

Government disagrees with impromptu motion of C&WDC

The Government attaches great importance to the views of the District Councils. Heads of Departments attend District Council meetings in person to listen to the views of the Councils. The Commissioner of Police (CP) attended the meeting of the Central and Western District Council (C&WDC) today (January 16), listening to and answering questions raised by members of the Council.

However, the Government disagrees with the impromptu motion moved by the C&WDC against the Police and the CP. The motion made unfounded allegations against the Police. The Government disagrees with the impromptu practice of the Council as well as the stance of the motion, and therefore all members of the Government in attendance walked out of the meeting.

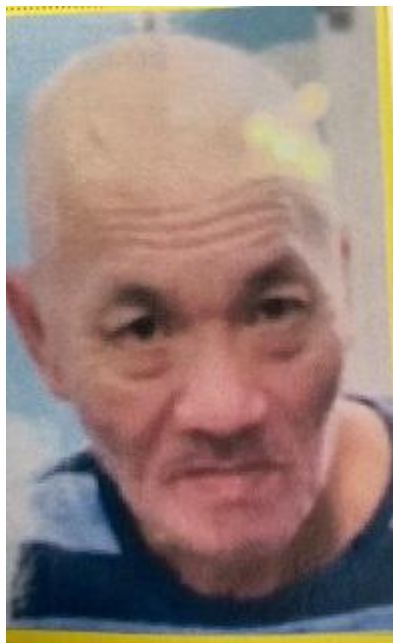
Appeal for information on missing man in Sau Mau Ping (with photo)

Police today (January 16) appealed to the public for information on a man who went missing in Sau Mau Ping.

Luk Wai-yiu, aged 70, went missing after he was last seen on Hiu Kwong Street yesterday (January 15) afternoon. His family made a report to Police on the same day.

He is about 1.8 metres tall, 72 kilograms in weight and of thin build. He has a long face with yellow complexion and short straight white hair. He was last seen wearing a black down vest, a white long-sleeved shirt, grey trousers and black slippers, and carrying a black crutch.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing man or may have seen him is urged to contact the Regional Missing Person Unit of Kowloon East on 3661 0316 or 9886 0060 or email to rmpu-ke-2@police.gov.hk, or contact any police station.



[Hong Kong 2020 International Urban Forestry Conference opens \(with photos\)](#)

The inaugural Hong Kong 2020 International Urban Forestry Conference, organised by the Development Bureau (DEVB), opened at the JC Cube Auditorium, Tai Kwun in Central this morning (January 16).

On the theme "Challenges and Opportunities of Urban Greening in High-density Cities", the two-day conference provides a platform for renowned international experts, decision-makers, academics and industry professionals to share experiences and best practices on urban forestry management to enhance the liveability and resilience of Hong Kong.

In her opening address, the Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, said developable land is a scarce resource in Hong Kong but the Government is determined to ensure that public parks, landscaped areas and roadside planting are an essential variable in the city's town-planning.

"As our tree inventory expands, we are turning to smart technology to augment our technical capability and capacity in tree management. The DEVB has initiated a range of research and development projects in collaboration with government departments and research institutes. The intent is to develop a technology-enabled framework to manage our urban forest," she said.

Mrs Lam said the Study Sponsorship Scheme and the Trainee Programme under the Urban Forestry Support Fund are targeted for launching later this

year. The Government will subsidise tuition fees to encourage more young people to pursue studies in arboriculture, and graduates of arboriculture and tree management courses will be offered formal on-the-job training with a monthly allowance.

"The DEVB is also working on a voluntary registration scheme for tree management personnel. That will mark another important step forward in raising professional standards of our industry practitioners," she added.

During the conference, over 20 speakers from Mainland China, overseas and locally will share their insights on three key topics, namely Green Cities, Resilient Landscape and Tree Care. A field demonstration at Victoria Park has also been arranged for participants to learn more about practical tree care techniques.

Co-organised by the Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong and supported by other government departments, green organisations as well as education and professional institutes, the conference has attracted about 600 participants.

Also attending the conference were the Secretary for Development, Mr Michael Wong, and the Permanent Secretary for Development (Works), Mr Lam Sai-hung.



CHP closely monitors confirmed case of infection of novel coronavirus in Japan and revises reporting criteria

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health said today (January 16) that the CHP has been closely monitoring a new confirmed case of infection of novel coronavirus in Japan. The public is again urged to maintain strict personal, food and environmental hygiene both locally and during travel.

