

Electors reminded to confirm registration status before voting (with photos)

The following is issued on behalf of the Electoral Affairs Commission:

The Chairman of the Electoral Affairs Commission (EAC), Mr Justice Barnabas Fung Wah, today (November 19) urged electors to confirm their registration status through the election hotline 2891 1001 or the Online Voter Information Enquiry System (OVIES) (www.voterinfo.gov.hk) before casting their votes at the District Council Ordinary Election (DCOE) on Sunday (November 24) to ensure voting is smooth on the polling day.

"According to law, only registered electors on the 2019 final registers of electors are eligible to vote on the polling day. In addition to finding information on voter registration, electors can check the name and address of the designated polling station, its location on the map and other polling information such as the polling date and polling hours on OVIES. Electors who have yet to receive the poll card and are unable to ascertain their registration particulars via OVIES should call the election hotline immediately to confirm whether they are a registered elector," Mr Justice Fung said after visiting a mock polling station at Leighton Hill Community Hall this afternoon.

He also reminded electors that they must carry the original of their Hong Kong identity card to the designated polling station as specified on their poll card to vote.

"As there are 21 more District Council Constituency Areas in the DCOE this year compared with the DCOE in 2015, polling stations in some constituencies have changed. In addition, as some of the polling stations used in previous elections were not available due to various reasons, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) therefore needed to identify other venues as polling stations. As such, some electors need to vote in polling stations different from those in previous elections. Electors are reminded to open and read carefully the mail from the REO, and to go to the designated polling station. Electors can only cast their votes at the polling station as specified on their poll card," he said.

On the other hand, four polling stations have been relocated after risk assessment. The affected polling stations are Sassoon Road Assembly Hall at Pok Fu Lam, Hong Kong, which is now replaced by Yue Kwong Road Sports Centre at 43 Yue Kwong Road, Aberdeen; Hong Kong Community College at Hung Hom, which is now replaced by Yaumati Kaifong Association School at 80 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon; the Education University of Hong Kong Jockey Club Primary School at Tai Po, which is now replaced by SKH Yuen Chen Maun Chen Primary School at Kwong Fuk Estate, Tai Po, New Territories; and

John Fulton Centre, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Sha Tin, which is now replaced by Yan Oi Tong HK Toi Shan Association Elderly Centre at G/F, 1 Tsun King Road, Royal Ascot, Fo Tan, Sha Tin, New Territories. Affected electors are reminded to pay attention to the new poll card to be sent by the REO, indicating the change of polling station. The change may bring inconvenience to electors concerned, but Mr Justice Fung appealed for their understanding and encouraged them to exercise their civic rights and fulfil their civil responsibilities by casting their votes on the polling day so as to elect their District Council members.

Mr Justice Fung added that, in view of the current situation in Hong Kong, the Crisis Management Committee will assist the EAC to closely monitor the situation on the polling day and consider implementing relevant measures as needed. Returning Officers will also enlarge the No Canvassing Zones of polling stations to offer greater buffers for electors to enter the polling stations. Security of polling stations will be enhanced and quick response teams of the Fire Services Department will be formed to tackle fires at polling stations quickly. The REO will also enhance support services.

Mr Justice Fung pointed out that there is an angle cut at the upper left corner on the front of every ballot paper issued on polling day to assist electors with visual impairment to insert their ballot papers into Braille ballot paper templates correctly, so that they can mark the ballot papers by themselves. He clarified that the angle cut is not formed as a result of polling staff deliberately spoiling the ballot paper, as an online rumour has alleged.

He stressed that the ballot is secret in public elections in Hong Kong, while other arrangements such as opening of the sealed packets of ballot papers, locking and sealing of the ballot boxes, issuing of ballot papers, putting ballot papers by electors into ballot boxes and counting of votes are transparent and monitored.

Mr Justice Fung also reminded electors to follow proper voting procedures.

