

Public hospitals daily update on COVID-19 cases

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

As at 9am today (June 11), three COVID-19 confirmed patients (case numbers: 11862, 11864, 11869) were discharged from hospital in the last 24 hours. So far, a total of 11 593 patients with confirmed or probable infection have been discharged.

At present, there are 603 negative pressure rooms in public hospitals with 1 120 negative pressure beds activated. A total of 41 confirmed patients are currently hospitalised in 13 public hospitals and the North Lantau Hospital Hong Kong Infection Control Centre, among which one patient (case number: 6794) is in critical condition, one (case number: 9907) is in serious condition and the remaining 39 patients are in stable condition.

The Hospital Authority will maintain close contact with the Centre for Health Protection to monitor the latest developments and to inform the public and healthcare workers on the latest information in a timely manner.

Effective Exchange Rate Index

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Friday, June 11, 2021 is 100.1 (same as yesterday's index).

Grading of beach water quality released

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) today (June 11) released the latest grading of water quality for 38 gazetted beaches (see Note 1) and one non-gazetted beach (i.e. Discovery Bay, see Note 2).

Thirty beaches were rated as Good (Grade 1) and nine as Fair (Grade 2).

Grade 1 beaches are:

Big Wave Bay Beach*	Lo So Shing Beach
Cafeteria New Beach	Lower Cheung Sha Beach
Cafeteria Old Beach	Middle Bay Beach
Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach*	Pui O Beach
Chung Hom Kok Beach	Repulse Bay Beach*
Clear Water Bay First Beach	Shek O Beach*
Clear Water Bay Second Beach*	Silver Mine Bay Beach*
Deep Water Bay Beach*	Silverstrand Beach*
Discovery Bay	South Bay Beach
Golden Beach*	Stanley Main Beach*
Hap Mun Bay Beach*	St Stephen's Beach
Hung Shing Yeh Beach*	Tong Fuk Beach
Kadoorie Beach	Trio Beach
Kiu Tsui Beach	Turtle Cove Beach
Kwun Yam Beach	Upper Cheung Sha Beach

Grade 2 beaches are:

Anglers' Beach	Hoi Mei Wan Beach
Approach Beach	Lido Beach*
Butterfly Beach*	Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach*
Casam Beach*	Ting Kau Beach
Castle Peak Beach	

Compared with the grading released last week, Deep Water Bay Beach and Pui O Beach have been upgraded from Grade 2 to Grade 1.

Under the present grading system, beaches are classified into four grades, namely Good (Grade 1), Fair (Grade 2), Poor (Grade 3) and Very Poor (Grade 4), according to the level of E. coli in the water. Grades are calculated on the basis of the geometric mean of the E. coli counts on the five most recent sampling occasions.

A summary of beach grades is published weekly before the weekend. The latest beach grades based on the most current data may be obtained from the EPD's website on Beach Water Quality (www.epd.gov.hk/epd/beach) or the beach hotline, 2511 6666.

Note 1: The Leisure and Cultural Services Department has resumed lifeguard services at 16 gazetted beaches, marked with an asterisk above, from April 16.

Note 2: Discovery Bay is a non-gazetted beach without lifeguard service.

[Two approved outline zoning plans referred back for amendment](#)

The Town Planning Board announced today (June 11) that the Chief Executive in Council has referred the approved Ngau Tau Kok and Kowloon Bay Outline Zoning Plan (OZP) and the approved Kai Tak OZP to the Board for amendment to reflect the latest land use proposals.

Each OZP incorporating the respective amendment(s) will be exhibited for public inspection under the provisions of the Town Planning Ordinance.

The Ngau Tau Kok and Kowloon Bay OZP and the Kai Tak OZP were last approved by the Chief Executive in Council in April 2020 and May 2018 respectively.

[Twenty-six persons arrested during anti-illegal worker operations \(with photo\)](#)

The Immigration Department (ImmD) mounted a series of territory-wide anti-illegal worker operations, including operations codenamed "Twilight" and joint operations with the Hong Kong Police Force codenamed "Champion", from June 7 to 10. A total of 18 suspected illegal workers and seven suspected employers were arrested. One suspected illegal immigrant was also arrested.

