

## LCQ20: Measures to enhance slope safety

Following is a question by Dr the Hon Johnny Ng and a written reply by the Acting Secretary for Development, Mr David Lam, in the Legislative Council today (November 8):

Question:

It has been reported that the once-in-a-century torrential rain in September this year caused a number of landslide incidents, in which cases involving unauthorised building works (UBWs) carried out by some private owners on slopes were uncovered. Regarding the measures to enhance slope safety, will the Government inform this Council:

(1) of the current respective numbers of government and privately-owned man-made slopes and natural hillsides in various districts; whether it has conducted regular examination and assessment on the level of risks of such slopes; if so, of the number of slopes with landslide risks (set out in a table), and whether it will carry out comprehensive inspections on such slopes before the advent of the new rainy season; if so, of the relevant work plan and timetable; if not, the reasons for that;

(2) of (i) the respective numbers of landslides which occurred on privately-owned natural hillsides and man-made slopes, as well as the resultant casualties, and (ii) the number of non-compliant Dangerous Hillside Orders issued by the authorities and the main reasons for non-compliance, in each of the past three years;

(3) whether it (i) carried out inspections on private slopes to verify the existence of UBWs, (ii) issued removal orders to and instigated prosecutions against the relevant owners, and (iii) made assessments on the number of such slopes having the danger of collapse, with the relevant owners being required to undertake slope upgrading works, in the past three years; if so, of the details and numbers; if not, the reasons for that; and

(4) in order to prevent the problem of UBWs on slopes, whether the authorities will increase the penalties or even impose criminal liabilities, including imposing progressive penalties against cases of non-compliance with removal orders within the deadline, as well as recovering the costs of repair works from the relevant non-compliant owners?

Reply:

President,

The Government has been implementing an effective slope safety system to improve slope safety in Hong Kong and has kept enhancing the capability in

coping with landslide risk through the following strategies:

(i) carrying out regular inspection and preventive maintenance for government slopes, requiring private owners to fulfill their duties in maintaining their slopes, and exercising geotechnical control on public works and private development projects to ensure slope safety;

(ii) continuing the Landslip Prevention and Mitigation Programme (LPMitP) to systematically carry out slope upgrading works for government man-made slopes, safety screening studies for private man-made slopes and risk mitigation works for natural hillside catchments according to a risk-based approach for strengthening slopes against inclement weather; and

(iii) reviewing the slope management in Hong Kong and advising the Government on technical aspects by international experts regularly, with the aim of continuously improving the quality of slope management.

At present, the overall landslide risk in Hong Kong has been substantially reduced compared with that existed in the 1970s and the 1980s, reaching the international best practice in risk management.

My respective replies to the various parts of Dr the Hon Ng's question are as follows:

(1) As at September 2023, there are about 61 000 registered man-made slopes in different districts in the Catalogue of Slopes kept by the Geotechnical Engineering Office (GEO) under the Civil Engineering and Development Department. Among them, about 45 000 are government man-made slopes and about 16 000 are private man-made slopes.

According to the Guide to Slope Maintenance published by the GEO, relevant government departments are required to inspect their man-made slopes with maintenance responsibility every one to two years, and to carry out necessary maintenance, e.g. strengthening the slope surface cover and improving the drainage system. Meanwhile, the Slope Maintenance Audit Unit in the GEO also provides technical assistance and advice to the maintenance departments. Private owners should also follow the same requirements to carry out inspection and maintenance for all slopes on their private lots and in areas specified under the land lease conditions.

Hong Kong has a hilly terrain with many natural hillsides. Compared with man-made slopes, natural hillsides are mostly located in remote areas with relatively low potential risks. For those natural hillsides closer to existing developments, there is a buffer zone between them and the residential buildings and roads in general. At present, the GEO has identified about 3 300 natural hillside catchments relatively close to existing buildings and important transport corridors for study.

Before every wet season, the GEO will remind private owners to complete all regular slope inspections and the necessary slope maintenance before the onset of wet season through pre-wet season media briefings, letters, social

media posts, television and radio Announcements in the Public Interest, etc. This can reduce the chance of landslides and safeguard public safety.

