

Operators fined for illegal club operation

A woman and a company were each fined \$6,000 at the Eastern Magistrates' Courts today (June 9) for contravening the Clubs (Safety of Premises) Ordinance.

The courts heard that in September last year, officers from the Office of the Licensing Authority (OLA) of the Home Affairs Department conducted an inspection at a club on Foo Ming Street in Causeway Bay, which had been operating with a certificate of compliance (CoC).

During the investigation, the OLA officers posed as customers and patronised the club for food and drinks without being asked to show their membership status or being invited to join the club as members. The club's staff also failed to show a copy of the certificate of fire service installation and equipment upon the OLA officers' request. Moreover, the OLA officers found that the club had a layout that deviated from the registered drawing, and the number of people at the club exceeded the maximum allowable capacity as stipulated in the CoC as well. Conditions 3, 6, 12 and 14 of the CoC were breached.

The woman and the company, being the operator and the CoC holder of the club, were charged with contravening section 21(1) (a) and section 21(2) of the Ordinance respectively.

A spokesman for the department reminded all CoC holders to comply with the conditions as stipulated therein. Enforcement actions will continue to be taken against illegal club operations.

Exchange Fund Bills tender results

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

Exchange Fund Bills tender results:

Tender date	: June 9, 2020
Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: Q2024
Issue date	: June 10, 2020
Maturity date	: September 9, 2020
Amount applied	: HK\$164,975 MN

Amount allotted	: HK\$47,457 MN
Average yield accepted	: 0.40 PCT
Highest yield accepted	: 0.40 PCT
Pro rata ratio	: About 93 PCT
Average tender yield	: 0.45 PCT

Tender date	: June 9, 2020
Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: H2053
Issue date	: June 10, 2020
Maturity date	: December 9, 2020
Amount applied	: HK\$44,275 MN
Amount allotted	: HK\$9,000 MN
Average yield accepted	: 0.40 PCT
Highest yield accepted	: 0.42 PCT
Pro rata ratio	: About 19 PCT
Average tender yield	: 0.48 PCT

Tender date	: June 9, 2020
Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: Y2090
Issue date	: June 10, 2020
Maturity date	: June 9, 2021
Amount applied	: HK\$19,120 MN
Amount allotted	: HK\$3,000 MN
Average yield accepted	: 0.43 PCT
Highest yield accepted	: 0.44 PCT
Pro rata ratio	: About 1 PCT
Average tender yield	: 0.52 PCT

Hong Kong Monetary Authority tenders to be held in the week beginning June 15:

Tender date	: June 16, 2020
Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: Q2025
Issue date	: June 17, 2020
Maturity date	: September 16, 2020
Tenor	: 91 Days
Amount on offer	: HK\$44,320 MN

Tender date	: June 16, 2020

Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: H2054
Issue date	: June 17, 2020
Maturity date	: December 16, 2020
Tenor	: 182 Days
Amount on offer	: HK\$10,000 MN

Tender date	: June 19, 2020
Paper on offer	: EF Bills
Issue number	: M2001
Issue date	: June 22, 2020
Maturity date	: July 29, 2020
Tenor	: 37 Days
Amount on offer	: HK\$800 MN

Secondary Three to Five cross-boundary students to resume classes next Monday

Subsequent to the gradual class resumption of local students, Secondary Three to Secondary Five (S3 to S5) cross-boundary students (CBS) will resume classes next Monday (June 15).

A spokesman for the Education Bureau (EDB) said, "The EDB has been paying close attention to the development of the epidemic and the resumption of classes of local students since late May, and working together with local schools, relevant departments of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) and Shenzhen Municipal People's Government in planning the class resumption arrangements for S3 to S5 CBS. With the concerted efforts and collaborations of various parties, the arrangements for S3 to S5 CBS are finalised and they will resume classes on June 15."

The spokesman added, "The class resumption arrangements for CBS involve a range of issues including epidemic prevention and control policies of Hong Kong and Shenzhen, immigration control as well as transportation arrangements. The class resumption arrangements for CBS should be made with the safety and health of students, teachers and the public as the prime concern, and with due regard to the capacity of all parties. Therefore, class resumption for CBS, at this stage, is limited to S3 to S5."

The HKSAR Government and Shenzhen Municipal People's Government will introduce special arrangements at the two boundary control points from Monday

to Friday to facilitate CBS to travel to and from school via either Shenzhen Bay Port (advance opening hours for arrival immigration procedures of southbound CBS from 6.30am to 8.30am) or Futian/Lok Ma Chau Spur Line Port (with special arrangements to open for arrival/departure immigration procedures of CBS from 6.30am to 8.30am (southbound) and from 2pm to 4.30pm (northbound)). To prevent unnecessary social contact with other personnel and reduce risks of infection, CBS will take school buses to travel between the boundary control points in Hong Kong and schools, and they have to wear masks on school buses to ensure hygiene.

The spokesman added, "To alleviate parents' financial burden, the EDB will provide a special transportation subsidy to this batch of CBS (S3 to S5) for the approximately one-month period of class resumption, amounting to the difference between the transportation cost of the temporary school bus service and the average cost of taking public transportation. The extra burden of CBS families should be relieved."

