

## [Notice about shredded banknotes paperweights sold by HKMA](#)

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

It has recently come to the attention of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) that shredded banknotes paperweights sold at the HKMA Information Centre contain pebbles to make them heavier and enhance their function as paperweights. Therefore, the number of shredded banknotes inside each paperweight falls short of the approximate number stated on the paperweight label. If any member of the public who has purchased a paperweight wishes to return the product, they are advised to contact the HKMA Information Centre by calling the Hotline (2878 1111) or by email ([info\\_centre@hkma.gov.hk](mailto:info_centre@hkma.gov.hk)) to arrange for a refund.

The HKMA apologises for any inconvenience caused.

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## [Update on dengue fever](#)

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health today (October 20) reported the latest number of dengue fever (DF) cases, and urged the public to maintain strict environmental hygiene, mosquito control and personal protective measures both locally and during travel.

From October 13 to yesterday (October 19), the CHP recorded two imported DF cases. The patients had been to Vietnam and Thailand respectively during the incubation periods.

As of yesterday, 40 imported cases of DF had been recorded in 2023. In 2022, 26 imported cases of DF were recorded.

The latest surveillance data shows that there is an increase in DF cases noted in some places in Asia (such as Bangladesh, Malaysia, Taiwan and Thailand) compared to the same period last year. Members of the public, while travelling abroad, should stay vigilant and carry out effective mosquito prevention and control measures. Detailed information on the latest DF situation in Hong Kong, as well as neighbouring and overseas countries and areas, has been uploaded to the CHP's website ([www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/df\\_imported\\_cases\\_and\\_overseas\\_figures\\_eng.pdf](http://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/df_imported_cases_and_overseas_figures_eng.pdf)).

"Apart from general measures, travellers returning from areas affected by DF should apply insect repellent for 14 days upon arrival in Hong Kong. If feeling unwell, seek medical advice promptly and provide travel details to the doctor," a spokesman for the CHP said.

The public should take heed of the following advice on mosquito control:

- Thoroughly check all gully traps, roof gutters, surface channels and drains to prevent blockage;
- Scrub and clean drains and surface channels with an alkaline detergent compound at least once a week to remove any deposited mosquito eggs;
- Properly dispose of refuse, such as soft drink cans, empty bottles and boxes, in covered litter containers;
- Completely change the water of flowers and plants at least once a week. The use of saucers should be avoided if possible;
- Level irregular ground surfaces before the rainy season;
- Avoid staying in shrubby areas; and
- Take personal protective measures such as wearing light-coloured long-sleeved clothes and trousers and apply insect repellent containing DEET to clothing or uncovered areas of the body when doing outdoor activities.

DEET-containing insect repellents are effective and the public should take heed of the tips below:

- Read the label instructions carefully first;
- Apply right before entering an area with risk of mosquito bites;
- Apply on exposed skin and clothing;
- Use DEET of up to 30 per cent for pregnant women and up to 10 per cent for children\*;
- Apply sunscreen first, then insect repellent; and
- Re-apply only when needed and follow the instructions.

\* For children who travel to countries or areas where mosquito-borne diseases are endemic or epidemic and where exposure is likely, those aged 2 months or above can use DEET-containing insect repellents with a DEET concentration of up to 30 per cent.

The public should call 1823 in case of mosquito problems and may visit the following pages for more information: the DF page of the [CHP](#) and the [Travel Health Service](#), the latest [Travel Health News](#), [tips for using insect repellents](#), and the CHP [Facebook Page](#) and [YouTube Channel](#).

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**[Crowd safety management measures and special traffic arrangements for Hong](#)**

# Kong Cyclothon

Police will implement crowd safety management measures and special traffic arrangements in Kowloon and New Territories between October 21 and 22 to facilitate the holding of Hong Kong Cyclothon 2023.

In the morning of the event day, the 50km Ride and 30km Ride will start at Salisbury Road outside of the Empire Centre and take route via West Kowloon and New Territories South before finishing at Salisbury Road near the 1881 Heritage. Other races will also be held at East Tsim Sha Tsui and Hung Hom area.