"When voting, electors should use the chop provided to stamp a tick on the ballot paper in the circle next to the chosen candidate's name, and fold the ballot paper inward in half once before putting it into the ballot box," he said.

The mock polling station at Leighton Hill Community Hall is among four mock polling stations open for electors to familiarise themselves with voting procedures for the DCOE. The other three are at the Henry G Leong Yaumatei Community Centre, Tuen Mun Town Hall and Tai Po Community Centre.

The mock polling stations will be open from noon to 8pm from tomorrow until Saturday (November 20 to 23).

A hotline at 2967 0198 and a fax line at 2834 0924 have been set up to arrange appointments for group visits. None of the four mock polling stations

will be able to accept pre-arranged group visits on November 23 (Saturday) owing to the need to prepare for the poll the next day.

Mr Justice Fung reiterated the importance of safeguarding the secrecy of votes.

"The ballot is secret. Electors should mark their ballot papers by themselves inside a voting compartment. An elector in need may ask the Presiding Officer or his deputy to mark the ballot paper on his behalf, in the presence of a polling staff member as a witness," he said.

"Electors must not use mobile phones or other electronic communication devices, take photographs or make video or audio recordings in a polling station. The distribution of election advertisements and display of propaganda material, such as any badge, emblem, clothing or head-dress, inside polling stations is also prohibited.

"The District Council Ordinary Election held every four years is a very important platform for over 4.13 million registered electors in Hong Kong to exercise their civil rights to elect their representatives. We are devoting all efforts to prepare for the election and formulate contingency plans for possible incidents. However, most importantly, the full co-operation of all Hong Kong citizens is needed to safeguard Hong Kong's good election culture so that the election can be held in a peaceful, fair, open, safe and orderly manner. We believe that all candidates and electors wish for the smooth proceeding of the election. The EAC calls for cessation of violence and urges all sectors of society to respect and be inclusive to people with different views, so that candidates can hold electioneering activities, electors can cast their votes safely on the polling day, polling staff can serve electors in a peaceful manner and the election can proceed smoothly," Mr Justice Fung said.

"We call upon electors to exercise their civil rights and fulfil their responsibilities to vote this Sunday and to elect their representatives."

A total of 1,090 candidates will run for 452 seats on the polling day. Over 610 ordinary polling stations and 23 dedicated polling stations will be open on the polling day for over 4.13 million registered electors to cast their votes.

The polling hours for the ordinary polling stations and the three dedicated polling stations set up at police stations will be from 7.30am to 10.30pm. For the dedicated polling stations set up at penal institutions, for security reasons, the polling hours will be from 9am to 4pm.



[“Belt and Road: Hong Kong-IN” Sharing Session on Financial Services and Business Growth held today \(with photos\)](#)

The "Belt and Road: Hong Kong-IN" Sharing Session on Financial Services and Business Growth jointly organised by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB), the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council (SASAC) and the Hong Kong Chinese Enterprises Association was held in Hong Kong today (November 19).

The sharing session was comprised of two panels, both moderated by the Commissioner for Belt and Road, Mr Denis Yip. The discussions centred around how Hong Kong's all-round professional financial and related services can support enterprises in respect of Belt and Road financing, challenges in opening up Belt and Road markets, as well as how Hong Kong professional services leverage the city's unique advantages in providing solutions. Panel speakers shared their experiences and successful cases, and held exchanges with the participants. Business matching opportunities were also featured.

About 200 representatives from state-owned, Mainland and Hong Kong

enterprises as well as local professionals and chambers of commerce attended the sharing session. Among the participants were over 20 representatives of the SASAC and state-owned enterprises led by the Deputy Director-General of the Bureau of Property Right Management of the SASAC, Mr Xie Xiaobing. The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Edward Yau, and Mr Xie spoke at the sharing session.

Mr Yau highlighted that as an international financial centre, Hong Kong opens diverse financing channels with lower financing costs in support of Belt and Road infrastructure projects. Together with its ability to establish pioneer financial infrastructure that connects itself with the Mainland and the rest of the world, Hong Kong is well positioned to meet the diverse capital needs of the Belt and Road Initiative.

