

# Very Hot Weather Warning issued

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

The Hong Kong Observatory has issued the Very Hot Weather Warning.

To prevent heat stroke, avoid prolonged activities outdoors.

If engaged in outdoor work or activities, wear a wide-brimmed hat and light-coloured, loose-fitting clothes. Stay in shaded areas as much as possible.

Drink plenty of water, and avoid beverages containing caffeine or alcohol.

If you feel sick, consult a doctor right away.

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## Police investigate suspected suicide of police officer

Police are investigating the death of a police officer in Tsuen Wan this morning (August 5).

At around 11.44am, Police received a report from a passerby that an injured man was found on a grassland near Muk Min Ha Tsuen on Route Twisk. He had a gunshot wound to his head. He was rushed to Yan Chai Hospital in unconscious state and certified dead at 12.26pm. A pistol was found next to the deceased. A suicide note was also found.

Upon initial investigation, it is believed that the deceased is a 39-year-old male Police Constable attached to Tsuen Wan District. It is suspected that he committed suicide with his service pistol.

Post-mortem examinations will be conducted later to ascertain the cause of death of the deceased.

Investigation by Regional Crime Unit of New Territories South is under way.

Police express sorrow and regret over the death of the police officer and extend sympathies to his family members to whom timely assistance will be offered.

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# Consultation conclusions on review of three-tier banking system

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

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) published today (August 5) the conclusions on the public consultation relating to the review of the three-tier banking system (the Conclusions Paper). The Conclusions Paper sets out the key comments received in the consultation, the HKMA's responses to these comments, and the HKMA's proposal on implementing the new two-tier banking system.

The HKMA launched a three-month public consultation on June 26, 2023. In the consultation, the HKMA proposed to merge deposit-taking companies (DTCs) into the second-tier institutions, i.e. restricted licence banks (RLBs), with a transition period of five years, with the current requirements on RLBs in respect of minimum capital (i.e. HK\$100 million) and minimum deposit size (i.e. HK\$500,000) applied.

The HKMA received a total of seven submissions from the banking industry, professional bodies and relevant organisations in the consultation. The respondents were broadly supportive of the proposal. Having considered the feedback, the HKMA has introduced new parameters to the proposal with a view to streamlining the transition and minimising impact on existing customers of the DTCs, as follows:

1. the HKMA intends to adopt an arrangement whereby, without a need for them to submit fresh licence applications, existing DTCs will be converted to be an RLB, upon demonstrating to the satisfaction of the HKMA that they have met the minimum capital requirement of an RLB before the end of the five-year transition period; and
2. it is intended that the converted RLBs may continue to hold and renew or roll over outstanding deposit taken before the upgrade, up to the end of the five-year transition period, subject to the pre-existing deposit size and maturity requirements of DTCs of HK\$100,000 and three months respectively.

"We are pleased to note the broad support of the respondents of the proposed simplification of the three-tier banking system into two-tier. We have carefully considered the suggestions received and adopted them as appropriate. The HKMA will provide guidance to the DTCs in their transition. Following the issuance of the consultation conclusions, the HKMA will work with the relevant parties to prepare the proposed legislative amendments to implement the proposal," said the Chief Executive of the HKMA, Mr Eddie Yue.

[The Conclusions Paper](#) is available on the HKMA website.

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## Missing man in Tuen Mun located

A man who went missing in Tuen Mun has been located.

Lam Tak-ip, aged 31, went missing after he was last seen at Leung King Estate on May 30. His family made a report to Police on June 17.

The man was located on Tung Lo Wan Road, Happy Valley yesterday (August 4) morning. He sustained no injuries and no suspicious circumstances were detected.

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## Update on cases of Legionnaires' disease

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health today (August 5) reported the latest number of cases of Legionnaires' disease (LD), and stressed the importance of using and maintaining properly designed man-made water systems, adding that susceptible groups should strictly observe relevant precautions.

From July 28 to August 3, the CHP recorded one imported LD case and one community-acquired LD case:

1. A male patient, aged 65 with underlying illnesses, who had been to the Mainland during the incubation period and was classified as an imported case; and
2. A male patient, aged 68 with underlying illnesses, who lives in Southern District.

Epidemiological investigations are ongoing to identify potential sources of infection, high-risk exposure and clusters, if any.

