

**For information  
on 8 April 2020**

**Legislative Council Panel on Health Services**

**Prevention and Control of  
Coronavirus Disease 2019 in Hong Kong**

**PURPOSE**

Further to the submissions to the Legislative Council (“LegCo”) Panel on Health Services on 10 and 30 January 2020, as well as 10 and 20 March 2020<sup>1</sup> and to LegCo on 19 February 2020<sup>2</sup>, this paper offers an update on the Government’s response and measures adopted to prevent and control the spread of coronavirus disease-2019 (“COVID-19”) in Hong Kong.

**LATEST SITUATION**

**(a) Local situation**

2. As at 6 April 2020, Hong Kong had 915 confirmed cases (including one suspected case), including 4 fatal cases and 236 discharged patients after treatment. Based on epidemiological classification, 547 of them are imported cases or their close contacts, 368 are local cases, possibly local cases or their close contacts.

3. As recently a large number of Hong Kong residents are returning to Hong Kong in view of the outbreak situation becoming more severe in overseas countries/ regions, the number of imported cases in

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<sup>1</sup> Information papers were submitted to the LegCo Panel on Health Services on 10 January 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)468/19-20(05)), 30 January 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/19-20(01)), 10 March 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)673/19-20(01)) and 20 March 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)734/19-20(04)) respectively.

<sup>2</sup> An information paper was submitted to LegCo for information on 19 February 2020. For more details, please refer to <https://www.legco.gov.hk/yr19-20/english/counmtg/papers/cm20200219p-e.pdf>.

Hong Kong has surged rapidly and some clusters with community-acquired cases have been detected. Since early March, over 70% of the cases are imported cases or the relevant person has travel history during the virus incubation period or is a close contact of an imported case or case with travel history. Out of the 558 confirmed cases of COVID-19 recorded in Hong Kong in the past two weeks (i.e. 24 March to 6 April 2020), 360 are imported cases. 41 cases travelled outside Hong Kong for some time during the incubation period. For the remaining cases, 15 are close contacts of the aforementioned imported cases or cases with travel history. 142 cases are local cases or their close contacts. In view of this, to safeguard the health of the public and protect our health system, currently the focus of the Government's prevention and control work is to prevent the virus from being imported from outside of Hong Kong and prevent imported cases from spreading in the community.

#### **(b) Global and Mainland situation**

4. On 11 March 2020, the World Health Organization declared that the outbreak of COVID-19 can be characterised as a pandemic. There is a rapid persistent increase in the number of confirmed cases reported around the world. As at 7 April 2020 (10 a.m.), besides the Mainland, 211 countries/areas in the world (including Hong Kong) had reported more than 1 170 000 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 66 671 death cases. Please refer to **Annex 1** for the details.

5. Among these countries/areas, the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 has been running high in a number of regions, including the United States, Spain, Italy and Germany. The latest situation in these countries is summarised below –

- (i) United States:** As at 6 April 2020, the number of confirmed cases in the United States reached 330 891 (including 8 910 deaths). 119 435 of the cases occurred in New York City.
- (ii) Spain:** As at 6 April 2020, the number of confirmed cases in Spain reached 135 032 (including 13 055 deaths).

**(iii) Italy:** As at 6 April 2020 (6 p.m.), the number of confirmed cases in Italy reached 132 547 (including 16 523 deaths). The majority of the cases occurred in Lombardia (51 534), Emilia-Romagna (17 556) and Veneto (11 588) regions which cover the cities of Bologna, Milan, Venice and Verona, etc. The remaining cases were mainly scattered in 17 other regions in Italy.

**(iv) Germany:** As at 6 April 2020, the number of confirmed cases in Iran reached 95 391 (including 1 434 deaths).

6. As for the situation in the Mainland, the number of confirmed cases has dropped significantly since early March. The majority of the recent confirmed cases are imported cases. As at 6 April 2020, the number of confirmed cases reached 81 740 (3 331 deaths), with that in Hubei Province alone hitting 67 803 (3 212 deaths). For Guangdong Province, the number of confirmed cases reached 1 533 (8 deaths).

## **KEY MEASURES**

7. All government bureaux and departments, the Hospital Authority (“HA”), as well as relevant parties, have stepped up their efforts on all fronts in preventing and controlling COVID-19. An overview of our key measures is set out below. A chronology of major events and measures is at **Annex 2**.

### **(a) Strengthening port health measures**

8. As an on-going measure, the Government has imposed body temperature checks for all incoming travellers at all boundary control points (“BCPs”). Since 1 February 2020, the Hong Kong International Airport (“HKIA”) has implemented body temperature checks for both departing and transit passengers. To strengthen surveillance and contact tracing, a health declaration arrangement has been implemented at HKIA (for Wuhan flights, subsequently all Mainland flights and then Korea flights) and other land-based BCPs since 21 January 2020. With the

increasing number of countries/areas reporting community transmission of COVID-19, the Department of Health (“DH”) has extended the health declaration arrangement to all inbound travellers at HKIA since 8 March 2020. DH also started the use of an electronic health declaration system at HKIA on the same day. The system has been used by other land-based BCPs since 21 March 2020.

**(b) Strengthening immigration control**

9. To further prevent imported cases and cut the global and local virus transmission chain as far as possible, the Government has since 25 March 2020 implemented the following measures to restrict entry and suspend all transit services at HKIA, initially until 7 April 2020. Taking into account the current outbreak situation in Hong Kong and around the globe, the Government announced on 6 April 2020 to extend the relevant measures until further notice.

- All non-Hong Kong residents coming from overseas countries and regions by plane will be denied entry to Hong Kong;
- Non-Hong Kong residents coming from the Mainland, Macao and Taiwan will be denied entry to Hong Kong if they have been to any overseas countries or regions in the past 14 days;
- All transit services at HKIA will be suspended; and
- All travellers coming from Macao and Taiwan, including Hong Kong and non-Hong Kong residents, will be subject to a 14-day compulsory quarantine, which is the same as the arrangements for people entering Hong Kong from the Mainland.

