Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited and The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited take no responsibility for the contents of this announcement, make no representation as to its accuracy or completeness and expressly disclaim any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from or in reliance upon the whole or any part of the contents of this announcement.



Lai Sun Development Company Limited (Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)

(Stock Code: 488)

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

RESULTS

The board of directors (the "**Board**") of Lai Sun Development Company Limited (the "**Company**") is pleased to announce the consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries (the "**Group**") for the year ended 31 July 2018 together with the comparative figures of the last year as follows:

Consolidated Income Statement

For the year ended 31 July 2018

For the year ended 31 July 2016			
	Notes	2018 HK\$'000	2017 HK\$'000
TURNOVER	3	1,693,010	1,704,080
Cost of sales		(722,711)	(735,959)
Gross profit		970,299	968,121
Other revenue		168,665	54,416
Selling and marketing expenses		(16,974)	(35,746)
Administrative expenses		(369,391)	(280,214)
Other operating expenses	<i>4(b)</i>	(313,245)	(293,003)
Fair value gains on investment properties, net		2,410,357	1,238,092
Reversal of provision for tax indemnity	<i>4(c)</i>	305	142,451
PROFIT FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	<i>4(a)</i>	2,850,016	1,794,117
Finance costs	5	(229,482)	(175,608)
Share of profits and losses of associates		85,979	177,940
Share of profits and losses of joint ventures		1,714,360	837,413
Loss on deemed disposal of interest in an associate		-	(573,121)
Discount on acquisition of additional interest in an associate		_	142,822
PROFIT BEFORE TAX		4,420,873	2,203,563
Tax	6	(49,984)	(76,450)
PROFIT FOR THE YEAR		4,370,889	2,127,113
Attributable to:			
Owners of the Company		4,335,202	2,093,572
Non-controlling interests		35,687	33,541
		4,370,889	2,127,113
EARNINGS PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO			
OWNERS OF THE COMPANY	8		
Basic		HK\$7.159	HK\$3.465
Diluted		HK\$7.128	HK\$3.455
		-	·

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income *For the year ended 31 July 2018*

	2018 HK\$'000	2017 HK\$'000
PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	4,370,889	2,127,113
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		
Other comprehensive income/(expense) to be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods:		
Changes in fair values of available-for-sale financial assets Exchange realignments Share of other comprehensive expense of associates Share of other comprehensive (expense)/income of a joint venture	328,541 (12,975) (48,010) (1,282)	205,655 9,692 (54,877) 908
	266,274	161,378
Release of reserves upon deemed disposal of interest in an associate Release of reserve upon remeasurement of existing interest	-	49,192
in a joint venture upon business combination	374	
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	266,648	210,570
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	4,637,537	2,337,683
Attributable to:		
Owners of the Company	4,602,109	2,304,069
Non-controlling interests	35,428	33,614
	4,637,537	2,337,683

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

As at 31 July 2018

	Notes	2018 HK\$'000	2017 HK\$'000
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		,	,
Property, plant and equipment		5,276,957	4,034,466
Prepaid land lease payments		18,846	19,873
Investment properties		18,356,990	16,447,014
Properties under development for sale		932,978	1,571,635
Goodwill		235,778	5,161
Intangible assets		120,306	-
Interests in associates		3,596,585	3,555,876
Interests in joint ventures Available-for-sale financial assets		7,272,859 2,162,254	7,224,183 1,589,670
Derivative financial instruments		6,171	1,505,070
Deposits paid and other receivables		341,204	231,868
Deferred tax assets		34,534	-
Loans to related companies		650,000	-
Pledged bank balances and time deposits		82,909	69,675
Total non-current assets		39,088,371	34,749,421
CURRENT ASSETS			
Properties under development for sale		1,049,331	-
Completed properties for sale Inventories		252,121	252,121
Debtors, deposits paid and other receivables	9	31,973 547,678	31,327 530,416
Pledged bank balances and time deposits	9	298,509	213,640
Cash and cash equivalents		3,958,416	2,664,066
1		6,138,028	3,691,570
Asset classified as held for sale		1,476,533	-
Total current assets		7,614,561	3,691,570
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors, deposits received and accruals	10	2,146,488	452,005
Tax payable		124,383	119,062
Guaranteed notes		-	2,731,230
Bank borrowings		1,186,279	157,582
Total current liabilities		3,457,150	3,459,879
NET CURRENT ASSETS		4,157,411	231,691
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		43,245,782	34,981,112
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Bank borrowings		7,698,454	6,748,399
Guaranteed notes		3,118,594	-
Deferred tax liabilities		176,044	141,291
Provision for tax indemnity		-	93,000
Long term deposits received and other payables		634,009	893,883
Total non-current liabilities		11,627,101	7,876,573
		31,618,681	27,104,539
EQUITY Equity of this but had to assume as of the Commons			
Equity attributable to owners of the Company Share capital		4,076,816	4,063,736
Reserves		27,081,877	22,536,054
		31,158,693	26,599,790
Non-controlling interests		459,988	504,749
		31,618,681	27,104,539

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs") (which include all Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards, Hong Kong Accounting Standards ("HKASs") and Interpretations) issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants, accounting principles generally accepted in Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance. They have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investment properties, derivative financial instruments and certain available-for-sale financial assets, which have been measured at fair value. These financial statements are presented in Hong Kong dollars ("HK\$") and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand except when otherwise indicated.

The financial information relating to the years ended 31 July 2018 and 31 July 2017 included in this preliminary announcement of annual results for the year ended 31 July 2018 does not constitute the Company's statutory annual consolidated financial statements for those years but is derived from those financial statements. Further information relating to these statutory financial statements required to be disclosed in accordance with section 436 of the Companies Ordinance is as follows:

The Company has delivered the financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2017 to the Registrar of Companies as required by section 662(3) of, and Part 3 of Schedule 6 to, the Companies Ordinance and will deliver the financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2018 in due course.

Auditor's reports have been prepared on these financial statements of the Group for both years. The auditor's reports were unqualified; did not include a reference to any matters to which the auditor drew attention by way of emphasis without qualifying its reports; and did not contain a statement under sections 406(2), 407(2) or (3) of the Companies Ordinance.

2. CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DISCLOSURES

The Group has adopted the following amendments to HKFRSs for the first time for the current year's financial statements.

Amendments to HKAS 7 Amendments to HKAS 12 Amendments to HKFRS 12 included in *Annual Improvements to HKFRSs* 2014-2016 Cycle Disclosure Initiative Recognition of Deferred Tax Assets for Unrealised Losses Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities: Clarification of the Scope of HKFRS 12

Amendments to HKAS 7 require an entity to provide disclosures that enable users of financial statements to evaluate changes in liabilities arising from financing activities, including both changes arising from cash flows and non-cash changes.

Other than as explained above regarding the impact of Amendments to HKAS 7, the adoption of the above amendments to HKFRSs has had no significant financial effect on these financial statements.

3. SEGMENT INFORMATION

Segment revenue and results

The following table presents revenue and results for the Group's reportable segments:

	deve	operty elopment d sales		roperty estment		Hotel eration		staurant peration	(Others	Elim	inations	Consol	lidated
	2018 HK\$'000	2017 HK\$'000	2018 HK\$'000	2017 HK\$'000	2018 HK\$'000	2017 HK\$'000	2018 HK\$'000	2017 HK\$'000	2018 HK\$'000	2017 HK\$'000	2018 HK\$'000	2017 HK\$'000	2018 HK\$'000	2017 HK\$'000
Segment revenue: Sales to external customers Intersegment sales Other revenue Total	430 	89,245 4,813 94,058	704,513 19,200 30,708 754,421	686,748 16,473 2,310 705,531	423,958 145 424,103	412,343 90 280 412,713	514,019 732 514,751	481,529 97 426 482,052	50,090 27,221 21,096 98,407	34,215 24,899 11,120 70,234	(46,421) 	(41,559)	1,693,010 59,124 1,752,134	1,704,080 18,949 1,723,029
Segment results	(6,782)	(13,156)	585,524	556,098	34,733	70,697	(36,208)	(30,338)		(839)	<u> </u>		595,446	582,462
Interest income from bank deposits - unallocated Unallocated revenue Fair value gains on investment properties, net Unallocated expenses Reversal of provision for tax indemnity	-	-	2,410,357	1,238,092	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39,008 70,533 2,410,357 (265,633) 305	10,211 25,256 1,238,092 (204,355) 142,451
Profit from operating activities													2,850,016	1,794,117
Finance costs Share of profits and losses of associates Share of profits and losses of associates - unallocated Share of profits and losses of joint ventures Loss on deemed disposal of interest in an associate Discount on acquisition of additional interest in an associate	466 3,071	33 (28,638)	- 1,716,061	- 859,570	(309)	-	(1,471) (1,483)	(3,330)	(80) (3,289)	6,481	-	-	(229,482) (1,394) 87,373 1,714,360	(175,608) (3,297) 181,237 837,413 (573,121) 142,822
Profit before tax Tax													4,420,873 (49,984)	
Profit for the year													4,370,889	2,127,113