Depending on the prevailing crowd situation, Police will consider implementing crowd safety management measures in the vicinity of the racecourse and other crowded area in Tsim Sha Tsui.

The following traffic arrangements will be implemented, except for vehicles with permit:

## A. Road closure and traffic diversion

### Kowloon

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(I) The layby on westbound Mody Road outside Mody Road Garden will be closed from 8pm on October 21 to about 6.30pm on October 22, or until the race has completed.

(II) The following traffic arrangements will be implemented from 1am to about 11am on October 22, or until the race has completed:

#### Road closure

- Southbound West Kowloon Highway between Tsing Kwai Highway and the slip road of southbound Lin Cheung Road; and
- The slip road leading from southbound Lin Cheung Road to eastbound Lai Cheung Road.

#### Traffic diversion

Traffic along Mei Ching Road cannot enter the southbound West Kowloon Highway.

(III) The following special traffic arrangements will be implemented from 1am to about 5.45pm on October 22, or until the race has completed:

#### Road closure

- Southbound Princess Margaret Road Link between Metropolis Drive and Hung Hom Bypass;
- Hung Hom Bypass between Salisbury Road and Princess Margaret Road Link;

- The second and third lanes of eastbound Hung Hom Bypass between Princess Margaret Road Link and Hung Hom Road;
- The third and fourth lanes of westbound Hung Hom Bypass between Hung Hom Road and Princess Margaret Road Link;
- The second and third lanes of eastbound Hung Hom Road between Hung Hom Bypass and Hung Hom South Road;
- The second and third lanes of westbound Hung Hom Road between Tak Fung Street and Hung Hom Bypass;
- Hong Wan Path;
- The slip road leading from Metropolis Drive to Hung Hom Bypass;
- Mody Lane;
- Mody Road between Mody Square and Mody Road Garden;
- Salisbury Road underpass;
- Southbound Salisbury Road between Cross Harbour Tunnel Administration Building and Science Museum Road; and
- Salisbury Road between Science Museum Road and Chatham Road South.

#### Traffic diversion

- Traffic along southbound Princess Margaret Road Link must turn right to westbound Metropolis Drive;
- Traffic along eastbound Metropolis Drive must turn left to northbound Princess Margaret Road Link or the down ramp slip road leading to eastbound Hung Lai Road;
- Traffic along southbound Science Museum Road must turn left to northbound Hong Chong Road;
- Traffic along southbound Hung Hom Road will be diverted via the slip road of Hung Hom Bypass to Cheong Wan Road and other destinations;
- Traffic along southbound Chatham Road South must turn right to westbound Cameron Road, or must turn right to westbound Salisbury Road after the completion of road closure item (IV) as mentioned below, except for franchised buses;
- Traffic along eastbound Salisbury Road must turn left to northbound Chatham Road south, except for franchised buses;
- Traffic along eastbound Mody Road must make an U-turn at Mody Road near Mody Lane for westbound Mody Road; and
- Traffic along westbound Mody Road must make an U-turn at Mody Road near Mody Road Garden for eastbound Mody Road.

#### Other traffic arrangements

- Vehicles over seven metres in length or four tonnes in weight cannot enter Mody Road between Mody Road Garden and Science Museum Road from 1am to 10.30 am on October 22; and cannot enter Mody Road between the exit and entrance of Tsim Sha Tsui East (Mody Road) Bus Terminus and Mody Lane from 1am to 5.45pm on October 22;
- Granville Road between Granville Square and Science Museum Road will be re-routed to one-way eastbound from 7am to 5.45pm on October 22;
- Prohibited zone of Tsim Sha Tsui East (Mody Road) Bus Terminus will be rescinded from 11am to 5.45pm on October 22; and
- Eastbound Salisbury Road between Chatham Road South and the entrance of Tsim Sha Tsui East (Mody Road) Bus Terminus will be re-routed to one-way

westbound from 11am to 5.45 pm on October 22.