10. Taking into consideration the practical situation, a small number of persons can be exempted from the above immigration restrictions and/or quarantine requirements<sup>3</sup>. The Immigration Department will handle each case in accordance with immigration policy, the actual situation and established procedures.

### **(c) Outbound travelling alerts (“OTAs”)**

11. In view of the health risks arising from the persistent and rapid increase in the number of COVID-19 cases globally, the Government decided on 17 March 2020 to issue the Red OTA on all overseas countries/territories based on public health considerations.

12. DH has extended health quarantine arrangements accordingly and demanded relevant persons to undergo compulsory quarantine, except those who are exempted. Starting from 0:00am on 19 March 2020, in accordance with the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E), DH’s Port Health Division officers issue quarantine orders for compulsory quarantine to Hong Kong residents arriving in Hong Kong who have been to all overseas countries/territories in the past 14 days. As for Hong Kong residents who have been to Daegu and Gyeongsangbuk-do in Korea, Iran, and Emilia-Romagna, Lombardy and Veneto regions in Italy in the past 14 days, they must stay in a quarantine centre for quarantine for 14 days. Furthermore, according to the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C), quarantine orders will be issued to all persons entering Hong Kong from the Mainland, Macao and Taiwan, regardless of whether they are Hong Kong

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<sup>3</sup> These persons include:

- (i) Macao residents who are registered under the Macao scheme under agreement between the Macao Special Administrative Region Government and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government that they will be immediately taken by coach back to Macao upon entry;
- (ii) Spouses and minor children of Hong Kong residents;
- (iii) Categories of persons exempted from the quarantine requirement under Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C) and Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E), such as:
  - (a) Crew members of aircraft who need to commute to and from foreign places for performance of necessary duties or crew members of goods vessels;
  - (b) Government officials carrying out government duties including personnel of consular posts; and
  - (c) Personnel engaged in anti-epidemic work endorsed by the HKSAR Government.

residents, and to demand them to stay at home or other accommodation for a 14-day compulsory quarantine.

13. The Government has conducted detailed risk assessments prior to implementation of port health measures in view of disease outbreak in other countries or regions. Other than considering the number, distribution and rate of increase of infected persons, the Government would also take into account the surveillance and control measures implemented by the authorities of that particular country/region, as well as the frequency of travels between Hong Kong and that particular country/region. The Government would suitably review and rationalise the relevant measures having regard to the latest development of the outbreak. In conclusion, members of the public are strongly urged to adjust their travel plans and avoid any non-essential travel outside Hong Kong.

#### **(d) Compulsory quarantine requirement**

14. The Government published in the Gazette on 7 February 2020 the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C), which mandates all persons having stayed in the Mainland for any period during the 14 days preceding arrival in Hong Kong, regardless of nationality and travel documents used, except for exempted persons, to be subject to compulsory quarantine for 14 days.

15. Furthermore, following the Government's Red OTA issued on all overseas countries/territories on 17 March 2020, the Government gazetted on 18 March 2020 the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E), which mandates arrivals from all specified places outside China to undergo quarantine. This Regulation took effect on 19 March 2020 at 0:00am and remains in force for three months till 18 June 2020. The Secretary for Food and Health ("SFH") specified on the same day under Cap. 599E that all persons having stayed in places outside China for any period during the 14 days preceding arrival in Hong Kong, regardless of nationality and travel documents used, except for exempted persons, will be subject to compulsory quarantine for 14 days.

16. Together with the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E) effected on 19 March 2020, the Government published in the Gazette on 24 March 2020 the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong (Amendment) Regulation 2020 (“Amendment Regulation”). With effect from 25 March 2020 at 0:00am, the Amendment Regulation extends the compulsory 14-day quarantine arrangement to all persons, except for exempted persons, arriving from or having stayed in Macao and Taiwan in the past 14 days prior to arrival in Hong Kong, in addition to those arriving from the Mainland.

17. The implementation of the aforementioned border control measures, the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation and the Amendment Regulation mean that currently all non-Hong Kong residents arriving from overseas countries or regions are denied entry or transit, and all persons arriving in Hong Kong are required to undergo compulsory quarantine (except for a small number of exempted persons). These measures can further help prevent the spread of COVID-19 outbreak in Hong Kong.

#### **(e) Enhancing quarantine facilities and services**

18. In view of the development of the outbreak, the Government and HA have introduced various measures to cope with the increasing demand for services in public hospitals. Following the instruction of the Government’s Steering Committee in relation to COVID-19, HA has set up test centres at AsiaWorld-Expo (“AWE”) and North Lantau Hospital (“NLTH”) since 20 March 2020 to conduct virus testing for inbound travellers with upper respiratory symptoms. After reviewing the operations of the two centres, test services are consolidated at the test centre at AWE starting from 5 April 2020 at 8pm. The test centre also handles suspected cases referred by the Centre for Health Protection (“CHP”) under DH, including travellers under home quarantine or close contacts of confirmed cases. In addition, triage and test centres are being set up by phase at the Accident and Emergency Departments of a number of public hospitals, including NLTH, to alleviate the demand for isolation facilities at public hospitals.

19. HA has also retrofitted one to two general wards in each cluster into standard negative pressure wards to provide 400 additional standard negative pressure beds for patients who are recovering and have relatively mild symptoms.

20. Currently, there are four quarantine centres for close contacts who may have been exposed to the risk of contracting COVID-19 but are nonetheless asymptomatic, namely the Lei Yue Mun Park and Holiday Village in Chai Wan, the Heritage Lodge at the Jao Tsung-I Academy, Chun Yeung Estate, Fo Tan and Junior Police Call Permanent Activity Centre (“JPC Centre”) at Pat Heung, Yuen Long, providing over 1 700 units in total.

