

Proposed road works for Kwun Tong Composite Development Project gazetted

The Government gazetted today (March 19) the proposed road works for the Kwun Tong Composite Development Project.

Details of the proposal are set out in the Annex. The plan and scheme of the works are available for public inspection at the following government offices during office hours:

Central and Western Home Affairs Enquiry Centre,
G/F, Harbour Building,
38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong

Kwun Tong Home Affairs Enquiry Centre,
G/F, The Grande Building,
398 Kwun Tong Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon

District Lands Office, Kowloon East and Kowloon West,
4/F, South Tower, West Kowloon Government Offices,
11 Hoi Ting Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon

The gazette notice, scheme, plan and location plan are available at www.thb.gov.hk/eng/psp/publications/transport/gazette/gazette.htm.

Any person who wishes to object to the works or the use, or both, is required to address to the Secretary for Transport and Housing an objection in writing, which can be submitted via the following means:

- By post or by hand to the Transport and Housing Bureau's drop-in box No. 6 located at the entrance on 2/F, East Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong. The box is available for use between 8am and 7pm from Monday to Friday (except public holidays);
- By fax to 2868 4643; or
- By email to gazettethb@thb.gov.hk.

A notice of objection should describe the objector's interest and the manner in which he or she alleges that he or she will be affected by the works or the use. Objectors are requested to provide contact details to facilitate communication. A notice of objection should be delivered to the Secretary for Transport and Housing not later than May 18, 2021.

Proposed elevated landscaped deck near MTR Kwun Tong Station gazetted

The Government gazetted today (March 19) the proposed construction of a covered elevated landscaped deck connecting the elevated walkways near MTR Kwun Tong Station Exit C and Exit D to enhance the pedestrian connectivity of the major facilities near MTR Kwun Tong Station and to ease the pedestrian flow.

Details of the proposal are set out in the Annex. The plan and scheme of the works are available for public inspection at the following government offices during office hours:

Central and Western Home Affairs Enquiry Centre,
G/F, Harbour Building,
38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong

Kwun Tong Home Affairs Enquiry Centre,
G/F, The Grande Building,
398 Kwun Tong Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon

District Lands Office, Kowloon East and Kowloon West,
4/F, South Tower, West Kowloon Government Offices,
11 Hoi Ting Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon

The gazette notice, scheme, plan and location plan are available at www.thb.gov.hk/eng/psp/publications/transport/gazette/gazette.htm.

Any person who wishes to object to the works or the use, or both, is required to address to the Secretary for Transport and Housing an objection in writing, which can be submitted via the following means:

- By post or by hand to the Transport and Housing Bureau's drop-in box No. 6 located at the entrance on 2/F, East Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong. The box is available for use between 8am and 7pm from Monday to Friday (except public holidays);
- By fax to 2868 4643; or
- By email to gazettethb@thb.gov.hk.

A notice of objection should describe the objector's interest and the manner in which he or she alleges that he or she will be affected by the works or the use. Objectors are requested to provide contact details to facilitate communication. A notice of objection should be delivered to the Secretary for Transport and Housing not later than May 18, 2021.

Government announces appointments to Communications Authority

The Government today (March 19) announced that the Chief Executive has re-appointed Ms Winnie Tam Wan-chi as the Chairman of the Communications Authority (CA) for a term of two years from April 1, 2021, to March 31, 2023.

The Chief Executive has also appointed two new members, Mr Patrick Law Fu-yuen and Professor Leung Siu-fai, to the CA, and re-appointed the Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries) as the Vice-chairman, and Mr Stephen Hung Wan-shun, Mr Benjamin Tang Kwok-bun, Professor Vincent Lau Kin-nang and Mr Simon Wong Kwong-yeung as members, all for a term of two years from April 1, 2021, to March 31, 2023.

Commenting on the appointments, the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Edward Yau, said, "I am pleased that Ms Tam has been re-appointed as the Chairman of the CA. With her excellent leadership and professional background, I am confident that she will continue to lead the CA and meet the challenges ahead."

Mr Yau also welcomed the two new members to the CA, who come from the accounting and academic sectors respectively, saying that their rich experience and professional expertise will be valuable to the CA's work. He also thanked the outgoing member, Mrs Yvonne Law Shing Mo-han, for her contributions to the CA.

Brief profiles of the newly-appointed non-official members are as follows:

Mr Patrick Law Fu-yuen

Mr Patrick Law is the Partner and Deputy Assurance Leader (Hong Kong & Macau) of Ernst & Young, a multinational accounting firm. He is a member of the Competition Commission and the Process Review Panel for the Insurance Authority.