Furthermore, the CHP is investigating a case of LD in Gleneagles Hospital Hong Kong. The male patient, aged 82 with underlying illnesses, was admitted to Gleneagles Hospital Hong Kong on July 8 after receiving a surgery at Kwong Wah Hospital on June 27. He presented with lethargy and cough on July 26, and he developed a fever starting July 28. He was transferred to

Kwong Wah Hospital for further management on July 30 due to persistent fever and deteriorated condition. His clinical diagnosis was pneumonia and he is currently in stable condition.

His sputum specimen tested positive for Legionella species upon laboratory testing. Initial enquiries revealed that the patient stayed at Gleneagles Hospital Hong Kong without any travel history during the incubation period.

"Epidemiological investigations with Gleneagles Hospital Hong Kong are ongoing to identify potential sources of infection, high-risk exposure and clusters, if any. Relevant water samples and environmental swabs were collected from potential sources for laboratory testing," a spokesman for the CHP said.

Tracing of contacts including staff and in-patients in the relevant ward is ongoing, and those identified will be put under medical surveillance. The CHP has provided health advice against LD to staff and in-patients, including those with weakened immunity who should use sterile or boiled water for drinking, tooth brushing and mouth rinsing. An investigation is ongoing.

As of August 3, 62 LD cases had been recorded this year. In 2023 and 2022, there were 121 and 80 cases respectively.

"Men, people aged over 50, smokers, alcoholics and persons with weakened immunity are more susceptible to LD. Some situations may also increase the risk of infection, including poor maintenance of water systems; living in areas with old water systems, cooling towers or fountains; using electric water heaters, whirlpools and spas or hot water spring spas; and recent stays in hotels or vessels," the spokesman said.

Legionellae are found in various environmental settings and grow well in warm water (20 to 45 degrees Celsius). They can be found in aqueous environments such as water tanks, hot and cold water systems, cooling towers, whirlpools and spas, water fountains and home apparatus that support breathing. People may become infected when they breathe in contaminated droplets (aerosols) and mist generated by artificial water systems, or when handling garden soil, compost and potting mixes.

Immunocompromised persons should:

- Use sterile or boiled water for drinking, tooth brushing and mouth rinsing;
- Avoid using humidifiers, or other mist- or aerosol-generating devices; and
- If using humidifiers, or other mist- or aerosol-generating devices, fill the water tank with only sterile or cooled freshly boiled water, and not water directly from the tap. Also, clean and maintain humidifiers/devices regularly according to manufacturers' instructions. Never leave stagnant water in a humidifier/device. Empty the water tank, wipe all surfaces dry, and change the water daily.

The public should observe the health advice below:

- Observe personal hygiene;
- Do not smoke and avoid alcohol consumption;
- Strainers in water taps and shower heads should be inspected, cleaned, descaled and disinfected regularly or at a frequency recommended by the manufacturer;
- If a fresh-water plumbing system is properly maintained, it is not necessary to install domestic water filters. Use of water filters is not encouraged as clogging occurs easily, which can promote growth of micro-organisms. In case water filters are used, the pore size should be 0.2 micrometres ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) and the filter needs to be changed periodically according to the manufacturer's recommendations;
- Drain and clean water tanks of buildings at least quarterly;
- Drain or purge for at least one minute infrequently used water outlets (e.g. water taps, shower heads and hot water outlets) and stagnant points of the pipework weekly or before use;
- Seek and follow doctors' professional advice regarding the use and maintenance of home respiratory devices and use only sterile water (not distilled or tap water) to clean and fill the reservoir. Clean and maintain the device regularly according to the manufacturer's instructions. After cleaning/disinfection, rinse the device with sterile water, cooled freshly boiled water or water filtered with 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  filters. Never leave stagnant water in the device. Empty the water tank, keep all surfaces dry, and change the water daily; and
- When handling garden soil, compost and potting mixes:
  1. Wear gloves and a face mask;
  2. Water gardens and compost gently using low pressure;
  3. Open composted potting mixes slowly and make sure the opening is directed away from the face;
  4. Wet the soil to reduce dust when potting plants; and
  5. Avoid working in poorly ventilated places such as enclosed greenhouses.

The public may visit the CHP's [LD page](#), the [Code of Practice for Prevention of LD](#) and the [Housekeeping Guidelines for Cold and Hot Water Systems for Building Management](#) of the Prevention of LD Committee, and the CHP's [risk-based strategy](#) for prevention and control of LD.