21. The Government has been actively looking for suitable sites and setting up more quarantine facilities as soon as practicable since late January. In view of the rapid development of the outbreak and the increasing demand for quarantine units, we have been actively making preparations since mid-March to make available more units at Chun Yeung Estate for quarantine purpose. The target is to provide an additional 1 600 units or so within April. Furthermore, we will also continue to construct at least 1 000 more quarantine units in total at the Lei Yue Mun Park and Holiday Village in Chai Wan, Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre, JPC Centre and a government site at Penny’s Bay through the application of the modular integrated construction method. It is expected that the units can be completed and put into use from April to July by phase. In addition, we are following up with the Walt Disney Company, which has agreed to explore using another site at Penny’s Bay reserved for future tourism development for constructing quarantine facilities. In view of the rapid development of the COVID-19 outbreak, it is difficult to accurately estimate the demand for quarantine facilities. The Government will closely monitor the latest development and make corresponding deployment in view of the situation.

#### **(f) Enhancing surveillance**

22. The CHP under DH has been progressively extending its Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme (“the Programme”) all along, providing free testing for COVID-19 to asymptomatic inbound



travellers since 19 March 2020, with an aim to identifying the patients early and minimising the risk of community transmission. Starting from 29 March 2020, the scope of the Programme has been extended to cover all asymptomatic inbound travellers arriving from places under the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E).

23. To speed up the collection of specimen from inbound travellers from overseas for conducting testing for COVID-19, DH has set up a Temporary Specimen Collection Centre (“TSCC”) at AWE since 26 March 2020. The persons concerned can visit the TSCC for collecting and submitting their deep throat saliva specimens immediately upon their arrival, or they can choose to collect their deep throat saliva specimen by themselves at their place of accommodation, and ask their family members or friends to deliver it to any of the collection clinics. If a specimen tests positive, DH will immediately arrange the person concerned to be admitted to a hospital for isolation and treatment; if the test result is negative, the person concerned is still required to continue the 14-day quarantine at the place of accommodation. Starting from 3 April 2020, persons who collect specimens by themselves at home can make use of a door-to-door specimen collection service provided by member companies of the Cyberport Startup Alumni Association to submit their deep throat saliva specimens to DH for COVID-19 testing.

24. Furthermore, in order to timely identify and detect cases of novel coronavirus infection transmitted in the community, HA has conducted tests for novel coronavirus infection on all patients meeting the reporting criteria announced by CHP, and gradually extended the scope of surveillance to cover all inpatient pneumonia cases through the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme (“Surveillance Programme”). Since 19 February 2020, the Surveillance Programme has been further extended to cover outpatients at HA’s Accident and Emergency Departments and General Out-patient Clinics. Furthermore, starting from 9 March 2020, the Public Health Laboratory Services Branch (“PHLSB”) under CHP provides free testing on COVID-19 virus for relevant samples submitted by private doctors.

25. As at 7 April (7:30 a.m.), out of the 915 confirmed cases, 114 were patients seeking consultation at public hospitals' Accident and Emergency Departments or General Out-patient Clinics. Another 187 cases were detected by PHLSB.

**(g) Maintaining social distancing to prevent spread of the disease**

26. Maintaining social distancing is a key tactic for delaying the spread of COVID-19 in Hong Kong. The Government needs to impose stringent measures, including legislation, to reduce or even prohibit group gathering activities. In accordance with Section 8 of the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 599), two additional regulations were made by the Government on 27 March 2020. Details are as follow.

***Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirement and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F)***

27. The Government published in the Gazette on 27 March 2020 the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirement and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F) to implement temporary measures to address the current situation of public health emergency. Cap. 599F commenced on 28 March 2020 at 0.00 am and will remain in force for three months. Cap. 599F empowers SFH to, having regard to the disease outbreak and overall situation, issue directions through a notice in the Gazette to (a) require catering business premises to cease selling or supplying food or drinks for on-site consumption, and to close whole or part of the premises where food or drink is sold or supplied; (b) restrict the operation of catering business; and (c) restrict the operation of Scheduled Premises. On 1 April 2020, the Government published in the Gazette the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirement and Directions) (Business and Premises) (Amendment) Regulation, to amend the Scheduled Premises under Cap. 599F to twelve categories<sup>4</sup>.

28. In accordance with Cap. 599F, SFH issued six directions to be effective for 14 days through notices in the Gazette on 28 March, 1 April and 3 April 2020, respectively restricting the operation of catering

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<sup>4</sup> 1. Amusement game centre, 2. Bathhouse, 3. Fitness centre, 4. Place of amusement, 5. Place of public entertainment, 6. "Party room", 7. Club or nightclub, 8. Karaoke establishment, 9. Mahjong-tin kau premises, 10. Club-house, 11. Beauty parlour, and 12. Massage establishment.

businesses and Scheduled Premises. Details can be found at **Annex 3**. Failing to comply with the requirements is an offence and could attract a fine at level 5 (\$50,000) and imprisonment for six months.

***Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G)***

29. The Government published in the Gazette on 28 March 2020 the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G). The Regulation commenced on 29 March 2020 at 0.00am and will remain in force for three months.

30. In accordance with Cap. 599G, SFH issued a notice in the Gazette on 28 March 2020 to prohibit group gatherings with more than four people in public places, with effect from 29 March till 11 April 2020.

31. Except for exempted types of group gatherings (please refer to **Annex 4** for details), any person who participates in a prohibited group gathering; organises a prohibited group gathering; or owns, controls or operates the place of the gathering and knowingly allows the taking place of the gathering, commits an offence. Offenders are liable to a maximum penalty of a fine at level 4 (\$25,000) and imprisonment for six months. Persons who participates in a prohibited group gathering may discharge liability for the offence by paying a fixed penalty of \$2,000.

***Enforcement situation***

32. Enforcement work under Cap. 599F and Cap. 599G has been generally satisfactory. With regards to the situation of catering business premises, as at 7 April 2020 at 0:00 a.m., enforcement departments including the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (“FEHD”), DH, Police and Home Affairs Department had carried out 27 752 inspections with a total of about 1 674 reminders (of advisory nature including immediate rectification). The reminders were mainly related to not conducting body temperature screening on customers before entering the catering business premises and buffer between one table and another not in compliance with the relevant requirements, etc.

