

# Calendar of Events 2023

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## January

- 1 A new foreign-sourced income exemption regime takes effect to address the possible exploitation of Hong Kong's tax arrangement by shell companies seeking to achieve 'double non-taxation' of foreign-sourced passive income.
- 7 The Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) Task Force is established, comprising leaders from the legal and business sectors, academia, as well as representatives of Hong Kong residents in the Mainland and the Department of Justice, to enhance interactions among the people and businesses in the GBA, and facilitate their better access to legal and dispute resolution services.
- 8 Quarantine-free travel between Hong Kong and the Mainland begins to resume in a progressive, orderly and comprehensive manner.
- 11-12 The flagship two-day Asian Financial Forum returns as a physical event, while remaining accessible virtually, after two years of being online-only. Under the theme of 'Accelerating Transformation: Impact · Inclusion · Innovation', it assembles thousands of top businesspersons, senior officials and thought leaders from over 70 countries or regions to share their insights on issues related to global finance and economy, and explore cooperation opportunities.
- 12 More than 1,400 personnel from six bureaus, 28 departments and three organisations take part in an exercise, based on the Daya Bay Contingency Plan, to test and enhance their nuclear emergency preparedness and knowledge of dealing with nuclear power station emergencies that may affect Hong Kong.
- 18 The *Silver Spirit* is the first international cruise ship to berth in Hong Kong in almost three years, marking the resumption of international cruise travel.
- 27 The Task Force on Promoting and Branding Hong Kong is set up to raise Hong Kong's international profile and enhance its branding and image both overseas and in the Mainland by presenting a more comprehensive understanding of Hong Kong's advantages, potentials and opportunities.

## February

- 2 The 'Hello Hong Kong' campaign is launched, unveiling a series of promotional activities and highlighting the new attractions, developments and opportunities for visitors coming to Hong Kong.
- 4-11 The Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, leads a delegation of more than 30 high-level representatives from various sectors to two countries in the Middle East – Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates – to promote friendship, Hong Kong's advantages and investment opportunities. A total of 13 memoranda of cooperation are signed during the trip.
- 6 Normal travel between Hong Kong and the Mainland fully resumes with all pre-departure testing requirements for travelling between the two places lifted. The requirement for non-Hong Kong residents to be fully vaccinated before coming to Hong Kong from overseas is also lifted.
- 8 The government sends a 59-strong team to quake-stricken areas in Türkiye to assist in search and rescue work. The team rescues four survivors and finds six bodies under the debris. Following its return to Hong Kong, the team is awarded the inaugural Chief Executive's Award for Exemplary Performance on 13 July. Dr Cecilia Fan, a family medicine consultant with the Department of Health, receives national recognition on 29 December as one of the National Outstanding Individuals in the Foreign Medical Aid for her participation in the team's work.
- 14 The government completes the mid-term review of the 12-year licences held by the three domestic free television programme services and two sound broadcasting services. It updates the licence conditions to encourage further investment in the industry, promote development of the broadcasting industry and introduce requirements to broadcast programmes on promoting national education and national identity.
- 16 The government announces the successful offering of the HK\$800 million of tokenised green bond under the Government Green Bond Programme, the first such bond issued by a government globally.
- 22 The Financial Secretary, Mr Paul Chan, delivers the 2023-24 Budget, unveiling measures to sustain economic recovery and move towards high-quality development.

- 23 The financial authorities of the Central People's Government (CPG) and the People's Government of Guangdong Province jointly promulgate the 'Opinion on Providing Financial Support for the Comprehensive Deepening Reform and Opening Up of the Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Cooperation Zone', which sets out 30 measures on financial reform and innovation and will strengthen the connection and high-level cooperation between the financial markets of Hong Kong and Shenzhen.
- 24 The government fully implements the Real-name Registration Programme for Subscriber Identification Module (SIM) Cards, requiring all SIM cards issued and used locally to complete real-name registration before service activation.

