

## Buildings Department to fully resume public services from February 18

To align with the Government's announcement on February 10 to fully resume normal public services, the Building Information Centre (BIC) and all counter services of the Buildings Department (BD) will resume normal opening hours from February 18 while the arrangements as announced on January 27 will continue up to February 17. Details of the services are as follows:

Counter Services	Location	Opening Hours
Enquiry Counter	G/F, BD Headquarters (BDHQ), North Tower, West Kowloon Government Offices (WKG0), 11 Hoi Ting Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon	8.30am – 5.30pm on weekdays (except Friday) 8.30am – 6pm on Friday
BIC	2/F, BDHQ, North Tower, WKG0	9am – 5pm on weekdays
Receipt Counter	G/F, BDHQ, North Tower, WKG0	8.30am – 5.30pm on weekdays
New Buildings Divisions' Receipt and Dispatch Counter	7/F, 14 Taikoo Wan Road, Taikoo Shing, Hong Kong	8.30am – 5.30pm on weekdays

In view of public health considerations, members of the public visiting the BIC and using the counter services should wear masks at all times, and comply with infection control measures including temperature checks and crowd control arrangements. The department also appeals to members of the public using the above services to download the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile app and use the venue QR code of "LeaveHomeSafe" displayed at the entrances. This is to align with the arrangement starting from March 1 that members of the public will be required to use the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile app before entering government buildings or offices.

Because of the continued need to reduce social contact, there will be limits on the number of people to be served at any one time at the BIC and the above counters. The BD appeals to the public to minimise visiting the department's offices in person unless they genuinely require its public services urgently.

The public may call 1823 to make emergency reports. For general enquiries or other reports, they may call 1823 or inform the department by email ([enquiry@bd.gov.hk](mailto:enquiry@bd.gov.hk)), online reporting ([eform.one.gov.hk/form/bd0001/en](http://eform.one.gov.hk/form/bd0001/en)), fax (2537 4992) or post (Buildings Department Headquarters, North Tower, West Kowloon Government Offices, 11 Hoi Ting Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon). In addition, electronic information may be

submitted to the BD via [receipt@bd.gov.hk](mailto:receipt@bd.gov.hk).

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## **Public services of PlanD to resume as normal on February 18**

The Planning Department (PlanD) announced today (February 16) that its public services will resume as normal starting from Thursday (February 18).

Counter services of the Planning Enquiry Counters (PECs) of North Point Government Offices (NPGO) (17/F) and Sha Tin Government Offices (14/F) will be fully resumed, including enquiry services on general planning information and public inspection of documents required under the Town Planning Ordinance.

In light of the need for epidemic prevention and control, the PECs will restrict the number of visitors at any one time to reduce flows of people. Members of the public are encouraged to make enquiries through the telephone hotline (2231 5000) or email ([enquire@pland.gov.hk](mailto:enquire@pland.gov.hk)), and can visit the PlanD's website ([www.pland.gov.hk](http://www.pland.gov.hk)) for general planning information.

In addition, the receipt and dispatch counter of the department (18/F, NPGO) will resume normal service.

District Planning Offices of the PlanD will fully resume fieldwork, including posting of site notices for planning applications.

The PlanD also appeals to members of the public visiting its offices to download the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile app and use the venue QR code of "LeaveHomeSafe" displayed at the entrances. This is to align with the arrangement starting from March 1 that members of the public will be required to use the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile app before entering government buildings or offices.

For enquiries, please call the hotline 2231 5000 during office hours or visit the PlanD's website.

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# Town Planning Board Secretariat's public services to return to normal

The following is issued on behalf of the Town Planning Board:

Starting from February 18 (Thursday), the Town Planning Board (TPB) Secretariat's reception counter on the 15th floor of North Point Government Offices will resume normal service. The opening hours of the reception counter are 9am to 5.30pm from Monday to Thursday and 9am to 6pm on Friday. Members of the public can also continue to make enquiries through the telephone hotline (2231 4810) or email ([tpbpd@pland.gov.hk](mailto:tpbpd@pland.gov.hk)), and can visit the TPB's website ([www.info.gov.hk/tpb](http://www.info.gov.hk/tpb)) for statutory planning information.

