

Exchange Fund Bills tender results

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

Exchange Fund Bills tender results:

Tender date : May 17, 2022
Paper on offer : EF Bills
Issue number : Q2220
Issue date : May 18, 2022
Maturity date : August 17, 2022
Amount applied : HK\$153,725 MN
Amount allotted : HK\$62,306 MN
Average yield accepted : 0.33 PCT
Highest yield accepted : 0.34 PCT
Pro rata ratio* : About 63 PCT
Average tender yield : 0.39 PCT

Tender date : May 17, 2022
Paper on offer : EF Bills
Issue number : H2249
Issue date : May 18, 2022
Maturity date : November 16, 2022
Amount applied : HK\$36,875 MN
Amount allotted : HK\$17,000 MN
Average yield accepted : 0.81 PCT
Highest yield accepted : 0.90 PCT
Pro rata ratio* : About 58 PCT
Average tender yield : 1.00 PCT

*"Pro rata ratio" refers to the average percentage of allotment with respect to each tender participant's tendered amount at the "highest yield accepted" level.

Hong Kong Monetary Authority tenders to be held in the week beginning May 23, 2022:

Tender date : May 24, 2022
Paper on offer : EF Bills
Issue number : Q2221
Issue date : May 25, 2022
Maturity date : August 24, 2022

Tenor : 91 Days
Amount on offer : HK\$56,535 MN

Tender date : May 24, 2022
Paper on offer : EF Bills
Issue number : H2250
Issue date : May 25, 2022
Maturity date : November 23, 2022
Tenor : 182 Days
Amount on offer : HK\$15,000 MN

Import of poultry meat and products from areas in Canada and UK suspended

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department announced today (May 17) that in view of notifications from the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) about outbreaks of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza in Newell County of Alberta Province in Canada and Newark and Sherwood District of Nottinghamshire County in the United Kingdom (UK), the CFS has instructed the trade to suspend the import of poultry meat and products (including poultry eggs) from the above-mentioned areas with immediate effect to protect public health in Hong Kong.

A CFS spokesman said that according to the Census and Statistics Department, Hong Kong imported about 4 tonnes of frozen poultry meat from Canada and about 420 tonnes of chilled and frozen poultry meat and about 90 000 poultry eggs from the UK in the first three months of this year.

"The CFS has contacted the Canadian and British authorities over the issues and will closely monitor information issued by the OIE and the relevant authorities on the avian influenza outbreaks. Appropriate action will be taken in response to the development of the situation," the spokesman said.

Thirteen building plans approved in March

The Buildings Department approved 13 building plans in March, with two

on Hong Kong Island, eight in Kowloon and three in the New Territories.

Of the approved plans, six were for apartment and apartment/commercial developments, two were for commercial developments, two were for factory and industrial developments, and three were for community services developments.

In the same month, consent was given for works to start on 14 building projects which, when completed, will provide 134 762 square metres of gross floor area for domestic use involving 2 160 units, and 11 793 sq m of gross floor area for non-domestic use. The department has received notification of commencement of superstructure works for four building projects.

The department also issued 18 occupation permits, with two on Hong Kong Island, eight in Kowloon and eight in the New Territories.

Of the buildings certified for occupation, the gross floor area for domestic use was 39 108 sq m involving 771 units, and 59 794 sq m was for non-domestic use.

The declared cost of new buildings completed in March totalled about \$14.6 billion.

In addition, 14 demolition consents involving 14 building structures were issued.

The department received 1 304 reports about unauthorised building works (UBWs) in March and issued 483 removal orders on UBWs.

The full version of the Monthly Digest for March can be viewed on the Buildings Department's homepage (www.bd.gov.hk).

Temporary service relocation of Kam Tin Clinic for renovation

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The spokesperson for the New Territories West Cluster (NTWC) today (May 17) announced that the Kam Tin Clinic, located at G/F, 200 Kam Tin Road, Shek Kong, will commence renovation works from May 30 to improve its environment and service. During the renovation works, services of the clinic will temporarily be relocated to Yuen Long Jockey Club Health Centre at G/F, 269 Castle Peak Road (Yuen Long), Yuen Long (details are appended). The renovation works is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2022.