## March

- 1 All mandatory mask-wearing requirements are lifted.
- The city's last community isolation facility at Penny's Bay is closed, having served more than 270,000 people since it was first put into operation on 16 July 2020.
- 3 The first Countryside Conservation Conference is held with the participation of experts from Hong Kong, the Mainland and other parts of Asia to share insights and exchange views on countryside revitalisation, nature and cultural conservation.
- 10 On behalf of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government and Hong Kong people, the Chief Executive extends his warmest congratulations to President Xi Jinping on his unanimous election as the new-term President of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and Chairman of the Central Military Commission of the PRC at the first session of 14th National People's Congress (NPC).
- 12-18 The Chief Executive travels to Beijing to attend the closing meeting of the NPC annual session on 13 March and lead a delegation to call on various central ministries and authorities. The trip opens a new chapter for communication and cooperation between the HKSAR Government and central ministries.
- 14 The first project under the Subsidy Scheme for Using Hotels and Guesthouses as Youth Hostels is launched, which encompasses an entire hotel with 97 rooms in Causeway Bay, providing up to 194 hostel places.
- 17 The Chief Executive's Council of Advisers, a high-level advisory body, is established to advise the Chief Executive on the strategic development of Hong Kong in order to leverage on opportunities from national and global developments.

- 24 The government unveils eight measures under the Policy Statement on Developing Family Office Businesses in Hong Kong with a view to developing a vibrant ecosystem for global family offices and asset owners.
- The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) and Bank for International Settlements (BIS) co-organise an international financial regulatory conference in Hong Kong, bringing together more than 100 senior officials of central banks and regulatory authorities as well as top executives of financial institutions from more than 25 economies. The conference follows a two-day meeting of the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision on 22-23 March, their first physical meeting outside of Basel since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, to discuss the latest banking regulatory and supervisory policies to help maintain global financial stability.
- 27 Hong Kong actor Tony Leung Chiu-wai receives the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement award at the 80th Venice International Film Festival. He is the first Chinese actor to receive the honorary award.
- 31-2 Apr The Hong Kong Sevens rugby tournament is held without Covid-19 restrictions for the first time since 2019. In another first, the event also includes a full leg of the World Rugby Women's Sevens Series.

## April

- 1 The government imposes a special duty of \$2.4 billion annually on the football betting conductor for five years from 2023-24 to 2027-28 in order to increase government revenue in the short term.
- 6 Retired Australian judge Patrick Anthony Keane is appointed as a non-permanent judge from another common law jurisdiction of the Court of Final Appeal.
- 10 The Hong Kong women's ice hockey team wins the Women's World Championship Division III for the first time in Hong Kong's history.
- 13-18 Mr Xia Baolong, the Vice-chairman of the 13th Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council, visits Hong Kong to officiate at the opening ceremony of the National Security Education Day organised by the Committee for Safeguarding National Security of the HKSAR. During his six-day stay, Mr Xia also meets people from various sectors of the community and visits a number of places, including the Northern Metropolis, Victoria Harbour, Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited, Hong Kong Science Park, universities and schools.