In addition to routine inspection and maintenance to ensure slope safety, the GEO also continues the LPMitP to further systematically upgrade man-made slopes and natural hillside catchments. Among about 45 000 government man-made slopes, there are about 17 000 slopes with relatively low potential impacts (e.g. locating near lightly used access roads, remote places and country parks); and there are about 15 000 slopes with relatively high potential impacts (e.g. locating near residential buildings, hospitals, and schools) and moderate potential impacts (e.g. locating near major infrastructures, heavily used roads and footpaths) that have been upgraded in the early years. Under the LPMitP, the GEO will deal with about 13 000 remaining man-made slopes with moderate potential impacts. Furthermore, the GEO will select private slopes for safety-screening studies every year. At present, screening has been completed for about 6 400 private man-made slopes. The GEO also implements risk mitigation measures for about 3 300 identified natural hillside catchments in an orderly manner, based on their potential impacts to the surroundings.

Through the above measures, the number of landslides in recent years has been significantly reduced, and the casualties caused by landslides have also been noticeably reduced. In response to the recent Super Typhoon and the torrential rain, the Government will adopt a more pre-emptive and strategic approach, and strengthen the resilience of dealing with landslides as follows:

(i) exploring ways to use big data, artificial intelligence and other technology to improve our risk assessment capabilities; and

(ii) conducting systematic investigations and studies on major landslide incidents triggered by extreme rainstorms and devising focused measures of landslide mitigation for more natural hillsides.

(2) and (3) Owners are responsible for the proper maintenance and repair of all slopes on their private lots and in areas specified under the land lease conditions. To further enhance public safety, the GEO will select private slopes for safety-screening studies under the LPMitP every year, and recommend the Buildings Department (BD) to issue Dangerous Hillside Orders (DHO) to the relevant private slope owners based on the study findings. At present, screening has been completed for about 6 400 private man-made slopes. When a private man-made slope is found to be dangerous or liable to become dangerous by the GEO or the government departments received reports, the BD will serve a DHO on private slope owners under the Buildings Ordinance (BO) (Cap. 123), requiring them to carry out investigation and necessary remedial/preventive works to the slope (slope works).

In the past three years, the GEO did not receive any landslide report in natural hillside within private land. The number of landslide reports on private man-made slopes and casualties involved are tabulated in Table 1 below:

Table 1		
Year	Private man-made slopes	
	Number of landslide reports received by the GEO	Casualties
2020	12	0
2021	13	0
2022	6	0

The number of DHOs issued by the BD and the number of expired DHOs which have not been complied with and the number of prosecutions in the past three years are tabulated in Table 2. The BD does not compile breakdown statistics on inspections of unauthorised building works (UBWs) on slopes or relevant removal orders and prosecutions.

Table 2			
Year	Private man-made slopes and natural hillsides		
	Number of DHOs issued	Number of expired DHOs which have not been complied with	Number of prosecutions
2020	59	16	4
2021	45	27	14
2022	35	29	21

Note: As the handling of a case may straddle different years, the numbers of expired DHOs which have not been complied with and the number of prosecutions in a year may not correspond with the number of DHOs issued within the same year.

It is understood that one of the reasons for non-compliance with DHOs is that, when the slopes are located in the common areas with shared ownership, co-owners may need time to discuss and agree on matters related to investigation and repair works, including appointment of professionals, concrete proposals for the works, estimated expenditure and cost apportionment. In addition, disputes over ownership and maintenance responsibility, owners or occupiers' refusal to grant access to the premises to work staff, financial difficulties and other factors would also impede the progress of compliance with orders. The BD will continue to follow up with non-compliance with expired DHOs, including to consider instigating prosecution against the owners concerned whom without reasonable excuse.

(4) If owners, without reasonable excuse, fail to comply with the DHOs in

carrying out investigation and the slope works required, the BD will consider instigating prosecution against the owners concerned. They shall be liable on conviction to a fine of \$50,000 and to imprisonment for one year; and to a further fine of \$5,000 for each day during which the situation of failure to comply with the order has continued. For failure to comply with removal orders against UBWs without reasonable excuse, the owners shall be liable on conviction to a fine of \$200,000 and to imprisonment for one year; and to a fine of \$20,000 for each day during which the offence has continued. The BD may also carry out the works in the event of default by the owners in accordance with the B0, and recover the costs of such works, together with supervision charges and surcharges of not exceeding 20 per cent of the costs, from the owners concerned upon completion of the works.

