

Senior appointments (with photos)

The Government announced today (October 10) the following senior appointments:

(a) Ms Irene Young Bick-kwan, Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene, will take up the post of Permanent Secretary for Environment and Ecology (Food) on November 11, 2024, to succeed Miss Vivian Lau Lee-kwan who will proceed on pre-retirement leave in end-October; and

(b) Mr Donald Ng Man-kit, Deputy Secretary for Housing/Deputy Director of Housing (Strategy), will take up the post of Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene on November 18, 2024.

Commenting on the appointment of Ms Young and Mr Ng, the Secretary for the Civil Service, Mrs Ingrid Yeung, said, "The appointees are seasoned Administrative Officers with proven leadership and management skills. I have every confidence that they will continue to serve the community with professionalism in their new posts."

Regarding Miss Lau who will proceed on pre-retirement leave, Mrs Yeung said, "Miss Lau has rendered 36 years of loyal and dedicated service to the community and made significant contributions to the Government. During Miss Lau's tenure as Permanent Secretary for Environment and Ecology (Food), she capably led the team to formulate and implement the Blueprint for the Sustainable Development of Agriculture and Fisheries, as well as policies on food safety, veterinary public health and environmental hygiene. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she offered strategic steer for implementing relevant anti-epidemic work and played a pivotal role in helping the Government win the battle. I wish her a fulfilling and happy retirement."

Brief biographical notes of the three officers are set out below:

Miss Vivian Lau Lee-kwan

Miss Lau joined the Administrative Service in September 1988 and rose to the rank of Administrative Officer Staff Grade A1 in April 2022. She has served in various bureaux and departments, including the former City and New Territories Administration, the former Security Branch, the former Economic Services Branch, the former Finance Branch, the former Financial Services Bureau, the former Education and Manpower Bureau, and the Trade and Industry Department. She was Deputy Secretary for the Environment from May 2010 to March 2014, and Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene from March 2014 to February 2021, and has been serving as Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (later renamed as Permanent Secretary for Environment and Ecology (Food)) since February 2021.

Ms Irene Young Bick-kwan

Ms Young joined the Administrative Service in August 1990 and rose to the rank of Administrative Officer Staff Grade A in April 2023. She has served in various bureaux and departments, including the former Civil Service Branch, the former Transport Branch, Home Affairs Department, the former Office of the Telecommunications Authority, the former Finance Branch, the former Finance Bureau, the former Economic Services Bureau, the former Economic Development and Labour Bureau, the former Education and Manpower Bureau, the Labour and Welfare Bureau, and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Geneva. She was Permanent Representative of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China to the World Trade Organization from May 2014 to January 2019, and Deputy Secretary for the Environment from January 2019 to April 2021, and has been serving as Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene since April 2021.

Mr Donald Ng Man-kit

Mr Ng joined the Administrative Service in August 1995 and rose to the rank of Administrative Officer Staff Grade B1 in April 2023. He has served in various bureaux and departments, including the former Health and Welfare Branch, the former Security Branch (later renamed as Security Bureau), the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Tokyo, the Housing Department, the former Environment, Transport and Works Bureau, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Geneva, and the former Environment Bureau. He was Deputy Director of Environmental Protection from January 2016 to September 2019, and Head of Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency from October 2019 to March 2022, and has been serving as Deputy Secretary for Housing/Deputy Director of Housing (Strategy) since April 2022.



