

SED visits Central and Western District

The Secretary for Education, Mr Kevin Yeung, visited Central and Western District this afternoon (July 17) to learn more about summer holiday activities for parents and children. He also exchanged views with young people and members of Central and Western District Council.

Accompanied by the Chairman and Vice-chairman of the Central and Western District Council, Mr Yip Wing-shing and Mr Chan Hok-fung, and the District Officer (Central and Western), Mrs Susanne Wong, Mr Yeung first went to Sheung Wan to join a local tour of the intangible cultural heritage in Central and Western District.

The tour was co-organised by the Conservancy Association Centre for Heritage and Central and Western District Office. With parent-child interaction as one of its characteristics, the tour allows parents and children, through visits to small local shops and picture-book activities, to learn more about aspects of local history and culture, such as paper crafts, printing and dried seafood.

Mr Yeung said he commended parents for arranging parent-child activities during the summer holiday, as well as allowing their children to take ample rest. Not only would it help the children foster a healthy lifestyle, it would also enhance parent-child relationships and provide the children with other learning experiences, he said.

He then went to the Kennedy Town Community Complex to listen to the views expressed by youths of the Central and Western District Youth Development Network, followed by a visit to the Central and Western District Office to exchange views with local district councilors.

Also accompanying Mr Yeung on the district visit were two Secondary Five students participating in the "Be a Government Official for a Day" programme, which gives them the opportunity to shadow a principal official for one day during the summer holiday. Starting this morning, they accompanied Mr Yeung on his daily business, including meeting with the outgoing Consul-General of Finland in Hong Kong, Mr Jari Sinkari, shooting a video for Teachers' Day, and exchanging views with representatives of the Hong Kong Kowloon City Industry and Commerce Association and school head groups.

After being shadowed by the two students for the day, Mr Yeung said he was impressed by their serious attitudes and care for the community. He encouraged them to continue to study hard and gain more experience, and said he believed they would serve the community well in whatever working positions they might hold in the future.

TD's response to media enquiries on convicted cases involving use of private car for illegal carriage of passengers for hire or reward

In response to media enquiries today (July 17) on the conviction of 28 drivers involving the use of private cars for illegal carriage of passengers for hire or reward, a spokesman for the Transport Department (TD) gave the following reply:

The Government has been paying close attention to the use of private cars or light goods vehicles (LGVs) for illegal carriage of passengers for hire or reward (commonly known as "pak pai" services) and will tackle such offences by taking stringent enforcement actions. The TD has been in close liaison with the Police and will refer suspected cases to the Police for follow-up actions.

Subsections (3), (5) and (10)(a) of section 52 and Schedule 4 of the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap 374) stipulate that an offender who uses a private car or LGV for the illegal carriage of passengers for hire or reward, or who solicits or attempts to solicit any person to travel in such a vehicle, is liable to a fine of \$5,000 and three months' imprisonment on the first conviction. The licence of the subject vehicle may also be suspended for three months. On the second or subsequent conviction, the person is liable to a fine of \$10,000 and six months' imprisonment. For a subsequent offence in respect of the same motor vehicle, the licence of that vehicle may be suspended for six months.

The Government is open-minded in respect of the application of communications technologies, including the use of Internet or mobile applications for calling hire cars. However, the hire car services adopting new technologies or platforms must be in compliance with the relevant law and regulations to protect the interest and safety of passengers. A hire car permit is required for the provision of hire car services which must be in compliance with the requirements of the relevant laws and the conditions of hire car permit.

As regards today's case in which 28 drivers provided carriage services through the "Uber" mobile application and were fined by the court for illegal carriage of passengers for hire or reward, the TD will follow the established procedure to deliver a notice of intention to suspend the licence of the motor vehicle to the registered owner pursuant to section 90 of the Road Traffic Ordinance.

The TD will proceed to arrange suspension of the vehicle licence in

accordance with the relevant legislative requirements and direct the registered owner to deliver the motor vehicle into the custody of the department until the expiry of the suspension period.

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The TD will continue to support the Police in their enforcement actions to combat the illegal carriage of passengers. From 2015 to July 17, 2018, a total of 46 vehicles have been impounded by the TD with the vehicle licences suspended due to convictions for the offence of illegal carriage of passengers for hire or reward.

HAD to open temporary night heat shelters

The Home Affairs Department will open 18 temporary night heat shelters tonight (July 17) for people in need of the service.

