Special traffic and transport arrangements in Southern District and Tai Po during Tuen Ng Festival holidays

The Transport Department (TD) today (June 6) reminded members of the public that the following special traffic and transport arrangements will be implemented in the Southern District and Tai Po during the Tuen Ng Festival holidays (June 9 to 10) to facilitate the holding of dragon boat races.

Southern District

A. Traffic arrangements

(i) Road closures

Hoi Fung Path, Stanley Link Road, Stanley New Street and Stanley Market Road will be temporarily closed to all vehicular traffic, except for vehicles of the local residents, police, emergency vehicles and vehicles with permits, by phases from 6am to 7pm on June 10.

B. Public transport services

The following adjustments will be implemented for public transport services on June 10:

- (i) Citybus special route No. 73S (Stanley Village to Ocean Park Station) will be operated at 4.30pm and additional departures will be operated subject to passenger demand;
- (ii) The services of Citybus route Nos. 6, 6X, 14, 65, 73 and 260 will be strengthened/adjusted subject to passenger demand and traffic conditions, and the first departure of Citybus route No. 260 from Central (Exchange Square) will be advanced to 6.45am;
- (iii) Citybus route No. 314 will be diverted via Stanley Village Road northbound in lieu of Stanley Village Road southbound and Tung Tau Wang Road after Stanley Beach Road;
- (iv) The service of Hong Kong Island (HKI) green minibus (GMB) Route No. 40 will be suspended from 6am to 7pm, while the service of HKI GMB Route No. 40X will be strengthened accordingly;
- (v) The kaito service between the landing step outside Aberdeen Promenade and Ap Lei Chau will be suspended from 7am to 5pm; and

(vi) Some bus stops, the GMB stand and the taxi stand in the vicinity of Stanley, Repulse Bay and Aberdeen will be suspended or temporarily relocated by phases.

Tai Po

A. Traffic arrangements

(i) Road closures

Dai King Street, Dai Hei Street and the section of Dai Kwai Street south of Dai Cheong Street will be temporarily closed to all vehicular traffic, except for taxis, emergency vehicles and those vehicles authorised by the Police on-site, from 6pm on June 9 to 2pm on June 10.

B. Public transport services

(i) Bus route diversion and suspension of bus stops

KMB route No. 72A (Tai Wai Station — Tai Po Industrial Estate) (both bounds) will omit Dai King Street, Dai Hei Street and the section of Dai Kwai Street south of Dai Cheong Street from 7am to 2pm on June 10. Concurrently, the bus stops on the above road sections will be suspended during the above period.

(ii) Temporary provision of taxi pick-up/drop-off area

A temporary taxi pick-up/drop-off area will be provided on the section of Dai Hei Street west of Dai Kwai Street from 7am to 2pm on June 10.

For details of the special traffic and public transport arrangements, members of the public may visit the TD's website (www.td.gov.hk), its mobile application "HKeMobility" or refer to the passenger notices issued by the relevant public transport operators.

Due to road closures, the TD anticipates that traffic in the areas concerned will become significantly congested. Motorists are advised to avoid driving to the above areas affected by the road closures. In case of traffic congestion, motorists should exercise patience and drive with care, and follow the instructions of the Police on-site.

The TD appeals to members of the public to make use of public transport services as far as possible to avoid traffic congestion and unnecessary delays. The TD and the Police will closely monitor the traffic situation and implement appropriate measures when necessary. The Police may adjust the traffic arrangements, subject to the prevailing crowd and traffic conditions in the areas. The public should pay attention to the latest traffic news through radio, television or "HKeMobility".

Hong Kong Talent Engage online job fair to offer over 500 professional job vacancies

A spokesman for Hong Kong Talent Engage (HKTE) today (June 6) said that the "Living the Dream in Hong Kong" online job fair will be held next Wednesday (June 12) with recruitment platforms in Hong Kong and the Mainland to engage talent in the Mainland and other areas in Asia who are interested in coming to Hong Kong to deepen their understanding of the development opportunities in various sectors across the city.

The Secretary for Labour and Welfare, Mr Chris Sun, will deliver opening remarks for the job fair. Six large-scale public and private organisations in Hong Kong will participate in the job fair, offering over 500 professional job vacancies in areas such as artificial intelligence, information technology and cybersecurity, advanced manufacturing technology, biomedical technology, aviation, banking, legal services and human resources.

The job fair will be broadcast online at 2.30pm on June 12. Interested persons may watch and participate via xjh.zhaopin.com/live/15861 (Chinese only), or refer to HKTE's social media for details. In addition, they are invited to visit HKTE's website (hkengage.gov.hk), which provides information on Hong Kong's talent admission schemes and the support services offered by HKTE to incoming talent.

HKTE held its first online job fair with the insurance industry last October, which was well received, attracting about 39 000 views and over 3 000 job applications.

SFST attends South Summit in Spain (with photos)

The Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, Mr Christopher Hui, continued his visit to Europe. He joined the remarkable technology and start-up event South Summit, met with the top management of the Spanish stock exchange and attended a networking reception with the business community in Madrid, Spain, on June 5 (Madrid time).

