<u>Labour Department investigates fatal</u> work accident in Shau Kei Wan

The Labour Department (LD) is investigating a work accident that occurred in Shau Kei Wan this afternoon (June 28), in which a worker died.

The LD immediately deployed staff to the scene upon receiving a report of the accident, and is now conducting an investigation to look into its cause.

Residential mortgage survey results for May 2019

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) announced the results of the residential mortgage survey for May 2019.

The number of mortgage applications in May increased month-on-month by 16.2 per cent to 17,456.

Mortgage loans approved in May increased by 30.1 per cent compared with April to HK\$52.3 billion. Among these, mortgage loans financing primary market transactions increased by 48.9 per cent to HK\$12.5 billion and those financing secondary market transactions increased by 23.5 per cent to HK\$26.2 billion. Mortgage loans for refinancing increased by 28.3 per cent to HK\$13.6 billion.

Mortgage loans drawn down during May increased by 58 per cent compared with April to HK\$33.6 billion.

The ratio of new mortgage loans priced with reference to HIBOR decreased from 89 per cent in April to 88 per cent in May. The ratio of new mortgage loans priced with reference to best lending rates increased from 8.1 per cent in April to 8.6 per cent in May.

The outstanding value of mortgage loans increased month-on-month by one per cent to HK\$1,351 billion at end-May.

The mortgage delinquency ratio remained unchanged at 0.02 per cent and the rescheduled loan ratio remained unchanged at nearly 0 per cent.

HAD to open temporary night heat shelters

The Home Affairs Department will open 19 temporary night heat shelters tonight (June 28) for people in need of the service.

The shelters will be open from 10.30pm until 8am tomorrow.

For further information, please call the department's hotline before midnight on 2835 1473.

The 19 night heat shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Districts:

Central and Western —
Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall
3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex
2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern —
Causeway Bay Community Centre
3/F, 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Southern — Lei Tung Community Hall Lei Tung Estate, Ap Lei Chau

Wan Chai — Wan Chai Activities Centre LG/F, Wan Chai Market, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai

Kowloon Districts:

Kowloon City —
Hung Hom Community Hall
1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices
42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong —
Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre
71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po -

Shek Kip Mei Community Hall G/F, Block 42, Shek Kip Mei Estate Sham Shui Po

Wong Tai Sin —
Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre
45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong — Henry G Leong Yaumatei Community Centre 60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

New Territories Districts:

Islands —

Tung Chung Community Hall G/F, Tung Chung Municipal Services Building, 39 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung

Kwai Tsing —
Kwai Shing Community Hall
Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung

North — Cheung Wah Community Hall Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling

Sai Kung — Hang Hau Community Hall G/F, Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex, 38 Pui Shing Road, Hang Hau, Tseung Kwan O

Sha Tin —
Lung Hang Estate Community Centre
Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin

Tai Po — Tai Po Community Centre 2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan — Lei Muk Shue Community Hall G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan

Tuen Mun —
Butterfly Bay Community Centre
Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun

Yuen Long — Long Ping Community Hall Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long

Yuen Long —
Tin Yiu Community Centre
Tin Yiu Estate, Tin Shui Wai

The temporary night heat shelters will resume their functions as either community centres or community halls in the daytime for hire by the local community and cannot continue to be open as heat shelters. People may choose to take refuge from the heat during the daytime in the common areas in any of the 20 designated community centres or community halls. Their opening hours are from 9am to 10pm. For addresses of the community centres or community halls, please browse the following webpage:

www.had.gov.hk/file_manager/en/documents/public_services/emergency_services/L
ist CH CC Day E.pdf.

<u>Grading of beach water quality</u> released

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) today (June 28) released the latest grading of water quality for 38 gazetted beaches that are open for swimming and one non-gazetted beach (i.e. Discovery Bay*).

Thirteen beaches were rated as Good (Grade 1), 15 as Fair (Grade 2) and 11 as Poor (Grade 3).

Grade 1 beaches are:

Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach
Chung Hom Kok Beach
Discovery Bay
Hap Mun Bay Beach
Hung Shing Yeh Beach
Kiu Tsui Beach
Lo So Shing Beach

Repulse Bay Beach
South Bay Beach
Stanley Main Beach
Tong Fuk Beach
Trio Beach
Upper Cheung Sha Beach

Grade 2 beaches are:

Butterfly Beach Cafeteria New Beach Lower Cheung Sha Beach Middle Bay Beach Castle Peak Beach
Clear Water Bay First Beach
Clear Water Bay Second Beach
Deep Water Bay Beach
Golden Beach
Kwun Yam Beach

Pui O Beach Shek O Beach Silverstrand Beach St Stephen's Beach Turtle Cove Beach

Grade 3 beaches are:

Anglers' Beach
Approach Beach
Big Wave Bay Beach
Cafeteria Old Beach
Casam Beach
Hoi Mei Wan Beach

Kadoorie Beach Lido Beach Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach Silver Mine Bay Beach Ting Kau Beach

* Discovery Bay is a non-gazetted beach without lifeguard service.

Compared with the grading released last week, Castle Peak Beach, Clear Water Bay Second Beach and Deep Water Bay Beach have been upgraded from Grade 3 to Grade 2. Kwun Yam Beach and St Stephen's Beach have been changed from Grade 1 to Grade 2, and Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach from Grade 2 to Grade 3.

"The changes are generally within the normal range of fluctuation of the bacteriological water quality of the beaches," an EPD spokesman said.

Under the present grading system, beaches are classified into four grades according to the level of E. coli in the water. Grades are calculated on the basis of the geometric mean of the E. coli counts on the five most recent sampling occasions.

While the ratings represent the general water quality at the beaches, the EPD spokesman reminded members of the public that water quality could be temporarily affected during and after periods of heavy rain. Bathers should avoid swimming at beaches for up to three days after a storm or heavy rainfall.

A summary of beach grades is published weekly before the weekend. The latest beach grades based on the most current data may be obtained from the department's website on Beach Water Quality (www.epd.gov.hk/epd/beach) or the beach hotline, 2511 6666.

<u>Advisory Committee on Countryside</u> Conservation established

The Environment Bureau announced today (June 28) that the Advisory Committee on Countryside Conservation (ACCC) will be established on July 1, 2019 to advise on priorities for conservation and revitalisation works proposals to be carried out by the Countryside Conservation Office (CCO), as well as to advise on policy and operational matters relating to the Countryside Conservation Funding Scheme (CCFS).

As announced in the Chief Executive's Policy Address in 2017, the Government strives to promote conservation of remote areas in the countryside, thereby protecting the natural ecology, revitalising the architectural environment of villages, and conserving cultural and heritage resources.

A spokesman for the Environment Bureau said, "To support sustainable and holistic conservation efforts in Hong Kong's remote rural countryside, the CCFS will be set up to provide a dedicated funding source for relevant countryside conservation projects covering ecological conservation, as well as the revitalisation of architectural and cultural heritage according to priorities."

Appointed and chaired by the Secretary for the Environment, the ACCC comprises scholars, professionals, rural/district stakeholders, representatives of green groups and representatives of relevant Government departments. The appointment of committee members will take effect on July 1 for a term of two years. The CCO under the Environmental Protection Department will serve as the secretariat to the ACCC.

The membership and terms of reference of the ACCC are at Annexes A and B respectively.