(IV) The following traffic arrangements will be implemented from 2.30am to about 9.30am on October 22, or until the race has completed:

#### Road closure

- Westbound Salisbury Road between Chatham Road South and Nathan Road;
- Eastbound Salisbury Road slip road near Chatham Road South; and
- Southbound Chatham Road South between Mody Road and Salisbury Road, except for franchised buses.

#### Traffic diversion

- Traffic along southbound Chatham Road South must turn right to westbound Cameron Road; or may turn left to eastbound Mody Road (not applicable to vehicles over seven metres in length or four tonnes in weight); and
- Vehicles over seven metres in length or four tonnes in weight cannot enter southbound Chatham Road South to the south of Cameron Road, except for franchised buses.

(V) The following traffic arrangements will be implemented from 2.30am to about 11am on October 22, or until the race has completed:

#### Road closure

- Northbound Kowloon Park Drive between Salisbury Road and Canton Road;
- Peking Road between Canton Road and Kowloon Park Drive;
- The second and third lanes of Middle Road between Hankow Road and Kowloon Park Drive;
- Canton Road between Haiphong Road and Salisbury Road;
- Ashley Road between Peking Road and Middle Road;
- Westbound Salisbury Road between Star Ferry Pier and Nathan Road;
- Eastbound Salisbury Road between Star Ferry Pier and Kowloon Park Drive;
- The fourth lane of eastbound Salisbury Road between Kowloon Park Drive and Hankow Road;
- The fourth and fifth lanes of eastbound Salisbury Road between Hankow Road and Nathan Road;
- The third and fourth lanes of eastbound Salisbury Road between Nathan Road and Middle Road; and
- Southbound Lin Cheung Road between West Kowloon Highway and Jordan Road.

#### Traffic diversion

- Traffic along southbound Canton Road must turn left to Haiphong Road;
- Traffic along westbound Middle Road must turn left to southbound Kowloon Park Drive;
- Traffic along southbound Nathan Road must turn left to eastbound Salisbury Road;
- Traffic along southbound Lin Cheung Road will be diverted via southbound Nga Cheung Road Flyover or southbound West Kowloon Highway; and
- Traffic along eastbound Peking Road cannot turn right to Ashley Road.

(VI) The following traffic arrangements will be implemented from 3am to about 11am on October 22, or until the race has completed:

#### Road closure

- Eastbound Jordan Road between Jordan Road Flyover and Lin Cheung Road;
- The fourth lane of westbound Jordan Road between Wui Man Road and Lin Cheung Road;
- Eastbound Jordan Road Flyover between Hoi Po Road and northbound Lin Cheung Road;
- Westbound Jordan Road Flyover between Nga Cheung Road and Hoi Po Road;
- The third and fourth lanes of northbound Lin Cheung Road between northbound Lin Cheung Road slip road and Jordan Road;
- Southbound Lin Cheung Road underpass between Lin Cheung Road and Austin Road West underpass;
- The third and fourth lanes of southbound Lin Cheung Road underpass between northbound Lin Cheung Road slip road and Austin Road West underpass;
- Northbound Lin Cheung Road lowest level underpass between Austin Road West underpass and exit of Lin Cheung Road Lowest Level underpass;
- Westbound Austin Road West;
- Westbound Austin Road West underpass;
- Austin Road West at-grade loop road;
- The elevated road of northbound Nga Cheung Road between Austin Road West and Jordan Road; and
- The slip road from northbound Nga Cheung Road Flyover to Western Harbour Crossing.

