

Applications selected for 37th personalised vehicle registration marks exercise

The Transport Department (TD) announced today (October 19) that the application numbers of the 1 500 personalised vehicle registration mark (PVRM) applications selected by lot for the 37th exercise have been published on its website (www.td.gov.hk) and posted on the notice boards of the department's licensing offices.

"The applicants have already been sent an acknowledgement of receipt bearing an application number. They may check the list to see whether their applications have been selected. Applicants will also be notified of the ballot results by post in batches," a department spokesman said.

The department will later check the proposed PVRMs selected against the basic combination requirements. If, among the selected applications, more than one applicant proposes the same PVRM, only the one on which the lot falls first out of those applications will be further processed.

If the selected PVRMs meet the basic requirements, the department will send notices by registered mail to the applicants in batches, requiring them to pay a deposit of \$5,000 within the period specified in the notice. If an applicant fails to pay the deposit within that period, his or her application will be cancelled automatically and will not be further processed.

Upon receipt of the deposit, the Commissioner for Transport will determine, with the assistance of a vetting committee, whether an application should be approved or rejected. PVRMs approved in the 37th exercise will be put up for auction in batches. Auction details will be published in newspapers and on the department's website in due course.

For enquiries, applicants can call TD Hotline at 2804 2600.

Seafood hotpot restaurant and staff member convicted of violating Weights and Measures Ordinance

A seafood hotpot restaurant and its staff member were fined \$5,000 and \$3,000 today (October 19) at Kowloon City Magistrates' Courts for

possessing defective weighing equipment and supplying short-weight seafood respectively, in contravention of the Weights and Measures Ordinance (WMO).

Customs officers earlier ordered one catty of clams at the restaurant located in San Po Kong.

Subsequent examination by the Government Laboratory confirmed that the clams were short of weight by 5.39 taels and the spring scale used for weighing was offset by 2 taels while it was unloaded.

Under the WMO, any person who uses for trade, or has in his possession for use for trade, any weighing or measuring equipment which is false or defective commits an offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$20,000. In addition, any person who in the course of trade supplies goods to another person by weight or measure should supply the goods in net weight or net measure. Any shortage of the quantity purporting to be supplied is an offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$10,000.

Customs will continue to take stringent enforcement action against short-weight activities at restaurants to protect consumers' interests and uphold a fair trading environment.

Members of the public may report any suspected violations of the WMO to the Customs 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).

Turnaround arrangement for Mainland maintenance and emergency rescue vehicles on HZMB

A notice was published in the Gazette today (October 19) on the turnaround arrangement for Mainland maintenance and emergency rescue vehicles on the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB).

The HZMB is the first cross-boundary land link connecting Hong Kong, Zhuhai and Macao. For proper maintenance of the HZMB and speedy handling of accidents or other emergency situations, both Hong Kong and Mainland governments may deploy maintenance and emergency rescue vehicles for carrying out duties on the HZMB.

The Mainland vehicles concerned will include:

(i) maintenance vehicles engaged or authorised by the HZMB Authority which have the logo specified by the HZMB Authority displayed on the vehicles may need to enter Hong Kong in the course of discharging road maintenance duties

on the HZMB Main Bridge Section;

(ii) ambulances registered under Zhuhai Municipal Health and Family Planning Bureau may need to enter Hong Kong in the course of discharging rescue duties in the event of accidents on the HZMB; and

(iii) fire fighting vehicles registered under Zhuhai Municipal Fire Department may need to enter Hong Kong in the course of discharging fire-fighting and rescue duties in the event of accidents on the HZMB.

A spokesman for the Transport Department (TD) said, "Having regard to the special circumstances and the specific route mentioned above, the Commissioner for Transport has exempted the vehicles concerned by notice in the gazette from the Road Traffic (Registration and Licensing of Vehicles) Regulations, Chapter 374E, with effect from October 19, 2018 pursuant to regulation 3(c) of the Road Traffic (Registration and Licensing of Vehicles) Regulations. The above exemption does not affect the application of other laws of Hong Kong to the vehicles concerned when they are being driven on a road in Hong Kong."

The spokesman stressed that the vehicles concerned shall not be driven on a road in Hong Kong other than the Hong Kong Link Road of the HZMB. They shall return to the Mainland via the turnaround on the Hong Kong Link Road near San Shek Wan upon reaching that turnaround, except where the ambulances and fire fighting vehicles described above enter Hong Kong upon request by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for assistance in case of major serious accidents on the HZMB.

SCS on Kwun Tong comprehensive development project

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Secretary for the Civil Service, Mr Joshua Law, at a media session after attending a radio programme this morning (October 19):

Reporter: Mr Law, talking about the actual schedule, I know the college is supposed to be completed in 2026. What's going to happen in between? When will the consultation start? When is the redevelopment going to start?

Secretary for the Civil Service: Let me say a few words about the plan. We have selected a site quite close to the MTR station of Kwun Tong for an integrated development. This development will include both community facilities as well a civil service college. It will also include various connectivity like a green platform or a green deck-top connection between the MTR station and other parts of Kwun Tong. We will be going to consult the local community, especially the District Council. This will happen very soon. We will share with them our preliminary plans and see what ideas they have

about community needs for that location. Eventually we have to take the project to Legislative Council's Finance Committee for approval, and then the construction (works) will take a few years. In total, we expect that the whole integrated development will be completed in around 2026.

Reporter: And the cost?

Secretary for the Civil Service: The overall cost for the whole integrated development is about \$6 to \$7 billion.

Reporter: There is a special needs school at the Kwun Tong site right now. What is going to happen to that school?

Secretary for the Civil Service: The relevant policy bureau has got a plan for relocating some of the existing social facilities. As regards that school (the Skills Centre), the plan is that there will be a new training centre to be developed in another place in the urban area and it will commence operation in September 2021. That will be the time we expect the present school to be closed. So there won't be any gap in terms of the provision of training services. In future students receiving vocational training can go to the new place for training.

Reporter: How will the courses offered in the new civil service college be different from the ones currently being offered at the Civil Service Training and Development Institute?

Secretary for the Civil Service: There will be more courses, and will be more in-depth, focusing on technology, smart city, future direction of the community, and also to deepen the understanding of the nation's policies as far as they are connected with our future development. We are also looking at various options in intensifying our collaboration with local and overseas training institutes and universities, so that our trainees can continue (their study) if we have certain certification of credit system for our courses. Then they can embark on another course at their own time if they like.

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

[North Kwai Chung Jockey Club Swimming Pool to reopen](#)

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at regular intervals:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (October 19) that North Kwai Chung Jockey Club Swimming Pool in Kwai Tsing District, closed earlier on due to a burst water pipe in the vicinity, will be reopened at 1pm today.