

Latest arrangements on LCSD public services

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) announced today (April 28) that, in view of the latest situation of COVID-19, some leisure venues will be reopened in phases on May 6 and May 11. Some libraries and museums will reopen starting from May 6.

For leisure venues, non-fee charging outdoor leisure facilities to be reopened on May 6 (Wednesday) include running tracks in sports grounds (for jogging only), fitness equipment, pebble walking trails, cycling facilities, badminton courts, tennis courts, skateparks, skateboard grounds, roller skating rinks, model car play areas, model boat pools and table tennis tables.

Fee charging outdoor leisure facilities to be reopened on the same day include tennis courts, bowling greens, Ngau Chi Wan Park Archery Range, Shek O Obstacle Golf Course and the archery range, golf driving range and practice greens at Tuen Mun Recreation and Sports Centre.

Those to be reopened on May 11 (Monday) are all indoor leisure facilities. They are badminton courts, squash courts, table tennis rooms/tables, the cycling track of Hong Kong Velodrome, indoor golf driving bays, indoor bowling greens, indoor jogging tracks and indoor tennis courts.

Apart from the above facilities, other leisure facilities temporarily closed earlier such as public swimming pools, beaches, soccer pitches, basketball courts, gateball courts and children's play equipment will continue to be closed until further notice. Please refer to the LCSD's website (www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/facilities/facilitieslist/landsports.html) for details of the facilities to be reopened.

Members of the public can book the reopened fee charging leisure facilities via the Internet Booking Service of Leisure Link starting from May 5 (Tuesday). Leisure Link Booking Office of the District Leisure Services Offices will resume service on May 6. Leisure Link Booking Office and Self-service Kiosk of the above venues will resume booking services on the same day of reopening of leisure facilities.

For refund arrangements in relation to earlier venue closures (there is no reallocation arrangement), the hirer may submit a completed refund application form together with the original booking permit to the reopened LCSD leisure venue or a Leisure Link Booking Office at a District Leisure Services Office. The application form can be downloaded from www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/aboutlcsd/forms/refund.html.

The LCSD appeals to venue users to comply with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G) on the prohibition of group gatherings of more than four people. The LCSD will

adopt special measures at sports facilities to be reopened. Measures including stepping up cleansing works, arranging temperature checks for people entering indoor venues, limiting the numbers of users at venues, opening alternate courts/rinks/tables and closing spectator stands. Changing rooms and showering facilities at leisure venues will be temporarily closed to reduce the risk of the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

In addition, processing and acceptance of individual and block booking applications for the department's non-fee charging land recreation and sports facilities, block booking applications for the fee charging land recreation and sports facilities, applications for use of wedding venues, amphitheatres and non-fee charging leisure venues for non-designated use/sales activities as well as recreation and sports programmes are suspended until further notice.

Regarding cultural venues, Hong Kong Central Library and six other major public libraries, namely City Hall Public Library, Kowloon Public Library, Tsuen Wan Public Library, Sha Tin Public Library, Tuen Mun Public Library and Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Public Library, will partially reopen on May 6 and implement special opening hours. The opening hours of the seven libraries will be 1pm to 8pm from Mondays to Saturdays and 9am to 5pm on Sundays and public holidays. To avoid people gathering, the libraries will arrange admission by sessions, with each session lasting about one hour. Admission slips will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis for entry to each session. Children under 12 will only be allowed to enter when accompanied by an adult. Facilities of the above seven libraries to be reopened include the adult, young adult and children's libraries. Limited services, including lending and returning of library materials and picking up reserved library materials, will resume. Other facilities including the newspaper and periodical areas, Reference Libraries, Computer Information Centres, computer facilities and study rooms will remain closed. The self-service library stations at Island East Sports Centre Sitting-out Area, the Hong Kong Cultural Centre and Tsuen Nam Road, Tai Wai, and all book drop services of the Hong Kong Public Libraries including those at MTR Central, Kowloon Tong and Nam Cheong stations will resume on the same day. Public libraries will continue to provide online services such as e-Books and e-Databases. Please visit www.hkpl.gov.hk/en/index.html for details.

Thirteen LCSD museums, including the Hong Kong Museum of Art, the Hong Kong Heritage Museum, the Hong Kong Museum of History, the Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware, the Law Uk Folk Museum, the Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum, the Sheung Yiu Folk Museum, the Sam Tung Uk Museum, the Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum, the Fireboat Alexander Grantham Exhibition Gallery, the Hong Kong Railway Museum, the Hong Kong Film Archive and the Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre (hiring studios only) will partially reopen their exhibition facilities on May 6, with interactive exhibits and public programmes temporarily suspended. Special opening hours from 10am to 5pm daily (except on the regular closing day) will be implemented. Among the 13 museums, the Hong Kong Museum of Art, the Hong Kong Heritage Museum and the Hong Kong Museum of History will arrange visits by sessions, each lasting two hours, to limit visitor flow. Visitors will be able to enter the museums on a first-

come, first-served basis. Children aged under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. For details, please visit www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/facilities/facilitieslist/museums/lcsdmuseums.html.