As announced in the Policy Address, we will comprehensively review the B0 to strengthen the BD's enforcement power by exploring raising the penalties, considering streamlining the prosecution procedures and lowering the prosecution threshold to effectively combat UBWs and other contraventions of the B0. We will put forward the proposed amendments next year.

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## **CFS announces test results of targeted surveillance on nutrition labelling of prepackaged instant noodles**

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department today (November 8) released the test results of a targeted food surveillance project on the nutrition labelling of prepackaged instant noodles. The results of 40 samples tested were all satisfactory.

"The CFS collected samples from different retail outlets for the targeted food surveillance project. Tests were conducted to check if the energy content and specified nutrient content (total fat, saturated fat, trans fat, sugars, sodium, protein, carbohydrates, and more) are consistent with the declared values on their nutrition labels," a spokesman for the CFS said.

The Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Regulations (Cap. 132W) require all applicable prepackaged foods to list the ingredients and the content of energy plus seven core nutrients, namely carbohydrates, protein, total fat, saturated fat, trans fat, sodium and sugars, and regulate any associated nutrition claims.

Nutrition labelling can assist consumers in making informed food choices, encourage food manufacturers to apply sound nutrition principles in the formulation of foods, and regulate misleading or deceptive labels and

claims. According to Section 61 of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132), if any person falsely describes food or misleads as to the nature, substance or quality of the food on a label of the food sold by him or her, he or she shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a maximum fine of \$50,000 and six months' imprisonment upon conviction.

The CFS will continue to conduct surveillance on other food samples to check if their energy content and specified nutrient content are consistent with the declared values on their nutrition labels, and the results will be released in due course. The spokesman reminded the food trade to comply with the law, and urged members of the public to pay attention to the information on nutrition labels when purchasing food to make informed food choices so as to achieve a balanced diet and stay healthy.

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## **LCQ17: Provision of diagnoses and treatments for eczema patients**

Following is a question by the Hon Chan Hoi-yan and a written reply by the Acting Secretary for Health, Dr Libby Lee, in the Legislative Council today (November 8):

Question:

At present, the Hospital Authority does not offer specialist outpatient services on dermatology, and relevant services are provided by the nine dermatology clinics under the Department of Health (DH). However, it has been reported that the waiting time for such clinics is too long. Regarding the provision of diagnoses and treatments for eczema patients, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it knows the number of eczema patients seeking consultation at public hospitals because of eczema in each of the past five years;
- (2) whether it knows the respective numbers of patients with severe eczema who were referred to the dermatology clinics for follow-up through private healthcare institutions and public hospitals in each of the past five years;
- (3) whether it knows the longest, shortest and average waiting time of new cases at the dermatology clinics in each of the past five years (set out in a table);
- (4) whether it knows the total number of specialists in dermatology in the public healthcare system at present and, among them, the respective numbers of those working in DH and those who are residents at public hospitals; and
- (5) whether it will consider establishing a "dermatology specialist treatment

centre" to centrally handle severe eczema cases, and setting up a fleet of "mobile clinics for dermatology specialist services" to provide nursing care for eczema patients with relatively mild conditions in the community, so as to divert eczema patients to different units for receiving services; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

Reply:

President,

Eczema is a common group of skin diseases. The main symptoms are itch, redness, swelling or dryness and cracking of the skin. Most cases presented with mild symptoms, and are diagnosed and managed mainly by doctors in primary healthcare. Generally, the condition can be improved and controlled after being prescribed mild to moderate topical steroid ointments and strengthening skin care. For more serious or urgent cases, doctors would refer the patients to dermatology clinics under the Social Hygiene Service of the Department of Health (DH).

In dermatology specialists' service, topical steroids or non-steroid ointments and oral anti-itch drugs of different strengths are prescribed according to the conditions of the patients, with strengthened skin care education, checking and avoiding of skin irritants or possible allergens that may be exposed in daily life, and follow-up on medication compliance. For some of the cases where the condition of the patient is not satisfactorily improved, the use of systemic oral drugs or light therapy would be further considered according to the therapeutic ladder.

The reply, in consultation with the DH and the Hospital Authority (HA), to the question raised by the Hon Chan Hoi-yan is as follows:

(1) The numbers of patients diagnosed with eczema in the General Out-patient Clinics (GOPCs) of the HA in the past five years are as follows:

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Number of eczema patients in GOPCs	82 093	77 054	81 843	74 768	56 028

Note: The Specialist Out-patient Clinics under the HA does not maintain statistics on eczema patients.