33. With regards to Scheduled Premises with restricted operations, law enforcement officers carried out a total of 1 844 inspections. It was found that the industry generally abided by the law. Only around 8 reminders (of advisory nature including immediate rectification) were issued.

34. As for Cap. 599G, enforcement departments have enhanced manpower to step up patrols in various public places, and reminded the public to comply with the requirements of the Regulation by verbal explanation, advice or warning. As at 7 April 2020 at 0:00 a.m., the Police handled 966 relevant reports on non-compliance of the directions concerned, gave 66 verbal warnings and issued 19 fixed penalty tickets. The DH, FEHD, Leisure and Cultural Services Department, Housing Department and Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department also looked after public places at the premises under their respective purviews, carried out 12 711 inspections and gave around 1 830 verbal warnings in total.

35. The Government will continue to arrange enforcement and inspection operations. Law enforcement officers will remind the public to comply with the requirements of the two aforementioned Regulations mainly through verbal explanation, advice or warning. If a person ignores repeated reminders or breaks the law, law enforcement officers also have the responsibility to take enforcement action. That said, we hope to send a strong message to members of the public through legislative work and urge them to be self-disciplined and abide by the law during the effective period of the Regulations. For the sake of themselves as well as other people, they should go out less or avoid social activities such as meals gatherings and get-togethers. They should also maintain proper social distancing as far as possible, with an aim to cutting the virus transmission chain.

#### **(h) Anti-epidemic Fund**

36. The LegCo Finance Committee approved the injection of \$30 billion into the Anti-epidemic Fund (“the Fund”) on 21 February 2020 in order to enhance the capability of the Government and relevant sectors in combating the COVID-19 outbreak, and to provide assistance or relief to

enterprises and members of the public hard hit by the outbreak or affected by anti-epidemic measures. Relevant bureaux and departments have been progressively rolling out the measures under the Fund to provide timely support to enterprises and members of the public.

37. To enhance the capability of public hospitals in responding to the outbreak, the Government has allocated \$4.7 billion from the Fund to HA for tackling the epidemic, particularly for ensuring sufficient support and protection for frontline healthcare staff. HA will deploy funds to public hospitals for coping with the various issues of the outbreak, including personnel-related expenditure for frontline staff involved in anti-epidemic efforts (for example, providing frontline staff who perform high risk duties under the public hospitals' emergency response level with a special emergency response allowance; offering special rental allowance to staff who need to rent hotel rooms or other premises for temporary accommodation arrangements), procuring additional personal protective equipment and other necessary accessories for healthcare staff, enhancing support for laboratory testing, procuring drug and medical equipment, as well as strengthening a range of hospital support services such as cleansing, transport and supplies. HA will use and deploy the resources flexibly having regard to the development of the outbreak situation, so as to provide the best available support to frontline healthcare staff.

38. On the other hand, the Government has earlier announced a second round of Anti-epidemic Fund to provide assistance to industries that have not been included in the first round, as well as those which benefitted in the first round but are still facing difficulties. Relevant bureaux and departments will deliberate and formulate suitable proposals as soon as practicable, and will then seek approval from the LegCo Finance Committee for the relevant funding.

#### **(i) Risk communication and transparency**

39. Risk communication is key to managing the public anxieties during this critical period. Apart from daily briefings (normally at 4:30 p.m.) by CHP and HA senior representatives on the number of cases (suspected, confirmed or under investigation), relevant contact tracing,

quarantine arrangement, etc., the latest situation of COVID-19 in Hong Kong and the most updated health advice could be found at the “COVID-19 Thematic Website” ([www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/index.html](http://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/index.html)). The Government also launched an Interactive Map Dashboard ([chp-dashboard.geodata.gov.hk/covid-19/en.html](http://chp-dashboard.geodata.gov.hk/covid-19/en.html)) and a Telegram channel named “Hong Kong Anti-epidemic Information Channel” ([t.me/HKFIGHTEPIDEMIC](https://t.me/HKFIGHTEPIDEMIC)) to provide the latest information in a timely manner. Senior officials also announce from time to time major government decisions and measures, as well as to update the public on major developments in combating the virus, through press conferences or other occasions.

40. CHP has issued guidelines reminding citizens to be aware of personal and environmental hygiene, and disseminated health messages to citizens on preventing communicable diseases and maintaining social distancing, etc. through various channels including Announcements in the Public Interest on both television and radio, Facebook page, Instagram platform, YouTube channel, newspapers, the “GovHK Notifications” mobile app, health education infoline, media interviews, public transport, outdoor and digital media, etc. CHP has also produced various health education materials, including leaflets, posters, infographics and pamphlets, etc. for dissemination at the community level to enhance promotion. It also maintains close liaison with different stakeholders and keeps them informed of the latest situation and preventive measures. At the same time, CHP has produced latest updates and health advice in nine ethnic minority languages<sup>5</sup>. Furthermore, seven television commercials have completed production and aired as at 6 April 2020.

## **SPECIFIC INCIDENTS**

### **Arrangement to take Hong Kong residents stranded in Peru back to Hong Kong by chartered flight**

41. Peru declared a state of national emergency in mid-March, imposing very strict restrictions on all land and air traffic. With the full

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<sup>5</sup> Including Hindi, Nepali, Urdu, Thai, Bahasa Indonesia, Tagalog, Bengali, Sinhala and Vietnamese.

assistance of the Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China in the HKSAR and the Chinese Embassy in the Republic of Peru, 65 Hong Kong residents stranded in Peru took the chartered flight arranged by the HKSAR Government from Lima to London, followed by an ordinary connecting flight to Hong Kong, and arrived on 5 April 2020. Upon arrival, the relevant persons were immediately sent to CHP's testing centre at AWE for COVID-19 testing. Among them, five are confirmed cases. 18 are considered as close contacts and need to stay in a quarantine centre for quarantine. The remaining 42 can return home to complete the 14-day compulsory quarantine.