The shelters will be open from 10.30pm until 8am tomorrow.

For further information, please call the department's enquiries hotline before midnight on 2835 1473.

The 18 night heat shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Districts:

Central and Western –

Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall

3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex

2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern/Wan Chai –

Causeway Bay Community Centre

Waiting Lobby, 3/F, 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Southern –

Lei Tung Community Hall

Lei Tung Estate, Ap Lei Chau

Kowloon Districts:

Kowloon City –

Hung Hom Community Hall

Multi-purpose Room, 1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices

42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong –

Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre

71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po –

Shek Kip Mei Community Hall

G/F, Block 42, Shek Kip Mei Estate

Nam Cheong Street, Sham Shui Po

Wong Tai Sin –

Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre

Hall, G/F, 45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong –

Henry G Leong Yaumatei Community Centre

60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

New Territories Districts:

Islands –

Tung Chung Community Hall

G/F, Tung Chung Municipal Services Building,

39 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung

Kwai Tsing –

Kwai Shing Community Hall

Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung

North –

Cheung Wah Community Hall

Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling

Sai Kung –

Hang Hau Community Hall

G/F, Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex,

38 Pui Shing Road, Hang Hau, Tseung Kwan O

Sha Tin –

Lung Hang Estate Community Centre

Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin

Tai Po –

Tai Po Community Centre

2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan –

Lei Muk Shue Community Hall

G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan

Tuen Mun –
Butterfly Bay Community Centre
Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun

Yuen Long –
Long Ping Community Hall
Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long

Yuen Long –
Tin Yiu Community Centre
Tin Yiu Estate, Tin Shui Wai

The temporary night heat shelters will resume their functions as either community centres or community halls in the daytime for hire by the local community and cannot continue to be open as heat shelters. People may choose to take refuge from the heat during the daytime in the common areas in any of the 21 designated community centres or community halls. Their opening hours are from 9am to 10pm. For addresses of the community centres or community halls, please browse the following webpage:

www.had.gov.hk/file_manager/en/documents/public_services/emergency_services/List_CH_CC_Day_E.pdf

Lifesaving services suspended at Hap Mun Bay, Kiu Tsui and Trio beaches

Attention TV/radio announcers:

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

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (July 17) that as lifeguards are unable to go to Hap Mun Bay Beach, Kiu Tsui Beach and Trio Beach in Sai Kung District by ferries due to rough sea conditions, lifesaving services at these beaches have been suspended until further notice. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at these beaches until further notice.

“Hong Kong 2017” to go on sale tomorrow (with photos)

The Government's latest Yearbook, "Hong Kong 2017", goes on sale at the Hong Kong Book Fair from tomorrow (July 18) with a few special features to mark the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR).

The cover of this edition is a collection of lively illustrations depicting the multifarious commemorative and everyday activities that happened throughout the year. These hand-drawn images are characterised by a simplicity of style and generous use of colour to bring out the joy and inclusiveness of the anniversary celebrations.

In addition to the cover, there are 12 photo sections comprising almost 130 photographs of events, people and places in Hong Kong. One of the sections is the six-page "HKSAR 20th anniversary", which features the visit of the first national aircraft carrier "Liaoning", "City Dress Up" public art projects and "Celebrations for All" activities, among others.

An invaluable source of information about Hong Kong, the annual publication describes the city's institutional setup, arrangements and progress in any one year. It also provides a wide-ranging account of government policy and activities, an overview of Hong Kong life and developments and a wealth of facts and figures, including more than 40 statistical tables.

The 22 chapters in "Hong Kong 2017" cover the territory's constitution and administration, legal system, economy, innovation and technology, transport, tourism and public order, among many other topics. The map on the inside back cover shows major recreation and sports facilities in the territory.

The standard price of "Hong Kong 2017" is \$308. It is offered at \$231, after a 25 per cent discount, at the Information Services Department booth (stall A38 in Hall 1B, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre) during the Book Fair from July 18 to 24.

Other than at the Book Fair, "Hong Kong 2017" can be bought at the department's Publications Sales Unit at Room 626, 6/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point.

Orders can also be placed through the Online Government Bookstore at www.bookstore.gov.hk or by:

- calling the Publications Sales Unit on 2537 1910;
- downloading an order form from the department's website

- at www.isd.gov.hk and submitting the form online or by fax to 2523 7195;
or
- emailing puborder@isd.gov.hk.

