

Tender amounts submitted for site in Kai Tak

The Lands Department announced today (July 23) that in respect of the tender for the site New Kowloon Inland Lot No. 6553 at Kai Tak Area 4C Site 1, Kai Tak, Kowloon, which was awarded on June 26 to the successful tenderer, Fame Well Creation Limited (parent company: China Resources Land Limited and Poly Property Group Co., Limited), on a 50-year land grant at a premium of \$12,916,000,000, the tender amounts submitted by the unsuccessful tenderers in descending order are published on an anonymous basis as follows:

- (1) \$12,501,545,000
- (2) \$11,100,000,000
- (3) \$10,429,860,400
- (4) \$10,113,000,000
- (5) \$9,988,000,000

The information disclosed in this press release is for information only.

Operator and manager of unlicensed guesthouses fined

Two men were fined \$3,500 and \$4,000 at the Eastern Magistrates' Courts and the Fanling Magistrates' Courts today (July 23) for contravening the Hotel and Guesthouse Accommodation Ordinance.

The courts heard that in December last year and January this year, officers of the Office of the Licensing Authority (OLA), the Home Affairs Department, inspected two suspected unlicensed guesthouses on Choi Yuen Road in Sheung Shui and King's Road in North Point. During the inspections, the OLA officers posed as lodgers and successfully rented rooms in these guesthouses on a daily basis.

According to the OLA's records, these guesthouses did not possess licences under the Ordinance on the days of inspection. The men responsible for operating and managing the premises were charged with contravening section 5(1) of the Ordinance.

A department spokesman stressed that operating or managing an unlicensed guesthouse is a criminal offence and will lead to a criminal record. Upon conviction, the offender is liable to a maximum fine of \$200,000 and two years' imprisonment.

The spokesman appealed to anyone with information about suspected unlicensed guesthouses to report it to the OLA through the hotline (Tel: 2881 7498), by email (hadlaeng@had.gov.hk), by fax (2504 5805) using the report form downloaded from the OLA website (www.hadla.gov.hk), or through the mobile application "Hong Kong Licensed Hotels and Guesthouses".

Manager and operator fined for illegal club operations

A man and a company were fined \$1,800 and \$3,000 respectively at the Eastern Magistrates' Courts today (July 23) for contravening the Clubs (Safety of Premises) Ordinance.

The courts heard that in December 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).

OLA officers posed as customers and patronised the club for food without being asked to show their membership status or being invited to join the club as members. Condition 19 of the CoC was breached.

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

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

EDB accepts recommendations of Task Force on School-based Management Policy

Having thoroughly considered the review report submitted by the Task Force on School-based Management (SBM) Policy, the Education Bureau (EDB) today (July 23) decided to accept all the 27 recommendations contained

therein.

The Task Force set up under the Education Commission (EC) submitted its report on July 8 this year, putting forward a total of 27 recommendations with a view to improving the quality of governance, strengthening the administration capabilities of schools and unleashing capacity for teachers and principals, and enhancing the participation of major stakeholders in school governance which includes optimising the mechanism on handling teachers' complaints. The recommendations are set out in the Annex.

The Secretary for Education, Mr Kevin Yeung, said, "The Task Force's recommendations are pragmatic and constructive in further enhancing the effectiveness of SBM. The EDB attaches great importance to the effective implementation of SBM. We have earlier adopted the Task Force's preliminary views and announced that starting from the 2019/20 school year, all public sector schools (including special schools) and schools under the Direct Subsidy Scheme would be provided with additional resources of \$570 million each year for the implementation of two of the recommendations, including the 'One Executive Officer for Each School' initiative and the SBM Top-up Grant.

"After thorough consideration of the review report, we have decided to implement 14 other recommendations gradually starting from the 2019/20 school year, such as enhancing manager training and school visits, setting up focus groups to understand the stakeholders' needs, implementing the soft training targets for school managers, and following up with the Panel of Review Boards on School Complaints to expand the scope of its review to cover teachers' complaints. The EDB is currently formulating the implementation details."

He added that as the remaining 11 recommendations concern school sponsoring bodies or incorporated management committees, the EDB would contact them as soon as possible, calling on them to implement the recommendations starting from the 2019/20 school year and providing them with appropriate assistance.

The full review report can be viewed on the EC website (www.edb.gov.hk/en/publications_and_related_documents/education_reports.html).

Licence of employment agency revoked

A spokesman for the Labour Department (LD) today (July 23) reminded operators of employment agencies (EAs) to conduct their business in compliance with the law and the requirements of the Code of Practice for EAs (the Code) at all times.

The LD has revoked the licence of Saint Happy Maids Agency located in

Mong Kok, Yuen Long and Tsuen Wan. The EA failed to meet the requirements set out in the Code, such as becoming involved in the financial affairs of foreign domestic helpers (FDHs), failing to draw up service agreements with employers, failing to include all required items in the service agreement with employers and FDHs, and failing to provide payment receipts to employers.

Under section 53(1)(c)(iva) and (e)(ii) of the Employment Ordinance (EO), the Commissioner for Labour (the Commissioner) may revoke the licence of an EA if he is satisfied that the licensee concerned or an individual employed by the licensee has not complied with the Code.

"The Code sets out the salient legal requirements that EA operators must observe in operating their business, as well as the minimum standards which the Commissioner expects from EAs. The Employment (Amendment) Ordinance 2018, which came into effect on February 9, 2018, stipulates that the Commissioner may refuse to issue or renew a licence, or may revoke a licence, if he is satisfied on reasonable grounds that the licensee or the person intending to be the licensee of an EA, or a related person of or an individual employed by the licensee or the person intending to be the licensee has contravened any provision of Part XII or any regulation made under section 62 of the EO, such as overcharging job seekers, operating an EA without a license, or has not complied with the Code issued under section 62A(1) of the EO," the spokesman added.

This is the third revocation of an EA licence in 2019. In 2018, there were eight cases of revocation/refusal of renewal of EA licences.

For enquiries about matters related to EAs or complaints regarding possible malpractices, please call the Employment Agencies Administration of the LD at 2115 3667, or visit its office at Unit 906, 9/F, One Mong Kok Road Commercial Centre, 1 Mong Kok Road, Kowloon.