He further pointed out that Hong Kong is striving to develop as the green finance centre of Asia, providing capital for sustainable Belt and Road projects as well as establishing firm foundations in green finance certification and regulation. Quite a number of banks in Hong Kong have set up dedicated green finance teams and the city's related professionals are also ready to facilitate the development of a green Belt and Road.

Today's sharing session is the third of the same series jointly organised by the CEDB and the SASAC, following the sessions held in August 2018 and February of this year. Both sides found the sharing sessions useful in raising awareness of the Initiative and its related issues, and enhancing the SASAC's understanding of Hong Kong's professional services. Opportunities have also been taken to promote collaboration between enterprises of the two places, and to encourage those businesses to partner with professional services providers to go global as they explore Belt and Road prospects.

Mr Yau stressed that the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will continue to strengthen its work in taking forward the Belt and Road Initiative. Policy co-ordination with relevant Central authorities including the SASAC will be strengthened, and experience sharing and capacity building on policy areas related to the Initiative will be enhanced.

Panel speakers at the sharing session today included the Deputy Chief Executive of Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited, Mr Wang Bing; the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Securities and Futures Commission, Ms Leung Fung-yee; the Director of Operation of Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency, Mr P C Chan; the Director and Executive Vice President of China Mobile International Limited, Mr Shen Weizhong; the Chairman of Federation of Hong Kong Industries, Dr Daniel Yip; the Vice President of China Life Insurance (Overseas) Company Limited, Mr Yu Deben; and the Executive Director and Vice President of Shanghai Industrial Investment (Holdings) Company Limited, Mr Xu Bo.



[Company fined for violation of safety legislation](#)

Yau Kee Rubbertyre Limited was fined \$45,000 at Fanling Magistrates' Courts today (November 19) for violation of the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance and the Occupational Safety and Health Regulation. The prosecutions were launched by the Labour Department.

The case involved a fatal accident that occurred on February 25, 2019 in a vehicle repair workshop in Yuen Long. While a worker was inflating a container truck tyre, the tyre suddenly burst. The worker was hit by a blast of air and fell to the ground. He sustained a serious head injury and passed away on the same day.

[Special traffic arrangements for race meeting in Happy Valley tomorrow](#)

Special traffic arrangements will be implemented in Happy Valley tomorrow (November 20). The arrangements will come into effect one and a half hours before the start of the first race and will last until the crowds have dispersed after the race meeting.

A. Traffic arrangements before the commencement of the first race

1. Road closure

Southbound Wong Nai Chung Road between Queen's Road East and the up-ramp outside Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC) will be closed except for vehicles

heading for Aberdeen Tunnel.

2. Traffic diversions

- Southbound Wong Nai Chung Road between Village Road and the up-ramp outside HKJC will be re-routed one way northbound;
- Traffic along eastbound Queen's Road East heading for Wan Chai and Happy Valley will be diverted to turn left to Morrison Hill Road;
- Traffic along southbound Morrison Hill Road heading for Happy Valley will be diverted via Sports Road and Wong Nai Chung Road;
- Traffic along Queen's Road East cannot turn right to Wong Nai Chung Road except for vehicles heading to Aberdeen Tunnel;
- Traffic from Cross Harbour Tunnel heading for Queen's Road East will be diverted via the down-ramp leading from southbound Canal Road flyover to Morrison Hill Road to turn right at the junction of Wong Nai Chung Road and Queen's Road East; and
- Traffic from Cross Harbour Tunnel heading for Happy Valley or Racecourse will be diverted via the down-ramp leading from southbound Canal Road flyover to Canal Road East, southbound Morrison Hill Road, Sports Road and Wong Nai Chung Road.