(2) and (3) According to the data maintained by the DH, in 2022 (full year) and 2023 (as at September 30), there were 32 696 and 25 104 new cases respectively referred to the DH (including referrals from private medical institutions and public hospitals). Among them, 3 923 (12 per cent) and 3 665 (14.6 per cent) cases respectively were assessed and triaged as new cases with serious skin diseases. The DH does not maintain the statistics of patients with severe eczema referred to dermatology clinics from private medical institutions and public hospitals respectively.

With effect from 2018, the Social Hygiene Service under the DH has

adopted a triage system for new cases in dermatology specialty to ensure new cases with serious skin diseases will be cared with priority. This type of new cases will in general be arranged to be seen within eight weeks.

The DH started to maintain the information of case waiting time systematically since the fourth quarter of 2021. In 2022 and 2023 (as at September 30), all new cases with serious skin diseases were arranged to be seen within eight weeks according to the performance pledge, with a median waiting time of 2.7 and 2.9 weeks respectively. As for other new cases with stable condition, the median waiting time was both 90 weeks, while the overall longest waiting time was 178 weeks and 183 weeks respectively.

(4) and (5) Currently, there are 116 specialists in Dermatology and Venereology on the Specialist Register of the Medical Council of Hong Kong in Hong Kong where most are in private practice. There are 29 doctors serving in the Social Hygiene Service under the DH. Among them, nine are specialists in Dermatology and Venereology, while the remaining 20 doctors are members of the Hong Kong College of Physicians and have finished Basic Physician Training. For the HA, there are eight doctors providing dermatology services, among whom four are specialists in Dermatology and Venereology. In addition to consultation, specialists in the Social Hygiene Service under the DH also provide support and coaching to other doctors in the Social Hygiene Service to maintain and improve the service quality of local dermatology specialty and to train more local specialists in Dermatology.

Eczema patients with relatively mild conditions are generally manageable by the primary healthcare doctors whom they are familiar with in a holistic approach and most cases do not require referral to dermatology clinics for follow-up. There are a total of nine clinics under the Social Hygiene Service of the DH that provide specialist dermatology service in different districts. These clinics can provide convenient and accessible service for cases with more serious or urgent cases which require referral to dermatology clinics. There is no current plan for the Government to set up treatment centre to treat serious eczema cases in a centralised way.

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## [LCQ8: Measures to prevent the spread of Mpox](#)

Following is a question by Dr the Hon Dennis Lam and a written reply by the Acting Secretary for Health, Dr Libby Lee, in the Legislative Council today (November 8):

Question:

It has been reported that a number of confirmed cases of Mpox have been recorded in Hong Kong this year, whilst the National Health Commission has



since September this year included Mpox in the management of Class B infectious diseases, which is on a par with the Coronavirus Disease 2019. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

(1) of the number of people who have received Mpox vaccination under the Mpox vaccination programme for high-risk groups since the programme was launched by the authorities in October last year;

(2) of the current promotion and publicity programmes for Mpox vaccination for high-risk groups; and

(3) of the current measures to prevent the spread of Mpox from overseas into Hong Kong?

Reply:

President,

Mpox is a zoonosis caused by monkeypox virus. The first case of human infection of monkeypox virus was reported in 1970. Since May 2022, there has been an outbreak of Mpox in many places around the world, and most cases involved sexual contact. As of November 5, 2023, a total of 52 confirmed cases of Mpox were recorded in Hong Kong.

Mpox is not transmitted through respiratory droplets or aerosols in general, and transmission would not occur through social contact. Proper personal and hand hygiene can help prevent getting infected via contact. However, human-to-human transmission is also possible through respiratory droplets during prolonged face-to-face contact or direct contact with body fluids.

The first few days after infection with Mpox are characterised by fever, intense headache, myalgia and lymphadenopathy. Lesions in mouth and rashes in other part of the body appear about one to three days after onset of fever. The rashes progress from maculopapules to vesicles, pustules and followed by crusts within a period of ten days to two weeks and the rashes typically progress simultaneously at all parts of the body. Patients of Mpox can usually recover on their own with symptoms lasting from 14 to 21 days. The case fatality in previous outbreaks has been between 1 per cent and 10 per cent. In principle, treatment of Mpox includes relief of symptoms, management of complications and prevention of long-term sequelae.