- 16 The first instalment of the consumption voucher under the 2023 Consumption Voucher Scheme is disbursed to about 6.4 million eligible persons. Hong Kong permanent residents and new arrivals each receive a \$3,000 voucher while eligible people who have come to live in Hong Kong through different admission schemes receive a \$1,500 voucher. The second instalment is disbursed from 16 July.
- 18 The Hospital Authority welcomes the first batch of healthcare professionals from Guangdong Province under the GBA Healthcare Talents Visiting Programmes, improving the quality of medical services in the two places while creating synergy in manpower and services in the long run.
- 19 Applications for the Mega Arts and Cultural Events Fund open.
- 21-24 The current-term government and Legislative Council make their first joint visit to the Mainland. The delegation, led by the Chief Executive, travels to four GBA cities to promote high-level cooperation and high-quality development.
- 26 The Housing Authority endorses tightening the eligibility criteria for Green Form applicants for purchase of subsidised sale flats to better ensure the rational allocation of scarce public housing resources. The revised criteria are implemented for the Sale of Home Ownership Scheme Flats 2023 held between 31 July and 14 August.
- 28 The 'Happy Hong Kong' campaign is launched, and a series of events held to provide the public with diverse, fun and interesting activities while also stimulating local consumption and the economy.
- The Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme is extended to include primary healthcare services provided by audiologists, dietitians, clinical psychologists and speech therapists. Almost 1.7 million elderly people are expected to benefit from the extension. The scheme is further enhanced in July to allow shared use of the voucher between spouses.
- The Occupational Safety and Occupational Health Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 2023 takes effect to increase overall the maximum penalties for occupational safety and health offences.
- 30 The District Services and Community Care Teams in Southern District are launched to provide district-based services according to the needs of sub-districts. Care teams in Tsuen Wan District are launched in early May, followed by care teams in the remaining 16 districts later in the year.

## May

- 1 The Statutory Minimum Wage rate is increased from \$37.50 per hour to \$40, an increase of 6.7 per cent.

The Copyright (Amendment) Ordinance 2022 comes into operation, strengthening copyright protection in the digital environment, thereby enhancing the local intellectual property (IP) regime and promoting the development of Hong Kong as a regional IP trading centre.

- 2 The government announces the proposals on improving district governance. To implement the proposed reform of the District Councils, the government amends the relevant legislation and introduces the District Councils (Amendment) Bill 2023 into the Legislative Council for first and second readings on 31 May.

- 4 A cross-boundary ferry service between Guangzhou's Pazhou ferry terminal and Hong Kong is launched.

- 7 The free-flow tolling service HKeToll is implemented in the Tsing Sha Control Area. The service is later implemented progressively throughout the year at all government tolled tunnels.

- 10 The government launches the Pilot Scheme for Supporting Patients of the Hospital Authority in the GBA to enable eligible Hong Kong citizens to continue to receive subsidised consultations at the University of Hong Kong-Shenzhen Hospital.

- 15 Northbound Trading of Swap Connect is officially launched, providing a convenient and secure channel for international investors to trade, clear and settle interest rate swap products in the Mainland via a connection between infrastructure institutions in Hong Kong and on the Mainland.

Guidance Notes on Prevention of Heat Stroke at Work and the Heat Stress at Work Warning are launched, reminding employers and employees to take appropriate measures to prevent heat stroke when working in hot weather or hot environments.

- 16 The Talent List is expanded from 13 to 51 professions under nine industry segments, aiming to reflect the latest shortage of professional and technical talent spanning different fields, and attract more talent to come to Hong Kong and meet the city's development needs.

- 18 The first Chief Executive's Interactive Exchange Question and Answer session with Legislative Council members is held. The session is about the spirit of the 20th National Congress and the Two Sessions, covering the themes of 'Security and Stability' and 'Development and Happiness'.
- 19 The revamped Aberdeen Market, the pioneering project of the Market Modernisation Programme, opens, adopting a modern design and layout.
- 30 The Chief Executive's Policy Unit Expert Group is established, comprising 56 members of different backgrounds including business, finance, professionals, think tanks and academia to provide expert views and new ideas to the unit concerning various topics.

## June

- 1 A new licensing regime for centralised virtual asset trading platforms comes into effect, requiring all platforms operating a virtual asset exchange in Hong Kong or actively marketing their services to Hong Kong investors to be licensed by the Securities and Futures Commission.
- Recruitment of degree-level civil service jobs is expanded to undergraduate or postgraduate students in their penultimate year of study.
- 9 The government proposes 10 enhanced measures to offer more comprehensive support to people in mental recovery who have a history of severe mental disorders and other people with mental health needs.
- 12 The Northern Metropolis Coordination Office is established to drive the development of the Northern Metropolis and assume the overall co-ordination role in taking forward the initiative, covering such aspects as land development, housing supply, transport infrastructure, ecological conservation, development of industries, and government and community facilities.
- 13 To address acute manpower shortages, labour importation schemes for the construction and transport sectors are introduced with applications opening on 17 July.
- The Private Subsidised Sale Flat – Pilot Scheme is launched to encourage private developers to participate in developing subsidised sale flats.