Professor Leung Siu-fai

Professor Leung is Professor of Economics at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. He is also a member of the Commission on Poverty, Telecommunications (Competition Provisions) Appeal Board, the Securities and Futures Appeals Tribunal and the Air Transport Licensing Authority.

Membership of the CA from April 1, 2021, will be as follows:

Chairman

Ms Winnie Tam Wan-chi

Vice-chairman

Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Creative Industries)

Non-official members

Dr Hubert Chan Chung-yee
Professor Karen Chan Ka-yin
Ms Amy Fung Dun-mi
Mr Stephen Hung Wan-shun
Professor Vincent Lau Kin-nang
Mr Patrick Law Fu-yuen
Professor Leung Siu-fai
Mr Benjamin Tang Kwok-bun
Mr Simon Wong Kwong-yeung

Official member

Director-General of Communications

Compensation levels for work injuries and occupational diseases to increase from April 15

The Labour Department (LD) today (March 19) announced that the levels of compensation for employees injured at work or suffering from prescribed occupational diseases under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance (ECO) or family members of deceased employees, persons suffering from pneumoconiosis or mesothelioma or family members of persons who die as a result of these diseases, and persons suffering from occupational deafness will be increased on April 15, 2021.

The Legislative Council passed three resolutions on March 17 to increase the levels of 18 compensation items under the ECO, the Pneumoconiosis and Mesothelioma (Compensation) Ordinance (PMCO), and the Occupational Deafness (Compensation) Ordinance (ODCO). The amendments were gazetted today and will become effective on April 15.

"Under the established mechanism, the levels of compensation under the ECO, the PMCO and the ODCO are adjusted every two years where appropriate. Adjustments for most compensation items, if required, are normally made in

light of the wage movement as reflected by the Nominal Wage Index or the price movement as reflected by the Consumer Price Index (A) in the relevant period, whereas the levels of some compensation items are adjusted having regard to other relevant factors," a spokesman for the LD said.

As a result of this adjustment, the levels of 18 compensation items under the three Ordinances will be increased by 2.68 per cent to 18 per cent (see details in the Appendix).

"The increased levels of compensation will enhance the protection for employees injured at work or sufferers of occupational diseases as well as family members of deceased employees or persons who die of work injuries or occupational diseases," the spokesman added.

Employees Compensation Assistance Ordinance (Amendment of Schedule 4) Notice 2021 gazetted today

The Government today (March 19) published the Employees Compensation Assistance Ordinance (Amendment of Schedule 4) Notice 2021 in the Gazette to upwardly adjust the levels of the three relief payment items, namely the prescribed relief payment, the prescribed monthly amount and the prescribed monthly amount (extra).

The Employees Compensation Assistance Fund (the Fund) is administered by the Employees Compensation Assistance Fund Board in accordance with the Employees Compensation Assistance Ordinance (ECAO). The Fund provides relief payments to injured employees or eligible persons who have sustained injuries caused by accidents arising out of and in the course of employment, given that the court awards an amount of common law damages to be payable by their employers, but are unable to receive their entitlements from the employers or insurers after exhausting all legal and financially viable means of recovery.

According to the ECAO, the employee (or eligible person) shall receive the full amount of the relief payment where the amount does not exceed the prescribed relief payment. Where the amount of a relief payment exceeds the prescribed relief payment, the employee (or eligible person) can receive a first payment equivalent to the prescribed relief payment, followed by monthly payments (an amount equal to the prescribed monthly amount or the monthly earnings of the employee at the time of the accident, whichever is the higher). If the employee is severely injured, he/she can receive the prescribed monthly amount (extra) at the same time. Schedule 4 of the ECAO currently stipulates that the amount of prescribed relief payment is \$1,500,000, the prescribed monthly amount is \$10,000 and the prescribed

monthly amount (extra) is also \$10,000.

Having studied and prudently considered various factors such as the unique circumstances and needs of the injured employees as well as the financial situation and sustainability of the Fund, etc, the levels of prescribed relief payment, prescribed monthly amount and prescribed monthly amount (extra) are to be adjusted upwards on a one-off basis, to \$6,000,000, \$40,000 and \$40,000 respectively.

"As the earning capacity for injured employees will be affected after the injury, and the extent of which will depend on the severity of injury sustained, the revised levels of three prescribed relief payment items will help provide a substantial sum of first payment and enhanced monthly payments to the injured employees (especially those who are severely injured) and their family members to sustain their living and meet their needs," a spokesman for the Labour Department said.

The Notice will be introduced into the Legislative Council on March 24. Upon the completion of the negative vetting procedure by the Legislative Council, the new payment levels will come into effect on May 14.