Attending the fireside chat at the South Summit, Mr Hui shared with the

audience Hong Kong's latest developments in the virtual assets industry. These include the debut of Asia's first six spot virtual asset Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) in Hong Kong in April. It is noteworthy that Hong Kong pioneered an in-kind subscription and redemption mechanism, allowing more flexibility for investors to subscribe and redeem their ETF units. In fact, as a pioneer in embracing financial innovation, Hong Kong implemented a virtual asset trading platform (VATP) licensing regime in June last year. The city is also working on licensing requirements for other virtual asset operations, including the issuance of stablecoins and over-the-counter trading services.

The South Summit is recognised as one of the world's leading entrepreneurship and innovation platforms for start-ups, investors and institutions to connect. The event in Madrid this year brings together some 500 speakers, 120 investment funds and over 20 unicorns from around the world.

In Madrid, Mr Hui on the same day met with the Chief Executive Officer of BME (Bolsas y Mercados Españoles, Spanish Stock Exchange and Market), Mr Javier Hernani Burzako. Mr Hui shared Hong Kong's measures to enhance stock market liquidity and streamline the listing regime targeting specialised technology sectors, and he expressed hope to explore chances of collaboration between both sides.

Mr Hui also paid a courtesy call to the Chinese Ambassador to Spain, Mr Yao Jing. He told Mr Yao that benefitting from the advantages of "one country, two systems", coupled with the staunch support of the country, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government will continue to strengthen exchanges and co-operation with Spain.

In the evening, Mr Hui joined a networking cocktail event with the business community co-organised by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Brussels, Invest Hong Kong and the Spain Hong Kong Business Association. He told the participating guests that Hong Kong has all the necessary networks and resources to help Spanish businesses gain easier access to the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and the vast Mainland China market. He also said Spain and Hong Kong have much to share and benefit each other, such as acknowledging the power of innovation technology and cherishing the vibrant creative industries.

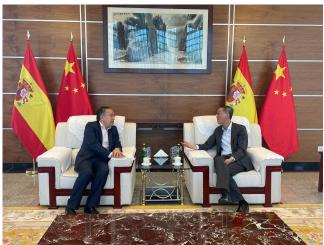
Mr Hui departed for Lisbon, Portugal, to continue his visit in Europe upon completing his itinerary in Spain.















Register as SmartPLAY users to enjoy LCSD's summer programmes

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) reminds the public today (June 6) that with the arrival of summer vacation, the LCSD will arrange a wide range of recreation and sports (R&S) programmes/sports competitions and facilities for the public. Members of the public must register with the SmartPLAY system and complete the identity authentication process in order to enrol in various activities or book R&S facilities. Registered SmartPLAY users can use a variety of personalised services. The registration service is free of charge.

The LCSD has provided about 380 Smart Self-service Stations at around 240 leisure venues (including District Leisure Service Offices in various districts). Members of the public who have yet to be registered can submit their registration, and complete identity authentication and account activation procedures at these Smart Self-service Stations. A SmartPLAY website and My SmartPLAY app are also provided for user registration, and once users complete their identity authentication through "iAM Smart", they can have their SmartPLAY accounts instantly activated. People aged 11 or above can also complete their registration and authentication for SmartPLAY in one go if they are users of "iAM Smart".

Non-HKID card holders aged below 11 are required to submit an online application on the SmartPLAY website or My SmartPLAY app and upload their identity documents, namely Hong Kong Birth Certificate/Document of Identity for Visa Purposes/HKSAR Re-entry Permit/Permit for Proceeding to Hong Kong and Macao (commonly known as One-way Permit), when making registrations. The LCSD will complete the application procedure within 10 working days. Upon receipt of the approval, holders of a Hong Kong Birth Certificate shall perform their identity authentication in person with the relevant original documents at leisure venues of various districts with booking counters, while children holding a valid Document of Identity for Visa Purpose, HKSAR Reentry Permit or Permit for Proceeding to Hong Kong and Macao (commonly known as a One-way Permit) shall bring the relevant original documents to the SmartPLAY Services Centre (Address: Floor 5M, Kwun Chung Municipal Services Building, 17 Bowring Street, Jordan, Kowloon) for identity authentication in person and completion of user registration. For details, please refer to the link

(gia.info.gov.hk/general/202307/03/P2023070300204_424036_1_1688356417021.pdf)

For more information on the R&S programmes, please visit the SmartPLAY website (www.smartplay.lcsd.gov.hk/programme/home).

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Property owner fined over \$90,000 for persistently not complying with removal order

A property owner who persistently failed to comply with removal orders issued under the Buildings Ordinance (BO) (Cap. 123) was convicted and fined over \$90,000 at the Kwun Tong Magistrates' Courts last week.

The case involved an unauthorised structure with an area of about 750 square metres on the roof of an industrial building on Hung To Road, Kwun Tong. As the unauthorised building works (UBWs) were carried out without the prior approval and consent from the Buildings Department (BD), a removal order was served on the owner under section 24(1) of the BO.

Failing to comply with the removal order, the owner was prosecuted by the BD last year and was fined \$82,625 upon conviction by the court. As the owner persisted in not complying with the removal order, the BD instigated prosecution again. The owner was fined \$93,820 upon conviction again at the Kwun Tong Magistrates' Courts on May 28.

A spokesman for the BD said today (June 6), "UBWs may lead to serious consequences. Owners must comply with the removal orders without delay. The BD will continue to take enforcement action against owners who have failed to comply with the removal orders, including instigation of prosecution, to ensure building and public safety."

Failure to comply with a removal order without reasonable excuse is a serious offence under the BO. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$200,000 and one year's imprisonment, and a further fine of \$20,000 for each day that the offence continues.