

## LCQ10: Electric mobility devices

Following is a question by the Hon Yung Hoi-yan and a written reply by the Acting Secretary for Transport and Logistics, Mr Liu Chun-san, in the Legislative Council today (June 5):

Question:

The Government indicated in its paper (the paper) submitted to the Panel on Transport of this Council in June last year that it planned to commence a legislative amendment exercise on electric mobility devices (EMDs) in the second half of last year with a view to submitting the amendments to this Council as soon as possible. Yet, one year has passed, and the amendments have yet to be submitted to this Council for scrutiny. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

(1) whether it will commence a legislative exercise for the regulation of various EMDs, including but not limited to electric unicycles, self-balancing scooters, electric scooters, motorised skateboards and electric bicycles; if so, of the details and timetable; if not, the reasons for that; how it will tighten regulation over EMDs prior to the completion of legislation, such as whether it will step up enforcement to ensure the safety of EMD users and other road users;

(2) whether it has plans to enact corresponding legislation for the regulation of relevant equipment of various EMDs (such as headlamps and braking systems); if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;

(3) given that the Government indicated in the paper that it proposed to open a number of designated cycle tracks for use of relevant EMDs in the first phase, of the cycle tracks to be opened in the first phase, and the timetable for opening other cycle tracks in the next phase; and

(4) whether it has plans to refurbish cycle tracks over the territory, so that all of them can meet the safety requirements for shared use by conventional bicycles and various types of EMDs; if so, of the details and timetable; if not, the reasons for that?

Reply:

President,

After consulting the Transport Department (TD) and the Hong Kong Police Force, my reply to the various parts of the question raised by the Hon Yung Hoi-yan is as follows:

(1) As electric mobility devices (EMDs) are mechanically propelled, they fall within the definition of "motor vehicles" under the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374) (Ordinance) and must therefore be licensed before use on roads or private roads. From the road safety or accessibility perspective, EMDs are not suitable for sharing road space with ordinary vehicles or being used on

footpaths. Moreover, the quality of unregulated EMDs varies and they pose potential safety hazards in various aspects. It is the long-standing policy of the Government not to register or license EMDs under the existing Ordinance. Therefore, the use of EMDs on roads or private roads (including footpaths) will be regarded as driving unlicensed "motor vehicles" and hence contravene relevant laws.

On law enforcement, "road safety" is one of the Police's operational priorities, with combating the illegal use of EMDs being one of its selected traffic enforcement priorities. The Police will continue to tackle the illegal use of EMDs through its publicity and educational efforts as well as enforcement actions, with a view to ensuring road safety.

The number of persons arrested by the Police for illegal use of EMDs from 2021 to March 2024 is set out in the table below:

2021	2022	2023	2024 (from January to March)
207	236	267	57

With the rising prevalence of EMDs, the Government is currently formulating proper regulatory arrangements for EMDs so as to ensure their safe and effective uses while allowing more room for the adoption of new technologies and innovation. The EMDs planned to be regulated can be classified mainly into two categories, including motorised personal mobility devices (PMDs) (such as electric scooters, motorised skateboards, electric unicycles and electric hoverboards) and power assisted pedal cycles (PAPCs) (i.e. bicycles or tricycles that are equipped with an auxiliary electric motor and motorised assistance will only be provided when the riders are pedalling. Such motorised assistance will be cut out once a certain speed is reached). As for electric bicycles propelled by a throttle button, as the operation mode of such electric bicycles is similar to that of electric motor cycles, they should be regulated in accordance with the existing legislation relating to motor cycles.

The establishment of a regulatory framework for EMDs will necessitate amendments to the legislation. We are currently considering the views of relevant government departments and stakeholders and drafting the legislative amendments, with a view to ensuring the effective regulation of the use of EMDs. The proposed legislative amendments will be submitted to the Legislative Council in due course.

(2) Under the proposed regulatory arrangements, EMDs should meet relevant technical requirements, including those on headlamps and braking systems, with details listed in the table below:

Proposed technical and safety requirements for motorised PMDs and PAPCs

	Motorised PMDs	PAPCs

Maximum net weight	20 kg	25 kg
Maximum design speed	25 km/h	Up to 25 km/h with auxiliary power
Maximum width	650 mm	
Maximum length	1 250 mm	1 800 mm
Maximum number of wheels	1-2 (wheel set(s)*)	2-3
Safety requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fitted with a front white lamp and a rear red lamp</li> <li>• fitted with a rear red reflector</li> <li>• fitted with an effective braking/stopping system</li> <li>• fitted with a warning device</li> <li>• complying with relevant international standards</li> <li>• no passengers allowed</li> </ul>	

\*If the distance between two centre points of the wheel-to-ground contact areas is less than 300 mm, the two wheels can be regarded as being in one wheel set.