3. **SEGMENT INFORMATION** (continued)

The following table presents the total assets and liabilities and other segment information for the Group's reportable segments:

	dev	Property velopment nd sales 2017 HK\$'000		Property nvestment 2017 HK\$'000		Hotel peration 2017 HK\$'000		aurant eration 2017 HK\$'000	Oti 2018 <i>HK\$</i> '000	hers 2017 <i>HK</i> \$'000	Con: 2018 <i>HK\$</i> '000	solidated 2017 HK\$'000
Segment assets and liabilities												
Segment assets Interests in associates Interests in associates - unallocated	2,640,197 1,701	2,233,477 5,890	18,599,262	16,657,105	5,444,389 163,301	4,076,803 159,478	531,037 (10,394)	586,663 (9,078)	1,683,631 233	242,782	28,898,516 154,841 3,441,744	23,796,830 156,290 3,399,586
Interests in associates - unanocated Interests in joint ventures Unallocated assets Assets classified as held for sale	1,194,367	1,116,246	6,075,975	5,986,447	-	-	2,517	-	-	121,490	7,272,859 5,458,439 1,476,533	7,224,183 3,864,102
Total assets											46,702,932	38,440,991
Segment liabilities Bank borrowings Guaranteed notes Other unallocated liabilities	1,684,053	777,431	390,603	194,047	237,631	279,216	41,259	43,158	330,037	9,932	2,683,583 8,884,733 3,118,594 397,341	1,303,784 6,905,981 2,731,230 395,457
Total liabilities											<u>15,084,251</u>	11,336,452
Other segment information												
Amortisation of prepaid land lease payments	-	-	-	-	1,027	1,028	-	-	-	-	1,027	1,028
Depreciation Depreciation - unallocated	-	-	116	147	22,048	18,075	49,886	47,136	1,241	217	73,291 10,891	65,575 11,416
											<u>84,182</u>	76,991
Impairment of property, plant and equipment Loss on disposal/write-off of items of property,	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,583	-	-	-	9,583	-
plant and equipment	-	226	29	-	653	996	7,655	-	-	-	8,337	1,222
Capital expenditure Capital expenditure - unallocated	-	-	45,858	54,263	1,306,810	1,075,824	26,185	48,257	2,106	3,019	1,380,959 369	1,181,363 4,244
											1,381,328	1,185,607

3. **SEGMENT INFORMATION** (continued)

Geographical information

The following table presents revenue and assets by geographical location of the assets:

	Ho	ng Kong	United Kingdom Vietnam		Ot	hers	Consolidated			
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Segment revenue										
Sales to external customers	1,095,759	1,156,603	148,849	136,304	418,729	407,257	29,673	3,916	1,693,010	1,704,080
Other revenue	29,545	18,317	29,416	493	20	81	143	58	59,124	18,949
Total	1,125,304	1,174,920	178,265	136,797	418,749	407,338	<u>29,816</u>	3,974	1,752,134	1,723,029
Segment assets										
Non-current assets	22,367,042	19,295,802	2,868,811	2,703,275	286,291	264,244	380,152	621	25,902,296	22,263,942
Current assets	2,335,915	1,133,371	63,642	72,756	266,462	323,208	330,201	3,553	2,996,220	1,532,888
Total	24,702,957	20,429,173	2,932,453	2,776,031	552,753	587,452	710,353	4,174	28,898,516	23,796,830

Information about major customers

For both the years ended 31 July 2018 and 31 July 2017, there was no revenue derived from a single customer which contributed more than 10% of the Group's revenue for the respective years.

4. PROFIT FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

(a) The Group's profit from operating activities is arrived at after charging:

	2018	2017
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Cost of inventories sold	171,994	169,622
Cost of completed properties sold	-	69,395
Depreciation [#]	84,182	76,991
Impairment of property, plant and equipment*	9,583	_
Loss on disposal/write-off of items of property, plant and equipment*	8,337	1,222
Foreign exchange losses, net*	5,927	23,849

Depreciation charge of approximately HK\$79,152,000 (2017: HK\$71,793,000) for property, plant and equipment is included in "other operating expenses" on the consolidated income statement.

- (b) Other than those mentioned in note 4(a) above, "other operating expenses" also included service fee for operation of a club in the Group's hotel operation in Vietnam of approximately HK\$60,250,000 (2017: HK\$64,337,000).
- (c) Pursuant to the indemnity deed entered into between the Company and Lai Fung Holdings Limited ("**Lai Fung**") on 12 November 1997, the Company has undertaken to indemnify Lai Fung in respect of certain potential Mainland China corporate income tax and land appreciation tax payable or shared by Lai Fung in consequence of the disposal of certain properties interest attributable to Lai Fung through its subsidiaries and joint ventures as at 31 October 1997. During the year, the Company settled tax indemnity of approximately HK\$92,695,000 (2017: HK\$493,936,000) in relation to the taxes incurred and paid by Lai Fung. The Company also reversed an overprovision in prior years of approximately HK\$305,000 (2017: HK\$142,451,000) which was credited to the consolidated income statement.

5. FINANCE COSTS

	2018 HK\$'000	2017 HK\$'000
Interest on bank borrowings	175,378	116,995
Interest on guaranteed notes	196,075	159,507
Bank financing charges	38,314	55,402
	409,767	331,904
Less: Amount capitalised in a hotel development project	(139,355)	(100,317)
Amount capitalised in properties under development for sale	(40,930)	(55,979)
	229,482	175,608

^{*} These items are included in "other operating expenses" on the consolidated income statement.

6. TAX

Hong Kong profits tax has been provided at the rate of 16.5% (2017: 16.5%) on the estimated assessable profits arising in Hong Kong during the year.

Taxes on profits assessable elsewhere have been calculated at the rates of tax prevailing in the places in which the Group operates, based on existing legislation, interpretations and practices in respect thereof.

		2018 HK\$'000	2017 HK\$'000
	Current tax		
	Hong Kong	41,517	38,608
	Overseas	27,195	21,630
		68,712	60,238
	Deferred tax	(25,046)	13,714
	Prior years' underprovision	5 740	(22
	Hong Kong	5,749	632
	Overseas	569	1,866
		6,318	2,498
	Tax charge for the year	49,984	76,450
7.	DIVIDEND		
		2018	2017
		HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	Final dividend paid in respect of the year ended 31 July 2017 (2017: final dividend paid in respect of the year ended 31 July 2016)	60,509	57,340
	Proposed final dividend – HK10.80 cents (2017: HK10.00 cents) per ordinary share	65,456	60,509
	•		

The proposed final dividend for the year is subject to the approval of the Company's shareholders at the forthcoming annual general meeting.

8. EARNINGS PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO OWNERS OF THE COMPANY

Earnings	2018 HK\$'000	2017 HK\$'000
Earnings for the purpose of basic earnings per share	4,335,202	2,093,572
Effect of dilutive potential ordinary shares arising from adjustment to the share of profit of an associate based on dilution of its earnings per share	(752)	(76)
Earnings for the purpose of diluted earnings per share	4,334,450	2,093,496

8. EARNINGS PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO OWNERS OF THE COMPANY (continued)

	2018 '000	2017 '000
Number of shares		
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of basic earnings per share	605,572	604,123
Effect of dilutive potential ordinary shares arising from share options	2,525	1,772
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of diluted earnings per share	608,097	605,895

The number of shares for the purpose of earnings per share were calculated to reflect the share consolidation (ie. every fifty issued shares are consolidated into one share in the share capital of the Company as approved by the shareholders of the Company in the General Meeting with effect from 15 August 2017 (the "**Share Consolidation**"). Further details of the Share Consolidation are set out in the Company's announcements dated 27 April 2017 and 18 July 2017, and the Company's circular dated 26 July 2017.

