

CS visits Sha Tin Fire Station

The Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, visited Sha Tin Fire Station this afternoon (June 8) for an update on the work of the Fire Services Department (FSD) in firefighting and rescue as well as emergency ambulance services.

Accompanied by the Director of Fire Services, Mr Li Kin-yat, Mr Cheung was given a briefing on the initiatives undertaken by FSD to respond to the rapidly changing society to enhance firefighting, rescue and ambulance services, as well as projects to improve mobilising and communications equipment.

Following a demonstration by the Hazardous Material (HazMat) Team and the High Angle Rescue Team (HART), Mr Cheung toured various fire appliances to gain a better understanding of mass decontamination procedures and rescue operations.

The HazMat Team and HART are specialist teams. The HazMat Team attends incidents involving hazardous materials to provide frontline members with technical support and offer professional advice to the Incident Commanders. As regards the HART team, they are tasked to carry out rescue operations at high-angle locations with special features, such as cable cars, tower cranes, bridge towers, scaffolding at construction sites and suspended working platforms at high-rise buildings.

The Diving Unit then provided an introduction of a series of advanced underwater rescue equipment before Mr Cheung proceeded to inspect the operation of emergency ambulance services which is another core duty of the department. He was given a demonstration of different ambulance equipment and different types of ambulances, including Rapid Response Vehicle (RRV), Paramedic Equipment Tender (PET) and Mobile Casualty Treatment Centre (MCTC).

Each RRV is manned by an Ambulance Officer with Emergency Medical Assistant II qualification and equipped with advanced paramedic equipment. It is designed to perform quality assurance duties and discharge duties at tactical or task level in accordance with the Incident Command System, etc. RRVs also need to respond to emergency calls when no ambulance or Emergency Medical Assistant Motorcycle can arrive at the scene within 10 minutes.

Each PET is equipped with a range of essential life-saving equipment and paramedic and medical items, while the MCTC is equipped with an on-board surgical room and a great variety of life supporting equipment. In the event of a major incident, the PET and the MCTC are dispatched for provision of on-site operational support and medical treatment for casualties.

Before concluding the visit, Mr Cheung received a briefing on how the Mobilizing and Communications Group could support both fire and ambulance emergency operations. He also visited a Mobile Command Unit (MCU) which is a

specialist fire appliance designed to serve as field command centre during major fire incidents. FSD officers also demonstrated the operation of the Command Support System on the MCU and the department's Post-dispatch Advice (PDA) service.

PDA is a value-added service that aims to provide to callers seeking emergency ambulance services timely and appropriate advice to help stabilise patients' conditions prior to the arrival of an ambulance crew. PDA covers more than 30 types of injuries and sicknesses.

Mr Cheung was impressed by FSD's relentless efforts in enhancing firefighting and rescue strategies and improving quality and efficiency of emergency ambulance services with the aid of advanced equipment.

Commending FSD colleagues on their exemplary devotion to duty and high degree of professionalism, Mr Cheung encouraged them to keep up their good work in serving the community and protecting the public from fire and other calamities.

Correctional officers intercept smuggling of suspected dangerous drugs into Lai Chi Kok Reception Centre

Correctional officers at Lai Chi Kok Reception Centre today (June 8) intercepted a male remand person in custody smuggling suspected dangerous drugs into the centre by concealing them inside his body.

The 52-year-old person in custody was remanded in the institution for the offence of trafficking in dangerous drugs on June 6. After undergoing X-ray body scanning, he was suspected to have swallowed suspected dangerous drugs before admission. He was therefore separated and put under close monitoring.

At about 11am on June 8, six packs of suspected dangerous drugs wrapped in plastic sheet were discharged from him and the case was reported to the Police for follow-up.

A spokesperson for the Correctional Services Department said, "The department takes every measure to stop the introduction of dangerous drugs or unauthorised articles into correctional institutions in order to maintain good order and discipline and a drug-free environment for all persons in its custody."