(3) and (4) Our proposed technical and safety requirements for EMDs are intended to enable compliant EMDs to be used on cycle tracks to be similar to that of conventional bicycles in terms of operating speed, space required and manoeuvres. Since the operation mode of PAPCs is quite similar to that of conventional pedal bicycles, we propose allowing PAPCs to be used on all cycle tracks. As regards motorised PMDs, given that these devices are a new mode of personal mobility and that the questionnaire survey conducted earlier on the trial schemes indicated that some respondents had reservations about the use of EMDs, we propose adopting a prudent approach by opening cycle tracks for use of motorised PMDs by the public in phases under suitable circumstances. For the initial phase, the cycle track sections being considered to be opened for use have to be at least 3.5 metres wide with high connectivity (such as the cycle tracks in Tseung Kwan O South and near the Pak Shek Kok Promenade). We will review whether more suitable cycle tracks will be opened for use taking into account the effectiveness in due course. In addition, the TD will continue to conduct review from time to time and where the road environment permits, improve existing cycle tracks and relevant facilities in new towns. In planning for the provision of cycle tracks in new towns and new development areas, the Government will consider how the shared use of cycle tracks by bicycles and compliant EMDs can be achieved.

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# Applications for new niches at Wo Hop Shek Columbarium and Cape Collinson-San Ha Columbarium to close on June 12

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) today (June 5) reminded those who wish to apply for allocation of new extendable niches at Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phase VI in Fanling or Cape Collinson-San Ha Columbarium in Eastern District for the deceased to submit their applications as soon as possible since the application will close on June 12 (Wednesday).

An FEHD spokesman said, "For this niche allocation exercise, a total of 8 040 extendable niches at Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phase VI will be allocated, including 8 000 standard niches (4 000 smoke-free niches and 4 000 non-smoke-free niches) and 40 large niches (20 smoke-free niches and 20 non-smoke-free niches). As for Cape Collinson-San Ha Columbarium, a total of 10 060 extendable niches including 10 000 standard niches (5 000 smoke-free niches and 5 000 non-smoke-free niches) and 60 large niches (30 smoke-free niches and 30 non-smoke-free niches) will be allocated."

Members of the public can visit the FEHD's website ([www.fehd.gov.hk](http://www.fehd.gov.hk)) for details of this niche allocation exercise, make an online application or download the application forms. Leaflets and application forms are also available at the department's Hong Kong or Kowloon Cemeteries and Crematoria Office, District Environmental Hygiene Offices and Home Affairs Enquiry Centres of the Home Affairs Department. In addition, members of the public may call the hotline 2841 9111 or send an email to [apply\\_newniche@feh.d.gov.hk](mailto:apply_newniche@feh.d.gov.hk) for enquiries and request application forms by fax (2333 1716).

The spokesman encouraged applicants to apply online so as to avoid postal delay/non-delivery. If the applicant is the same person who applied for the cremation service for the deceased, it will be more convenient for them to submit an online application through the "iAM Smart" as copies of the required documents are not required. Applications can also be submitted by the above-mentioned fax or email, by post or in person to the FEHD Hong Kong or the Kowloon Cemeteries and Crematoria Office.

To avoid missing the application deadline this time, the spokesman reminded those who wish to apply for allocation of the above niches for the deceased to submit the completed application forms together with the copies of required documents on or before June 12.

Information on the Cemeteries and Crematoria Offices and the Public Niche Allocation Office of the FEHD is as follows:

Hong Kong Cemeteries and Crematoria Office  
Address: 1J Wong Nai Chung Road, Happy Valley, Hong Kong  
Tel: 2570 4318  
Fax: 2591 1879

Kowloon Cemeteries and Crematoria Office

Address: Upper Ground Floor, 6 Cheong Hang Road, Hung Hom, Kowloon

Tel: 2365 5321

Fax: 2176 4963

Public Niche Allocation Office

Address: Units 3501-3511 and 3520-3525, 35/F, Tower 1, Metroplaza, 223 Hing Fong Road, Kwai Fong, NT

Tel: 2330 5635

Fax: 2333 1716

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## Missing girl in Mong Kok located

A girl who went missing in Mong Kok has been located.

Cheung Sin-yu, aged 12, went missing after she was last seen at MTR Prince Edward Station on June 1 afternoon. Her family made a report to Police on June 2.

The girl returned to her residence yesterday (June 4) evening. She sustained no injuries and no suspicious circumstances were detected.

