

Tree experts to help in tree inspection

The Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) and Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) held a meeting this (September 3) morning to review the progress of tree inspection by the LCSD in the past few days.

Since the evening of August 27, the LCSD has started examining some 470 big trees listed in the Register of Old and Valuable Trees (OVTs) and other big trees which are also under its management.

"As at September 2, the LCSD had completed the inspection of 107 OVTs and nearly 15,000 other trees," a spokesman for the HAB said.

The LCSD hopes to be able to complete the inspection of more than 470 big trees on the OVTs Register as soon as possible.

"The LCSD is inviting local and overseas tree experts to help strengthen and speed up the tree inspection work.

"We hope the overseas experts can come to Hong Kong soon," the spokesman said.

The LCSD has completed inspection of the four coral trees on the OVTs Register. The health of one of them was poor and it failed to recover after a long period of treatment. As it had lost all its leaves and aesthetic value and posed a potential danger to the public, it was felled as mentioned in the press release issued by the LCSD on August 30. The condition of the other three coral OVTs is under control. The LCSD will continue to closely monitor their condition.

"The general condition of the other OVTs inspected was normal. To keep our city green as far as possible, special treatment like stabilising with cable bracings and trimming has been carried out to some of them," the spokesman said.

Ends/Wednesday, September 3, 2008