- 15 The Agreement on the Dedicated National Studies Programme for Senior Directorate Civil Servants is signed with the National Academy of Governance. The programme aims to enhance participants' knowledge about the country's policies of governance, deepen their understanding of the country's political system and formulation of important policies, and strengthen their communication and contact with senior Mainland officials for further mutual exchanges.
- 17-25 A total of 81 Hong Kong athletes compete at the 2023 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Berlin, winning 39 gold, 25 silver and 11 bronze medals.
- 19 The Special Scheme to Import Care Workers for Residential Care Homes is launched, allowing all residential care homes for the elderly and residential care homes for persons with disabilities to import care workers on an appropriate scale and with more streamlined procedures, with a view to addressing the shortage of care workers in the sector.
- 29 A memorandum of understanding is signed with the Cyberspace Administration of China to promote cross-boundary data flow in the GBA. The first facilitation measure, the GBA Standard Contract, is announced in December.

## July

- 1 The 'Northbound Travel for Hong Kong Vehicles' scheme is implemented, allowing eligible Hong Kong private cars to travel between Hong Kong and Guangdong via the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge without the need to obtain regular quotas.
- 3 The Hong Kong Offshore Liquefied Natural Gas Terminal opens, marking a new chapter in low-carbon power generation in Hong Kong.
- 10 The District Councils (Amendment) Ordinance 2023 takes effect, implementing the proposed reforms to District Councils to improve district governance so that they could be restored to their original positioning under Article 97 of the Basic Law.
- 23-29 The Chief Executive leads a delegation of over 30 high-level representatives from various sectors on a visit to three member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations – Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia – to strengthen cooperation in the areas of trade, economy and investment and explore business opportunities. The visit also tells the good stories of Hong Kong by introducing the city's strengths and opportunities to the state leaders and local political and business communities. A total of 33 memoranda of cooperation are signed during the trip.



- 24 President Xi Jinping gives a reply letter to students of Pui Kiu Middle School in Hong Kong, conveying his earnest expectations for the young generation of the city.

## August

- 2 The government takes over the Western Harbour Crossing and implements the '633' fixed toll scheme in the three road harbour crossings. The toll for private cars is lowered to \$60 for the Western Harbour Crossing and that for the Cross-Harbour Tunnel and the Eastern Harbour Crossing is adjusted to \$30. Cross-harbour taxis are charged an all-day fixed toll of \$25 for the three road harbour crossings.
- 8 The cross-boundary logistics transfer facility at the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Macao Port begins operation, allowing goods to be transported between Hong Kong and Macao, providing greater convenience, facilitating the business development of various industries in Hong Kong and benefitting the public through speedier deliveries.
- 11 The government welcomes the China Securities Regulatory Commission and the Securities and Futures Commission's announcement on the consensus to introduce block trading (manual trades) under the mutual market access programme which enhances the certainty and transparency in the transaction price and timing for large-sized securities transactions, thereby allowing investors to manage their asset allocation more efficiently at lower costs, while reducing the potential price impact of relevant transactions through auto-matching.
- 24 Hong Kong actor Andy Lau receives the Special Tribute Award at the 48th Toronto International Film Festival.
- The government prohibits the import of all aquatic products originating from 10 metropolis or prefectures of Japan in response to the Japanese Government's plan to discharge nuclear-contaminated water at the nuclear power station in Fukushima. At the same time, the Centre for Food Safety of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department continues enhancing the testing on imported Japanese food.
- 29 The Chief Executive welcomes the CPG's promulgation of the 'Development Plan for Shenzhen Park of Hetao Shenzhen-Hong Kong Science and Technology Innovation Cooperation Zone', which comprises a total of 30 measures to promote high quality innovation and technology (I&T) development in the GBA, and enable the cooperation zone to become a world-class innovation platform and an engine to drive I&T development in neighbouring cities.