### **Hong Kong residents in Hubei Province**

42. Following the Government's arrangement of the first batch of chartered flights to bring 469 Hong Kong residents in Hubei Province back to Hong Kong on 4 and 5 March 2020, the Government arranged the second batch of chartered flights to bring 558 Hong Kong residents in Hubei Province back to Hong Kong on 25 and 26 March 2020. All people who took the chartered flights back to Hong Kong underwent health assessment by staff of DH before boarding the flights to check whether they displayed symptoms such as fever. Upon arrival in Hong Kong, the returnees were required to have their temperatures checked again and undergo home quarantine for 14 days in accordance with the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C).

### **ADVICE SOUGHT**

43. Members are invited to note the contents of this paper.

**Food and Health Bureau  
Department of Health  
Hospital Authority  
April 2020**

**Countries/areas with reported cases of Coronavirus Disease-2019****(COVID-19)****(Last updated on April 7, 2020, 10 am)**

All information is based on that notified or reported by the World Health Organization, the National Health Commission, Health Bureau of Macao Special Administrative Region, Taiwan Centers for Disease Control and health authorities of overseas countries.

<b>Countries/areas with active community transmission of COVID-19</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mainland China, Macao SAR and Taiwan</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>All overseas countries/territories</b></li> </ul>

**Number of COVID-19 cases reported in countries/areas#**

Countries/areas	Cumulative number of confirmed cases	Number of newly confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days	Cumulative number of deaths among confirmed cases
Afghanistan	337	297	7
Albania	377	288	21
Algeria	1251	1050	130
Andorra	523	390	17
Angola	14	12	2
Anguilla	3	3	0
Antigua and Barbuda	7	6	0
Argentina	1451	1226	44
Armenia	746	552	7
Aruba	64	56	0
Australia	5744	4348	36
Austria	11983	8352	204
Azerbaijan	584	519	5
Bahamas	28	24	4
Bahrain	700	363	4
Bangladesh	88	61	8
Barbados	51	46	0
Belarus	562	486	8
Belgium	19691	16290	1447
Belize	5	5	0
Benin	22	20	0



Countries/areas	Cumulative number of confirmed cases	Number of newly confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days	Cumulative number of deaths among confirmed cases
Bermuda	37	35	0
Bhutan	5	3	0
Bolivia	157	133	10
Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba	2	2	0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	662	537	21
Botswana	4	4	1
Brazil	10278	9374	432
British Virgin Islands	3	3	0
Brunei Darussalam	135	47	1
Bulgaria	531	346	20
Burkina Faso	302	227	15
Burundi	3	3	0
Cabo Verde	5	2	1
Cambodia	114	30	0
Cameroon	555	515	9
Canada	13904	12520	231
Cayman Islands	35	32	1
Central African Republic	9	5	0
Chad	9	8	0
Chile	4471	3839	34
Colombia	1406	1210	32
Congo	45	41	5
Costa Rica	435	318	2
Côte d'Ivoire	245	220	2
Croatia	1182	947	15
Cuba	320	304	8
Curaçao	11	8	1
Cyprus	446	351	14
Czech Republic	4587	3422	67
Democratic Republic of the Congo	161	131	18
Denmark	4369	2974	179
Djibouti	59	58	0
Dominica	11	11	0
Dominican Republic	1488	1416	68

Countries/areas	Cumulative number of confirmed cases	Number of newly confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days	Cumulative number of deaths among confirmed cases
Ecuador	3465	2933	172
Egypt	1173	846	78
El Salvador	62	61	3
Equatorial Guinea	16	10	0
Eritrea	29	28	0
Estonia	1097	771	15
Eswatini	9	5	0
Ethiopia	43	32	1
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	2	2	0
Faroe Islands	181	66	0
Fiji	12	10	0
Finland	1927	1301	28
France	74390	54534	8078
French Guiana	66	48	0
French Polynesia	41	24	0
Gabon	21	15	1
Gambia	4	3	1
Georgia	188	134	2
Germany	95391	70617	1434
Ghana	205	181	5
Gibraltar	103	88	1
Greece	1735	1111	73
Greenland	11	9	0
Grenada	12	11	0
Guadeloupe	134	78	7
Guam	112	85	4
Guatemala	61	43	2
Guernsey	154	137	3
Guinea	111	109	0
Guinea-Bissau	18	18	0
Guyana	24	19	4
Haiti	21	19	0
Holy See	7	6	0
Honduras	268	242	22
Hong Kong Special	915	559	4

Countries/areas	Cumulative number of confirmed cases	Number of newly confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days	Cumulative number of deaths among confirmed cases
Administrative Region*			
Hungary	744	577	38
Iceland	1486	918	4
India	4067	3652	109
Indonesia	2273	1759	198
Iran	60500	37451	3739
Iraq	961	728	61
Ireland	5111	4205	158
Isle of Man	127	125	1
Israel	8018	6780	46
Italy	132547	68620	16523
Jamaica	55	36	3
Japan^	3906	2778	80
Jersey	155	140	3
Jordan	345	233	5
Kazakhstan	604	542	5
Kenya	142	127	4
Korea	10284	1247	186
Kosovo	145	112	1
Kuwait	556	367	1
Kyrgyzstan	216	202	4
Lao People's Democratic Republic	11	11	0
Latvia	533	394	1
Lebanon	527	279	18
Liberia	13	10	3
Libya	18	18	1
Liechtenstein	78	32	1
Lithuania	811	668	13
Luxembourg	2804	2006	36
Macao Special Administrative Region	44	19	0
Madagascar	77	65	0
Mainland China	81740	569	3331
Malawi	4	4	0
Malaysia	3662	2356	61