At the same time, the TPB Secretariat appeals to members of the public visiting its offices to download the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile app and use the venue QR code of "LeaveHomeSafe" displayed at the entrances. This is to align with the arrangement starting from March 1 that members of the public will be required to use the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile app before entering government buildings or offices.

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## Latest opening arrangements for AMO venues

The Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) announced today (February 16) that some venues will reopen on February 19.

Venues to be reopened include the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre in Tsim Sha Tsui and the Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery cum Heritage Trail Visitors Centre in Yuen Long. The operation of all interactive exhibits and public events except online talks at both venues will remain suspended.

Users of the venues are required to scan the "LeaveHomeSafe" QR code or register their name, contact number and the time of the visit before entering for necessary contact tracing if a confirmed case is found. Members of the public who opt to register their personal information at the site are reminded to arrive earlier to avoid delaying their visits as longer time is required for such registration.

The AMO reminds visitors that group gatherings of more than the number of people as stipulated by the law will not be allowed. It will also adopt special measures for the venues, including suspending all interactive exhibits; limiting the number of visitors at each venue; requesting all

visitors to undergo temperature checks, use hand sanitiser and put on their own masks before entering the venues; and requiring children aged under 12 to be accompanied by an adult for admission. Cleaning and disinfection measures will be stepped up at the above venues to minimise the risk of infection.

The other eight venues of the AMO (namely Tai Fu Tai in San Tin; the Fortified Structure in Ha Pak Nai, Yuen Long; the Old House of Wong Uk Village in Sha Tin; the Wun Yiu Exhibition at Sheung Wun Yiu Village in Tai Po; No. 10 San Wai in Wong Chuk Hang; the Fong Yuen Study Hall on Ma Wan; and the Information Centres of Tung Chung Fort on Lantau Island and Tung Lung Fort on Tung Lung Chau in Sai Kung) will continue to be temporarily closed. All educational activities and docent services are suspended until further notice.

For enquiries, please call the AMO on 2208 4400.

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## [Latest arrangements for LCSD public services](#)

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) announced today (February 16) that, in view of the latest situation of COVID-19, more leisure and cultural venues of the LCSD will reopen on February 19 (Friday).

In order to comply with the requirements stipulated in the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F), LCSD staff at relevant venues will undergo polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) nucleic acid tests for COVID-19 and ensure necessary measures are adopted at reopened venues. Users of sports premises, performance venues, museums and public libraries are required to scan the "LeaveHomeSafe" QR code or register their name, contact number and the date and time of the visit before being allowed to enter for necessary contact tracing if a confirmed case is found. Appeals are made to members of the public to download and install the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile app in advance and scan the QR code with the app before entering. Members of the public who opt for registering their personal information at the scene are reminded to arrive earlier to avoid delaying their visits as longer time is required for such registration.

Leisure facilities to be reopened include indoor facilities (except children's play rooms) in sports centres, the Hong Kong Squash Centre/stand-alone squash centres, a table tennis centre, the Hong Kong Velodrome and Queen Elizabeth Stadium, as well as sports grounds (for athletic events), chess tables, amphitheatres (for individual leisure use only), skateparks, skateboard grounds, roller skating rinks, model car play areas, model boat pools, a rope course, road safety towns, water sports centres, soccer

pitches, hockey grounds, cricket grounds, basketball courts, volleyball courts, handball courts, netball courts and a roller hockey court.

"Members of the public should take note of social distancing. The number of people in group gatherings should not be more than that as stipulated by the law. At the same time, members of the public should take note of the latest requirements on the maximum number of players in related sports facilities as stipulated in the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F). Each group of users must consist of no more than four persons. For team sports, the maximum number of players and referees to be allowed in each playing field/court at any time during competition or a training match should follow the rules and regulations of the respective sports competition. A user is not required to wear a mask when he or she is doing exercise within any outdoor sports premises or with a distance of at least 1.5 metres between groups within indoor sports premises (except for coaches/staff and training groups/classes/team sports consisting of more than four persons)," the spokesman for the LCSD said.

The LCSD will also adopt special measures at leisure facilities to be reopened. The measures will include limiting the number of players permitted to stay in the courts/lanes and closing spectator stands. Furthermore, disinfectant carpets and alcohol-based handrub will be in place and cleaning measures will be stepped up at the venues.

