

# Land Registry releases statistics for May

The Land Registry today (June 3) released its statistics for May 2025.

## Land registration

- \* The number of sale and purchase agreements for all building units received for registration in May was 6 442 (-10.9 per cent compared with April 2025 and -12.5 per cent compared with May 2024)
- \* The 12-month moving average for May was 5 643 (1.3 per cent below the 12-month moving average for April 2025 but 17.1 per cent above that for May 2024)
- \* The total consideration for sale and purchase agreements of building units in May was \$49.8 billion (-0.5 per cent compared with April 2025 and -20.0 per cent compared with May 2024)
- \* Among the sale and purchase agreements, 5 105 were for residential units (-10.3 per cent compared with April 2025 and -8.0 per cent compared with May 2024)
- \* The total consideration for sale and purchase agreements in respect of residential units was \$38.2 billion (-9.4 per cent compared with April 2025 and -28.3 per cent compared with May 2024)

Statistics on sales of residential units do not include sale and purchase agreements relating to sales of units under the Home Ownership Scheme, the Private Sector Participation Scheme, the Tenants Purchase Scheme, etc, unless the premium of the unit concerned has been paid after the sale restriction period.

Figures on sale and purchase agreements received for the past 12 months, the year-on-year rate of change and breakdown figures on residential sales have also been released.

As deeds may not be lodged with the Land Registry until up to 30 days after the transaction, these statistics generally relate to land transactions in the previous month.

## Land search

- \* The number of searches of land registers made by the public in May was 403 745 (+9.6 per cent compared with April 2025 but -0.3 per cent compared with May 2024)

The statistics cover searches made at the counter, through the self-

service terminals and via the Integrated Registration Information System Online Services.

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## Remarks by CE at media session before ExCo (with video)

Following are the remarks by the Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, at a media session before the Executive Council meeting today (June 3):

Reporter: Good morning, Mr Lee. Some English questions. First, can you tell us more about the way forward between your administration and the Beijing's liaison office with the new appointment of Mr Zhou Ji? And the second question, how will the Government proceed with a review on tunnel tolls after taking back the Tai Lam Tunnel, and will that have any implication on new infrastructure, such as the Central Kowloon Route? Thank you.

Chief Executive: The work of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government (LOCPG) in the Hong Kong SAR (Special Administrative Region) is to facilitate exchanges and co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland, enhancing interactions between the two places. I think good communication and understanding with the LOCPG will be beneficial to both the governance of the Hong Kong Government and also in assisting the Central Government in designing policies for Hong Kong. I think communication and understanding are important, so that the actual situation of Hong Kong is correctly reflected, and the aspirations and requests of the Hong Kong Government can also be duly reflected.

I respect Director Zhou because he has a humble personality and a pragmatic character. In my dealing with him while he was working in the Hong Kong and Macao Work Office (of the CPC Central Committee) in the last two years, my communication with him was very good, and it was always a pleasant experience. He has a lot of local administration experience, and he takes the interests of Hong Kong close to his heart, and he is a staunch supporter for the faithful and correct implementation of the "one country, two systems" principle, which, of course, is the cornerstone for the success and prosperity of Hong Kong. I will work my very best to ensure that my communication and understanding with Director Zhou and also with the Liaison Office as a whole will be enhanced, so that the best policies for Hong Kong will be made as a result of full and accurate reflection of the situation of Hong Kong.

I thank Director Zhou for stating categorically and publicly that he will continue to support the Chief Executive and the Hong Kong SAR Government to dutifully govern Hong Kong in accordance with the law. Good communication and liaison with the LOCPG will benefit Hong Kong as a whole; especially it is in the interest of the people of Hong Kong and the long-term stability and

prosperity of Hong Kong.

As regards the Government taking over the Tai Lam Tunnel and implementing the HKeToll, we have already seen that the tolls for different kinds of vehicles have dropped significantly, and the drop ranges from about 20 per cent to 80 per cent. The drop for, for example, a private vehicle – if we talk about the off-peak time – is something like 70 per cent, which is a reduction from \$58 to \$18. Because we have adopted HKeToll, it gives us the flexibility of fixing different charges at different times for different vehicles. The HKeToll allows us to do good rationalisation of traffic control and overall traffic enforcement. I am glad to see that now all tolled tunnels in Hong Kong have implemented the free-flow tolling service. They do not have to stop when they pay their tolls.

In assessing which tunnels will be charged, I think the Budget has already laid down a good framework for this to be tackled. The Budget has already stated very clearly that a lot of money is spent on building and also managing different tunnels and trunk roads. There are several principles I think we should adopt. First of all, "user pays", I think, is a fair policy. There is a need to have charges for particularly major tunnels and trunk roads, because there is a need for traffic management. Charges will help in managing the traffic flow, and it will also help to ensure that public transport will be given priority in the use of roads. It will also ensure that there will be maximum efficiency as a result of good traffic management. Then, of course, in assessing how much will be charged, the public's affordability will be taken into consideration. Overall, we have about 19 sets of government tunnels and trunk roads. Nine of them are tolled tunnels. We will continue to make assessment of the different tunnels and trunk roads to examine how we will go about designing the tunnel charges. Then, of course, priority will be placed on the tunnels for which the charges have remained unchanged for a long, long time; because of inflation and various factors, the charges do not actually reflect the present situation. And then, of course, another priority will be new tunnels or new trunk roads, because they will be opened up for use. We need to design the appropriate level of charging.

The Central Kowloon Route will be completed at the end of this year. Yes, we will design the appropriate charges, and we will also report to the Legislative Council's panel appropriately. Thank you.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the remarks.)

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**"M" Mark status awarded to 2025 Sun**

# Life Hong Kong International Dragon Boat Races

The following is issued on behalf of the Major Sports Events Committee:

The Major Sports Events Committee (MSEC) has awarded "M" Mark status to the 2025 Sun Life Hong Kong International Dragon Boat Races, scheduled to take place June 7 and 8 at the Tsim Sha Tsui East Promenade.

The Chairman of the MSEC, Mr Wilfred Ng, said today (June 3), "This is the largest dragon boat race in Hong Kong that combines traditional culture with sports competition. Held at Victoria Harbour, it attracts elite teams and dragon boat athletes from various countries and regions to compete fiercely and vie for honour. The race not only promotes the development of dragon boat sports, but also attracts many overseas travellers to the city, strengthening Hong Kong's status as a centre for major international sports events."

The "M" Mark System aims to encourage and help local National Sports Associations and private or non-government organisations to organise more major international sports events and nurture them into sustainable undertakings. Sports events meeting the assessment criteria will be considered for "M" Mark status by the MSEC. Funding support will also be provided to some events.

For details of "M" Mark events, please visit [www.mevents.org.hk](http://www.mevents.org.hk).

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## Red flag hoisted at Pui O Beach

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (June 3) that due to big waves, the red flag has been hoisted at Pui O Beach in Islands District. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at the beach.

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## **SITI to visit Changchun**

The Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry, Professor Sun Dong, will depart for a visit to Changchun, Jilin Province, today (June 3) to tour advanced manufacturing enterprises and learn about the development of the advanced manufacturing industry there.

Professor Sun will return to Hong Kong in the evening on June 4. During his absence, the Under Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry, Ms Lillian Cheong, will be the Acting Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry.