

Public urged to report flooding

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

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

Members of the public are advised to report any street flooding that comes to their notice to the Drainage Services Department by calling the 24-hour drainage hotline on 2300 1110.

Coordinating Policy Responses to the Global Food Crisis

Statement by Ambassador Barbara Woodward at the UN General Assembly high-level special event on food security

Court users may use integrated Court Case Management System for District Court Civil Action

The following is issued on behalf of the Judiciary:

The Judiciary today (July 8) announced that court users may use the integrated Court Case Management System (iCMS) for electronic filing and payments related to civil action proceedings in the District Court with effect from July 29.

The iCMS is an integral part of the Judiciary's Information Technology Strategy Plan. It aims to facilitate the handling of court-related documents and payments through an electronic mode.

The Judiciary has been developing in phases the iCMS across various levels of courts. The iCMS was first implemented for personal injuries action and tax claim proceedings in the District Court in May this year.

The major electronic services under the iCMS include sending case-specific court documents to the courts and receiving such documents from the courts, inspecting or searching filed documents and other case-related information held by the courts, searching cause books, and making payments

for court services.

Eligible users need to register for a user account for full use of the iCMS. They include parties of an ongoing or new e-proceeding and their legal representatives (if any), the Hong Kong Bar Association, the Law Society of Hong Kong, law firms, government departments, law enforcement agencies and statutory bodies. Registration is free of charge.

Unregistered members of the public may also use certain types of iCMS services, mainly related to searching of electronic documents open to public inspection.

To encourage migration to electronic filing and payment through the iCMS, a 20 per cent concession is offered to iCMS users for five years on fee items of the District Court which are primarily or directly related to electronic handling of court documents.

Generally speaking, the iCMS operates round the clock except during system maintenance. The maintenance schedules of the iCMS, as specified by the Judiciary from time to time, are published on a dedicated webpage on the use of electronic technology with the courts (www.judiciary.hk/en/e_courts/index.html) on the website of the Judiciary.

Any e-filing and e-payment received under the iCMS after the physical registry and the accounts office are normally closed to the public (i.e. 5.30pm on a working day) will be deemed to be received upon the starting time of the normal opening hours of the registry and the accounts office on the following working day.

For enquiries, please call the general enquiry hotline at 2477 1002 or the technical helpline at 2886 6474, email enquiry@judiciary.hk or visit the Help Centre at 5/F, Wanchai Tower, 12 Harbour Road, Wan Chai.

[Expert contributions to our work](#)

News story

More than 1,200 experts have contributed since 2019



The purpose of our team is to get expert insight into policy. We've been reviewing our projects recently and wanted to share some of the highlights.

Since January 2019:

- More than 1,200 academics and other experts have contributed to our policy work
- We've delivered more than 70 policy projects for customers across government
- Expert contributors have come from more than 600 organisations
- 13% of expert contributions have been made by academics from our partner universities – Brunel, Essex, Lancaster and York – with the remaining 87% coming from other organisations in the UK and overseas
- Academics from UCL (5.1%), Lancaster (4.6%), Oxford (4.2%) and Cambridge (3.8%) account for the greatest number of contributions
- Of non-UK institutions contributing to our work, Harvard is the most frequent

Breakdown of expert contributions by organisation, 2019-22

Thanks again to all the experts who've contributed to our work over the past few years. The great feedback we receive from colleagues and the growing number of customers we have across government show how valuable your input is.

Published 6 July 2022

[PM remarks at the CHOGM opening ceremony: 24 June 2022](#)

Your Royal Highness,

President Kagame,

Madam Secretary General,

Your Excellencies,

ladies and gentlemen,

I'm honoured to perform the final duty of the United Kingdom as Chair-in-Office of the Commonwealth

and hand over the baton to President Kagame, and wish him every success as Chair of our unique association,

encompassing 54 countries and a third of humanity.

One of the newest members is now at the helm,

and more nations are seeking to join,

which tells you everything about the health and vitality of our Commonwealth,

because for all the differences between us,

we are united by an invisible thread of shared values, history and friendship.

The Head of the Commonwealth, Her Majesty the Queen, incarnates everything that brings us together

and it's fitting that in the year of her Platinum Jubilee,

the association she cherishes should be gathering in the continent where she became Queen.

When the UK became your Chair-in-Office in 2018, the word "Covid" had not been invented

many of us had no idea what a "coronavirus" was, and nobody could have known that the worst pandemic for a century would soon claim millions of lives.

The British government put together the partnership between Oxford University and AstraZeneca that produced the world's most popular vaccine,

and during our time as Chair-in-Office, the UK supported the delivery of more than 1.4 billion doses of Covid vaccines to Commonwealth countries.

The pandemic posed a common threat to all humanity and the same is true of catastrophic climate change.

No-one understands this better than our Commonwealth friends in the Caribbean, the Pacific and the Indian Ocean

who can see the incoming tides surging ever higher up their beaches,

threatening to inundate their villages and towns,
and, in time, the entire land mass of some island states.
For them, the baleful effects of climate change are not vague or theoretical,
but already happening before their eyes.

When we hosted COP26 in Glasgow last November,
it was these fellow Commonwealth leaders who spoke with greatest urgency and
authority about the perils of quilting the earth with greenhouse gases.

And we in the developed world have an obligation to help our friends to cope
with a danger they had no hand in causing,

and during the UK's time as Chair-in-Office,

the Commonwealth Finance Access Hub mobilised over \$38 million for the most
vulnerable members,

but of course we must press on and do more.

And if I could imagine a silver bullet that would solve an array of problems
and transform countless lives,

it would be to give every girl in the world the chance to go to school.

At the last CHOGM in London in 2018, the UK announced £212 million for the
Girls' Education Challenge,

and I'm delighted to say that this initiative is now at work in 11
Commonwealth countries,

ensuring that girls are able to gain at least 12 years of quality education.

We need to empower them to play their full part in the economy when they
leave school,

so the UK is funding the "She Trades" Commonwealth programme,

which has already helped over 3,500 women-owned businesses to become more
competitive and generate more than £32 million of sales.

And if there is anyone who doubts the ability of the Commonwealth to speak
with one voice,

it was in 2020 that the UK delivered the first ever Joint Statement by all 54
Commonwealth members before the Human Rights Council in Geneva,

recalling – and I quote – our "proud history of acting to strengthen good
governance and the rule of law".

One of the gravest affronts to everything we stand for is Russia's invasion

of Ukraine

and Putin's blockade of the ports that would otherwise be shipping food to the world's poorest people.

At this moment, nearly 25 million tonnes of corn and wheat is piled up in silos across Ukraine, held hostage by Russia.

Britain supports the United Nations plan to get that food out

and we will invest over £370 million in global food security this year, including £130 million for the World Food Programme.

We want to work alongside our Commonwealth friends to understand your needs and priorities

and deliver joint solutions to a crisis that Putin has deliberately engineered.

For now, it only remains for me to thank every Commonwealth member for having given the United Kingdom the chance to serve as Chair-in-Office.

And as I pass on this responsibility to President Kagame,

a close friend and partner,

I know that he shares my boundless optimism

about the future of the Commonwealth at the forefront of the international agenda, and benefiting all our peoples.

Thank you all very much.

ENDS