Countries/areas	Cumulative number of confirmed cases	Number of newly confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days	Cumulative number of deaths among confirmed cases
Maldives	19	6	0
Mali	39	39	4
Malta	234	144	0
Martinique	145	113	3
Mauritania	6	4	1
Mauritius	227	215	7
Mayotte	147	133	2
Mexico	1890	1639	79
Monaco	37	14	0
Mongolia	14	4	0
Montenegro	203	182	2
Montserrat	6	5	0
Morocco	1113	998	71
Mozambique	10	9	0
Myanmar	21	21	1
Namibia	16	13	0
Nepal	9	8	0
Netherlands	17851	13647	1766
New Caledonia	18	13	0
New Zealand	911	809	1
Nicaragua	5	3	1
Niger	144	143	8
Nigeria	208	186	4
North Macedonia	555	441	18
Northern Mariana Islands	8	8	1
Norway	5640	3508	58
Oman	331	276	2
Pakistan	3277	2493	50
Palestine	246	187	1
Panama	1801	1556	46
Papua New Guinea	1	0	0
Paraguay	104	82	3
Peru	1746	1428	73
Philippines	3246	2866	152
Poland	4102	3468	94
Portugal	11278	9678	295

Countries/areas	Cumulative number of confirmed cases	Number of newly confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days	Cumulative number of deaths among confirmed cases
Puerto Rico	452	429	18
Qatar	1604	1110	4
Republic of Moldova	864	770	15
Réunion	344	280	0
Romania	3864	3431	148
Russia	5389	4951	45
Rwanda	102	85	0
Saint Barthélemy	6	3	0
Saint Kitts and Nevis	9	9	0
Saint Lucia	14	12	0
Saint Martin	29	24	2
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	3	2	0
San Marino	266	91	32
Saudi Arabia	2463	1952	34
Senegal	222	155	2
Serbia	1908	1686	51
Seychelles	10	3	0
Sierra Leone	6	6	0
Singapore	1375	868	6
Sint Maarten	23	22	2
Slovakia	485	300	0
Slovenia	997	583	28
Somalia	7	6	0
South Africa	1655	1381	11
South Sudan	1	1	0
Spain	135032	101943	13055
Sri Lanka	176	94	5
Sudan	12	10	2
Suriname	10	8	0
Sweden	6830	4924	401
Switzerland	21065	14094	715
Syrian Arab Republic	19	18	2
Taiwan	373	178	5
Thailand	2169	1448	23
Timor-Leste	1	0	0

Countries/areas	Cumulative number of confirmed cases	Number of newly confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days	Cumulative number of deaths among confirmed cases
Togo	44	28	3
Trinidad and Tobago	103	53	6
Tunisia	574	499	22
Turkey	27069	25833	574
Turks and Caicos Islands	5	5	1
Uganda	48	47	0
Ukraine	1319	1246	38
United Arab Emirates	1799	1646	10
United Kingdom	51608	44958	5373
United Republic of Tanzania	22	10	1
United States of America	330891	297487	8910
United States Virgin Islands	42	36	0
Uruguay	400	265	5
Uzbekistan	390	344	2
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	144	74	3
Viet Nam	241	128	0
Zambia	39	36	1
Zimbabwe	9	7	1
<b>Number of affected countries/areas: 212</b>	<b>Total: at least 1252929 cases</b>	<b>Total: at least 902573 cases</b>	<b>Total: at least 70002 deaths</b>

^ Excluding 712 cases were confirmed among passengers/crews in a cruise ship (including 11 fatal cases)

\* Including 1 probable case

# According to the latest available information

**Distribution of COVID-19 cases reported in Korea**  
**(as of April 5, 2020, 00:00, including 10237 cases)**

Areas	Number of confirmed cases#				
	Cumulative number of cases	Number of new cases	With epidemiological linkage to a cluster or known confirmed case	Number of imported cases	Others##
Seoul	552	24	334	179	39
Busan	122	0	80	12	30
Daegu	6,768	7	6,041	10	717
Incheon	79	2	44	31	4
Gwangju	27	1	16	11	0
Daejeon	37	1	22	6	9
Ulsan	40	0	24	9	7
Sejong	46	0	42	3	1
Gyeonggi	572	10	411	114	47
Gangwon	45	3	28	9	8
Chungbuk	45	0	32	5	8
Chungnam	135	0	119	8	8
Cheonbuk	16	1	3	7	6
Cheonnam	15	0	7	7	1
Gyeongbuk	1,314	4	1,172	9	133
Gyeongnam	109	1	80	12	17
Jeju	12	3	1	6	5
Quarantine	303	24	0	303	0
Total	10,237	81	8,456	741	1040

# According to the information from Korean health authority

## Not classified into a cluster or under investigation

**Distribution of COVID-19 cases reported in Italy**  
**(as of April 6, 2020, 5 pm, including 132547cases)**

Areas	Number of confirmed cases#
Lombardia	51534
Veneto	11588
Emilia-Romagna	17556
Piemonte	12924
Lazio	4031
Sicilia	2046
Toscana	6001
Liguria	4549
Marche	4614
Campania	3058
Abruzzo	1721
Puglia	2444
Calabria	817
Friuli Venezia Giulia	2103
Umbria	1253
Molise	224
Basilicata	287
Sardegna	922
Valle d'Aosta	805
Trentino Alto Adige	4070
Total	132547

# According to the information from Italian health authority

**Chronology of Events in relation to  
the Outbreak of Novel Coronavirus Infection  
(as at 6 April 2020)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
31 December 2019 (Tuesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Department of Health (“DH”) received the first notification from the National Health Commission (“NHC”) about a cluster of 27 pneumonia cases with unknown causes (with seven cases being serious) in Wuhan, Hubei Province</li> <li>● The Secretary for Food and Health (“SFH”) sought expert advice and alerted the public through media stand-up</li> <li>● DH issued letters to doctors and hospitals on the latest situation and reporting criteria</li> <li>● Health surveillance at the boundary control points (“BCPs”) enhanced. Suspected cases were referred to public hospitals for lab testing and isolation</li> </ul>
2 January 2020 (Thursday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SFH chaired a cross-bureaux/departments meeting to examine the prevention measures adopted in response to the cluster of pneumonia cases and to alert them in enhancing cleaning. A media stand-up was conducted after the meeting to provide health advice to the public and appeal to the public to stay alert</li> </ul>
3 January 2020 (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Chief Executive (“CE”) and SFH inspected the BCP at Hong Kong West Kowloon Station of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (“XRL”)</li> <li>● SFH met with experts to seek advice on the latest situation and risk assessment</li> <li>● A dedicated website was launched by the Centre for Health Protection (“CHP”) of DH, announcing the number of suspected cases under the heightened surveillance system</li> </ul>