#### Traffic diversion

- Traffic along westbound Austin Road must turn to northbound Canton Road or southbound Canton Road;
- Traffic along northbound Canton Road cannot turn left to westbound Austin Road West;
- Traffic leaving International Commerce Centre (ICC) must turn left to the elevated road of southbound Nga Cheung Road;
- Traffic along westbound Jordan Road leading for Lin Cheung Road must make an U-turn at the northern roundabout of Nga Cheung Road, and turn left to northbound Lin Cheung Road via eastbound Jordan Road;
- Traffic leaving To Wah Road must turn left to northbound Lin Cheung Road at eastbound Jordan Road;
- Traffic along westbound Jordan Road Flyover must turn left to the elevated road of southbound Nga Cheung Road;
- Traffic leading to MTR Airport Express Kowloon Station will be diverted via westbound Jordan Road and Nga Cheung Road; and
- Traffic leading to High Speed Rail West Kowloon Station will be diverted via westbound Jordan Road and Lin Cheung Road. Traffic leading from Western Harbour Crossing to High Speed Rail West Kowloon Station will be diverted via Hoi Po Road, Lai Cheung Road, Ferry Street, Yan Cheung Road, Hoi Wang Road, westbound Jordan Road and Lin Cheung Road.

(VII) The following traffic arrangements will be implemented from 4.15am to about 11am on October 22, or until the race has completed:

## Road closure

Northbound Canton Road between China Hong Kong City and Austin Road west.

## Traffic diversion

- Northbound Canton Road between the exit and entrance of China Hong Kong City and Kowloon Park Drive will be re-routed to one-way southbound; and
- Traffic leading to China Ferry Terminal(China Hong Kong City) will be diverted via southbound Canton Road.

(VIII) The following traffic arrangements will be implemented from 10.30am to about 5.45pm on October 22, or until the race has completed:

## Road closure

- Westbound Science Museum Road between Salisbury Road and Science Museum Square; and
- Mody Road between Mody Road Garden and Science Museum Road.

## Traffic diversion

Traffic along southbound Salisbury Road near Hung Hom MTR Station must turn right to northbound Hong Chong Road.

## New Territories

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(I) The following traffic arrangements will be implemented from 1am to about 7.15am on October 22, or until the race has completed:

## Road closure

Upper deck of Lantau Link Kowloon bound.

## Traffic diversion

- Traffic from Lantau to Kowloon will be diverted via the lower deck of Lantau Link, North West Tsing Yi Interchange, Tsing Yi North Coastal Road, Tsing Tsuen Road, Tsuen Wan Road, Kwai Chung Road, Cheung Sha Wan Road and Lai Chi Kok Road;
- Traffic from Lantau to Tuen Mun Road or Tai Lam Tunnel will be diverted via the lower deck of Lantau Link and northbound Ting Kau Bridge;
- Traffic from Ma Wan to Kowloon will be diverted via westbound Lantau Link (Kap Shui Mun Bridge), the lower deck of Lantau Link, North West Tsing Yi Interchange, Tsing Yi North Coastal Road, Tsing Tsuen Road, Tsuen Wan Road, Kwai Chung Road, Cheung Sha Wan Road and Lai Chi Kok Road; and
- Traffic from Ma Wan to Tuen Mun Road or Tai Lam Tunnel will be diverted via westbound Lantau Link (Kap Shui Mun Bridge), the lower deck of Lantau Link and northbound Ting Kau Bridge.

Speed limit restrictions will be implemented on northbound Penny's Bay

Highway, North Lantau Highway Kowloon bound and Lantau Link Kowloon bound.

(II) The following traffic arrangements will be implemented from 1am to about 9am on October 22, or until the race has completed:

#### Road closure

- Eagle's Nest Tunnel Sha Tin bound;
- The slip road leading from eastbound Ching Cheung Road to northbound Tsing Sha Highway;
- Northbound Tsing Sha Highway between West Kowloon Highway and portal of Eagle's Nest Tunnel Sha Tin bound; and
- The slip road leading from northbound Lai Po Road to northbound Tsing Sha Highway.