Suspected case tests negative for MERS-CoV

The Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health today (June 8) reported that the suspected case of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) pending results yesterday (June 7), upon preliminary testing, tested negative for MERS Coronavirus.

HAD to open temporary night heat shelters

The Home Affairs Department will open 19 temporary night heat shelters tonight (June 8) 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

Government departments work with district groups in mosquito prevention and control on Cheung Chau (with photos)

As Hong Kong is entering the peak season of mosquito breeding, different government departments including the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD), the Home Affairs Department and the Civil Aid Service, together with the Islands District Council and the Cheung Chau Rural Committee, held a joint mosquito prevention and control operation on Cheung Chau today (June 8) to publicise mosquito prevention messages and to raise public awareness on mosquito-borne diseases.

The Under Secretary for Food and Health, Dr Chui Tak-yi, said, "Aedes albopictus, a kind of mosquito that can transmit dengue fever, breeds in small water bodies. In the past two weeks, rain was recorded in different places in Hong Kong. Stagnant water can lead to mosquito infestation, and hot and humid weather like that seen in recent days is conducive to large-scale mosquito breeding in a short period of time. The public must take effective mosquito control measures early.

"District community leaders and groups are very familiar with district issues. Their support and assistance at the district level is vital in the

promotion of anti-mosquito measures to residents. The collaboration of all government departments and the participation of all members of the public is crucial for mosquito control. Members of the public should also maintain personal hygiene and prevent mosquito breeding in their everyday lives."

Among the local dengue fever cases recorded last year, the patients of a number of cases resided in or visited Cheung Chau during the incubation period. In view of the dengue fever cases last year, the Government has already commenced the territory-wide All-out Anti-mosquito Operations before the onset of the rainy season. Various departments will continue to conduct fogging operations in the scrubby areas within a 100-metre radius around residences to kill adult mosquitoes weekly till the end of the rainy season.

"The FEHD is exploring to modify the design of the ovitrap with a view to obtaining data on *Aedes albopictus* through the collection of information on adult mosquitoes to give more information on adult mosquito density," Dr Chui said.

Public advice on mosquito control

- Thoroughly check all gully traps, roof gutters, surface channels and drains to prevent blockage;
- Scrub and clean drains and surface channels with an alkaline detergent compound at least once a week to remove any deposited mosquito eggs;
- Properly dispose of refuse, such as soft drink cans, empty bottles and boxes, in covered litter containers;
- Completely change the water of flowers and plants at least once a week. The use of saucers should be avoided if possible;
- Level irregular ground surfaces before the rainy season;
- Avoid staying in shrubby areas; and
- Take personal protective measures such as wearing light-coloured long-sleeved clothes and trousers and apply insect repellent containing DEET to clothing or uncovered areas of the body when doing outdoor activities.

Reduce risk of infections

To reduce the risk of infections spread by mosquitoes, apart from general measures, travellers returning from affected areas should apply insect repellent for 14 days (dengue fever) or at least 21 days (Zika virus infection) upon arrival in Hong Kong. If feeling unwell, seek medical advice promptly and provide travel details to a doctor.

Tips for insect repellents

DEET-containing insect repellents are effective and the public should take heed of the tips below:

- Read the label instructions carefully first;
- Apply right before entering an area with risk of mosquito bites;
- Apply on exposed skin and clothing;
- Use DEET of up to 30 per cent for pregnant women and up to 10 per cent for children*;
- Apply sunscreen first, then insect repellent; and
- Re-apply only when needed and follow the instructions.

* For children who travel to countries or areas where mosquito-borne diseases are endemic or epidemic and where exposure is likely, those aged 2 months or above can use DEET-containing insect repellents with a DEET concentration of up to 30 per cent.

People should call 1823 in case of mosquito problems and may visit the dengue fever pages of the [CHP](#) and its [Travel Health Service](#), the latest [Travel Health News](#), [tips for using insect repellents](#), the [CHP Facebook Page](#) and [YouTube Channel](#), and the [FEHD's Guidebook on Control and Prevention of Mosquito Breeding](#) for more information.



