them from taking employment. Further investigation revealed that they were non-refoulement claimants.

Furthermore, during an anti-illegal worker operation mounted on June 27, ImmD investigators raided a restaurant in Yuen Long. Two female Indonesian illegal workers, aged 36 and 41, were arrested. When intercepted, they were serving customers and performing dish washing duty respectively. Upon identity checking, one of them produced for inspection a recognisance form issued by the ImmD, which prohibits her from taking employment. Further investigation revealed that she was a non-refoulement claimant. The other woman was an overstaying foreign domestic helper (FDH). They were also suspected of using and being in possession of Hong Kong identity cards relating to other persons. Meanwhile, a Hong Kong resident employer suspected of employing the illegal workers was also arrested and the investigation is ongoing.

The three illegal workers holding recognisance forms were charged at Shatin and Tuen Mun Magistrates' Courts on June 29 and 30 respectively with

taking employment after landing in Hong Kong unlawfully and remaining in Hong Kong without the authority of the Director of Immigration or while being a person in respect of whom a removal order or deportation order was in force. They pleaded guilty to the charges and were sentenced to 15 to 16 months' imprisonment. In addition, one of them was also charged with one count of using a Hong Kong identity card relating to another person and one count of possessing a Hong Kong identity card related to another person. She was sentenced to 15 months and 12 months' imprisonment respectively. All sentences are to run concurrently, making a total of 15 months' imprisonment. For the other illegal worker, she was charged at Shatin Magistrates' Courts on June 29 with one count of breaching conditions of stay by taking up unapproved employment in Hong Kong as an FDH. She pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment. She was also charged with one count of overstaying and one count of using a Hong Kong identity card related to another person. She was sentenced to 16 days and 15 months' imprisonment respectively. All sentences are to run concurrently, making a total of 15 months' imprisonment.

The ImmD spokesman warned that, as stipulated in section 38AA of the Immigration Ordinance, illegal immigrants or people who are the subject of a removal order or a deportation order are prohibited from taking any employment, whether paid or unpaid, or establishing or joining in any business. Offenders are liable upon conviction to a maximum fine of \$50,000 and up to three years' imprisonment. The Court of Appeal has issued a guideline ruling that a sentence of 15 months' imprisonment should be applied in such cases.

The ImmD spokesman stressed that any person who contravenes a condition of stay in force in respect of him shall be guilty of an offence. An FDH should only take up employment as such and reside at the contractual address as stipulated in the contract, as approved by the Director of Immigration. Offenders are liable to criminal prosecution and upon conviction to a maximum fine of \$50,000 and imprisonment for two years. Aiders and abettors are also liable to prosecution.

The spokesman also warned that it is an offence to use or possess a forged Hong Kong identity card or an identity card relating to another person. Offenders are liable to prosecution and a maximum penalty of a \$100,000 fine and up to 10 years' imprisonment.

The spokesman reiterated that it is a serious offence to employ people who are not lawfully employable. The maximum penalty is imprisonment for three years and a fine of \$350,000. The High Court has laid down sentencing guidelines that the employer of an illegal worker should be given an immediate custodial sentence. According to the court sentencing, employers must take all practicable steps to determine whether a person is lawfully employable prior to employment. Apart from inspecting a prospective employee's identity card, the employer has the explicit duty to make enquiries regarding the person and ensure that the answers would not cast any reasonable doubt concerning the lawful employability of the person. The court will not accept failure to do so as a defence in proceedings. It is also an

offence if an employer fails to inspect the job seeker's valid travel document if the job seeker does not have a Hong Kong permanent identity card. The maximum penalty for failing to inspect such a document is imprisonment for one year and a fine of \$150,000.

Under the existing mechanism, the ImmD will, as a standard procedure, conduct initial screening on vulnerable persons, including illegal workers, illegal immigrants, sex workers and foreign domestic helpers, who are arrested during any operation with a view to ascertaining whether they are trafficking in persons (TIP) victims. When any TIP indicator is revealed in the initial screening, the officers will conduct a full debriefing and identification by using a standardised checklist to ascertain the presence of TIP elements, such as threat and coercion in the recruitment phase and the nature of exploitation. Identified TIP victims will be provided with various forms of support and assistance, including urgent interference, medical services, counselling, shelter, temporary accommodation and other supporting services. The ImmD calls on TIP victims to report crimes to the relevant departments.