9. DEBTORS, DEPOSITS PAID AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

The Group maintains various credit policies for different business operations in accordance with business practices and market conditions in which the respective subsidiaries operate. Sales proceeds receivable from the sale of properties are settled in accordance with the terms of the respective contracts. Rent and related charges in respect of the leasing of properties are receivable from tenants, and are normally payable in advance with rental deposits received in accordance with the terms of the tenancy agreements. Hotel and restaurant charges are mainly settled by customers on a cash basis except for those corporate clients who maintain credit accounts with the respective subsidiaries, the settlement of which is in accordance with the respective agreements.

An ageing analysis of the trade debtors, based on the payment due date, as at the end of the reporting period is as follows:

	2018	2017
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Trade debtors:		
Not yet due or less than 30 days past due	41,528	11,468
31 – 60 days past due	1,991	2,269
61 – 90 days past due	773	655
Over 90 days past due	<u>8,455</u>	4,611
	52,747	19,003
Other receivables	355,866	436,939
Deposits paid and prepayments	139,065	74,474
	547,678	530,416

10. CREDITORS, DEPOSITS RECEIVED AND ACCRUALS

An ageing analysis of the trade creditors, based on the payment due date, as at the end of the reporting period is as follows:

	2018	2017
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Trade creditors:		
Not yet due or less than 30 days past due	23,759	18,966
31 – 60 days past due	4,368	865
61 – 90 days past due	366	120
Over 90 days past due	2,914	74
	31,407	20,025
Other payables and accruals	565,363	267,498
Deposits received and other provisions	1,549,718	164,482
	2,146,488	452,005

11. EVENT AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

Further to the Company's announcement dated 27 May 2018 and the Company's circular dated 23 July 2018 in respect of, among others, (1) the then conditional voluntary general cash offer by Transtrend Holdings Limited ("**the Offeror**"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, to acquire all of the issued shares of eSun Holdings Limited ("**eSun**") (other than those already owned or agreed to be acquired by the Company, the Offeror or their respective subsidiaries) (the "**eSun Share Offer**") and to cancel all the outstanding share options of eSun (the "**eSun Offer**", and together with the eSun Share Offer, the "**eSun Offers**") and (2) the then possible unconditional mandatory general cash offer by the Offeror to acquire all of the issued shares of Lai Fung (other than those already owned or agreed to be acquired by the Company, the Offeror, eSun or their respective subsidiaries) and to cancel all the outstanding share options of Lai Fung, the Group acquired additional 40.44% equity interest in eSun in August 2018 for approximately HK\$0.8 billion. Since then, the Group held 77.38% equity interest in eSun. In September 2018, the Group acquired additional 0.005% equity interest in Lai Fung for approximately HK\$0.1 million and held in total 50.605% equity interest in Lai Fung (including 50.60% equity interest already held by eSun). For details of the acquisition, please refer to the Company's announcements dated 8 August 2018, 15 August 2018, 22 August 2018 and 13 September 2018.

The Group obtained control in eSun in August 2018 and would account eSun as a subsidiary since then. As the above acquisition of eSun and Lai Fung was effected shortly before the date of approval of these financial statements, it is not practicable to disclose further details about the acquisition.

FINAL DIVIDEND

The Directors have resolved to recommend the payment of a final dividend of HK10.80 cents per share (2017: HK10.00 cents per share), amounting to approximately HK\$65,456,000 for the financial year ended 31 July 2018 to shareholders of the Company ("Shareholders") whose names appear on the Register of Members of the Company on Friday, 4 January 2019 subject to the approval of Shareholders at the forthcoming annual general meeting of the Company to be held on Friday, 21 December 2018 ("AGM").

No interim dividend was declared during the year (2017: Nil).

The Directors propose that shareholders be given the option to receive the final dividend in new shares in lieu of cash. The scrip dividend proposal is subject to: (1) the approval of the proposed final dividend at the AGM; and (2) The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited ("Stock Exchange") granting the listing of and permission to deal in the new shares to be issued pursuant to this proposal.

A circular containing details of the scrip dividend proposal will be despatched to shareholders together with the form of election for scrip dividend on or about Thursday, 10 January 2019. It is expected that the final dividend warrants and share certificates for the scrip dividend will be despatched to Shareholders on or about Wednesday, 13 February 2019.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM of the Company will be held on Friday, 21 December 2018. Notice of the AGM together with proxy form and the Company's Annual Report for the year ended 31 July 2018 will be published on the respective websites of the Stock Exchange and the Company and despatched to Shareholders in mid-November 2018.

CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS

In order to be eligible to attend and vote at the AGM, Shareholders should ensure that all transfers accompanied by the relevant share certificates are lodged with the Company's share registrar, Tricor Tengis Limited at Level 22, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong, for registration no later than 4:30 p.m. on Monday, 17 December 2018.

The proposed final dividend is subject to the approval of the Shareholders at the AGM. The record date for the proposed final dividend is at the close of business on Friday, 4 January 2019. For determining the entitlement to the proposed final dividend, the register of members of the Company will be closed on Thursday, 3 January 2019 and Friday, 4 January 2019, during which period no transfer of shares will be effected. In order to qualify for the proposed final dividend, all relevant transfer document(s) and share certificate(s) must be lodged with the Company's share registrar, Tricor Tengis Limited at Level 22, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong, for registration no later than 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, 2 January 2019.

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

BUSINESS REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Major economies around the world continue to navigate in uncertain waters during the year under review. The capital markets has demonstrated steadiness backed by cautious optimism despite a delicate economic outlook, punctuated by global events such as elections in Europe, uncertainties surrounding the terms of Brexit, domestic terror events in the US and Europe, and the more recent trade disputes between the USA and China. Some of these events are likely to linger in the near future and continue to cast a shadow on the outlook.

The property sector in Hong Kong as a whole continued to show resilience and robustness despite an increasingly uncertain global economic outlook. During the year under review, the retail segment has showed a strong recovery as demonstrated by improving visitor numbers and retail sales. However, rent growth has been mixed due to re-alignment of tenant mix which resulted in rent reduction in certain tourist hotspots. The office leasing market remained tight despite new supply from completion of new office buildings and resulted in modest rent increases. Central business district continued to be underpinned by PRC and financial corporations and other commercial areas continued to benefit from the decentralisation and consolidation of space. The residential market continued to be robust and demonstrated modest price increases driven by limited supply despite interest rates concerns. However, we observed a softening of the market in recent months due to the increasing uncertain economic outlook. Labour supply shortages in the construction industry continues to drive wage inflation and pose a challenge on the cost management side.

The management believes it is paramount to prepare the Group for the challenges and opportunities ahead. The Group completed a series of corporate activities as part of the new strategy to improve funding sources, execution capabilities and overall coordination with the wider Lai Sun Group since refocusing the strategy in 2012. Set out below are the projects the Group secured after the implementation of the new rental focused strategy:

		Total Gross Floor		Date of
		Area ("GFA")		Occupation
Date	Secured Projects	(square feet)	Use	Permit
	Development			
Hong Kong	Properties			
November 2012	Alto Residences	573,268	Commercial/ Residential	Q2 2018 ^{Note 1}
April 2014	93 Pau Chung Street	111,354	Commercial/ Residential	Q3 2018 ^{Note 2}
May 2014	Hong Kong Ocean Park Marriott Hotel	365,974	Hotel	Q1 2018 ^{Note 3}
September 2015	Monti (Sai Wan Ho Street Project)	59,799	Residential	Q3 2019 (Expected)
May 2016	Novi	42,851	Commercial/ Residential	Q3 2019 (Expected)
London, United Kingdom	Investment Properties			_
April 2014	107 Leadenhall Street	146,606	Commercial/ Office	N/A
November 2014	100 Leadenhall Street	177,700	Office	N/A
December 2015	106 Leadenhall Street	19,924	Commercial/ Office	N/A

Notes:

- 1. Construction works have been completed with the Occupation Permit issued by the Buildings Department in May 2018 and the Certificate of Compliance was issued by the Lands Department in September 2018.
- 2. Construction works have been completed with the Occupation Permit issued by the Buildings Department in July 2018. As of the date of this results announcement, the application for the Certificate of Compliance from the Lands Department is in progress.
- 3. Construction works have been completed and the hotel license was issued by the Hotel and Guesthouse Accommodation Authority in October 2018. Soft opening has been scheduled on 29 October 2018.