#### Traffic diversion

- Traffic along West Kowloon to New Territories East via Eagle's Nest Tunnel will be diverted via northbound Castle Peak Road, eastbound Ching Cheung Road, eastbound Lung Cheung Road and northbound Tai Po Road or northbound Lion Rock Tunnel;
- Traffic along eastbound Ching Cheung Road to New Territories East will be diverted via eastbound Lung Cheung Road and northbound Tai Po Road or northbound Lion Rock Tunnel;
- Traffic along northbound West Kowloon Highway to New Territories East will be diverted via northbound Lin Cheung Road, westbound Mei Ching Road, northbound Container Port Road South, eastbound Ching Cheung Road, eastbound Lung Cheung Road and northbound Tai Po Road or northbound Lion Rock Tunnel; and
- Traffic along northbound Lin Cheung Road to New Territories East will be diverted via westbound Lai Po Road, westbound Hing Wah Street West, northbound Container Port Road South, eastbound Ching Cheung Road, eastbound Lung Cheung Road and northbound Tai Po Road or northbound Lion Rock Tunnel.

(III) The following traffic arrangements will be implemented from 1am to about 11am on October 22, or until the race has completed:

#### Road closure

- Southbound carriageway of Tsing Kwai Highway, Cheung Tsing Tunnel and Cheung Tsing Highway;
- Southbound Ting Kau Bridge;
- Exits from Lantau Link to southbound Cheung Tsing Highway;
- The slip roads leading from Tsing Yi South Bridge, Kwai Chung Road and Tsuen Wan Road to southbound Tsing Kwai Highway;
- Eastbound carriageway of Tsing Sha Highway between the access road of Cheung Tsing Tunnel and West Kowloon Highway, Stonecutters Bridge and Nam Wan Tunnel;
- The slip road leading from Tsing Yi Hong Wan Road to eastbound Stonecutters Bridge;
- The slip road leading from Container Port Road South to eastbound Tsing Sha Highway (Ngong Shuen Chau Viaduct);



- The slip road leading from Mei Ching Road to southbound West Kowloon Highway, except for vehicles leaving Container Port via Roundabout 6 to Mei Ching Road and Tsing Kwai Highway (New Territories bound) ; and
- North West Tsing Yi Interchange U-turn slip road from eastbound Tsing Yi North Coastal Road to westbound Tsing Yi North Coastal Road.

#### Traffic diversion

- Traffic from Tuen Mun Road and Tai Lam Tunnel heading to Kowloon will be diverted via Tuen Mun Road, Tsuen Wan Road, Kwai Chung Road, Cheung Sha Wan Road and Lai Chi Kok Road;
- Traffic from Tsing Yi South heading to Kowloon will be diverted via Tsing Yi Road, Kwai Tsing Road, Kwai Tsing Interchange, Tsuen Wan Road, Kwai Chung Road, Cheung Sha Wan Road and Lai Chi Kok Road; and
- Traffic from Kwai Chung Container Port heading to Kowloon will be diverted via Container Port Road South, Hing Wah Street West and Lai Po Road.

The above road closures will not affect traffic from Western Harbour Crossing and from Kowloon or New Territories East via Route 3 or Route 8 to various destinations, including the Airport, Lantau, Ma Wan and New Territories West.

#### B. Suspension of parking spaces

Five metered parking spaces on Chatham Road South, five metered parking spaces on Mody Road and four metered parking spaces on Cameron Road will be suspended from 8pm on October 21 to 6pm on October 22.

All Green Minibus stands, taxi stands, taxi pick-up and drop-off points, loading and unloading bays and on-street parking spaces within the road closure areas in Tsim Sha Tsui will be suspended in phases from 1am on October 22 until the re-opening of roads.

Vehicles will not be permitted to access or leave car parks and hotels in the affected areas during the road closure period.

Actual implementation of the traffic arrangements and crowd safety management measures will be made depending on traffic and crowd conditions in the areas. For the sake of public safety, members of the public, participants, spectators and road users are advised to pay attention to the special traffic arrangements and take heed of instructions of Police at scene.