B. Traffic arrangements before the conclusion of race meeting

1. Road closure

The following roads will be closed from about 35 minutes before the start of the last race:

- The up-ramp on Wong Nai Chung Road outside HKJC leading to Aberdeen Tunnel;
- Southbound Wong Nai Chung Road between Queen's Road East and the up-ramp leading to Aberdeen Tunnel;
- Southbound Wong Nai Chung Road between Village Road and the Public Stands of HKJC;
- Westbound Leighton Road between Wong Nai Chung Road and Canal Road East; and
- Southbound Morrison Hill Road between Leighton Road and Queen's Road East.

In addition, southbound Wong Nai Chung Road between the up-ramp leading to Aberdeen Tunnel and the Public Stands of HKJC will be closed from about 10 minutes before the start of the last race.

2. Traffic diversions

The following traffic diversions will be implemented from about 35 minutes before the start of the last race:

- Eastbound Queen's Road East at its junction with Morrison Hill Road will be reduced to one-lane traffic heading for northbound Canal Road flyover;
- Traffic from Cross Harbour Tunnel heading for Wan Chai will be diverted via the down-ramp leading from southbound Canal Road flyover to Canal Road East, U-turn slip road beneath Canal Road flyover, Canal Road West and Hennessy Road;

- Traffic from Cross Harbour Tunnel heading for Happy Valley will be diverted via the down-ramp leading from southbound Canal Road flyover to Canal Road East, eastbound Leighton Road and Wong Nai Chung Road;
- Traffic along southbound Morrison Hill Road will be diverted to turn left to eastbound Leighton Road;
- Traffic along southbound Morrison Hill Road heading for Happy Valley will be diverted via eastbound Leighton Road and Wong Nai Chung Road; and
- Traffic along westbound Leighton Road will be diverted to Wong Nai Chung Road.

C. Learner drivers prohibition

Learner drivers will be prohibited to turn left from Caroline Hill Road to Leighton Road between one and a half hours before the start of the first race and one hour after the last race. In addition, learner drivers will be prohibited from accessing the following roads within the above period of time:

- Shan Kwong Road between Yik Yam Street and Wong Nai Chung Road;
- Village Road between its upper and lower junctions with Shan Kwong Road;
- Percival Street between Hennessy Road and Leighton Road;
- Canal Road East; and
- The service road leading from Gloucester Road to Canal Road flyover.

D. Suspension of parking spaces

Parking spaces on southbound Wong Nai Chung Road between Sports Road and Blue Pool Road will be suspended from 11am to 7pm during day racing, from 4.30pm to 11.59pm during evening racing, and from 5pm to 11.59pm during night racing.

Any vehicles found illegally parked within the precincts of the above affected areas will be towed away without prior notice.

Actual implementation of road closure and traffic diversion will be made by the Police at the time depending on traffic conditions in the areas. Motorists should exercise tolerance and patience, and follow the instructions of Police on site.

Public hospital Accident and Emergency Departments appeal to public to consider alternative medical services

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The Hospital Authority (HA) said today (November 19) that the Accident and Emergency (A&E) Departments of various public hospitals are currently handling a large number of casualties from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

A total of around 80 casualties from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University were received by various A&E Departments this morning. The HA Major Incident Control Centre was notified by the Fire Services Department later that a large number of casualties were still at the scene. An Emergency Medical Team from the HA was then deployed to perform on-site patient triage. Around 200 casualties were subsequently sent to 12 different public hospitals for treatment, including Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kwong Wah Hospital, Princess Margaret Hospital, Caritas Medical Centre, Yan Chai Hospital, United Christian Hospital, Tseung Kwan O Hospital, Tuen Mun Hospital, Prince of Wales Hospital, Ruttonjee Hospital, Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital and Queen Mary Hospital.

The spokesperson added that the A&E Departments are currently treating a large number of patients. Doctors will accord priority treatment to patients with critical or emergency conditions as assessed under the established triage system, while semi-urgent and non-urgent patients might have to wait longer for consultation.

The spokesperson appealed for understanding and co-operation from members of the public. Patients with minor ailments are advised to consider seeking consultation at general out-patient clinics or private doctors.