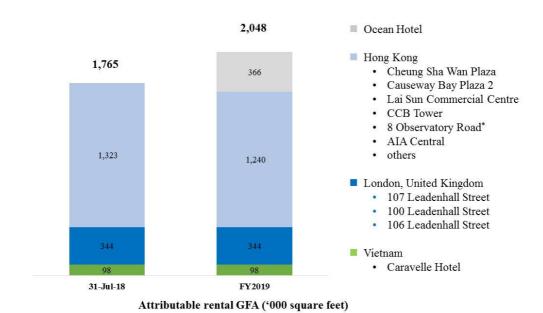
The Group as a whole performed steadily against this challenging environment. The rental portfolio comprises of approximately 1.8 million square feet attributable to the Group, of which about 1.3 million square feet is located in Hong Kong. Despite the softened economic sentiment and weakened retail activity, the Group's Hong Kong properties performed steadily at nearly full occupancy levels.

The City of London's Planning and Transportation Committee has approved a resolution to grant planning consent ("Planning Consent") to the Group to redevelop the three properties on Leadenhall Street in London, comprising 100, 106 and 107 Leadenhall Street ("Leadenhall Properties"). The Leadenhall Properties currently have a combined GFA of approximately 344,230 square feet. The Planning Consent would allow the Group to redevelop the Leadenhall Properties into a 56 storey tower with i) approximately 1,068,510 square feet gross internal area of office space as well as new retail space of approximately 8,730 square feet; ii) a free, public viewing gallery of approximately 19,967 square feet at levels 55 and 56 of the building which offers 360 degree views across London; and iii) new pedestrian routes between Leadenhall Street, Bury Street and St Mary Axe, and new public spaces around the base of the building. The total gross internal area of the proposed tower is expected to be approximately 1,275,642 square feet including ancillary facilities upon completion. All leases of the Leadenhall Properties have been aligned to expire in 2023. The Group will continue to monitor the market conditions in London closely.

The disposals of 36 Queen Street in London, United Kingdom and the 50% interest in No. 8 Observatory Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong in July 2018 represented good opportunities for the Group to realise its investment in the rental properties. The disposal of 36 Queen Street in London was completed in July 2018 and the completion of the disposal of No.8 Observatory Road is expected to be in March 2019.

Construction of the Hong Kong Ocean Park Marriott Hotel ("Ocean Hotel"), to be operated by the Marriott group has been completed and the hotel license was issued by the Hotel and Guesthouse Accommodation Authority in October 2018. With its soft opening scheduled on 29 October 2018, the Ocean Hotel will provide a total of 471 rooms and approximately 365,974 square feet of attributable rental space to the existing rental portfolio attributable to the Group of approximately 1.8 million square feet. The hotel project in Phuket, Thailand that the Group invested in June 2017 is at the start of the development stage and the Group will provide material updates on this project as and when available.

Set out below is the expected growth of the rental portfolio of the Group:



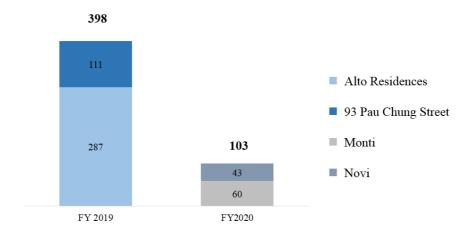
*8 Observatory Road was disposed by the Group in July 2018 and the completion of the transaction is expected to be in March 2019.

The pre-sale of 209 residential units of 93 Pau Chung Street has been completed, achieving an average selling price of approximately HK\$16,400 per square foot. The Group released the commercial units of 93 Pau Chung Street for sale in July 2018. Up to 14 October 2018, 5 out of 7 commercial units with saleable area of approximately 14,000 square feet have been pre-sold and the average selling price was approximately HK\$23,000 per square foot. The construction works of 93 Pau Chung Street have been completed with the Occupation Permit issued by the Buildings Department in July 2018. As of the date of this results announcement, the application for the Certificate of Compliance from the Lands Department is in progress. Handover of pre-sold units will commence after the issuance of the Certificate of Compliance.

The Ki Lung Street project in Sham Shui Po, Kowloon, named "Novi" and the joint venture project in Tseung Kwan O named "Alto Residences" are well received. Up to 14 October 2018, the Group has pre-sold 137 units in Novi with saleable area of approximately 28,500 square feet and 541 units in Alto Residences with saleable area of approximately 304,700 square feet, at average selling prices of approximately HK\$18,800 per square foot and HK\$15,700 per square foot, respectively. Construction works of Alto Residences have been completed with the Occupation Permit issued by the Buildings Department in May 2018 and the Certificate of Compliance was issued by the Lands Department in September 2018. Handover of the pre-sold units is in progress. Construction of Novi is expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2019.

The Sai Wan Ho Street project with the Urban Renewal Authority in Shau Kei Wan, Hong Kong, named "Monti" providing 144 residential units with a total saleable area of 45,822 square feet was launched for pre-sale in August 2018. Up to 14 October 2018, the Group has pre-sold 10 units in Monti with saleable area of approximately 3,160 square feet at an average selling price of approximately HK\$21,200 per square foot. Construction of Monti is expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2019.

The Group is encouraged by the property sales during the year under review which will be recognised in coming financial years and will continue to participate in government tenders to grow the pipeline. Set out below is the pipeline of development projects for sale of the Group:



Attributable GFA ('000 square feet)

In June 2018, the Group acquired an additional 49.96% equity interest in Camper & Nicholsons International S.A. ("CNI"). As at the date of this results announcement, CNI is owned as to 99.92% by the Group. CNI is a global leader in luxury yachting activities, specialising in the brokerage, charter, marketing, management and crew placement of luxury yachts and it is a long established and internationally recognised brand associated with a luxury lifestyle. The Group believes that the consolidation of interest in CNI will bolster its offering of high-end hospitality services further.

The share consolidation on a 1-for-50 basis and change in board lot size from 15,000 shares to 300 shares announced by the Group on 27 April 2017 was effective from 15 August 2017. It is hoped that this will make investing in the shares of the Group more attractive to a broader range of investors, in particular to institutional investors whose house rules might otherwise prohibit or restrict trading in securities that are priced below a prescribed floor and thus help to further broaden the shareholder base of the Company.

The voluntary general cash offer ("eSun Offer") made by the Company in May 2018 to acquire all shares of eSun Holdings Limited ("eSun") that are not already owned by the Company closed on 22 August 2018. The mandatory general offer ("Lai Fung Offer") to Lai Fung Holdings Limited ("Lai Fung") triggered by the eSun Offer closed on 13 September 2018. As at the date of this results announcement, the Group's interest in eSun increased from that of 36.94% as at 31 July 2018 to 77.38% and eSun has become a subsidiary of the Group post year end and its financial results will be consolidated into the accounts of the Company. Lai Fung remains a 50.60%-owned subsidiary of eSun.

The Group's strong cash position of HK\$4,339.8 million of cash on hand and HK\$1,554.7 million of undrawn facilities with a net debt to equity ratio of 24.6% as at 31 July 2018 provides the Group with full confidence and the means to review opportunities more actively. The Group's gearing excluding the net debt of the London portfolio all of which have a positive carry net of financing costs is 21.6%. The financial liquidity of the Group has been bolstered by the US\$400 million guaranteed notes issued in September 2017 which is listed on the Stock Exchange. The proceeds from this new bond helped to refinance the US\$350 million guaranteed notes issued by the Group in 2013 which matured in January 2018. However, the Group will continue its prudent and flexible approach in growing the landbank and managing its financial position.

OVERVIEW OF FINAL RESULTS

For the year ended 31 July 2018, the Group recorded turnover of HK\$1,693.0 million (2017: HK\$1,704.1 million), representing a decrease of approximately 0.7% over last year. The gross profit increased slightly to HK\$970.3 million from HK\$968.1 million of last year. Set out below is the turnover by segment:

	For the year e	nded 31 July		
	2018	2017	Difference	
	(HK\$ million)	(HK\$ million)	(HK\$ million)	% change
Property investment	704.5	686.7	17.8	2.6%
Property development and sales	0.4	89.2	-88.8	-99.6%
Restaurant operation	514.0	481.5	32.5	6.7%
Hotel operation and others	474.1	446.7	27.4	6.1%
Total	1,693.0	1,704.1	-11.1	-0.7%

For the year ended 31 July 2018, net profit attributable to owners of the Company was approximately HK\$4,335.2 million (2017: HK\$2,093.6 million), representing an increase of approximately 107.1% over last year. The increase is primarily due to a substantial increase in the revaluation of investment properties owned by the Group and held through joint ventures of the Group during the year under review.

Basic earnings per share was HK\$7.159 (2017: HK\$3.465).

Excluding the effect of property revaluations, net profit attributable to owners of the Company was approximately HK\$188.8 million (2017: net loss of HK\$37.0 million). Net profit per share excluding the effect of property revaluations was HK\$0.312 (2017: net loss of HK\$0.061 per share).