Taking reference to the recommendations of the Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases and the Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases, the Government has commenced the Mpox Vaccination Programme in October 2022, using a third-generation vaccine for contacts of confirmed cases as well as individuals at high risk of exposure on a voluntary basis. With reference to the World Health Organization (WHO)'s recommendation, Mpox cases would be isolated in public hospitals, until all infectious lesions are resolved and the patients become non-infectious. Their local contacts would also be required to undergo medical surveillance. The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) is committed to implementing related

prevention and control measures to prevent massive spread of Mpox in the local community and will continue to keep in view the latest development of international prevention and control strategies.

The reply, in consultation with the Department of Health (DH), to the questions raised by Dr the Hon Dennis Lam is as follows:

(1) Under the Mpox Vaccination Programme for high-risk groups, the following high-risk target groups can receive Mpox vaccination on a voluntary basis at selected centre or clinics under the DH and the Hospital Authority:

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(i) individuals with high-risk sexual practices, e.g. men who have sex with men, having multiple sexual partners, sex workers, or having a history of sexually transmitted infection within the past 12 months;

(ii) healthcare workers responsible for caring of patients with confirmed Mpox;

(iii) laboratory personnel working with zoonotic pox viruses; and

(iv) Animal care personnel with high risk of exposure in case of Mpox occurrence in animals in Hong Kong.

Since the commencement of the programme to October 29, 2023, a total of 14 397 doses of vaccines were administered.

(2) The CHP has been disseminating Mpox information to the public and encouraging high-risk target groups to receive Mpox vaccination through various online and offline channels, including broadcasting Announcements in the Public Interest on television, radio and social media platforms. The CHP has established a dedicated webpage and regularly issues press releases to update the public on the latest developments regarding Mpox.

The CHP has tailored a promotional video specifically for the high-risk target groups and disseminated through dating apps more commonly used by the target groups, as well as collaboration with key opinion leaders on social media platforms. Furthermore, the CHP distributes posters, leaflets and promotional materials through relevant non-governmental organisations at locations likely to be visited by the high-risk target groups as well as in relevant events, with a view to encouraging these high-risk target groups to receive Mpox vaccine. The CHP has also set up an Mpox telephone hotline (2125 2373). The hotline operates from Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) from 9am to 5pm, which enables persons who suspect or are concerned they have had high-risk contact with confirmed patients, to make enquiries and receive relevant health advices.

In addition to the Vaccination Programme, the CHP also holds health talks for staff working at locations with high risk of Mpox infection, which aimed to enhance their understanding of Mpox, recommend infection control measures against Mpox, and provide details of Mpox vaccination.

(3) Having regard to the WHO's recommendation, the DH has been implementing port health measures to prevent Mpox from being introduced into Hong Kong, including dissemination of health message to travellers (e.g. inflight broadcast, distribution of leaflets, promulgating travel health news on its

website and posting posters); and measuring body temperature for travellers arriving Hong Kong at the seaport, Hong Kong International Airport and land boundary control points where those with fever would be further assessed and referred to healthcare facilities for medical assessments.

The DH will continue to maintain close contact with the WHO and closely monitor the Mpox infection cases recorded overseas, as well as the WHO's latest recommendations of port health measures.

Same as locally acquired cases, imported Mpox cases would be isolated in public hospitals, until all infectious lesions are resolved and the patients become non-infectious. The CHP would also conduct contact tracing and their local close contacts would be required to undergo 21 days of medical surveillance. This is to prevent the confirmed Mpox cases to further spread the disease in the community and to lower the risk of the public being exposed to Mpox infection.

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## **LCQ7: "Night Vibes Hong Kong" Campaign**

Following is a question by the Hon Benson Luk and a written reply by the Deputy Financial Secretary, Mr Michael Wong, in the Legislative Council today (November 8):

Question:

The Government announced on September 14 this year the commencement of the "Night Vibes Hong Kong" activities. Different sectors of the community play their part in staging a wealth of attractive night-time events with local characteristics all over the city starting from mid-September, covering, among others, diversified leisure, harbourfront leisure, festive and vibrant, as well as art and cultural experiences to attract patrons to different districts and stimulate consumption. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

(1) whether it has compiled interim statistics or made interim estimations on the "Night Vibes Hong Kong" Campaign; if so, of the following information to date: (i) the number of activities held, (ii) the number of participating commercial organisations, (iii) the number of communities involved, and (iv) the number of participants in various activities; if not, the reasons for that;

