

Appointments to Law Reform Commission

The following is issued on behalf of the Law Reform Commission:

The Law Reform Commission (LRC) today (December 31) announced that Mr Michael Jackson has been appointed by the Chief Executive as a new member of the LRC for three years with effect from January 1, 2024.

Mr Jackson, who is currently the Head of the Department of Law of the University of Hong Kong, will succeed Professor Fu Hualing, who has completed his three-year term as an LRC member. Being an acknowledged specialist in criminal law and procedure, Mr Jackson also has a keen interest in, for example, cybercrime and privacy and data protection law. Over the years, Mr Jackson has authored various legal publications on his areas of research. The LRC welcomes the appointment of Mr Jackson who is no stranger to law reform work as he served in the LRC's Sub-committee on Fraud between 1988 and 1992.

In addition, Mr Stephen Hung Wan-shun has been reappointed by the Chief Executive as a member of the LRC for a second three-year term with effect from January 1, 2024.

Mr Hung is a seasoned criminal law practitioner and was also the President of the Law Society of Hong Kong. He was first appointed to the LRC on January 1, 2021. The LRC believes that Mr Hung's expertise and commitment will continue to benefit the work of law reform in Hong Kong.

The Secretary for Justice, Mr Paul Lam, SC, who is also the Chairman of the LRC, expressed his appreciation to Professor Fu and Mr Hung for their valuable contributions to the LRC's work over the past three years.

With these latest appointments, the LRC comprises the following members:

Secretary for Justice (Chairman)
Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal (ex officio member)
Law Draftsman (ex officio member)
Mr Justice Johnson Lam Man-hon
Ms Winnie Tam Wan-chi, SC
Ms May Chan Suk-mei
Professor Lutz-Christian Wolff
Mr Stephen Hung Wan-shun
Mrs Janice Choi Kwan Wing-kum
Mr Chan Chak-ming
Mrs Margaret Leung Ko May-yee
Professor Alexander Loke
Mr Michael Jackson

[Yellow fire danger warning](#)

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Yellow fire danger warning

The fire danger situation today (December 31) is yellow and the risk of fire is high. People are urged to prevent fires breaking out and hikers should also be vigilant.

[17th round of computer ballot registration for submitting applications for Northbound Travel for Hong Kong Vehicles to open January 1 to 4](#)

The Transport Department today (December 31) reminded members of the public that the 17th round of computer ballot registration for submitting applications for Northbound Travel for Hong Kong Vehicles (the scheme) will be open from 10am tomorrow (January 1) to 11.59pm on January 4, and the ballot result will be announced on January 5.

Eligible applicants for the scheme can register for computer balloting through the designated website (www.hzmbqfs.gov.hk). Successful balloting applicants are required to submit applications for the scheme within the designated date and time randomly allocated by the computer system.

[Retired train restored to former glory](#)

Following painstaking work by Leisure and Cultural Services Department conservationists, Diesel Electric Engine No. 60, or "Peter Quick", has been restored and transferred to its new home at the Railway Museum.

News.gov.hk spoke with the conservation team to learn more about their meticulous efforts and the challenges they faced in restoring and

transporting the engine. Meanwhile the museum outlined how its new exhibit can enhance visitors' understanding of Hong Kong's railway history.

The story is available at www.news.gov.hk/eng/feature today (December 31) in text and video format.

[Interdepartmental efforts in prevention and control of African Swine Fever \(with photo\)](#)

In view of the local multiple outbreaks of African Swine Fever (ASF) recently, an interdepartmental meeting convened by the Acting Secretary for Environment and Ecology, Miss Diane Wong, was held today (December 30) with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) and the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) to plan for various works to stop virus transmission in local pig farms. International veterinary expert, Dr Leslie Sims, has also been invited to attend the meeting and to provide expert opinions.

Miss Wong said, "The Government has attached great importance to the impact of ASF to local pig farmers and the pig rearing industry, and has been closely monitoring the latest developments. While ASF is not a zoonotic disease and will not infect humans or cause any food safety risk, it could cause massive infection in pigs within a short period of time, and the death rate of infected pigs is very high. If the spread is not contained, it will seriously impact pig farmers and the pig rearing industry. As such, we should seriously and promptly respond in order to stop virus transmission in local pig farms."

The expert recognised the measures currently adopted by relevant departments and will finalise the recommendations on further enhanced measures with the AFCD in the coming few days. The AFCD will discuss with the pig rearing industry on the implementation of the enhanced measures so as to control the transmission of ASF at the soonest.

She added that, "Our aim is to exercise precautions before the spread of the virus, so as to block the transmission of ASF in local pig farms."

The AFCD has conducted investigations on the source of virus in pig farms where infected pigs have been identified, as well as stepping up the surveillance of the activities of nearby wild pigs. The AFCD held a seminar for pig farmers on specific preventive measures and biosecurity advice against ASF. The Guidelines for Reporting Cases of African Swine Fever has been launched by the AFCD with a view to assisting pig farmers in identifying

suspected cases for early reporting. Also, the AFCD is conducting visits in phases to all local licensed pig farms to ensure biosecurity measures have been properly implemented. To enhance transparency, the AFCD is maintaining close liaison with pig farmers via messaging groups, keeping them informed of the latest situation of ASF and ways of prevention. The FEHD will continue to stringently impose daily clearance arrangement and conduct cleaning and disinfection of Mainland and local live pig transportation vehicles at slaughterhouses. The FEHD and the EPD have also enhanced the handling of pig carcasses and pig feces respectively. The departments have strengthened the cleaning and disinfection arrangements in all areas.