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## Red flags hoisted at several beaches

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (June 5) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Stanley Main Beach, Shek O Beach and Big Wave Bay Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island; Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach in Islands District; and Silverstrand Beach and Clear Water Bay Second Beach in Sai Kung District. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at these beaches.

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# Special traffic arrangements for race meeting in Happy Valley

Special traffic arrangements will be implemented in Happy Valley today (June 5). The arrangements will last until the crowds have dispersed after the race meeting.

## A. Traffic arrangements before the commencement of the first race

The following road closure and traffic diversions will be implemented from 6pm onwards:

### 1. Road closure

Southbound Wong Nai Chung Road between Queen's Road East and the slip road leading to Aberdeen Tunnel will be closed, except for vehicles heading for Aberdeen Tunnel.

### 2. Traffic diversions

- Southbound Wong Nai Chung Road between Village Road and the slip road leading to Aberdeen Tunnel will be re-routed one way northbound;
- Traffic along eastbound Queen's Road East heading for Wan Chai and Happy Valley will be diverted to turn left to Morrison Hill Road;
- Traffic along southbound Morrison Hill Road heading for Happy Valley will be diverted via Sports Road and Wong Nai Chung Road;
- Traffic along Queen's Road East cannot turn right to Wong Nai Chung Road, except for vehicles heading for Aberdeen Tunnel;
- Traffic from Cross Harbour Tunnel heading for Queen's Road East will be diverted via the down-ramp leading from southbound Canal Road flyover to Morrison Hill Road to turn right at the junction of Wong Nai Chung Road and Queen's Road East; and
- Traffic from Cross Harbour Tunnel heading for Happy Valley or Racecourse will be diverted via the down-ramp leading from southbound Canal Road flyover to Canal Road East, southbound Morrison Hill Road, Sports Road and Wong Nai Chung Road.

## B. Traffic arrangements before the conclusion of race meeting

The following road closure and traffic diversions will be implemented from about 35 minutes before the start of the last race:

### 1. Road closure

- The slip road connecting Wong Nai Chung Road and Aberdeen Tunnel;
- Southbound Wong Nai Chung Road between Queen's Road East and the slip road connecting Wong Nai Chung Road and Aberdeen Tunnel;
- Southbound Wong Nai Chung Road between Village Road and Parsee Cemetery;
- Westbound Leighton Road between Wong Nai Chung Road and Canal Road East; and

- Southbound Morrison Hill Road between Leighton Road and Queen's Road East.

In addition, southbound Wong Nai Chung Road between the up-ramp leading to Aberdeen Tunnel and the Public Stands of Hong Kong Jockey Club will be closed from about 10 minutes before the start of the last race.

## 2. Traffic diversions

- Eastbound Queen's Road East at its junction with Morrison Hill Road will be reduced to one-lane traffic heading for northbound Canal Road flyover;
- Traffic from Cross Harbour Tunnel heading for Wan Chai will be diverted via the down-ramp leading from southbound Canal Road flyover to Canal Road East, U-turn slip road beneath Canal Road flyover, Canal Road West and Hennessy Road;
- Traffic from Cross Harbour Tunnel heading for Happy Valley will be diverted via the down-ramp leading from southbound Canal Road flyover to Canal Road East, eastbound Leighton Road and Wong Nai Chung Road;
- Traffic along southbound Morrison Hill Road will be diverted to turn left to eastbound Leighton Road;
- Traffic along southbound Morrison Hill Road heading for Happy Valley will be diverted via eastbound Leighton Road and Wong Nai Chung Road; and
- Traffic along westbound Leighton Road will be diverted to Wong Nai Chung Road.

## C. Learner drivers prohibition

Learner drivers will be prohibited to turn left from Caroline Hill Road to Leighton Road between one and a half hours before the start of the first race and one hour after the last race. In addition, learner drivers will be prohibited from accessing the following roads within the above period of time:

- Shan Kwong Road between Yik Yam Street and Wong Nai Chung Road;
- Village Road between its upper and lower junctions with Shan Kwong Road;
- Percival Street between Hennessy Road and Leighton Road;
- Canal Road East; and
- The service road leading from Gloucester Road to Canal Road flyover.

## D. Suspension of parking spaces

Parking spaces on southbound Wong Nai Chung Road between Sports Road and Blue Pool Road will be suspended from 11am to 7pm during day racing, from 4.30pm to 11.59pm during evening racing, and from 5pm to 11.59pm during night racing.

Any vehicles found illegally parked within the precincts of the above affected areas will be towed away without prior notice.

Actual implementation of road closure and traffic diversion will be made by the Police at the time depending on traffic conditions in the areas. Motorists should exercise tolerance and patience, and follow the instructions of Police on site.