[Update on cases of Legionnaires' disease](#)

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health today (July 3) reported the latest number of cases of Legionnaires' disease (LD), and stressed the importance of using and maintaining properly designed man-made water systems, and that susceptible groups should strictly observe relevant precautions.

From June 24 to 30, four community-acquired LD cases were reported. They are:

1. A male patient, aged 70 with underlying illnesses, who lives in Chi Wo House, Wo Che Estate, Sha Tin;
2. A male patient, aged 76 with underlying illnesses, who lived in Kam Ping Building, 63-69 Kam Ping Street, North Point, and had passed away;
3. A male patient, aged 60 with good past health, who lives in Luna Court, 53-59 Kimberly Road, Tsim Sha Tsui; and
4. A male patient, aged 76 with underlying illnesses, who lives in Tung Tat Building, 390-392 Des Voeux Road West, Sai Ying Pun.

"Epidemiological investigations are ongoing to identify potential sources of infection, high-risk exposure and clusters, if any," a spokesman for the CHP said.

As of June 30, 31 LD cases have been reported in 2018. In 2017 and 2016,

there were 72 and 75 cases respectively.

"Men, people aged over 50, smokers, alcoholics and persons with weakened immunity are more susceptible to LD. Some situations may also increase the risk of infection, including poor maintenance of water systems leading to stagnant water; living in areas with old water systems, cooling towers or fountains; using electric water heaters, whirlpools and spas or hot water spring spas; and recent stays in hotels or vessels," the spokesman said.

Legionellae are found in various environmental settings and grow well in warm water (20 to 45 degrees Celsius). They can be found in aqueous environments such as water tanks, hot and cold water systems, cooling towers, whirlpools and spas, water fountains and home apparatus which support breathing. People may get infected when they breathe in contaminated droplets (aerosols) and mist generated by artificial water systems, or when handling garden soil, compost and potting mixes.

Immunocompromised persons should:

- Use sterile or boiled water for drinking, tooth brushing and mouth rinsing;
- Avoid using humidifiers, or other mist- or aerosol-generating devices. A shower may also generate small aerosols; and
- If using these devices, fill the water tank with only sterile or cooled freshly boiled water, and not tap water. Also, clean and maintain them regularly according to manufacturers' instructions. Never leave stagnant water. Empty the water tank, wipe all surfaces dry, and change the water daily.

The public should observe the health advice below:

- Observe personal hygiene;
- Do not smoke and avoid alcohol;
- Strainers in water taps and shower heads should be inspected, cleaned, descaled and disinfected regularly or at a frequency recommended by the manufacturer;
- If a fresh water plumbing system is properly maintained, it is not necessary to install domestic water filters. Use of water filters is not encouraged as clogging occurs easily, which can promote growth of micro-organisms. In case water filters are used, the pore size should be 0.2 micrometres (μm) and the filter needs to be changed periodically according to the manufacturer's recommendations;
- Drain and clean water tanks of buildings at least quarterly;
- Drain or purge for at least one minute the infrequently used water outlets (e.g. water taps, shower heads and hot water outlets) and stagnant points of the pipework weekly or before use;
- Seek and follow medical advice regarding the use and maintenance of home respiratory devices and use only sterile (not distilled or tap) water to clean and fill the reservoir. Clean and maintain them regularly

according to the manufacturer's instructions. After cleaning/disinfection, rinse the device with sterile water, cooled freshly boiled water or water filtered with 0.2-µm filters. Never leave stagnant water. Empty the water tank, keep all surfaces dry, and change the water daily; and

- When handling garden soil, compost and potting mixes:

1. Water gardens and compost gently using low pressure;
2. Open composted potting mixes slowly and make sure the opening is directed away from the face;
3. Wet the soil to reduce dust when potting plants; and
4. Avoid working in poorly ventilated places such as enclosed greenhouses.

The public may visit the CHP's [LD page](#), the [Code of Practice for Prevention of LD](#) and the [Housekeeping Guidelines for Cold and Hot Water Systems for Building Management](#) of the Prevention of LD Committee, and the CHP's [risk-based strategy](#) for prevention and control of LD.