

Red flags hoisted at Stanley Main Beach and Shek O 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 (April 19) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Stanley Main Beach and Shek O Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at these beaches.

Tender period extended for Relocation of Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works to Caverns – Civil Works for Sewage Treatment Facilities and Associated Works

The Drainage Services Department (DSD) today (April 19) announced that the tender period for the contract for Relocation of Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works to Caverns – Civil Works for Sewage Treatment Facilities and Associated Works (Contract No. DC/2023/18) has been extended to noon on May 24.

The DSD invited tenders for the contract on March 8. The tender period was originally scheduled to expire at noon on May 3.

The extension of the tender period was gazetted today. Details of the tender notice are available at the DSD's website (www.dsd.gov.hk/EN/Tender_Notices/Current_Tenders/index.html).

The DSD has commissioned AECOM Asia Company Limited to design and supervise the works. For enquiries, please call the company at 3922 9000 during office hours.

Deployment of artificial reefs in Hong Kong International Airport Approach Area No. 3 proposed

The Government intends to allow Airport Authority Hong Kong to deploy not more than 1 000 artificial reef units within an area of approximately 25 hectares of seabed at the waters of the Hong Kong International Airport Approach Area No. 3. The extent of the area of seabed affected is described in a [notice](#) gazetted today (April 19).

The proposed works aim to provide micro marine habitats as shelters and nursery grounds to enhance the ecological and fisheries resources in the Northwest Lantau waters. The proposed works are scheduled to commence as early as mid-2024 for completion in the second half of the year.

The notice and its related plan are posted near the site. The plan is also available for inspection at:

- * Survey and Mapping Office of the Lands Department (6/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong) (where copies can be purchased on order);
- * Islands Home Affairs Enquiry Centre (Tung Chung) of the Islands District Office (1/F, Tung Chung Post Office Building, 6 Mei Tung Street, Tung Chung, Lantau Island); and
- * Lands Department's website (www.landsd.gov.hk) under Government Notices.

Any person who considers that he or she has an interest, right or easement in or over the seabed involved may submit a written objection to the Director of Lands, 20/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong, within two months from the gazette date, i.e. on or before June 19. The notice of such an objection shall describe the interest, right or easement of the objector and the manner in which he or she will be allegedly affected.

Special announcement on fire in Tsing Yi

Attention TV and radio duty announcers:

Please broadcast the following special announcement as soon as possible, and repeat it at suitable intervals:

A fire broke out at a tin-sheeted structure on Tam Kon Shan Road, Tsing Yi at 8.45am today (April 19). The Fire Services Department is conducting a firefighting operation.

Members of the public who are being affected by the smoke and an unusual odour carried by the wind are advised to close their doors and windows and stay calm.

Revised Code of Practice for Bamboo Scaffolding Safety gazetted

The Labour Department (LD) published a revised Code of Practice for Bamboo Scaffolding Safety (CoP) in the Gazette today (April 19) to enhance the safety of bamboo scaffolds in the construction industry.

The major revisions of the CoP include the enhancement of technical requirements for the bracing, putlog and access and egress of bamboo scaffolds; the prohibition to unauthorised alteration of bamboo scaffolds including putlog; and further specifying the requirement of supervising work of competent persons to the bamboo scaffolders who perform erection, substantial addition, alteration or dismantling of bamboo scaffolds, and inspection prior to inclement weather.

A spokesperson for the LD said, "The revised CoP requires all trained workers who perform erection, substantial addition, alteration or dismantling of truss-out bamboo scaffolds should hold a valid certificate of 'Advanced Level Truss-out Scaffolder Safety Training' or 'Intermediate Level Truss-out Scaffolder Safety Training' issued by the Construction Industry Council before performing specified work. Considering the time required for the industry to arrange training to obtain the certificates, there will be a grace period of six months on the effective date of the revised CoP. It will take effect on October 19 to allow the industry to have sufficient time for preparation."

The spokesperson said that the CoP provides construction contractors with practical guidance to comply with the requirements set out in the occupational safety and health legislation regarding bamboo scaffolding work in order to safeguard workers' safety.

The spokesperson added, "This CoP has a special legal status. In criminal proceedings, if a relevant person fails to observe any provision of this Code, that failure may be taken by the court as a relevant factor in determining whether or not a person has breached the relevant safety and health legislation."

The revised CoP can be downloaded from the LD website

(www.labour.gov.hk/eng/public/content2_8b.htm). Enquiries about the CoP can be made at 2559 2297.