According to information from the health authority of Japan, the case involved a male patient in his thirties who is living in Kanagawa, Japan. The patient, who had earlier travelled to Wuhan, Hubei Province, developed a fever on January 3 and returned to Japan on January 6 and sought medical attention on the same day. He was admitted to a local hospital on January 10 and was discharged on January 15. He tested positive for the novel coronavirus on January 15. According to the patient, he did not visit the Hua Nan Seafood Market in Wuhan but had contact with a pneumonia patient while he was in Wuhan.

In view of the latest situation and risk assessment, the CHP will enhance surveillance of suspected cases and revise the reporting criteria of "Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent". Details are as follows:

Medical practitioners are requested to make a report to the CHP for further investigation if they encounter an individual with fever and acute respiratory illness, or pneumonia, and who had experienced one of the following within 14 days prior to the onset of symptoms: (a) visited Wuhan (regardless of whether the individual had visited wet markets or seafood markets there); or (b) visited a medical hospital in the Mainland; or (c) had close contact with a confirmed case of the novel coronavirus while that patient was symptomatic.

A spokesman for the CHP said, "The CHP will issue letters to doctors and private hospitals to inform them of the revised reporting criteria. The CHP will continue to maintain its liaisons with the World Health Organization, the National Health Commission and relevant overseas health authorities, and closely monitor the situation for risk assessment. The reporting criteria will be adjusted in a timely manner according to the prevailing situation."

The Port Health Division (PHD) of the CHP has earlier strengthened port health measures and enhanced temperature screenings of travellers with increased frequency of random checking at all boundary control points. An additional thermal imaging system dedicated for temperature screenings of travellers from flights arriving in Hong Kong from Wuhan has been put in place at Hong Kong International Airport.

Moreover, additional temperature checks using handheld infrared thermometers for all inbound travellers during the periods when the two daily high-speed trains with stops at Wuhan arriving in Hong Kong are conducted to ensure that the body temperatures of all passengers from these two trains are checked. Travellers who fulfilled the above reporting criteria will be immediately referred to public hospitals for isolation, treatment and follow-up.

The PHD has advised the MTR Corporation Limited, the Airport Authority Hong Kong and relevant airlines to strengthen the cleaning and disinfection work for high-speed trains and aircraft arriving in Hong Kong from Wuhan. Cleaning and disinfection work for the West Kowloon Station of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link and airport terminal buildings have also been stepped up. Furthermore, the PHD has enhanced the dissemination of health messages through broadcasts to travellers in, for example, flight cabins and the West Kowloon Station, distribution of leaflets, displaying posters and promulgating travel health news via websites. The PHD will continue to maintain close liaisons with stakeholders of all boundary control points to update them in a timely manner about the latest situation and relevant measures.

A dedicated webpage (www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/102465.html) has been set up by the CHP to provide relevant information and health advice. To address the public's concern, the CHP will announce the details of cases fulfilling the reporting criteria (www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/enhanced_sur_pneumonia_wuhan_eng.pdf) on the above webpage daily to enhance transparency.

To prevent pneumonia and respiratory tract infection, members of the public should always maintain good personal and environmental hygiene. They are advised to:

- Perform hand hygiene frequently, especially before touching the mouth, nose or eyes; after touching public installations such as handrails or door knobs; or when hands are contaminated by respiratory secretions after coughing or sneezing;
- Maintain drainage pipes properly and add water to U-traps regularly to ensure environmental hygiene;
- Wash hands with liquid soap and water, and rub for at least 20 seconds. Then rinse with water and dry with a disposable paper towel. If hand washing facilities are not available, or when hands are not visibly soiled, performing hand hygiene with 70 to 80 per cent alcohol-based handrub is an effective alternative;
- Cover your mouth and nose with tissue paper when sneezing or coughing. Dispose of soiled tissues into a lidded rubbish bin, then wash hands thoroughly; and
- When having respiratory symptoms, wear a surgical mask, refrain from work or attending class at school, avoid going to crowded places and seek medical advice promptly.