All performance venues will not be opened before the end of May. The Chinese Opera Festival (COF) and the International Arts Carnival (IAC), scheduled to be held from June to August 2020 originally, have been cancelled. The LCSD organises the COF and IAC annually, inviting numerous professional arts groups from the Mainland and overseas to come to Hong Kong to offer audiences high-quality performing arts programmes and promote cultural exchange in conjunction with local arts groups. Fifteen arts groups from the Mainland and overseas have been invited to perform in Hong Kong this year. Due to the pandemic and numerous uncertainties in global business travels, the LCSD and participating arts groups reached a consensus on cancelling the two festivals this year.

Apart from maintaining URBIX Internet and mobile app ticketing and hotline services, box offices and ticket dispensing machines at LCSD performance venues will resume operation with special opening hours (from noon to 6.30pm daily) from May 6. For events presented/sponsored by the LCSD and some organised by hirers which have been cancelled due to venue closure arising from the pandemic, LCSD will start arranging ticket refund from May 6. Please visit www.urbtix.hk/internet/en_US/newsDetail/167774 for more details.

Visitors to the public libraries, museums and box offices of performance venues are advised to wear their own masks and will be subject to temperature checks before admission. Enhanced measures including cleaning between sessions will be conducted.

All music centres of the Music Office will remain closed. Apart from the above-mentioned public libraries and museums, the rest of the relevant cultural facilities will continue to be temporarily closed.

The LCSD will continue to monitor the situation closely and review the arrangements in a timely manner.

Missing man in Hung Hom located (2)

A man who went missing in Hung Hom has been located.

Choy Chow-moon, aged 84, went missing after he left his residence in Ho Man Tin Estate yesterday afternoon (April 27). His family made a report to Police on the same day.

The man returned to his residence this afternoon (April 28). He sustained no injuries and no suspicious circumstances were detected.

Tender awarded for site in Mong Kok

The Lands Department announced today (April 28) that the tender for a site, Kowloon Inland Lot No. 11240 at the junction of Soy Street and Shanghai Street, Mong Kok, Kowloon, has been awarded to the highest tenderer, Bring Bright Limited (parent company: Worth Forever Limited), on a 50-year land grant at a premium of \$467,180,000.

The tenderers, other than the successful tenderer, in alphabetical order, with the name of the parent company where provided by the tenderer in brackets, were:

- (1) Best Wealth Limited (Vanke Overseas Investment Holding Company Limited);
- (2) Boundless Investments Limited (K&K Property Holdings Limited);
- (3) China Land Resources Development Limited (Chuang's China Investments Limited);
- (4) Citypoint Investment Limited (CK Asset Holdings Limited);
- (5) Crown Smart Investment Limited (Yuexiu Property (HK) Company Limited);
- (6) Dynasty Asia Limited (Sino Land Company Limited and China Merchants Land Limited);
- (7) First Smart Investment Limited (Yau Lee Holdings Limited);
- (8) Fortunate Pioneer Limited (Wheelock Properties Limited);
- (9) Get Nice International Limited (Get Nice Holdings Limited);
- (10) Grand Build Development Limited (Grand Ming Group Holdings Limited);
- (11) Grand Harvest (HK) Development Limited;
- (12) Joy Wide Asia Investment Limited (Great Harvest Group Development Limited);
- (13) Leonard Holdings Company Limited (Wealthy Catcher Limited);
- (14) Mega Source Global Limited (Far East Consortium International Limited);
- (15) Power Main Limited (FDB Assets Limited);
- (16) Prince Development Limited;
- (17) Rainbow Legend Limited (New Explorer Investments Limited);
- (18) Rich Blossom Limited (Wang On Properties Limited);
- (19) Sky Bloom Investment Limited (S E A Holdings Limited);
- (20) Sunrise Treasure Limited (Great Eagle Holdings Limited);
- (21) Sure Gain Corporation Limited (Emperor International Holdings Limited);
- (22) TS Creative Limited (Crystal Investment Limited);
- (23) Ultra Wealth Development Limited (Pretty Tone Limited);

- (24) Victory Field Development Limited (Tai Cheung Holdings Limited);
- (25) Welland (Hong Kong) Limited (Kaisa Group Holdings Limited); and
- (26) Wisdom Sign Limited (Wing Tai Properties Limited).

Kowloon Inland Lot No. 11240 has a site area of about 625.5 square metres and is designated for non-industrial (excluding godown, hotel and petrol filling station) purposes. The minimum gross floor area is 3,751.75 sq m. The maximum gross floor area for private residential purposes that may be attained is 4,691.25 sq m. The maximum gross floor area for non-industrial (excluding private residential, godown, hotel and petrol filling station) purposes is computed according to the relevant special condition in the Conditions of Sale. The aforementioned minimum gross floor area and maximum gross floor area for non-industrial (excluding private residential, godown, hotel and petrol filling station) purposes include the gross floor area of Government Accommodation, being a neighbourhood elderly centre and a day care centre for the elderly to be constructed by the purchaser.

Jail sentences for two company directors convicted of tax evasion after retrial

Two company directors were convicted at the District Court of two charges of tax evasion on April 7, 2020, and were sentenced today (April 28). Both defendants were sentenced to six weeks' immediate imprisonment.

The two directors, now aged 53 and 59 respectively, were previously acquitted of five charges of offences, being wilfully with intent to assist a company to evade profits tax. The Secretary for Justice appealed to the Court of Appeal against the Judge's verdict on two of the five charges. The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal and remitted the case to the District Court for retrial. The two relevant charges were wilfully with intent assisting a company to evade tax by making use of a fraud, art or contrivance or authorising the use of such fraud, art or contrivance, for the years of assessment 2005-06 and 2006-07, contrary to section 82(1)(g) of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) (IRO).

The court heard that the two directors were the shareholders and directors of a property agency company. The total assessable profits reported by the said company for the two years 2005-06 and 2006-07 amounted to \$253,425. An investigation by the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) revealed that the two directors included two bogus payments for the total sum of \$199,000 as expenses of the said company, namely "computer and internet expenses" of \$99,700 and "salaries and commission expenses" of \$99,300,

thereby reducing the company's assessable profits for the two years by a total amount of \$199,000. The total tax evaded was \$34,826.

A spokesman for the IRD reminds taxpayers that tax evasion is a criminal offence under the IRO. Upon conviction, the maximum penalty for each charge is three years' imprisonment and a fine of \$50,000 plus a further fine of three times the amount of tax evaded.

Technical amendments on Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance and subsidiary legislation

The Government published in the Gazette today (April 28) the amendments of the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 599) (the Ordinance) and its subsidiary legislation, updating and standardising the use of "coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)" as the latest nomenclature for the statutorily notifiable disease in Hong Kong, extending the validity of the Prevention and Control of Disease (Disclosure of Information) Regulation (Cap. 599D), and enabling certain officers, in addition to the Director of Health (DoH), to perform a function under Schedule 2 of the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G). The amendments will come into effect at 0.00am tomorrow.

(1) Naming of notifiable infectious disease and infectious agent

Currently, the Ordinance and its six subsidiary legislations include "Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent" as the nomenclature of the notifiable infectious disease. The disease has been included in Schedule 1 of the Ordinance and the Prevention and Control of Disease Regulation (Cap. 599A) since January 8. The same nomenclature has been adopted under other subsidiary legislations under the Ordinance.

Under the amendments, "Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent" has been renamed as "coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)". Also, "severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)" has also been added to the list of Scheduled Infectious Agents in Schedule 2 to the Ordinance. The legislative amendments followed the earlier adoption by the World Health Organization of the name "coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)" for the disease and "severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)" for the virus.

In addition to the Ordinance, the amendments apply to relevant provisions under its six subsidiary legislations, i.e. the Prevention and Control of Disease Regulation (Cap. 599A), the Compulsory Quarantine of

Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C), the Prevention and Control of Disease (Disclosure of Information) Regulation (Cap. 599D), the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E), the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F) and the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G).

The amendments will not affect the provisions concerning the disease. Medical practitioners are required to notify the DoH if they have reason to suspect the existence of the disease. Also, owners or persons in charge of a laboratory are required by law to notify the DoH about leakage of the virus in the laboratory for the protection of laboratory workers and prevention of laboratory-acquired infections.

The Centre for Health Protection has issued letters to doctors and the medical laboratory sector to inform them of the relevant legislative amendments and the revised reporting criteria.

(2) Extending the validity of the Prevention and Control of Disease (Disclosure of Information) Regulation (Cap. 599D)

A health officer is currently empowered to require a person to disclose or furnish any information relevant to the handling of a state of the public health emergency, such as travel history. The relevant power is extended to other medical practitioners who would have encountered a person involved in such a public health emergency.

The amendments have extended the validity of Cap. 599D from May 7, 2020, to August 31, 2020. It would be a criminal offence for any person to provide false or misleading information to the health officer/medical practitioners concerned. The maximum penalty for failure to comply is a fine of \$10,000 and imprisonment for six months.

(3) Empowering certain officers performing a function under Schedule 2 of the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G)

To streamline relevant procedures, the amendments enable certain officers, in addition to the DoH, to perform a function under Schedule 2 of Cap. 599G, for example, to serve a demand notice for failure to pay the fixed penalty.

The above amendments are made under regulations in accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 599). Section 8 of Cap. 599 empowers the Chief Executive in Council to make public health emergency regulations for the purposes of preventing, combating or alleviating the effects of a public health emergency and protecting public health.