## September

- 1 The Development (Town Planning, Lands and Works) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Ordinance 2023 takes effect, reducing the time required for turning a piece of primitive land into a spade-ready site by streamlining various development-related statutory procedures such as town planning, land resumption, reclamation, roads and railway works.  
  
The government implements the School-based After School Care Service Scheme to allow primary students in need to stay at school outside school hours for care and learning support and, in turn, enable their parents to go to work.
- 1-2 The Observatory issues the Hurricane Signal No 10 for the first time in five years as Super Typhoon Saola, the second-most intense tropical cyclone affecting the South China Sea since 1950, hits Hong Kong. The government activates the civil service mobilisation protocol for the first time to deploy civil servants of non-emergency services departments to help bring the city back to normal.
- 4 The Enhanced Supplementary Labour Scheme is launched, enhancing the coverage and operation of the Supplementary Labour Scheme, including suspending the general exclusion of 26 job categories as well as unskilled/low-skilled posts for two years.
- 5 Hong Kong actor Chow Yun-fat receives the Asian Filmmaker of the Year award at the 28th Busan International Film Festival.
- 7 The Hong Kong Science Park Shenzhen Branch opens, comprising two buildings with a total gross floor area of about 31,000 square metres, providing offices, laboratories, co-working spaces, as well as conference and event facilities.
- 7-8 The Observatory records 158.1mm of rainfall in an hour from 11pm to midnight on 7 September, the highest hourly measurement since records began in 1884 and the black rainstorm alert is in force for more than 16 hours from 11.05pm on 7 September to 3.40pm the next day. The first 'extreme conditions' announcement is made on 8 September due to widespread flooding and traffic disruption. The government mobilises all available resources to handle the issues arising from the rainstorm, as well as to assist in the recovery of the city.

- 14 The government launches the 'Night Vibes Hong Kong' campaign, with a view to encouraging different sectors of the community to take part in night-time events with local characteristics all over the city to create a dynamic vibe for residents and tourists to feel the vibrancy and energy of Hong Kong's nightlife.
- 23-8 Oct Hong Kong sends its largest-ever delegation to the 19th Asian Games held in Hangzhou. The athletes win a record-breaking total of 53 medals, comprising eight gold, 16 silver and 29 bronze medals. Gold medals are won in rowing, fencing, swimming, rugby, golf, cycling and bridge.

## October

- 1 The National Day Fireworks Display is held for the first time in five years, featuring a total of 31,888 firing shells over 23 minutes.
- New measures take effect to safeguard the rational use of public rental housing resources through tackling tenancy abuse and enhancing policies that allocate resources to those with the most pressing needs.
- 4 The Office for Attracting Strategic Enterprises signs an agreement with its first batch of strategic enterprises partners setting up or expanding their businesses in Hong Kong. The enterprises come from industries including life and health technology, artificial intelligence and data science, financial technology, and advanced manufacturing and new-energy technology.
- 17-18 The Chief Executive leads a high-level 70-strong delegation to participate in the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in Beijing.
- 20 The Tin Hau Temple at Joss House Bay in Sai Kung, commonly known as 'Tai Miu', and the Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong in Sheung Wan, currently known as the Bridges Street Centre, are declared as monuments under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance.
- 21 The first overseas Hong Kong Week for arts and culture is held in Bangkok, with support from Thailand's Ministry of Culture. It features music, dance, intangible cultural heritage, film and fashion programmes to showcase the essence of Hong Kong's East-meets-West cultural DNA, and its Chinese and Hong Kong stories and aesthetics.