Date	Event
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CHP expanded the scope of surveillance and revised the reporting criteria, as well as strengthened port health measures and enhanced health promotion for travellers at all BCPs</li> </ul>
4 January 2020 (Saturday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Administration launched the Preparedness and Response Plan for Novel Infectious Disease of Public Health Significance (“the Plan”). In parallel, SFH activated the <b>Serious Response Level</b> with immediate effect</li> <li>● To tie in with the launch of the Plan, the Hospital Authority (“HA”) also announced the activation of the Serious Response Level in public hospitals with immediate effect</li> </ul>
6 January 2020 (Monday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SFH chaired the first meeting of Steering Committee in accordance with the Serious Response Level under the Plan and engaged experts to review the situation in Wuhan and seek advice on risk assessment</li> </ul>
7 January 2020 (Tuesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SFH chaired a cross-bureaux/departments meeting to assess the latest situation and discuss prevention measures</li> <li>● SFH led a press conference to roll out the five major areas of works in preventing the diseases, including port health measures, the Plan, amendments to the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 599), control measures of the HA and risk communications</li> </ul>
8 January 2020 (Wednesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● “Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent” was gazetted as a statutorily notifiable disease under the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 599) and the Prevention and Control of Disease Regulation (Cap. 599A) starting from 8 January 2020</li> <li>● SFH attended the Legislative Council (“LegCo”) to</li> </ul>

Date	Event
	respond to three urgent questions raised by LegCo Members
9 January 2020 (Thursday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SFH chaired a meeting and invited experts to discuss the latest developments of the cluster of pneumonia cases detected in Wuhan, followed by a press conference</li> <li>● The Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases and the Scientific Committee on Infection Control under the CHP of DH convened the first joint meeting to review the measures in light of the latest local and global situation of novel coronavirus infection. The Controller for the CHP joined two local experts (Professor Yuen Kwok-yung and Professor David Hui) in the press conference after the meeting</li> </ul>
10 January 2020 (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SFH briefed the LegCo Panel on Health Services on the Government's measures in response to cluster of pneumonia cases</li> </ul>
11 January 2020 (Saturday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SFH sought advice from experts on the latest situation</li> </ul>
12 January 2020 (Sunday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● NHC announced that it had shared the genetic sequences of the novel coronavirus associated with the cluster of pneumonia cases detected in Wuhan with the World Health Organization ("WHO")</li> </ul>
13 January 2020 (Monday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Thailand confirmed the first imported case of novel coronavirus infection</li> <li>● The Under Secretary of Food and Health ("USFH"), together with representatives from DH and HA, departed for Wuhan to learn about the situation of the pneumonia cases, prevention and control measures and clinical management</li> <li>● HA started the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance</li> </ul>

Date	Event
	Scheme to conduct testing on pneumonia patients meeting relevant criteria (i.e. with unknown causes while not responding to treatment in three days, or requiring care in Intensive Care Unit, or occurring in clusters, or who is a healthcare worker) irrespective of their travel history as a measure for more proactive case finding
14 January 2020 (Tuesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SFH chaired a cross-bureaux/departments meeting to review the latest situation and revisit the robustness of the current prevention and control measures</li> </ul>
15 January 2020 (Wednesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SFH convened an expert meeting and received report by the Hong Kong delegation that visited Wuhan</li> <li>● A press conference led by USFH was held to report on the working visit to Wuhan to examine the situation concerning the cluster of pneumonia cases</li> </ul>
16 January 2020 (Thursday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SFH chaired the second meeting of Steering Committee in accordance with the Serious Response Level under the Plan</li> <li>● Japan confirmed the first imported case of novel coronavirus infection</li> <li>● CHP revised the reporting criteria of “Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent” to enhance the surveillance of suspected cases</li> </ul>
17 January 2020 (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SFH hosted a media stand-up to update the public on the latest situation</li> </ul>
20 January 2020 (Monday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Korea confirmed the first imported case of novel coronavirus infection</li> <li>● CE joined SFH’s cross-bureaux/departments meeting to receive report on the latest situation and review preventive and control measures</li> <li>● SFH led a press conference to update the public on the</li> </ul>

Date	Event
	<p>latest situation and measures, including enhanced surveillance through extension of health declaration arrangement, the “containment” strategy and health advice on travelling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CHP further revised the reporting criteria of “Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent”</li> </ul>
21 January 2020 (Tuesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Taiwan confirmed the first imported case of novel coronavirus infection</li> <li>● SFH met with experts to review the latest situation in Wuhan</li> <li>● Health declaration arrangement implemented on all inbound travellers by air from Wuhan starting from midnight</li> <li>● HA extended the scope of the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance to include any inpatients with pneumonia and travel history to the Mainland within 14 days before onset of symptoms</li> </ul>
22 January 2020 (Wednesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The <b>first highly suspected imported case</b> of novel coronavirus infection was reported in <b>Hong Kong</b></li> <li>● SFH held a media stand-up to update the public on the latest situation</li> <li>● CHP set up a hotline (2125 1122) for contact tracing</li> <li>● Hong Kong residents were strongly advised to avoid all non-essential travel to Wuhan, Hubei Province and stay vigilant</li> </ul>
23 January 2020 (Thursday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 2]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The second highly suspected imported case of novel coronavirus infection was reported in Hong Kong</li> <li>● On the same day, <b>the two imported cases of novel coronavirus infection was confirmed</b></li> <li>● <b>Quarantine centre</b> at The Lady MacLehose Holiday Village under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) was <b>activated</b> and close contacts would be transferred to the village for</li> </ul>

