

[CE to attend APEC meetings in Papua New Guinea](#)

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, will depart for Papua New Guinea in the evening on November 15 to attend the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) 2018 Economic Leaders' Meeting and other related meetings in Port Moresby. The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Edward Yau, will accompany the Chief Executive and take part in some of the meetings.

The theme of this year's APEC meeting is "Harnessing Inclusive Opportunities, Embracing the Digital Future", with discussions focusing on how APEC embraces new challenges in the digital age under three priorities, namely improving connectivity and deepening regional economic integration, promoting sustainable and inclusive growth, and strengthening inclusive growth through structural reform.

Before attending the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting on November 18, Mrs Lam will attend the Women Political Leaders Roundtable, a discussion session of the APEC CEO Summit, the Dialogue with APEC Business Advisory Council, the Informal Dialogue with Pacific Island Leaders and the Gala Dinner hosted by the organiser for participating leaders on November 17.

Mrs Lam will leave Papua New Guinea on November 19 and return to Hong Kong the next day. During her absence, the Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, will be Acting Chief Executive.

[Update on cases of Legionnaires' disease](#)

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health today (November 12) reported the latest number of cases of Legionnaires' disease (LD), and stressed the importance of using and maintaining properly designed man-made water systems, and that susceptible groups should strictly observe relevant precautions.

From November 4 to 10, one community-acquired LD case was reported. The female patient, aged 75 with underlying illnesses, lives in Tower 2, Metro Town, 8 King Ling Road, Sai Kung District.

"Epidemiological investigations are ongoing to identify potential sources of infection, high-risk exposure and clusters, if any," a spokesman for the CHP said.

As of November 10, 92 LD cases had been reported in 2018. In 2017 and 2016, there were 72 and 75 cases respectively.

"Men, people aged over 50, smokers, alcoholics and persons with weakened immunity are more susceptible to LD. Some situations may also increase the risk of infection, including poor maintenance of water systems leading to stagnant water; living in areas with old water systems, cooling towers or fountains; using electric water heaters, whirlpools and spas or hot water spring spas; and recent stays in hotels or vessels," the spokesman said.

Legionellae are found in various environmental settings and grow well in warm water (20 to 45 degrees Celsius). They can be found in aqueous environments such as water tanks, hot and cold water systems, cooling towers, whirlpools and spas, water fountains and home apparatus which support breathing. People may get infected when they breathe in contaminated droplets (aerosols) and mist generated by artificial water systems, or when handling garden soil, compost and potting mixes.

Immunocompromised persons should:

1. Use sterile or boiled water for drinking, tooth brushing and mouth rinsing;
2. Avoid using humidifiers, or other mist- or aerosol-generating devices. A shower may also generate small aerosols; and
3. If using humidifiers, or other mist- or aerosol-generating devices, fill the water tank with only sterile or cooled freshly boiled water, and not water directly from the tap. Also, clean and maintain humidifiers/devices regularly according to manufacturers' instructions. Never leave stagnant water in a humidifier/device. Empty the water tank, wipe all surfaces dry, and change the water daily.

The public should observe the health advice below:

- Observe personal hygiene;
- Do not smoke and avoid alcohol consumption;
- Strainers in water taps and shower heads should be inspected, cleaned, descaled and disinfected regularly or at a frequency recommended by the manufacturer;
- If a fresh water plumbing system is properly maintained, it is not necessary to install domestic water filters. Use of water filters is not encouraged as clogging occurs easily, which can promote growth of micro-organisms. In case water filters are used, the pore size should be 0.2 micrometres (μm) and the filter needs to be changed periodically according to the manufacturer's recommendations;
- Drain and clean water tanks of buildings at least quarterly;
- Drain or purge for at least one minute the infrequently used water outlets (e.g. water taps, shower heads and hot water outlets) and stagnant points of the pipework weekly or before use;
- Seek and follow doctors' professional advice regarding the use and maintenance of home respiratory devices and use only sterile water (not

distilled or tap water) to clean and fill the reservoir. Clean and maintain the device regularly according to the manufacturer's instructions. After cleaning/disinfection, rinse the device with sterile water, cooled freshly boiled water or water filtered with 0.2 µm filters. Never leave stagnant water in the device. Empty the water tank, keep all surfaces dry, and change the water daily; and

- When handling garden soil, compost and potting mixes:

1. Wear gloves and a face mask;
2. Water gardens and compost gently using low pressure;
3. Open composted potting mixes slowly and make sure the opening is directed away from the face;
4. Wet the soil to reduce dust when potting plants; and
5. Avoid working in poorly ventilated places such as enclosed greenhouses.

The public may visit the CHP's [LD page](#), the [Code of Practice for Prevention of LD](#) and the [Housekeeping Guidelines for Cold and Hot Water Systems for Building Management](#) of the Prevention of LD Committee, and the CHP's [risk-based strategy](#) for prevention and control of LD.

[Appointments to Council of Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra Limited](#)

The Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Lau Kong-wah, today (November 12) re-appointed the following persons as Council members of the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra Limited for two years, until the conclusion of the company's Annual General Meeting in 2020.

Mr Christopher Chung Shu-kun
Mr Bryant Lu Hing-yiu
Mr Wilfred Ng Sau-kei

[Fraudulent website related to Bank of China \(Hong Kong\) Limited](#)

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited on

fraudulent website, which has been reported to the HKMA. Hyperlink to the press release is available on the [HKMA website](#) for ease of reference by members of the public.

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information to the website concerned or has conducted any financial transactions through the website should contact the bank concerned using the contact information provided in the press release, and report to the Police or contact the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.

[Transcript of remarks by SEN](#)

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Secretary for the Environment, Mr Wong Kam-sing, at a media session after officiating at the launching ceremony of municipal solid waste (MSW) charging trial projects and the fourth batch of MSW charging community involvement projects this afternoon (November 12):

Reporter: Mr Wong, given the MSW charging will be introduced to the Legislative Council, do you think it is time to also review the waste reduction targets for 2022? The latest trend seems to suggest we are getting into the wrong way. Are we putting too much pressure on MSW charging to live up to that target?

Secretary for the Environment: The Government is promoting waste reduction in Hong Kong as a whole and there are various means to achieve the waste reduction target. Certainly among those issues, the municipal solid waste charging is one of the very important initiatives to drive behavioural change, thereby resulting in waste reduction. As shown in the pilot schemes and trial schemes, in different situations, from residential estates to commercial and non-commercial sectors, it can demonstrate the reduction of waste to a substantial amount and also to improve the recycling rate to a certain level. It is a good direction that we can ride on to get closer to the target as set out in the blueprint (Hong Kong: Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources 2013-2022) earlier.

Reporter: It might be in the right direction but will you achieve those targets?

Secretary for the Environment: The direction is the key concern. We would like to get closer and nearer to the target as set out in the blueprint.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)