The services of Kam Tin Clinic are currently suspended to focus manpower

and resources on anti-epidemic efforts. Patients with chronic illnesses requiring regular follow-ups at the Kam Tin Clinic have already been arranged to attend with medication refill and follow-up appointments at Yuen Long Jockey Club Health Centre. For patients with episodic illnesses, they can make appointments at other clinics in the district via the General Out-patient Clinic Telephone Appointment System or the HA Go "Book GOPC" mobile application function as usual, and attend the consultation according to their booking. The Hospital Authority (HA) has been closely monitoring the epidemic situation and has adjusted its services in accordance to the epidemic developments.

The NTWC has already informed residents in the district on the service arrangements at the Kam Tin Clinic through various channels, including posting a notice at the clinic, hanging a banner and sending a letter to inform the Yuen Long District Council accordingly. A reminder message has also been added to the General Out-patient Clinic Telephone Appointment System and the HA Go "Book GOPC" mobile application function for the Kam Tin Clinic by the HA to inform residents in the district on the service arrangements as early as possible.

[Transcript of remarks by CE at media session before ExCo](#)

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, at a media session before the Executive Council (ExCo) meeting today (May 17):

Reporter: Good morning, Mrs Lam. First, have you reached a consent with Mr John Lee (the sixth-term Chief Executive-elect (CE-elect)) on the details of the restructuring plan? Is there a possibility that some Principal Officials will have to stay on for some time in the next term because time is pressing for the CE-elect to form his own team? Second, will the Government proceed with the third phase of Vaccine Pass when around a million people eligible for a third shot still haven't taken their third shot? Thank you.

Chief Executive: I'll answer the second question first because I have just referred to the Government's commitment to the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme. Vaccination remains the most effective way to prevent serious illnesses arising from COVID-19 infection. If we could keep this situation, we will not be overburdening Hong Kong public hospitals, and that has always been one of the primary objectives of our anti-epidemic work in Hong Kong. With that objective in mind, we will continue to implement what we have announced for a very long time. We are not suddenly requiring Hong Kong people to take the third dose before they could enter restaurants, gyms or other venues. We have been telling people and announcing well in advance the

three-dose requirement under the Vaccine Pass. I can confirm and reaffirm here that that remains our plan. From May 31, people will have to have proof of having taken three doses before they can enter the premises unless they have medical reasons or they are recovered patients – then there will be some special arrangements.

On the first question, let me put it in a very, very absolute way. There is no question of myself and the Chief Executive-elect reaching a consensus or, as you put it, a consent. There is nothing that the CE-elect needs from me in terms of consent or approval. My role is to facilitate the next-term Chief Executive to have the best and optimal government structure to enable him to discharge what he has promised the people of Hong Kong. I said this well before the election. I announced in my Policy Address last year that this proposal on restructuring was not done for myself, it's for the government. Based on my experience, especially with experience as the Chief Executive, I thought something need to be changed in terms of the government structure, so I offered some initial ideas in my October 2021 Policy Address. Thereafter, we talked to people, we received recommendations from the community and the Legislative Council. That has given rise to a set of very detailed proposals, which I announced on January 12, 2022, that is, to increase the number of policy bureaux from 13 to 15, and so on. Since then, we have received broad support for the set of proposals. This then forms the basis for the Chief Executive-elect to consider. If he felt that it was not the right approach, he could throw it away and start afresh. But on this occasion, Mr John Lee felt that he agreed with the entire package, so what we are putting to the ExCo this morning will include the full components of government restructuring that I announced in January this year.

But I can also tell you that there will be other proposals. It will not be just the set of proposals put forward by the current-term Government. This is only natural because each Chief Executive will have his own governing style. Having regard to the aspirations of the people and the priorities that he has set for the next five years, it is only natural for him to come up with more ideas on how to restructure the government.

My job is to facilitate the approval for a new government structure. I'm not involved in identifying the candidates to fill the various positions in the political team. Whether that could be done in time, I don't know – you have to ask the Chief Executive-elect. It will be very unusual to invite the existing politically appointed officials just to fill the gap and stay on for a few months because they are not civil servants, their term is entirely my term, which is a five-year term. I hope that would not be the situation and I have every confidence that John should be able to find all the right people to fill the various positions.

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