(2) of the number of "Night Vibes Hong Kong" activities to be held between now and the next Lunar New Year, and whether it has estimated the number of additional tourists and the economic benefits to be brought to Hong Kong by these activities; if so, of the specific details; if not, the reasons for that;

(3) whether it has plans to regularise some of the "Night Vibes Hong Kong" activities; if so, of the specific details; if not, the reasons for that; and

(4) whether it has formulated short to medium term plans for developing the night-time economy as a whole; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

Reply:

President,

The Government launched the "Night Vibes Hong Kong" Campaign in mid-September this year, staging in collaboration with various organisations a wealth of attractive night-time events with local characteristics covering entertainment, arts, culture, consumption and more across the city. The campaign aims to unite different sectors of the community in creating a dynamic vibe, so that citizens and tourists may experience the vibrancy and energy of Hong Kong's nightlife. Apart from participating in various exciting activities, citizens and tourists may also enjoy special offers from different organisations.

My reply to the Hon Benson Luk's question is as follows:

(1) Since mid-September this year, more than 25 "Night Vibes Hong Kong" events have been or are being held to date. In addition to events organised by government departments, we received overwhelming support from various organisations for the campaign. Night-time activities were held and special offers were provided at over 80 shopping malls, fare concessions were offered by public transport operators and major events such as the National Day Fireworks Display and the Hong Kong Wine & Dine Festival were held. Details of the events could be found at: [www.nightvibeshk.gov.hk/en/events.php](http://www.nightvibeshk.gov.hk/en/events.php).

The "Night Vibes Hong Kong" Campaign has received positive feedback from citizens and tourists since its launch. In respect of night-time events organised by government departments, the lantern carnivals held during the Mid-Autumn Festival recorded an accumulated attendance of around 660 000, with more than 300 000 visited the lantern carnival at Victoria Park. Starting from September 29, the Hong Kong Museum of Art, the Hong Kong Science Museum and the Hong Kong Space Museum have extended their opening hours on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays, with special programmes featured on Saturday evenings. As at October 29, the three museums received a total of over 7 200 visitors during the evening extended hours. Victoria Harbour is a symbol of Hong Kong and as at October 31, some 270 000 people have visited the night-time events on the three harbourfront sites. Other "Night Vibes Hong Kong" activities were also well-received. For instance, the National Day Fireworks Display attracted over 430 000 spectators on both sides of Victoria Harbour, while some 140 000 people participated in the Hong Kong Wine & Dine Festival held at the Central Harbourfront. Individual shopping malls also recorded an increase in visitor flow.

(2) to (4) A series of "Night Vibes Hong Kong" events will continue to be

rolled out. We will continue to provide more choice of activities for citizens during the festivals to enhance the joyful atmosphere. These events include festive activities over Christmas, New Year countdown celebrations and Lunar New Year fairs. The Home and Youth Affairs Bureau will also actively promote the organisation of activities in various districts in the first half of next year. The Government will continue to encourage different organisations to stage attractive night-time events with local characteristics. Citizens and tourists may visit the thematic website "Night Vibes Hong Kong" ([www.nightvibeshk.gov.hk/](http://www.nightvibeshk.gov.hk/)) for the latest event updates.

A variety of events across the territory could create a lively festive atmosphere in Hong Kong and at the same time, bring more businesses for different sectors, such as tourism, retail consumption and catering. Some shopping mall operators have indicated that the Government's promotion of night-time events has stimulated citizens' willingness of spending. Individual retailers have also said that business has seen an increase by 20 per cent to 30 per cent. Relevant government departments will continue to proactively co-ordinate and provide appropriate assistance to the event organisers. We have not made any specific estimation of the number of additional tourists and extra economic benefits that the "Night Vibes Hong Kong" Campaign may bring.

The change of lifestyle habits following the global pandemic would take time to adjust. "Night Vibes Hong Kong" provides more choices of night-time activities in Hong Kong, allowing citizens and tourists to participate in them according to their interest while revitalising the city's nightlife at the same time. We will continue to consider the views of the public, review the effectiveness of the campaign in a timely manner and listen to stakeholders' views on the potential future development. Meanwhile, the Government will keep exploring every possible means to boost our overall economy, including night-time economy.