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**[SCST visits Thailand to foster](#)**

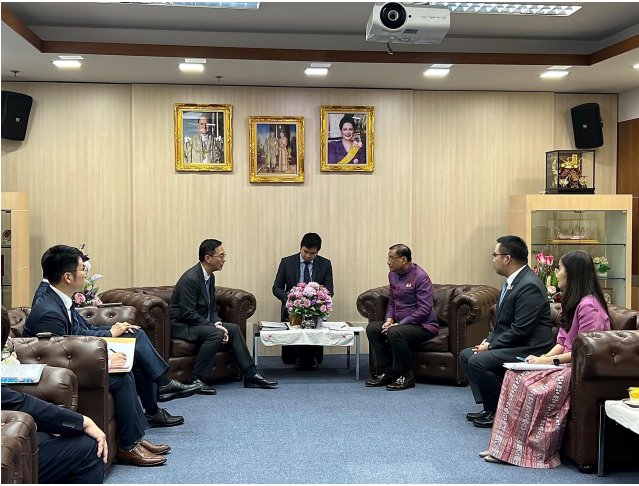
## exchanges in culture and tourism (with photos)

â€‹The Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism, Mr Kevin Yeung, commenced his visit to Thailand this afternoon (October 20). He met with the Minister of Culture of Thailand, Mr Sermsak Pongpanit, in Bangkok to explore collaboration opportunities and enhance mutual links. Mr Yeung also met with the Deputy Governor of the Tourism Authority of Thailand, Mr Chattan Kunjara Na Ayudhya, to share their experiences in promoting tourism and explore opportunities in strengthening exchanges and co-operation.

Mr Yeung said, "At the opening ceremony of the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, President Xi Jinping announced eight major steps China will take to support high-quality Belt and Road co-operation, one of which is to strengthen the institutional building for international Belt and Road co-operation, including building multilateral co-operation platforms covering culture and other fields. Hong Kong has a Memorandum of Understanding on Cultural Cooperation with Thailand, creating a favourable environment to strengthen collaboration between the two sides under the Belt and Road Initiative framework. In fully utilising the co-operation platform, the three-week Hong Kong Week 2023@Bangkok organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department this time will bring to local audiences programmes of performing arts, exhibitions and film screenings, showcasing the diversity of Hong Kong's arts and culture, as well as telling the good stories of China and Hong Kong."

Mr Yeung also pointed out that the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region attaches great importance to facilitating cultural exchanges and co-operation across Asia. The Asia Cultural Co-operation Forum 2022 held in Hong Kong in December last year provided an important platform for the participating cultural ministers and senior officials to share their views and experience on policies and measures promoting arts and culture development. Representatives from the Ministry of Culture of Thailand also participated in the Forum. The National 14th Five-Year Plan has expressed clear support for Hong Kong to develop into an East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange. One of the key areas of work is to facilitate culture exchanges and co-operation within Asia and internationally.

Mr Yeung will continue his visit to Bangkok, Thailand, tomorrow.



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## Business expectations for the fourth quarter of 2023

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) released today (October 20) the results of the Quarterly Business Tendency Survey for the fourth quarter (Q4) of 2023.

### Business situation

For all surveyed sectors taken together, the proportion of respondents expecting their business situation to be better (17%) in Q4 2023 over the preceding quarter is higher than that expecting it to be worse (9%).

When compared with the results of the Q3 2023 survey round, the proportion of respondents expecting a better business situation in Q4 2023 is 17%, slightly higher than the corresponding proportion of 16% in Q3 2023. On

the other hand, the proportion of respondents expecting a worse business situation has slightly decreased from 10% in Q3 2023 to 9% in Q4 2023.

Analysed by sector, respondents in most of the surveyed sectors expect their business situation to increase on balance or remain broadly unchanged in Q4 2023 as compared with Q3 2023. In particular, significantly more respondents in the accommodation and food services and retail sectors expect their business situation to be better in Q4 2023 as compared with Q3 2023.