Students will be subject to the health protection measures of Hong Kong and Shenzhen when they cross the boundary control points every day, including going through temperature screening and submission of health declaration forms to the staff of the Department of Health (DH). In schools, same as local students, CBS are placed under health and precautionary surveillance, including measuring body temperature upon entering and leaving the school premises, ensuring students wear masks and requesting students to follow the health protection measures at schools, etc. Parents or guardians of CBS should keep the students under surveillance, including taking students' body temperature every day before school and remaining vigilant on students' health condition. CBS are required to present proof of a negative nucleic acid test result within seven days when crossing the boundary control points in Shenzhen and declare health conditions during clearance procedures. Subject to meeting the relevant conditions, CBS can in principle be exempted from compulsory quarantine in Hong Kong and medical surveillance by means of centralised quarantine in Shenzhen.

"For the class resumption arrangement of S3 to S5 CBS, the EDB will soon issue comprehensive guidelines detailing the aforesaid new arrangements on immigration control and transportation, points to note and requirements on hygiene and health protection measures. Schools, parents and students must observe these guidelines."

The EDB wishes to thank the principals and teachers concerned who have been proactively arranging a series of supporting measures for S3 to S5 CBS within a tight schedule, including coordinating local school bus services. Currently, there are around 2 500 S3 to S5 CBS and we believe some of them will adopt the above arrangements to resume classes in Hong Kong. With the experience gained and review of the actual operation upon class resumption of CBS, the EDB will take into account factors such as the latest development of the epidemic, the transportation situation of the boundary control points, manpower arrangements as well as the remaining school days in this school year and explore the feasibility of making arrangements for CBS in other class levels to resume classes in Hong Kong. The EDB believes that schools and teachers will, as they have been

doing all along, continue to assist CBS in the Mainland in sustaining their learning at home with different learning modes (including e-learning).

In the meantime, classes of Kindergarten Three to Primary Three in Hong Kong will resume on the same day (June 15). The EDB appeals to parents and students to stay vigilant and follow the series of special precautionary measures at school. The EDB will continue to communicate with schools and the Centre for Health Protection of the DH to assist schools in adopting appropriate health protection measures, taking into account the development of the epidemic.

Interest rate of sixth interest payment for Silver Bond Series due 2020

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

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), as representative of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government (HKSAR Government), announces today (June 9) the relevant per annum interest rate for the sixth interest payment of Silver Bond Series due 2020 (Issue Number 03GB2006R) (the Bonds) issued under the Retail Bond Issuance Programme of the Government Bond Programme.

According to the Issue Circular dated June 1, 2017 for the Bonds, the sixth interest payment of the Bonds is scheduled to be made on June 23, 2020, and the relevant interest rate is scheduled to be determined and announced on June 9, 2020 as the higher of the prevailing Floating Rate and Fixed Rate.

On June 9, 2020, the Floating Rate and Fixed Rate are as follows:

Floating Rate: +2.28 per cent (Annex)

Fixed Rate: +2.00 per cent

Based on the Floating Rate and Fixed Rate set out above, the relevant interest rate for the sixth interest payment is determined and announced as 2.28 per cent per annum.

Police urge the public not to take part in unauthorised assemblies

Police notice that some netizens have been calling on members of the public to take part in unauthorised assemblies on Hong Kong Island tonight (June 9). Police reiterate that anyone participating in such events may be found guilty of “taking part in an unauthorised assembly” in accordance with the Public Order Ordinance and be liable to a maximum penalty of five years’ imprisonment. Besides, engaging in public gatherings will also increase the risk of transmission of the virus in the community and may commit certain offences under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation regarding prohibited group gatherings.

Police believe that such unauthorised assemblies and prohibited group gatherings will very likely cause serious obstruction to traffic on Hong Kong Island, potentially leading to delays in emergency services. Police will take into consideration different traffic conditions and implement temporary route diversion as well as traffic control measures accordingly. Regarding this, Police are calling on road users to watch out for any incidents that may occur in different districts and avoid going to affected areas. More importantly, drivers should follow the instructions given by police officers at the scene and drive away from dangerous areas.

Police will conduct risk assessments and cordon off the Legislative Council Road, Lung Wui Road, Tamar Park, the footbridge connecting the Admiralty Centre and the Central Government Offices (CGO), as well as the footbridge connecting CITIC Tower, when necessary. Everyone who are going to the CGO, Legislative Council Complex and CITIC Tower may need to use the footbridge connecting CITIC Tower, and produce their staff cards at the inspection station, as necessary.

Meanwhile, some rioters have been inciting others on the Internet to attack police officers using petrol bombs, in an attempt to force Police to deploy tear gas. Police strongly condemn such malicious and irresponsible messages that intended to encourage the use of violence. The use of petrol bombs within busy districts not only breaches the peace in public places, but also gravely endangers normal citizens and everyone at the scene. Police do not condone any violent acts and will deploy minimum necessary force to enforce the law.

Police stress that any group gatherings taking place during the ongoing pandemic may also increase the risk of spreading the virus. Police call upon members of the public to refrain from taking part in unauthorised assemblies and prohibited group gatherings. The Police will deploy adequate manpower in relevant locations today and take resolute action to enforce the law, including making arrests.