Excluding the effect of property revaluations and non-recurring transactions during the year under review, net profit attributable to owners of the Company was approximately HK\$188.5 million (2017: HK\$250.8 million). Net profit per share excluding the effect of property revaluations and non-recurring transactions during the year under review was HK\$0.311 (2017: HK\$0.415 per share).

		For the year e	ended 31 July
		2018	2017
Profit a	attributable to owners of the Company	HK \$ million	HK\$ million
Reporte	ed	4,335.2	2,093.6
Less:	Adjustments in respect of revaluation gains of investment		
	properties held by		
	- the Company and subsidiaries	(2,410.4)	(1,238.1)
	- associates and joint ventures	(1,736.0)	(892.5)
Net prope	ofit/(loss) after tax excluding revaluation gains of investment erties	188.8	(37.0)
Less:	Adjustments in respect of non-recurring transactions		
	- reversal of provision for tax indemnity	(0.3)	(142.5)
	- loss on deemed disposal of interest in eSun	-	573.1
	- discount on acquisition of additional interest in eSun	-	(142.8)
Net pro	ofit after tax excluding revaluation gains of investment properties	_	
and e	xcluding non-recurring transactions	188.5	250.8

Equity attributable to owners of the Company as at 31 July 2018 amounted to HK\$31,158.7 million, up from HK\$26,599.8 million as at 31 July 2017. Net asset value per share attributable to owners of the Company increased by 16.9% to HK\$51.410 per share as at 31 July 2018 from HK\$43.965 per share as at 31 July 2017.

PROPERTY PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION

As at 31 July 2018, the Group maintained a property portfolio with attributable GFA of approximately 2.7 million square feet. Approximate attributable GFA (in '000 square feet) of the Group's major properties and number of car-parking spaces is as follows:

	Commercial/ Retail	Office	Industrial	Residential	Hotel	Total (excluding car-parking spaces & ancillary facilities)	No. of car-parking spaces attributable to the Group
Completed							
Properties Held						2	
for Rental ¹	536	1,067	64	-	-	1,667 ²	1,027
Completed Hotel							
Properties	-	-	-	-	98	98	-
Properties Under							
Development	80	-	-	421	366	867	196
Completed							
Properties Held							
for Sale	27	-	-	7	-	34	10
Total GFA of							
major							
properties of							
the Group	643	1,067	64	428	464	2,666	1,233

^{1.} Completed and rental generating properties

The above table does not include GFA of properties held by Lai Fung.

^{2.} Including attributable GFA of 8 Observatory Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong that were disposed by the Group in July 2018, the completion of which is expected to be in March 2019.

PROPERTY INVESTMENT

Rental Income

During the year under review, the Group's rental operations recorded a turnover of HK\$704.5 million (2017: HK\$686.7 million), representing a 2.6% increase over last year.

The Group wholly owns three major investment properties in Hong Kong, namely Cheung Sha Wan Plaza, Causeway Bay Plaza 2 and Lai Sun Commercial Centre. Performance of the Group's 50:50 joint venture with China Construction Bank Corporation ("CCB") in Central, Hong Kong and the 50:50 joint venture with Henderson Land Development Company Limited ("Henderson Land") at 8 Observatory Road, Kowloon is recognised as "Share of profits and losses of joint ventures" in the consolidated income statement. Breakdown of rental turnover by major investment properties is as follows:

	For the year	ended 31 July		Year end
	2018	2017	%	occupancy
	HK\$ million	HK\$ million	Change	(%)
Hong Kong				
Cheung Sha Wan Plaza	311.9	302.1	3.2	96.3
(including car-parking spaces)	311.9	302.1	3.2	90.3
Causeway Bay Plaza 2	181.1	181.4	-0.2	98.8
(including car-parking spaces)	101.1	101.4	-0.2	90.0
Lai Sun Commercial Centre	49.9	54.6	-8.6	84.1
(including car-parking spaces)	77.7	34.0	-0.0	04.1
Others	12.8	12.3	4.1	
Subtotal:	555.7	550.4	1.0	
London, United Kingdom				
36 Queen Street [#]	24.1	23.1	4.3	100.0
107 Leadenhall Street	55.6	45.6	21.9	100.0
100 Leadenhall Street	62.8	61.9	1.5	100.0
106 Leadenhall Street	6.3	5.7	10.5	100.0
Subtotal:	148.8	136.3	9.2	
Total:	704.5	686.7	2.6	
Rental proceeds from joint venture projects				
Hong Kong				
CCB Tower ^{##} (50% basis)	135.2	122.4	10.5	100.0
8 Observatory Road ### (50% basis)	52.4	55.0	-4.7	94.9
Total	187.6	177.4	5.7	
Total:	18/.0	177.4	5.7	

[#] 36 Queen Street was disposed by the Group in July 2018 and the transaction was completed in July 2018.

^{***} CCB Tower is a joint venture project with CCB in which each of the Group and CCB has an effective 50% interest. For the year ended 31 July 2018, the rental proceeds recorded by the joint venture is HK\$270.4 million (2017: HK\$244.8 million).

^{***** 8} Observatory Road is a joint venture project with Henderson Land in which each of the Group and Henderson Land has an effective 50% interest. For the year ended 31 July 2018, the rental proceeds recorded by the joint venture is HK\$104.8 million (2017: HK\$110.0 million). The Group disposed its 50% interest in this property in July 2018 and the completion is expected to be in March 2019.

Breakdown of turnover by usage of our major rental properties is as follows:

	For	the year ended 31	July 2018	For	the year ended 31	July 2017
	Group	Turnover	Attributable	Group	Turnover	Attributable
	interest	(HK\$ million)	GFA	interest	(HK\$ million)	GFA
		, , ,	(square feet)			(square feet)
Hong Kong						
Cheung Sha Wan Plaza	100%			100%		
Commercial		162.6	233,807		159.7	233,807
Office		129.6	409,896		124.7	409,896
Car-parking spaces		19.7	N/A		17.7	N/A
Subtotal:		311.9	643,703		302.1	643,703
Causeway Bay Plaza 2	100%			100%		
Commercial		120.5	109,770		124.1	109,770
Office		55.6	96,268		52.3	96,268
Car-parking spaces		5.0	N/A		5.0	N/A
Subtotal:		181.1	206,038		181.4	206,038
Lai Sun Commercial Centre	100%			100%		
Commercial		23.9	95,063		27.5	95,063
Office		7.2	74,181		9.2	74,181
Car-parking spaces		18.8	N/A		17.9	N/A
Subtotal:		49.9	169,244		54.6	169,244
Others		12.8	63,592*		12.3	63,592*
Subtotal:		555.7	1,082,577*		550.4	1,082,577*
			, ,			
London, United Kingdom						
36 Queen Street**	100%			100%		
Office		24.1	60,816		23.1	60,816
107 Leadenhall Street	100%		· ·	100%		
Commercial		4.4	48,182		4.6	48,149
Office		51.2	98,424		41.0	98,457
Subtotal:		55.6	146,606		45.6	146,606
100 Leadenhall Street	100%		· ·	100%		-
Office		62.8	177,700		61.9	177,700
106 Leadenhall Street	100%		,	100%		-
Commercial		1.2	3,540		1.2	4,404
Office		5.1	16,384		4.5	15,518
Subtotal:		6.3	19,924		5.7	19,922
Subtotal:		148.8	405,046		136.3	405,044
Total:		704.5	1,487,623*		686.7	1,487,621*
Joint Venture Projects						
Hong Kong						
CCB Tower## (50% basis)	50%			50%		
Office		134.6	114,603***		121.9	114,555****
Car-parking spaces		0.6	N/A		0.5	N/A
Subtotal:		135.2	114,603***		122.4	114,555***
8 Observatory Road ### (50% basis)	50%			50%		
Commercial		41.5	45,312#		44.4	45,312#
Office		8.5	37,273#		8.3	37,273#
Car-parking spaces		2.4	N/A		2.3	N/A
Subtotal:		52.4	82,585#		55.0	82,585#
Total:		187.6	197,188		177.4	197,140

^{*} Excluding 10% interest in AIA Central.

^{** 36} Queen Street was disposed by the Group in July 2018 and the transaction was completed in July 2018.

^{***} Referring to GFA attributable to the Group. The total GFA of CCB Tower is 229,206 square feet.

Referring to GFA attributable to the Group. The total GFA of 8 Observatory Road is 165,170 square feet.

