

Pay Trend Survey Committee Meeting on May 24, 2018

The following is issued on behalf of the Pay Trend Survey Committee:

The Pay Trend Survey Committee (the Committee) met today (May 24) to consider the findings of the 2018 Pay Trend Survey.

The survey findings indicate that the following average pay adjustments have been awarded by the surveyed companies over the 12-month period from April 2, 2017 to April 1, 2018:

	Basic Pay Indicator	+	Additional Pay Indicator	=	Gross Pay Trend Indicator
Lower Salary Band (below \$21,880 per month)	4.39%	+	0.50%	=	4.89%
Middle Salary Band (\$21,880-\$67,065 per month)	4.83%	+	0.80%	=	5.63%
Upper Salary Band (\$67,066-\$135,075 per month)	3.87%	+	1.38%	=	5.25%

The 2018 Pay Trend Survey is conducted by the Pay Survey and Research Unit of the Joint Secretariat for the Advisory Bodies on Civil Service and Judicial Salaries and Conditions of Service and based on an improved methodology as approved by the Chief Executive-in-Council in March 2007.

The survey results reflect the pay trend in 112 companies covering 157 504 employees over the 12-month period from April 2, 2017 to April 1, 2018. The survey takes into account adjustments to basic salary and additional payments awarded to employees of the surveyed companies attributable to factors in relation to cost of living, general prosperity and company performance, general changes in market rates, merit and inscale increment, in accordance with the improved survey methodology.

A breakdown of the 112 companies by size is as follows:

	No. of Companies
Larger companies (employing 100 or more staff)	86 (77%)
Smaller companies (employing 50-99 staff)	26 (23%)
Total:	112

The distribution of the 157 504 employees by the three salary bands is

as follows:

	No. of Employees
Lower Salary Band (below \$21,880 per month)	78 497 (50%)
Middle Salary Band (\$21,880-\$67,065 per month)	67 910 (43%)
Upper Salary Band (\$67,066-\$135,075 per month)	11 097 (7%)
Total:	157 504

The Committee met on May 24, 2018 to verify and consider to validate the 2018 Pay Trend Survey Report. The representative of the Standing Commission on Civil Service Salaries and Conditions of Service, the representative of the Standing Committee on Disciplined Services Salaries and Conditions of Service, the two representatives of the Civil Service Bureau, the Secretary General of the Joint Secretariat for the Advisory Bodies on Civil Service and Judicial Salaries and Conditions of Service, the three Staff Side representatives of the Model Scale 1 Staff Consultative Council and one Staff Side representative of the Senior Civil Service Council validated the survey findings. The other Staff Side representative of the Senior Civil Service Council validated the survey findings with reservation.

The meeting was chaired by Mr Wilfred Wong Kam-pui, Chairman of the Pay Trend Survey Committee. Mr Wong is a member of the Standing Commission on Civil Service Salaries and Conditions of Service.

Mr Wong said, "The 2018 Pay Trend Survey is conducted in accordance with the agreed methodology and in a professional and objective manner. The Pay Trend Survey Committee will submit the Committee Report to the Government for consideration."

"The relevant pay trend indicators are the result of a survey of the pay trend in companies of the private sector. Pay adjustment for the civil service is, however, a separate matter. The actual level of adjustment will have to be determined by the Government in consultation with relevant parties having regard to an array of considerations," Mr Wong added.

Mr Wong wishes to express the Committee's sincere appreciation for the co-operation and assistance rendered by the companies to the Pay Survey and Research Unit.

Fraudulent email purportedly issued by Inland Revenue Department

The Inland Revenue Department (IRD) today (May 24) alerted members of the public to fraudulent emails purportedly issued by the department from the email account "taxnfo@ird.gov.hk", inviting the recipient to update certain information. The emails provide a hyperlink to a fake IRD website which seeks to obtain the address and password of the recipients' email account.

The department has no connection with the fraudulent emails and has reported the case to the Police for further investigation. Members of the public are reminded not to open any suspicious email.

Cluster of Clostridium Difficile toxin cases in Kowloon Hospital

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for Kowloon Hospital (KH) made the following announcement today (May 24):

Three female patients (aged 82 to 90) of a Rehabilitation ward presented with diarrhoea symptoms since May 12. Appropriate tests were arranged for the patients and their test results were positive for Clostridium Difficile toxin. The patients concerned are being treated under isolation with stable condition.

Limited admission to the ward has been imposed. Infection control measures for the ward have already been stepped up according to established guidelines. All other patients in the ward are under close surveillance.

The cases have been reported to the Hospital Authority Head Office and the Centre for Health Protection for necessary follow-up.

FS to visit Guiyang

The Financial Secretary, Mr Paul Chan, will set off tomorrow morning

(May 25) for a three-day visit to Guiyang.

While in Guiyang, Mr Chan will attend the China International Big Data Industry Expo 2018 and speak in its forums.

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He will also meet with senior officials of the Government of Guizhou Province and visit enterprises from the local big data industry.

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Mr Chan will return to Hong Kong in the afternoon of May 27 (Sunday).

In his absence, the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, Mr James Lau, will act as the Financial Secretary.

Special traffic and transport arrangements in So Kon Po and Causeway Bay this Saturday

The Transport Department (TD) today (May 24) reminded the public that special traffic and transport arrangements will be implemented in So Kon Po and Causeway Bay this Saturday (May 26) to facilitate the holding of a football match at the Hong Kong Stadium.

The special traffic and transport arrangements mainly include:

- * From about 1.30pm, the section of Caroline Hill Road between Leighton Road and Cotton Path, and the section of Hysan Avenue westbound between Sunning Road and Hoi Ping Road, will be closed, subject to the actual situation;
- * From about 4.30pm, Caroline Hill Road and the section of Eastern Hospital Road between Caroline Hill Road and Cotton Path will be closed to facilitate the dispersal of spectators until the crowd has dispersed and road closures are lifted, subject to the actual situation;
- * During the road closure period, Citybus route 5B, New World First Bus route 8H, cross-harbour route 936, green minibus routes 14M, 26 and 30, and residents' service route HR 51 will be temporarily diverted;
- * Cross-harbour route 117R will operate from the Hong Kong Stadium to Mong Kok after the event; and
- * On-street car parking spaces and car parks within the affected areas will be suspended.

The TD anticipates that the traffic in the vicinity of So Kon Po and

Causeway Bay will be congested. Motorists are advised to avoid driving to the affected areas. In case of traffic congestion, motorists should exercise tolerance and patience, and follow the instructions of the Police. Members of the public planning to go to the affected areas are advised to use public transport services as far as possible.

The TD and the Police will closely monitor the traffic situation and implement appropriate measures whenever necessary. Members of the public are advised to be alert to the latest traffic news broadcast via radio and television.

Details of the special traffic and transport arrangements are now available on the TD's website (www.td.gov.hk).