## Red flags hoisted at Silverstrand Beach and Clear Water Bay Second Beach

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 (December 14) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Silverstrand Beach and Clear Water Bay Second Beach in Sai Kung District. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at these beaches.

# ExCo Non-official Members fully support CE in leading HKSAR Government in its administration

The following is issued on behalf of the Executive Council Secretariat:

The Non-official Members of the Executive Council (ExCo Non-official Members) today (December 14) issued the following statement:

ExCo Non-official Members fully support the Chief Executive in leading the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government in its administration to pursue economic growth, advance development, and address livelihood issues. They also expressed gratitude to President Xi Jinping for the importance he attached to Hong Kong and his care for the city.

During the Chief Executive's duty visit to Beijing, President Xi acknowledged the work of the Chief Executive and the HKSAR Government, emphasising that the Central Government will continue to fully, firmly and accurately implement the "one country, two systems" principle. President Xi's remarks also underscored the importance of reform and innovation, which inspires people to embrace changes, be proactive, and embody a spirit of innovation and creativity.

As the Chief Executive said, the next two and a half years will be a critical period for Hong Kong to move forward, advance from stability to prosperity, and build on its achievement while beginning a new chapter of development. ExCo Non-official Members will continue to fully support the Chief Executive in leading Hong Kong to pursue reforms and changes by

offering advices on important policies and actively collaborating with the HKSAR Government to implement various reform measures, with a view to creating new momentum and advantages for economic development, promoting Hong Kong's transition from stability to prosperity through innovation and invention, and advancing high-quality development in Hong Kong together.

ExCo Non-official Members believe that with the unwavering support of the Central Government and the unifying efforts from all sectors of the community, Hong Kong will effectively leverage its advantages of "one country, two systems", rise to challenges, maintain prosperity and stability, and scale new heights.

## <u>TD launches e-Licensing Portal to</u> <u>offer one-stop services</u>

The Transport Department (TD) today (December 14) launched the e-Licensing Portal (e-LP) (<u>elicensingportal.td.gov.hk/login</u>) to provide convenience for registered vehicle owners and drivers in renewing their vehicle and driving licences and making enquiries about their licences.

The e-LP provides a one-stop service platform for licence applications and enquiries, featuring a dashboard that clearly displays information about licences held by registered users, expiry dates, and the progress and results of applications. After registering as users via "iAM Smart", members of the public can enquire at any time about their: (1) driving licence, driving entitlements, and licence expiry date; (2) driving-offence points; and (3) vehicles registered under their name and the expiry dates of relevant licences. They can also choose to receive reminders for vehicle and driving licence renewals.

A spokesman for the TD said, "We have long encouraged members of the public to use online licensing services, saving the need to visit the Licensing Offices for application processing. Following the launch of the e-LP, registered vehicle owners and drivers can more easily manage their licences and vehicles, checking relevant information anytime, anywhere. The e-LP's reminder function for renewals of vehicle and driving licences can also issue notifications to registered users before expiry of their licences, and enable vehicle owners and drivers to renew licences online effortlessly."

Starting from today, Hong Kong identity card (HKIC) holders can use "iAM Smart" to register as e-LP users and enquire about their licences. For non-HKIC holders, including holders of passports or Exit/Entry Permit for Travelling to and from Hong Kong and Macao, companies or organisations, they can use a digital certificate or the e-contact means registered with the TD to register an e-LP account, thereby enjoying the one-stop services. Additional functions of the e-LP will be launched in the second quarter of 2025. Users will then be able to use the automatic form-filling function to submit online licensing applications, track progress and results, and make online bookings for driving tests. Moreover, information on various types of permits will also be available for enquiry.

#### Red fire danger warning

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

The fire danger situation today (December 14) is red and fire risk is extreme. The countryside is extremely vulnerable to fire. If you are planning to spend the day in the countryside, please take pre-cooked food for a picnic and take all measures to prevent hill fires. The penalty for lighting fires illegally in the countryside is \$25,000 and a year's imprisonment.

#### <u>Territory-wide flag day today</u>

Wu Oi Christian Centre has been issued a Public Subscription Permit to hold a territory-wide flag sale from 7am to 12.30pm today (December 14), a spokesman for the Social Welfare Department (SWD) said.

Details of the charitable fund-raising activities, including any updated information, covered by the issued Public Subscription Permits have been published on the GovHK website (www.gov.hk/en/theme/fundraising/search). Permits for flag days containing information on contact methods of the flagselling organisations and the approved flag-selling activities have also been uploaded to the SWD's website (www.swd.gov.hk/en/ngo/controlofc/flagdays) for reference. For enquiries, please call the SWD's hotline at 2343 2255, or the designated hotline of the 1823 Call Centre at 3142 2678.

In the case of suspected fraudulent flag day activities, people should not make any donation and should immediately report the matter to the Police, the spokesman added.