^{***} CCB Tower is a joint venture project with CCB in which each of the Group and CCB has an effective 50% interest. For the year ended 31 July 2018, the rental proceeds recorded by the joint venture is HK\$270.4 million (2017: HK\$244.8 million).

The average Sterling exchange rate for the year under review appreciated by approximately 6.9% compared with the last year. Excluding the effect of currency translation, the Sterling denominated turnover from London properties increased by 2.2% during the year under review. Breakdown of rental turnover of London portfolio for the year ended 31 July 2018 is as follows:

	2018	2017	%	2018	2017	%
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	Change	GBP'000	GBP'000	Change
36 Queen Street	24,092	23,119	4.2	2,275	2,333	-2.5
107 Leadenhall Street	55,627	45,581	22.0	5,253	4,599	14.2
100 Leadenhall Street	62,826	61,938	1.4	5,933	6,250	-5.1
106 Leadenhall Street	6,304	5,666	11.3	595	572	4.0
Total:	148,849	136,304	9.2	14,056	13,754	2.2

Review of major investment properties

Hong Kong Properties

Cheung Sha Wan Plaza

The asset comprises of a 8-storey and a 7-storey office towers erected on top of a retail podium which was completed in 1989. It is located on top of the Lai Chi Kok MTR station with a total GFA of 643,703 square feet (excluding car-parking spaces). The arcade is positioned to serve the local communities nearby with major banks and recognised restaurants chains as the key tenants.

Causeway Bay Plaza 2

The asset comprises of a 28-storey commercial/office building with car-parking facilities at basement levels which was completed in 1992. It is located at the heart of Causeway Bay with a total GFA of 206,038 square feet (excluding car-parking spaces). Key tenants include a HSBC branch and commercial offices and major restaurants.

Lai Sun Commercial Centre

The asset comprises a 13-storey commercial/carpark complex completed in 1987. It is located near the Lai Chi Kok MTR station with a total GFA of 169,244 square feet (excluding car-parking spaces).

CCB Tower

The Group has a 50:50 interest with CCB in the joint redevelopment project of the former Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Central. This 27-storey office tower is a landmark property in Central featuring underground access to the Central MTR station. The property has a total GFA of 229,206 square feet (excluding car-parking spaces). CCB Tower was completed in 2012 and added 114,603 square feet of attributable GFA to the rental portfolio of the Group. CCB Tower is now fully leased out with 20 floors of the office floors and 2 banking hall floors leased to CCB for its Hong Kong operations.

8 Observatory Road

The Group has a 50:50 interest with Henderson Land in this joint development project at Observatory Road, Kowloon. The property is a 19-storey commercial building with a total GFA of 165,170 square feet (excluding car-parking spaces). The Group disposed its 50% interest in this property in July 2018 and the completion is expected to be in March 2019.

AIA Central

The Group has 10% interest in AIA Central which is situated in the central business district of Hong Kong and commands spectacular views over Victoria Harbour, to Kowloon Peninsula to the north, and across Charter Garden and The Peak to the south. This 38-storey office tower provides prime office space with a total GFA of approximately 428,962 square feet (excluding car-parking spaces).

Overseas Properties

107 Leadenhall Street, London EC3, United Kingdom

In April 2014, the Group acquired a property located at the core of the insurance district in the City of London, surrounded by 30 St Mary Axe (commonly known as the Gherkin), Lloyd's of London and the Willis Building at 51 Lime Street. It is a freehold commercial property housing commercial, offices and retail space. The building comprises 146,606 square feet gross internal area of office accommodation extending over basement, ground, mezzanine and seven upper floors. The building is currently fully leased out.

100 Leadenhall Street, London EC3, United Kingdom

Following the acquisition of 107 Leadenhall Street in April 2014, the Group announced the acquisition of 100 Leadenhall Street in November 2014 which was completed in January 2015. This property comprises a basement, a lower ground floor, ground floor and nine upper floors and provides 177,700 square feet gross internal area of offices and ancillary accommodation. The property is currently fully let to Chubb Market Company Limited.

106 Leadenhall Street, London EC3, United Kingdom

In December 2015, the Group acquired the property located adjacent to 100 and 107 Leadenhall Street, namely 106 Leadenhall Street, which is a multi-tenanted asset with approximately 19,924 square feet gross internal area of commercial and offices including ancillary space. The property is currently fully leased out.

The City of London's Planning and Transportation Committee has approved a resolution to grant Planning Consent to the Group to redevelop the Leadenhall Properties. The Leadenhall Properties currently have a combined GFA of approximately 344,230 square feet. The Planning Consent would allow the Group to redevelop the Leadenhall Properties into a 56 storey tower with i) approximately 1,068,510 square feet gross internal area of office space as well as new retail space of approximately 8,730 square feet; ii) a free, public viewing gallery of approximately 19,967 square feet at levels 55 and 56 of the building which offers 360 degree views across London; and iii) new pedestrian routes between Leadenhall Street, Bury Street and St Mary Axe, and new public spaces around the base of the building. The total gross internal area of the proposed tower is expected to be approximately 1,275,642 square feet including ancillary facilities upon completion. All leases of the Leadenhall Properties have been aligned to expire in 2023. The Group will continue to monitor the market conditions in London closely.

PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT

For the year ended 31 July 2018, recognised turnover from sales of properties was HK\$0.4 million (2017: HK\$89.2 million).

Review of major projects for sale

339 Tai Hang Road, Hong Kong

The Group wholly owns the development project located at 339 Tai Hang Road, Hong Kong. The development project is a luxury residential property with a total GFA of approximately 30,400 square feet (excluding car-parking spaces). The total development cost (including land cost and lease modification premium) is approximately HK\$670 million. Up to the date of this results announcement, 8 out of 9 units of this project have been sold.

Ocean One, 6 Shung Shun Street, Yau Tong

The Group wholly owns this development project, namely "Ocean One" located at No. 6 Shung Shun Street, Yau Tong, Kowloon. This property is a residential-cum-commercial property with a total GFA of about 122,000 square feet (excluding car-parking spaces) or 124 residential units and 2 commercial units. All units have been sold other than 2 shops and 7 car-parking spaces.

Review of major projects under development

Hong Kong Ocean Park Marriott Hotel

The Group was named the most preferred proponent by Ocean Park for the Ocean Hotel project in October 2013 and was officially awarded the project in May 2014. The Ocean Hotel, to be operated by the Marriott group, will provide a total of 471 rooms and add 365,974 square feet of attributable rental space to the existing rental portfolio of the Group of approximately 1.8 million square feet. The total development cost is estimated to be approximately HK\$4.4 billion. Its construction was completed in March 2018 and the hotel license was issued by the Hotel and Guesthouse Accommodation Authority in October 2018. The soft opening has been scheduled on 29 October 2018.

Alto Residences

In November 2012, the Group successfully tendered for and secured a site located at Area 68A2, Tseung Kwan O, New Territories, through a 50% joint venture vehicle. The lot has an area of 229,338 square feet with a total GFA of 573,268 square feet split into 458,874 square feet for residential use and 114,394 square feet for commercial use. Construction has been completed with the Occupation Permit issued by the Buildings Department in May 2018. The Certificate of Compliance was issued by the Lands Department in September 2018. Handover of the pre-sold units is in progress.

This project providing 605 flats, including 23 detached houses was named "Alto Residences" and was launched for pre-sale in October 2016. Up to 14 October 2018, the Group has pre-sold 541 units in Alto Residences with saleable area of approximately 304,700 square feet at an average selling price of approximately HK\$15,700 per square foot.

93 Pau Chung Street

In April 2014, the Group was successful in its bid for the development right to the San Shan Road/Pau Chung Street project from the Urban Renewal Authority in Ma Tau Kok, Kowloon, Hong Kong. The lot has an area of 12,599 square feet with a total GFA of 111,354 square feet split into 94,486 square feet for residential use and 16,868 square feet for commercial use. The total development cost is estimated to be approximately HK\$1 billion. The construction was completed with the Occupation Permit issued by the Buildings Department in July 2018. As of the date of this results announcement, the application for the Certificate of Compliance from the Lands Department is in progress.

This project was named "93 Pau Chung Street" and launched for pre-sale in September 2016. The pre-sale of 209 residential units has been completed, achieving an average selling price of approximately HK\$16,400 per square foot. The Group released the commercial units of 93 Pau Chung Street for sale in July 2018. Up to 14 October 2018, 5 out of 7 commercial units with saleable area of approximately 14,000 square feet have been pre-sold and the average selling price was approximately HK\$23,000 per square foot.