The results of the survey should be interpreted with care. In this type of survey on expectations, the views collected in the survey are affected by the events in the community occurring around the time of enumeration, and it is difficult to establish precisely the extent to which respondents' perception of the future accords with the underlying trends. The enumeration period for this survey round was from September 2, 2023 to October 10, 2023.

#### Volume of business/output

Respondents in all of the surveyed sectors expect their volume of business/output to increase on balance or remain broadly unchanged in Q4 2023 as compared with Q3 2023. In particular, significantly more respondents in the retail and accommodation and food services sectors expect their volume of sales/business to increase in Q4 2023 over Q3 2023.

#### Employment

Respondents in all of the surveyed sectors expect their employment to increase on balance or remain broadly unchanged in Q4 2023 as compared with Q3 2023. In particular, more respondents in the accommodation and food services, real estate, retail, manufacturing and financing and insurance sectors expect their employment to increase in Q4 2023 over Q3 2023.

#### Selling price/service charge

Respondents in all of the surveyed sectors expect their selling prices/service charges to increase on balance or remain broadly unchanged in Q4 2023 as compared with Q3 2023. In particular, more respondents in the accommodation and food services and manufacturing sectors expect their prices of food provided/charges for services rendered/selling prices to go up in Q4 2023 over Q3 2023.

#### Commentary

A Government spokesman said that business sentiment among large enterprises improved slightly as compared to three months ago. Large enterprises' appetite for hiring stayed positive.

Looking forward, the spokesman said that while the continued growth of consumption- and tourism-related activities and the Government's measures to boost the momentum of the recovery should provide some support, the difficult external environment and tight financial conditions will continue to dampen

business sentiment. The Government will monitor the situation closely.

#### Further information

The survey gathers views on short-term business performance from the senior management of about 560 prominent establishments in various sectors in Hong Kong with a view to providing a quick reference, with minimum time lag, for predicting the short-term future economic performance of the local economy.

The survey covers 10 major sectors in Hong Kong, namely manufacturing; construction; import/export trade and wholesale; retail; accommodation and food services (mainly covering services rendered by hotels and restaurants); transportation, storage and courier services; information and communications; financing and insurance; real estate; and professional and business services sectors.

Views collected in the survey refer only to those of respondents on their own establishments rather than those on the respective sectors they are engaged in, and are limited to the expected direction of quarter-to-quarter change (e.g. "up", "same" or "down") but not the magnitude of change. In collecting views on the quarter-to-quarter changes, if the variable in question is subject to seasonal variations, respondents are asked to provide the expected changes after excluding the normal seasonal variations.

Survey results are generally presented as "net balance", i.e. the difference between the percentage of respondents choosing "up" and that choosing "down". The percentage distribution of respondents among various response categories (e.g. "up", "same" and "down") reflects how varied their business expectations are. The "net balance", with its appropriate sign, indicates the direction of expected change in the variable concerned. A positive sign indicates a likely upward trend while a negative sign indicates a likely downward trend. However, the magnitude of the "net balance" reflects only the prevalence of optimism or pessimism, but not the magnitude of expected change, since information relating to such magnitude is not collected in the survey.

Furthermore, owing to sample size constraint, care should be taken in interpreting survey results involving a small percentage (e.g. less than 10%) of respondents in individual sectors.

Chart 1 shows the views on expected changes in business situation for the period Q4 2022 to Q4 2023.

Table 1 shows the net balances of views on expectations in respect of different variables for Q4 2023.

The survey results are published in greater detail in the "Report on Quarterly Business Tendency Survey, Q4 2023". Users can browse and download the publication at the website of the C&SD ([www.censtatd.gov.hk/en/EIndexbySubject.html?pcode=B1110008&scode=300](http://www.censtatd.gov.hk/en/EIndexbySubject.html?pcode=B1110008&scode=300)).

Users who have enquiries about the survey results may contact the Business Expectation Statistics Section of the C&SD (Tel: 3903 7263; email: [business-prospects@censtatd.gov.hk](mailto:business-prospects@censtatd.gov.hk)).