The public can book the fee-charging facilities above to be reopened via the Internet Booking Service of Leisure Link, counter bookings and self-service kiosks at venues already reopened, or the Booking Office of the District Leisure Services Offices from February 18 (Thursday). Counter bookings and self-service kiosks at the above venues to be reopened will resume operation on the same day of reopening (February 19). In order to avoid a busy network, the public can book fee-charging facilities via the Internet Booking Service of Leisure Link within four days in advance from February 18, or within seven days in advance from February 19.

Some leisure facilities will continue to be closed until further notice. They are public beaches, public swimming pools, children's play facilities, barbecue sites, indoor children's play rooms and the Pui O Campsite. Some LCSD venues will continue to be temporarily closed for anti-epidemic purposes. Please refer to the attachment for details.

The LCSD will continue to cancel recreational and sports programmes to be held until further notice.

Meanwhile, booking applications for public swimming pools, amphitheatres, leisure venues for non-designated use and sales activities at non-fee-charging leisure venues, as well as applications for road safety towns and the standby arrangement for non-fee charging land recreation facilities, are suspended until further notice.

For cultural venues, all of the LCSD's performance venues will be opened for performances or activities with live audiences from February 19 with

special seating arrangements. The number of audience members in major facilities of the venues such as concert halls, theatres, auditoria, cultural activities halls and arenas will be limited to half of the original capacity. Consecutive seats will be limited to four and seats will be evenly distributed. Performers who are unable to wear masks during rehearsal or performance must take a government-recognised RT-PCR nucleic acid test for COVID-19 and obtain a negative test result within 72 hours before their first entry to the performance venues. For activities to be held in minor facilities of the performance venues such as music/dance studios and lecture/conference/function rooms, the number of users will be limited to half of the original capacity in most cases. For the number of users, the number of participants in each cluster and other details, please refer to the notifications of individual venues. All hiring activities open to the public at outdoor facilities will remain suspended.

URBTIX will maintain Internet and mobile app ticketing and hotline services. URBTIX outlets and ticket dispensing machines at LCSD performance venues will resume operation together with the reopened venues from February 19 onwards. Ticket holders of cancelled events are advised to contact the respective event organisers or check their latest announcements on refund arrangements. For events that organisers choose to arrange refunds for at URBTIX outlets, details will be announced on the URBTIX webpage in due course.

The Hong Kong Central Library, six other major public libraries and 31 district libraries will be partially reopened on February 19. Facilities include the adult, young adult and children's libraries. Special opening hours, from 1pm to 8pm from Mondays to Saturdays and 9am to 5pm on Sundays and public holidays, will be implemented. Admission quotas will apply. Other facilities will remain closed.

All book drop services of the Hong Kong Public Libraries and those located at MTR Central, Kowloon Tong and Nam Cheong Stations as well as the self-service library stations at Island East Sports Centre Sitting-out Area, the Hong Kong Cultural Centre and Tsuen Nam Road, Tai Wai, will maintain services. Public libraries will continue to provide online services such as e-Books and e-Databases. Please visit [www.hkpl.gov.hk/en/index.html](http://www.hkpl.gov.hk/en/index.html) for details.

The Hong Kong Museum of Art, the Hong Kong Heritage Museum and the Hong Kong Museum of History will partially reopen their exhibition facilities on February 19. For details please visit the websites of the three museums. All museum public programmes, interactive exhibits and children's facilities will remain suspended. Special opening hours from 10am to 5pm daily (except on the regular closing day) will be implemented for the reopened museums, which will apply quotas to limit visitor flow. Other museums will remain closed, including the Hong Kong Film Archive, which will be closed for maintenance work.

All music centres of the Music Office will resume counter services on February 19.

Visitors to facilities of performance venues, public libraries and museums will need to use hand sanitiser and will be subject to temperature checks before admission. They also need to wear their own masks. Children under 12 will only be allowed to enter public libraries and museums when accompanied by an adult. Enhanced measures including cleaning and disinfection between sessions will be conducted.

The LCSD spokesman appealed to the public to use the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile app when visiting LCSD venues in order to keep a more precise record of their whereabouts, thereby minimising the risk of further transmission of the virus.

The LCSD will pay close attention to the latest developments of the pandemic, as well as the requirements for scheduled premises as stipulated in the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F), and review or revise the above reopening arrangements in due course.