Novi

On 16 May 2016, the Group has completed the purchase of the remaining unit for the proposed development on Ki Lung Street in Sham Shui Po, Kowloon. The site comprises numbers 48-56 on Ki Lung Street and has a combined site area of 5,054 square feet. It is planned to be developed primarily into a commercial/residential development for sale with a total GFA of 42,851 square feet. The total development cost is expected to be approximately HK\$0.4 billion and construction is expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2019.

This project was named "Novi" and launched for pre-sale in July 2017, offering 138 flats in total, including studios, one and two-bedroom units. Up to 14 October 2018, the Group has pre-sold 137 units in this project with saleable area of approximately 28,500 square feet at an average selling price of HK\$18,800 per square foot.

Monti

The Group was successful in September 2015 in its bid for the development rights to the Sai Wan Ho Street project from the Urban Renewal Authority in Shau Kei Wan, Hong Kong. The project site covers an area of 7,642 square feet. Upon completion, it is planned to provide about 144 residential units with a total residential GFA of 59,799 square feet. The total development cost is estimated to be approximately HK\$0.9 billion and construction is expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2019.

This project was named "Monti" and launched for pre-sale in August 2018. Up to 14 October 2018, the Group has pre-sold 10 units in Monti with saleable area of approximately 3,160 square feet at an average selling price of approximately HK\$21,200 per square foot.

RESTAURANT OPERATIONS

For the year ended 31 July 2018, restaurant operations contributed HK\$514.0 million to the Group's turnover (2017: HK\$481.5 million), representing an increase of approximately 6.7% from last year.

Up to the date of this results announcement, restaurant operations include the Group's interests in 17 restaurants in Hong Kong and mainland China and 2 restaurants in Macau and Las Vegas under management.

Cuisine	Restaurant	Location	Attributable interest to the Group	Award
Owned restauran				
Western Cuisine	Hong Kong	Hong Kong	37%	Three Michelin stars (2012-2018)
	8 ^{1/2} Otto e Mezzo BOMBANA Shanghai	Shanghai	13%	Two Michelin stars (2017-2018)
	Opera BOMBANA	Beijing	20%	
	CIAK - In The Kitchen	Hong Kong	62%	One Michelin star (2015-2017)
	CIAK - All Day Italian	Hong Kong	67%	Michelin Bib Gourmand (2017-2018)
	Beefbar	Hong Kong	62%	One Michelin star (2017-2018)
	Grubers	Hong Kong	34%	
Asian Cuisine	China Tang Landmark	Hong Kong	50%	
	China Tang Harbour City	Hong Kong	60%	
	Howard's Gourmet	Hong Kong	50%	
	Beijing Howard's Gourmet	Beijing	67%	
	Chiu Tang Central	Hong Kong	67%	
	Old Bazaar Kitchen	Hong Kong	63%	
	Sun's Bazaar	Hong Kong	67%	
Japanese Cuisine	Kaiseki Den by Saotome (formally known as "Wagyu Kaiseki Den")	Hong Kong	59%	One Michelin star (2010-2018)
	Takumi by Daisuke Mori (formally known as "Wagyu Takumi")	Hong Kong	63%	One Michelin star (2017-2018)
	Sushi Masataka (formally known as "Rozan")	Hong Kong	63%	
Managed restaur		T		
Western Cuisine	8 ^{1/2} Otto e Mezzo BOMBANA, Macau	Macau	N/A	One Michelin star (2016-2018)
Asian Cuisine	China Tang Las Vegas	Las Vegas	N/A	

HOTEL OPERATIONS

Turnover from hotel operations was mainly derived from the Group's operation of the Caravelle Hotel in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. For the year ended 31 July 2018, the hotel operation contributed HK\$424.0 million to the Group's turnover (2017: HK\$412.3 million).

Caravelle Hotel is a leading international 5-star hotel in the centre of the business, shopping and entertainment district in Vietnam. It is an elegant 24-storey tower with a mixture of French colonial and traditional Vietnamese style and has 335 superbly appointed rooms, suites, exclusive Signature Floors, Signature Lounge and a specially equipped room for the disabled. Total GFA attributable to the Group is 98,376 square feet.

The Group was awarded the hotel tender at Ocean Park in May 2014 and the Ocean Hotel, to be operated by the Marriott group, will provide a total of 471 rooms upon its soft opening on 29 October 2018. The Group is optimistic about the prospects of the Ocean Hotel project given the strong popularity of Ocean Park, which is underpinned by robust growth in visitor numbers to Hong Kong coinciding with its expansion.

The hotel operation team has extensive experience in providing consultancy and management services to hotels in Mainland China, Hong Kong and other Asian countries. The division's key strategy going forward will continue to focus on providing management services, particularly to capture opportunities arising from the developments of Lai Fung in Shanghai, Guangzhou, Zhongshan and Hengqin. The hotel division manages Lai Fung's serviced apartments in Shanghai and Zhongshan under the "STARR" brand. STARR Resort Residence Zhongshan soft opened in August 2013 and comprises two 16-storey blocks with 90 fully furnished serviced apartment units located in the Palm Lifestyle complex in Zhongshan Western district at Cui Sha Road, opposite to the new Zhongshan traditional Chinese medical centre. STARR Hotel Shanghai soft opened in November 2013 and is a 17-storey hotel with 239 fully furnished and equipped hotel units with kitchenette located in the Mayflower Lifestyle complex in Jing'an district, within walking distance to Lines 1, 3 and 4 of the Shanghai Metro Station with easy access to major motorways.

LIQUIDITY AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

As at 31 July 2018, cash and bank balances and undrawn facilities held by the Group amounted to HK\$4,339.8 million and HK\$1,554.7 million, respectively. The Group's sources of funding comprise mainly internal funds generated from the Group's business operations, loan facilities provided by banks and guaranteed notes issued to investors.

As at 31 July 2018, the Group had bank borrowings of approximately HK\$8,884.7 million and guaranteed notes of approximately HK\$3,118.6 million. The gearing ratio, expressed as a percentage of the total outstanding net debt (being the total outstanding bank borrowings and guaranteed notes less the pledged and unpledged bank balances and time deposits) to consolidated net assets attributable to owners of the Company, was approximately 24.6%. The Group's gearing excluding the net debt of the London portfolio all of which had a positive carry net of financing costs was approximately 21.6%. As at 31 July 2018, the maturity profile of the bank borrowings of HK\$8,884.7 million was spread over a period of less than 5 years with HK\$1,186.3 million repayable within 1 year, HK\$4,392.4 million repayable in the second year and HK\$3,306.0 million repayable in the third to fifth years. Most of the Group's borrowings carried interest on a floating rate basis except for the guaranteed notes.

On 13 September 2017, the Group issued guaranteed notes in an aggregate principal amount of US\$400 million ("2017 Notes"). The 2017 Notes are guaranteed by the Company, have a maturity term of five years and bear a fixed interest rate of 4.6% per annum with interest payable semi-annually in arrears. The net proceeds from the offering of the 2017 Notes are approximately US\$397 million. Apart from refinancing the guaranteed notes of US\$350 million issued in 2013, the proceeds would be used for general corporate purposes. In September 2017, the Group entered into cross currency swap agreements with financial institutions for the purpose of hedging the foreign currency risk arising from the 2017 Notes.

As at 31 July 2018, certain investment properties with carrying amounts of approximately HK\$18,090.3 million, certain property, plant and equipment with carrying amounts of approximately HK\$4,706.8 million, and certain bank balances and time deposits with banks of approximately HK\$381.4 million were pledged to banks to secure banking facilities granted to the Group. In addition, certain shares in subsidiaries held by the Group were also pledged to banks to secure banking facilities granted to the Group. Certain shares in joint ventures held by the Group were pledged to banks to secure banking facilities granted to joint ventures of the Group. The Group's secured bank borrowings were also secured by floating charges over certain assets held by the Group.

The Group's major assets and liabilities and transactions were denominated in Hong Kong dollars and United States dollars. Considering that Hong Kong dollars are pegged against United States dollars, the Group believes that the corresponding exposure to exchange rate risk arising from United States dollars is nominal. In addition, the Group has investments in United Kingdom with the assets and liabilities denominated in Pounds Sterling. These investments were primarily financed by bank borrowings denominated in Pounds Sterling in order to minimise the net foreign exchange exposure. Other than the abovementioned, the remaining monetary assets and liabilities of the Group were denominated in Renminbi, Malaysian Ringgit and Vietnamese Dong which were also insignificant as compared with the Group's total assets and liabilities. The Group manages its foreign currency risk by closely reviewing the movement of the foreign currency rate and considers hedging significant foreign currency exposure should the additional need arise.

PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF LISTED SECURITIES

During the year ended 31 July 2018, the Company did not redeem any of its shares listed and traded on the Stock Exchange nor did the Company or any of its subsidiaries purchase or sell any of such shares.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Company is committed to achieving and maintaining high standards of corporate governance and has established policies and procedures for compliance with the principles and code provisions set out in the Corporate Governance Code ("CG Code") contained in Appendix 14 to the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities ("Listing Rules") on the Stock Exchange from time to time.

The Company has complied with all the code provisions set out in the CG Code throughout the year ended 31 July 2018 save for the deviations from code provisions A.4.1, A.5.1 and E.1.2.

Under code provision A.4.1, non-executive directors should be appointed for a specific term and subject to re-election.

None of the existing non-executive directors ("NEDs", including the independent non-executive directors ("INEDs")) of the Company is appointed for a specific term. However, all directors of the Company ("Directors") are subject to the retirement provisions of the Articles of Association of the Company ("Articles of Association"), which require that the Directors for the time being shall retire from office by rotation once every three years since their last election by Shareholders and the retiring Directors are eligible for re-election. In addition, any person appointed by the board of Directors ("Board") as an additional Director (including a NED) will hold office only until the next AGM and will then be eligible for re-election. Further, in line with the relevant code provision of the CG Code, each of the Directors appointed to fill a casual vacancy would/will be subject to election by the Shareholders at the first general meeting after his/her appointment. In view of these, the Board considers that such requirements are sufficient to meet the underlying objective of the said code provision A.4.1 and, therefore, does not intend to take any remedial steps in this regard.

Under code provision A.5.1, a nomination committee comprising a majority of the independent non-executive directors should be established and chaired by the chairman of the board or an independent non-executive director.

The Company has not established a nomination committee whose functions are assumed by the full Board. The Board has reviewed the structure, size and composition (including the skills, knowledge and experience) of the Board annually and the Company has achieved and maintained diversity of the Board including professional qualifications and experience, cultural and educational background, race and ethnicity, gender, age and length of service which meet the Company's business model and specific needs. Potential new Directors will be recruited based on their knowledge, skills, experience and expertise and the requirements of the Company at the relevant time and candidates for the INEDs must meet the independence criterion. The process of identifying and selecting appropriate candidates for consideration and approval by the Board has been, and will continue to be, carried out by the executive Directors ("EDs"). As the above selection and nomination policies and procedures have already been in place and the other duties of the nomination committee as set out in the CG Code have long been performed by the full Board effectively, the Board does not consider it necessary to establish a nomination committee at the current stage.

Under code provision E.1.2, the chairman of the board should attend the annual general meeting.

Due to other pre-arranged business commitments which must be attended to by Dr. Lam Kin Ngok, Peter, the Chairman, Dr. Lam was not present at the AGM held on 15 December 2017. However, Mr. Chew Fook Aun, the Deputy Chairman and an ED present at that AGM took the chair of that AGM pursuant to Article 71 of the Articles of Association to ensure an effective communication with the Shareholders thereat.

SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS BY DIRECTORS AND DESIGNATED EMPLOYEES

The Company has adopted a Code of Practice for Securities Transactions by Directors and Designated Employees ("Securities Code") on terms no less exacting than the required standard set out in the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers in Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules. The Company has made specific enquiry of all Directors and they have confirmed in writing their compliance with the required standard set out in the Securities Code throughout the year ended 31 July 2018.

EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION POLICIES

As at 31 July 2018, the Group employed a total of approximately 1,900 employees. The Group recognises the importance of maintaining a stable staff force in its continued success. Under the Group's existing policies, employee pay rates are maintained at competitive levels whilst promotion and salary increments are assessed on a performance-related basis. Discretionary bonuses are granted to employees based on their merit and in accordance with industry practice. Other benefits including share option scheme, mandatory provident fund scheme, free hospitalisation insurance plan, subsidised medical care and sponsorship for external education and training programmes are offered to eligible employees.

INVESTOR RELATIONS

To ensure our investors have a better understanding of the Company, our management engages in a pro-active investor relations programme. Our Executive Directors and Investor Relations Department communicate with research analysts and institutional investors on an on-going basis and meet with research analysts and the press after our results announcements, attend major investors' conferences and participate in international non-deal roadshows to communicate the Company's financial performance and global business strategy.

Since 1 August 2017, the Company has met with a number of research analysts and investors and attended roadshows as follows:

Month	Event	Organiser	Location
October 2017	Post results non-deal roadshow	CLSA	Hong Kong
October 2017	Post results non-deal roadshow	DBS	Singapore
November 2017	Post results non-deal roadshow	BNP	London
November 2017	Post results non-deal roadshow	BNP	New York/
			Los Angeles
January 2018	Deal roadshow – Lai Fung	DBS/HSBC/	Singapore
	USD guaranteed notes	OCBC/UBS	
January 2018	Deal roadshow – Lai Fung	DBS/HSBC/	Hong Kong
	USD guaranteed notes	OCBC/UBS	
January 2018	The Pulse of Asia Conference	DBS	Singapore
March 2018	Post results non-deal roadshow	DBS	Hong Kong
March 2018	Post results non-deal roadshow	DBS	Singapore
April 2018	Post results non-deal roadshow	DBS	London
April 2018	Post results non-deal roadshow	Daiwa	New York
May 2018	Post results non-deal roadshow	DBS	Kuala Lumpur
September 2018	2018 SCB Annual Investor Rever Roadshow	se Standard Chartered Bank	Hong Kong

The Company also had research reports published as follows:

Firm	Analyst	Publication Date
DBS	Jeff YAU, Ian CHUI	20 October 2017
HSBC	Roanna CHAU, Keith CHAN	October 2017

The Company is keen on promoting investor relations and enhancing communication with the Shareholders and potential investors. It welcomes suggestions from investors, stakeholders and the public who may contact the Investor Relations Department by phone on (852) 2853 6116 during normal business hours, by fax at (852) 2853 6651 or by e-mail at ir@laisun.com.

REVIEW OF ANNUAL RESULTS

The audit committee of the Company ("Audit Committee") comprised two INEDs, namely Mr. Leung Shu Yin, William (Chairman of the Audit Committee) and Mr. Lam Bing Kwan, and a NED, Dr. Lam Kin Ming. The Audit Committee has reviewed the annual results (including the consolidated financial statements) of the Company for the year ended 31 July 2018.

CHANGE OF AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBER

Dr. Lam Kin Ming, a NED, has ceased to act as a member of the Audit Committee with effect from 25 October 2018 and Mr. Leung Wang Ching, Clarence, an INED, has been appointed a member of the Audit Committee by the Board with effect from 25 October 2018.

The Audit Committee currently comprises three INEDs, namely Mr. Leung Shu Yin, William (Chairman of the Audit Committee), Mr. Lam Bing Kwan and Mr. Leung Wang Ching, Clarence.

REVIEW OF PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS BY INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

The figures in respect of the Group's consolidated statement of financial position, consolidated income statement, consolidated statement of comprehensive income and the related notes thereto for the year ended 31 July 2018 as set out in the preliminary announcement have been agreed by the Company's auditor, Ernst & Young, Certified Public Accountants to the amounts set out in the Group's draft consolidated financial statements for the year. The work performed by the Company's auditor in this respect did not constitute an assurance engagement in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing, Hong Kong Standards on Review Engagements or Hong Kong Standards on Assurance Engagements issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and consequently no assurance has been expressed by the Company's auditor on the preliminary announcement.

OTHER INFORMATION

The Annual Report of the Company for the year ended 31 July 2018 containing all the information required by the Listing Rules will be published on the websites of the Stock Exchange at www.hkex.com.hk and the Company at www.laisun.com and despatched to shareholders in mid-November 2018.

On behalf of the Board **Lam Kin Ngok, Peter** *Chairman*

Hong Kong, 25 October 2018

As at the date of this announcement, the Board comprises the following members:

Executive Directors: Dr. Lam Kin Ngok, Peter (Chairman) and Messrs. Chew Fook Aun (Deputy Chairman),

Lau Shu Yan, Julius (Chief Executive Officer) and Lam Hau Yin, Lester;

Non-Executive Directors: Dr. Lam Kin Ming and Madam U Po Chu; and

Independent Non-Executive Messrs. Lam Bing Kwan, Leung Shu Yin, William, Ip Shu Kwan, Stephen and Leung Wang

Directors: Ching, Clarence.