- 22-28 A total of 95 athletes represent the Hong Kong team at the fourth Asian Para Games in Hangzhou, winning a total of 47 medals, comprising eight gold, 15 silver and 24 bronze medals. Breakthroughs are achieved in swimming including breaking several Asian Para Games records and winning all three medals in the same event.
- 25 The Chief Executive delivers his second Policy Address, under the theme 'A Vibrant Economy for a Caring Community' and sets out a range of initiatives to revive the economy, create opportunities and ensure the long-term prosperity and stability of Hong Kong.
- Demand-side management measures for residential properties are adjusted. The applicable period of the Special Stamp Duty is reduced from three years to two years and the rates of the Buyer's Stamp Duty and the New Residential Stamp Duty are reduced by half. A stamp duty suspension arrangement is introduced for incoming talents' acquisition of residential properties in Hong Kong.
- 30 The Hong Kong Talent Engage Office opens, with a view to strengthening recruitment of and support for talent to pursue development in Hong Kong.
- The Northern Metropolis Action Agenda is published to outline the development positioning of the four major zones in the Northern Metropolis, namely the High-end Professional Services and Logistics Hub; the I&T Zone; the Boundary Commerce and Industry Zone; and the Blue and Green Recreation, Tourism and Conservation Circle; and the features of their future development.
- 31 Hong Kong, China is accepted by the International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use as an observer, an important step towards becoming an internationally recognised regulatory authority for drugs and medical devices.
- The government promulgates the Action Plan on Modern Logistics Development to formulate eight strategies and 24 action measures to meet the short, medium and long-term development needs of the logistics industry, with a view to developing Hong Kong into a sustainable international smart logistics hub focused on high-value goods and the e-commerce market.

## November

- 1 A new mechanism for registering new drugs comes into effect, enabling Hong Kong to approve new drugs for life-threatening or severely debilitating diseases more effectively.
- 2 The Cross-boundary Public Services service area and thematic website of Guangdong and Hong Kong are launched, enabling residents and enterprises in Hong Kong and the Mainland cities of the GBA to access public services of the two places online without the need for cross-boundary travel.
- 5-10 The Chief Executive leads a delegation to attend the opening ceremony and relevant events of the sixth China International Import Expo in Shanghai, in which a record high of more than 300 Hong Kong enterprises participate.
- 6-8 The three-day Global Financial Leaders' Investment Summit brings together more than 350 international and regional leaders from 160 global financial institutions, with more than 90 represented by their group chairmen or CEOs. Under the theme of 'Living with Complexity', the main summit discusses the trends and changes that are reshaping the industry, including the macroeconomic challenges and the evolving investment landscape.
- 13 The Chronic Disease Co-Care Pilot Scheme is launched, allowing all Hong Kong residents aged 45 or above with no known medical history of diabetes mellitus or hypertension to receive screening for these two diseases and long-term follow-up in the private healthcare sector at an affordable price, subsidised by the government.
- 17 The Housing Authority endorses the relaxation of the mortgage arrangements for subsidised sale flats (SSFs) by extending the maximum mortgage default guarantee period and mortgage repayment period under the Deeds of Guarantee being provided to purchasers of SSFs and authorises financial institutions participating in the provision of mortgage loans for such flats.
- 19 A half marathon is held for the first time on the Hong Kong section of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, with about 8,000 runners taking part. The event is one of six 'M' Mark sports events held in the city in November, along with the FIBA 3x3 World Tour Hong Kong Masters, the TTI Milwaukee Hong Kong Squash Open, the Hong Kong Open golf tournament, the FIA World Rallycross Championship, Hong Kong, China-Season Finale and the New World Harbour Race.

- 20 The World of *Frozen*, the world's first *Frozen*-themed land, is opened in Hong Kong Disneyland Resort.
- 27-28 More than 300 participants, including current and former central bank governors, regional and local CEOs of financial institutions, and leading experts from Hong Kong and other parts of Asia, attend the HKMA-BIS High-Level Conference, the first large-scale gathering of central bank governors in the city since the pandemic.
- 28-1 Dec A China Manned Space delegation arrives in Hong Kong for a four-day visit, including astronauts who have participated in the construction of the Chinese Space Station and experts from related fields of the manned space engineering systems. During the visit, members of the delegation officiate at the opening ceremony of the China Manned Space Exhibition, and meet with the public as well as people from different sectors, including the innovation and technology sector, and teachers and students from tertiary, secondary and primary schools.