During operations "Twilight", ImmD Task Force officers raided 39 target locations including a car park, factories, garbage collection depots, a massage parlour, premises under renovation, retail shops, residential buildings, restaurants and a warehouse. Eight suspected illegal workers and four employers were arrested. The suspected illegal workers comprised two men and six women, aged 41 to 59. Among them, two men were holders of recognisance forms, which prohibit them from taking any employment. In addition, three women were suspected of using and being in possession of forged Hong Kong identity cards. Meanwhile, two men and two women, aged 53 to 60, were suspected of employing the illegal workers.

In addition, during operations "Champion", enforcement officers raided 55 target locations in the Hong Kong International Airport cargo terminal, Kwai Chung, Tsing Yi and Tsuen Wan district including a car park, industrial

buildings, loading/unloading platforms, offices, restaurants, warehouses and a wet market. Ten suspected illegal workers, three suspected employers and a suspected illegal immigrant were arrested. The suspected illegal workers comprised 10 men, aged 26 to 48. Among them, nine men were holders of recognisance forms, which prohibit them from taking any employment. Meanwhile, two men and a woman, aged 38 to 68, were suspected of employing the illegal workers. In addition, the male suspected illegal immigrant claimed to be aged 30. Among them, 10 suspected illegal workers and three suspected employers were handled by the ImmD.

"Any person who contravenes a condition of stay in force in respect of him shall be guilty of an offence. Also, visitors are not allowed to take employment in Hong Kong, whether paid or unpaid, without the permission of the Director of Immigration. Offenders are liable to prosecution and upon conviction face a maximum fine of \$50,000 and up to two years' imprisonment. Aiders and abettors are also liable to prosecution and penalties," an ImmD spokesman said.

The spokesman warned that, as stipulated in section 38AA of the Immigration Ordinance, illegal immigrants or people who are the subject of a removal order or a deportation order are prohibited from taking any employment, whether paid or unpaid, or establishing or joining in any business. Offenders are liable upon conviction to a maximum fine of \$50,000 and up to three years' imprisonment. The Court of Appeal has issued a guideline ruling that a sentence of 15 months' imprisonment should be applied in such cases. It is an offence to use or possess a forged Hong Kong identity card or a Hong Kong identity card related to another person. Offenders are liable to prosecution and a maximum penalty of a \$100,000 fine and up to 10 years' imprisonment.

The spokesman reiterated that it is a serious offence to employ people who are not lawfully employable. The maximum penalty is imprisonment for three years and a fine of \$350,000. The High Court has laid down sentencing guidelines that the employer of an illegal worker should be given an immediate custodial sentence. According to the court sentencing, employers must take all practicable steps to determine whether a person is lawfully employable prior to employment. Apart from inspecting a prospective employee's identity card, the employer has the explicit duty to make enquiries regarding the person and ensure that the answers would not cast any reasonable doubt concerning the lawful employability of the person. The court will not accept failure to do so as a defence in proceedings. It is also an offence if an employer fails to inspect the job seeker's valid travel document if the job seeker does not have a Hong Kong permanent identity card. The maximum penalty for failing to inspect such a document is imprisonment for one year and a fine of \$150,000.

Under the existing mechanism, the ImmD will, as a standard procedure, conduct initial screening of vulnerable persons, including illegal workers, illegal immigrants, sex workers and foreign domestic helpers, who are arrested during any operation with a view to ascertaining whether they are trafficking in persons (TIP) victims. When any TIP indicator is revealed in

the initial screening, the officers will conduct a full debriefing and identification by using a standardised checklist to ascertain the presence of TIP elements, such as threats and coercion in the recruitment phase and the nature of exploitation. Identified TIP victims will be provided with various forms of support and assistance, including urgent intervention, medical services, counselling, shelter, temporary accommodation and other supporting services. The ImmD calls on TIP victims to report crimes to the relevant departments.

