

Scheme on Corporate Summer Internship on the Mainland and Overseas 2023 officially kicked off (with photos)

The Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Chan Kwok-ki, the Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs, Miss Alice Mak, and representatives of the participating corporates today (June 5) officiated at the kick-off ceremony of the Scheme on Corporate Summer Internship on the Mainland and Overseas 2023.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mr Chan said the Government re-launched the Scheme as soon as Hong Kong embarks on the path of returning to normalcy in full and its connection with both the Mainland and the world fully resumes. The Scheme quickly received enthusiastic support from 24 large corporates, and they offered young people with more than 320 summer internship placements outside Hong Kong. The placements cover different Mainland provinces and cities as well as overseas countries, and also a wide variety of industries. Mr Chan expressed sincere gratitude to the participating corporates for their efforts in and contribution to nurturing the next generation. He also stated that the Government would continue to rally the efforts of all sectors in society to support youth development on all fronts, so as to nurture a new generation of young people with an affection for the country and Hong Kong and equipped with global perspectives, an aspiring mindset and positive thinking.

Miss Mak said at the ceremony that the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau released the Youth Development Blueprint last year, and it mentioned that the breadth and depth of various internship and exchange programmes outside Hong Kong should be further enhanced. This includes expanding the number of placements under the Scheme on Corporate Summer Internship on the Mainland and Overseas. The new round of the Scheme received overwhelming responses, and young people are keen to take up the internship placements. She encouraged the successfully selected interns to grasp the valuable placement opportunities on the Mainland and in overseas countries to enrich their knowledge, accumulate experience and broaden their horizons, all of which would help build a solid foundation for their personal and career development.

The 24 corporates participating in the Scheme provide a total of 328 internship placements in different Mainland provinces and cities including various cities in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin, Chengdu, Chongqing, etc, as well as overseas countries including Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, the United Kingdom and Sweden. The placements cover multiple industries, such as financial services, innovation and technology, logistics, property development, retail, hospitality and public utilities. The recruited interns will depart from mid-June onwards to undertake internship of no less than six weeks.



[LegCo to consider Residential Care Homes Legislation \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Bill 2022](#)

The following is issued on behalf of the Legislative Council Secretariat:

The Legislative Council (LegCo) will hold a meeting on Wednesday (June 7) at 11am in the Chamber of the LegCo Complex. During the meeting, the Second Reading debate on the Residential Care Homes Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2022 will resume. If the Bill is supported by Members and receives its Second Reading, it will stand committed to the committee of the whole Council. After the committee of the whole Council has completed consideration of the Bill and its report is adopted by the Council, the Bill will be set down for the Third Reading.

The Bankruptcy and Companies Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2023 and the Shipping Legislation (Electronic Certificates and Electronic Log-books) (Amendment) Bill 2023 will be introduced into the Council for the First Reading and the Second Reading. The Second Reading debates will be adjourned.

On Members' motions, Mr Adrian Ho will move a motion on maximising the effectiveness of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and promoting the synergistic development of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao. The motion is set

out in Appendix 1. Mr Luk Chung-hung will move an amendment to Mr Ho's motion.

Mr Edmund Wong will move a motion on promoting the nurturing of local professional services talents. The motion is set out in Appendix 2. Mr Tony Tse, Mr Robert Lee and Mr Kingsley Wong will move amendments to Mr Edmund Wong's motion.

Meanwhile, Mr Chan Siu-hung will move two proposed resolutions under section 34(4) of the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance and section 16(8) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance respectively to extend the period for amending subsidiary legislation and repealing instrument. The proposed resolutions are set out in Appendices 3 and 4.

Members will also ask the Government 22 questions on various policy areas, six of which require oral replies.

The agenda of the above meeting can be obtained via the LegCo Website (www.legco.gov.hk). Members of the public can watch or listen to the meeting via the "Webcast" system on the LegCo Website. To observe the proceedings of the meeting at the LegCo Complex, members of the public may call 3919 3399 during office hours to reserve seats.

CHP closely monitors human case of avian influenza A(H5N6) in Mainland

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health is today (June 5) closely monitoring a human case of avian influenza A(H5N6) in the Mainland, and again urged the public to maintain strict personal, food and environmental hygiene both locally and during travel.

The case involves a 54-year-old female living in Nanchong, Sichuan, who had exposure to live domestic poultry before the onset of symptoms. She developed symptoms on May 19 and was admitted for treatment on the same day. She is in serious condition.

From 2014 to date, 84 human cases of avian influenza A(H5N6) have been reported by Mainland health authorities.

"All novel influenza A infections, including H5N6, are notifiable infectious diseases in Hong Kong," a spokesman for the CHP said.

Travellers to the Mainland or other affected areas must avoid visiting wet markets, live poultry markets or farms. They should be alert to the presence of backyard poultry when visiting relatives and friends. They should also avoid purchasing live or freshly slaughtered poultry, and avoid touching

poultry/birds or their droppings. They should strictly observe personal and hand hygiene when visiting any place with live poultry.

Travellers returning from affected areas should consult a doctor promptly if symptoms develop, and inform the doctor of their travel history for prompt diagnosis and treatment of potential diseases. It is essential to tell the doctor if they have seen any live poultry during travel, which may imply possible exposure to contaminated environments. This will enable the doctor to assess the possibility of avian influenza and arrange necessary investigations and appropriate treatment in a timely manner.

While local surveillance, prevention and control measures are in place, the CHP will remain vigilant and work closely with the World Health Organization and relevant health authorities to monitor the latest developments.

The public should maintain strict personal, hand, food and environmental hygiene and take heed of the advice below when handling poultry:

- Avoid touching poultry, birds, animals or their droppings;
- When buying live chickens, do not touch them and their droppings. Do not blow at their bottoms. Wash eggs with detergent if soiled with faecal matter and cook and consume the eggs immediately. Always wash hands thoroughly with soap and water after handling chickens and eggs;
- Eggs should be cooked well until the white and yolk become firm. Do not eat raw eggs or dip cooked food into any sauce with raw eggs. Poultry should be cooked thoroughly. If there is pinkish juice running from the cooked poultry or the middle part of its bone is still red, the poultry should be cooked again until fully done;
- Wash hands frequently, especially before touching the mouth, nose or eyes, before handling food or eating, and after going to the toilet, touching public installations or equipment such as escalator handrails, elevator control panels or door knobs, or when hands are dirtied by respiratory secretions after coughing or sneezing; and
- Wear a mask if fever or respiratory symptoms develop, when going to a hospital or clinic, or while taking care of patients with fever or respiratory symptoms.

The public may visit the CHP's pages for more information: the [avian influenza](#) page, the weekly [Avian Influenza Report, global statistics and affected areas](#) of avian influenza, the [Facebook Page](#) and the [YouTube Channel](#).

[Update on cases of Legionnaires'](#)

disease

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health today (June 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 May 28 to June 3, one community-acquired LD case was reported. The case involved a male patient aged 50 with underlying illnesses, who lives in Wo Choi House, Wo Tin Estate, Tuen Mun.

"Epidemiological investigations are ongoing to identify potential sources of infection, high-risk exposure and clusters, if any," a spokesman for the CHP said.

As of June 3, 26 LD cases had been reported this year. In 2022 and 2021, there were 80 and 69 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 leading to stagnant water; 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. A shower may also generate small aerosols; 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 (μm) 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 μm 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.

â€‹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.

[Effective Exchange Rate Index](#)

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Monday, June 5, 2023 is 103.6 (up 0.2 against last Saturday's index).

â€‹The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Saturday, June 3, 2023 was 103.4 (up 0.2 against last Friday's index).