## December

- 4 The HKMA and Bank of Thailand launch the FPS x PromptPay Link for cross-border QR payment between Hong Kong and Thailand to provide a fast, secure and easily accessible cross-border retail payment service to people travelling between the two places, fostering economic development and entrepreneurial prospects in the two economies.
- 7-8 The Future Investment Initiative Institute, headquartered in Saudi Arabia, stages its inaugural Priority Asia Summit in Hong Kong, the first time the institute has held a summit in Asia.
- 10 In the first District Council Ordinary Election since the improvement of the district governance system and reform of the District Councils, more than 1.19 million registered electors cast their votes. The cumulative turnout rate in the District Council geographical constituencies is around 27 per cent and that in the District Committees constituencies is almost 97 per cent.
- 12 The Hong Kong Major Transport Infrastructure Development Blueprint is released, outlining the future development of the city's transport infrastructure, with a view to meeting Hong Kong's long-term transport and logistics demand up to 2046 and beyond.

- 12-17 Two home-developed aircraft, C919 and ARJ21, visit Hong Kong for the first time. C919 completes a flight demonstration over Victoria Harbour on 16 December as part of a series of visiting activities, enabling Hong Kong citizens to witness and experience first-hand the country's achievements in aviation manufacturing.
- 14 The government releases the Blueprint for the Sustainable Development of Agriculture and Fisheries to promote the upgrading and transformation of the agricultural and fisheries industries towards modernisation and sustainable development, to integrate with the development plan of the GBA, and to enhance the quality, quantity, and output value of local agricultural and fisheries products in the long run.
- 15 The Communications Authority promulgates the revised Television and Radio Codes of Practice on Programme and Advertising Standards with a view to providing a more flexible and conducive operating environment for the broadcasting industry. The revisions include the relaxation of relevant regulatory requirements and the introduction of specific requirements for the implementation of the national security law.
- 17 Time-varying tolls, which apply to private cars and motorcycles, are implemented at the three road harbour crossings to change motorists' commuting patterns with a view to alleviating cross-harbour congestion during peak hours.
- 17-20 The Chief Executive pays a duty visit to Beijing to brief state leaders on the latest economic, social and political situations in Hong Kong.
- 18 The first project under the Pilot Programme on Community Living Room officially opens in Sham Shui Po to provide additional space with diversified facilities and services for grass-roots families to meet their needs in daily lives and social activities, thereby improving their quality of life.
- 20 The government promulgates the Action Plan on Maritime and Port Development Strategy to formulate strategies and action measures to support the sustainable development needs of the maritime and port industry in Hong Kong and enhance the long-term competitiveness of the industry.

- 21 The Central People's Government promulgates the Overall Development Plan for the Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Cooperation Zone and the Hengqin Overall Development Plan. The former is an important initiative for supporting Hong Kong's social and economic development; fostering a higher level of cooperation among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao; and establishing a new development paradigm in pursuing opening up. The latter places emphasis on the development of technological innovation services and promotes technological cooperation.
- The Hospital Authority Global Healthcare Professional Recruitment Centre is established to coordinate the recruitment and exchange programmes of non-locally trained healthcare professionals from around the world to expand the public healthcare system's staffing resources.
- 22 The first stage of the Tseung Kwan O Desalination Plant is commissioned, providing a new and stable water source that is not susceptible to climate change. When fully operational, the plant will meet around 5 per cent of the overall fresh water demand in Hong Kong with a water production capacity of 135,000 cubic metres per day.
- 27 The 18111 – Mental Health Support Hotline, fully funded by the government, is launched to coordinate existing counselling services and provide one-stop, round-the-clock support for people with mental health needs, rendering them immediate mental health support and referral services.