The public should take heed of the health advice below when travelling outside Hong Kong:

- Avoid visiting hospitals. If it is necessary to visit a hospital, put on a surgical mask and observe strict personal and hand hygiene;
- Avoid touching animals (including game), poultry/birds or their droppings;
- Avoid visiting wet markets, live poultry markets or farms;
- Avoid making close contact with patients, especially those with symptoms of acute respiratory infections;
- Do not consume game meat and do not patronise food premises where game meat is served;
- Adhere to food safety and hygiene rules such as avoiding consuming raw or undercooked animal products, including milk, eggs and meat, or foods which may be contaminated by animal secretions, excretions (such as urine) or contaminated products, unless they have been properly cooked, washed or peeled;
- If feeling unwell when outside Hong Kong, especially if having a fever or cough, wear a surgical mask, inform the hotel staff or tour escort and seek medical advice at once; and
- After returning to Hong Kong, consult a doctor promptly if having a fever or other symptoms, take the initiative to inform the doctor of any recent travel history and any exposure to animals, and wear a surgical mask to help prevent spread of the disease.

CE to lead TeamHK delegation to World Economic Forum

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, will lead a top-level delegation to this year's World Economic Forum (WEF) at Davos to remind global political, business and media leaders that Hong Kong's enduring strengths and advantages continue to serve it well.

Mrs Lam arrives in Davos on January 21 and will return to Hong Kong on January 25 at the start of the Lunar New Year.

Joining Mrs Lam in TeamHK will be the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Edward Yau; the Chairman of the Airport Authority Hong Kong, Mr Jack So, and its Chief Executive, Mr Fred Lam; the Chair of Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited, Mrs Laura Cha, and its Chief Executive, Mr Charles Li; the Chief Executive Officer of the MTR Corporation Limited, Dr Jacob Kam, and its Deputy Director, Mr Jerry Li; the Chairman of Swire Pacific, Mr Merlin Swire; and the Chairman and CEO of Far East Consortium International, Mr David Chiu.

It will be the largest and most high-powered Hong Kong delegation to

attend the WEF in more than 20 years.

TeamHK will be out in strength on January 23 for Hong Kong Night, which includes a Q&A with Mrs Lam and three panel discussions on the topics "East Meets West – Global Capital Markets in the New Decade", "Hong Kong, Trade Capital – Connecting Asia, Connecting the World" and "The Greater Bay Area – Mobility, Infrastructure and Property".

Mrs Lam said she understood the global interest in Hong Kong and would take the opportunity to engage as many Davos attendees as possible to impress upon them the city's strengths and advantages.

"Much has happened in Hong Kong over the past year, and challenges remain. But our fundamentals remain strong and our future remains bright," Mrs Lam said.

"We are a free and open society and a highly competitive international business and financial hub. This is the message I and TeamHK will take to Davos."

Mrs Lam said she would stress the resilience and flexibility of Hong Kong and its people.

"This is not the first time we have faced a crisis. We always bounce back – that is the enduring power of Hong Kong. Our enhanced presence at the WEF serves to update, reassure and remind people that Hong Kong is very much 'ON' and will remain a globally significant city."

Mrs Lam said that whether addressing the current social unrest or paving the way for future development, Hong Kong would strictly adhere to the "One Country, Two Systems" principle.

She said "One Country, Two Systems" provides Hong Kong with a unique set of advantages in China and globally.

"Hong Kong continues to play an important role in China's further opening up and reform," she said.

"There are significant, long-term opportunities for Hong Kong in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and under the Belt and Road Initiative."

Mrs Lam said she would inform WEF audiences that the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government was dealing with deep-seated issues and would not accept violence in any way, shape or form to resolve them.

"Hong Kong is not alone in facing social problems related to topics such as upward mobility, youth discontent, income disparity and housing affordability," she said.

"We know we need to deal with these issues, and we will."

"Dialogue has been held with hundreds of stakeholders and is ongoing. In that respect, I will also be in listening mode in Davos too."

Mrs Lam also said she would reinforce the message that Hong Kong remains safe and welcoming for business and investment despite isolated disruptions from time to time.

"Our institutional strengths remain strong, and these are important for international business confidence," she said.

"Our legal system has stood up well. It is our bedrock and is underpinned by a fiercely independent judiciary.

"The stock market, money market and banking systems are all operating smoothly; so is the airport and port. We have substantial fiscal reserves in excess of US\$130 billion to help us ride out the economic downturn. These are very solid foundations which continue to serve us well."

During Mrs Lam's attendance at the WEF Annual Meeting, she will address different sessions organised by the WEF and other organisations. She will also meet with leaders of various economies, the WEF and the business sector. While she is in Davos, the Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, will be the Acting Chief Executive.

More details on Hong Kong's participation at the WEF can be found on the BrandHK website at www.brandhk.gov.hk/html/en/WhatSOn/HK-at-WEF20.html.