Date	Event
	<p>quarantine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Daily media briefing by CHP and HA started</li> <li>● SFH chaired the third meeting of Steering Committee, with the Chief Secretary for Administration (“CS”) in attendance, in accordance with the Plan. A press conference led by CS was held afterwards</li> <li>● CHP further revised the reporting criteria of “Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent” to enhance the surveillance</li> </ul>
<p>24 January 2020 (Friday)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The health declaration system was extended to cover the Hong Kong West Kowloon Station of XRL</li> <li>● Flights and high-speed train services between Hong Kong and Wuhan suspended</li> <li>● The Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases and the Scientific Committee on Infection Control under the CHP of DH convened the second joint meeting to review the measures in light of the latest local and global situation of novel coronavirus infection</li> </ul>
<p>25 January 2020 (Saturday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 5]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE announced <b>activation of Emergency Response Level</b> under the Plan with immediate effect and set up four working groups</li> <li>● CE held a press conference and announced the following strategies: (a) enhancing mechanism and organisation structure to tackle disease; (b) strengthening immigration control, including expanding the arrangements of health declarations by incoming travellers from the Mainland as soon as possible to all BCPs; (c) minimising risks of virus infection and spreading in local community, including extending the Chinese New Year holidays of secondary schools, primary schools, kindergartens, child care centres and special schools so that they would resume classes not earlier than 17 February; (d) enhancing personal hygiene of the public and issuing</li> </ul>

Date	Event
	<p>guidelines; (e) improving anti-epidemic facilities and services; (f) allocating sufficient resources for the strategies and measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To tie in with the Government raising response level to “Emergency”, HA also announced the activation of the Emergency Response Level in public hospitals with immediate effect to implement a series of measures to enhance infection control and focus resources to cope with the epidemic</li> </ul>
26 January 2020 (Sunday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE chaired the <b>first meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre</b> in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan</li> </ul>
27 January 2020 (Monday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 8]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE chaired the second meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan</li> <li>● Except for Hong Kong residents, residents from Hubei Province and persons who visited the Hubei Province in the past 14 days were <b>not permitted to enter</b> Hong Kong until further notice</li> </ul>
28 January 2020 (Tuesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE chaired the third meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan</li> <li>● Through a press conference, the Government further announced seven disease prevention and control measures: (a) significantly reducing the flow of people between the Mainland and Hong Kong, including reduction and suspension of transport and BCP services; (b) adjusting fee charging policy for Non-eligible Persons (“NEP”) of HA and to charge all NEPs the relevant fees starting from 29 January 2020; (c) reducing the flow and contacts of people in Hong Kong, including appealing to employers to make flexible work arrangements for employees in accordance with their operational needs, and</li> </ul>

Date	Event
	<p>implementing the special work arrangement for government employees other than those providing emergency and essential public services until 2 February subject to review closer to the time; (d) assisting Hong Kong residents in Hubei Province; (e) reaching out to hotels through the hotel industry and Hong Kong Tourism Board to contact travellers from Hubei province, for follow-up by the CHP; (f) continuing to identify suitable places to serve as quarantine centre facilities and other purposes; (g) worldwide procurement in order to ensure adequate supply for tackling the disease</p>
<p>29 January 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 10]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Commerce and Economic Development Bureau and relevant government departments met members of local chambers of commerce and the retail industry to learn more about the situation of the supply of surgical masks and problems encountered by importers and retailers</li> <li>● The health declaration system was extended to all inbound flights from the Mainland</li> <li>● The Immigration Department (“ImmD”) reached out to hotels, hostels and guesthouses to contact travellers from Hubei Province and give them relevant health advice</li> </ul>
<p>30 January 2020 (Thursday)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE chaired the fourth meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan</li> <li>● <b>WHO</b> declared that the outbreak of the novel coronavirus constituted a <b>Public Health Emergency of International Concern</b> (“PHEIC”)</li> <li>● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice</li> <li>● SFH attended the special meeting of the LegCo Panel on Health Services to brief Members on the latest situation</li> </ul>

Date	Event
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● With effect from 30 January 2020, (1) cross-boundary coach, hire car and private car using Sha Tau Kok and Man Kam To Control Points were suspended due to the suspension of the immigration clearance service; (2) all services of the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong XRL and Intercity Through Train were suspended, and (3) cross-boundary ferry services of China Ferry Terminal and Tuen Mun Ferry Terminal were suspended</li> </ul>
<p>31 January 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 13]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Through a press conference led by CE, the Government announced measures to further prevent and control the spread of the disease: (a) suspending classes at all schools in Hong Kong with class resumption no earlier than 2 March; (b) special work arrangement for government departments would be extended until 9 February subject to review closer to the time; (c) all Hong Kong residents who have visited Hubei Province in the past 14 days should approach staff of the DH's Port Health Division for relevant assessment upon their arrival and would be arranged to stay in quarantine centres for surveillance; (d) for those Hubei residents who have already entered and were still staying in Hong Kong, DH would also arrange for them to stay in quarantine centres or, if asymptomatic, to leave Hong Kong as soon as possible; (e) enhancing exit screening and health declaration; (f) all-out efforts to support front-line healthcare staff; and (g) increasing supply of surgical masks through a multi-pronged approach</li> <li>● HA further extended the scope of the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance to include all pneumonia inpatients</li> <li>● HA announced the Special Rental Allowance for staff who have to work in high risk areas under Emergency Response Level with temporary accommodation needs.</li> </ul>



Date	Event
1 February 2020 (Saturday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Exit screening arrangement introduced in the Hong Kong International Airport (“HKIA”)</li> <li>● HA started to provide laboratory testing in public hospitals</li> </ul>
2 February 2020 (Sunday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 15]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE chaired the fifth meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan</li> <li>● CE wrote to Consuls-General in Hong Kong and CS met them to explain in detail the measures taken by Hong Kong in disease prevention and control</li> </ul>
3 February 2020 (Monday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE led a press conference, attended by relevant Bureaux Secretaries and Heads of Department, on the stepping up of control measures. CE appealed to the public that the spread of virus occurred regardless of race, nationality and residency status, and that the flow of people across the border should be reduced as much as possible</li> <li>● The Government launched an Interactive Map Dashboard to provide the latest situation of novel coronavirus infection</li> </ul>
4 February 2020 (Tuesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cross-boundary passengers by land or by sea converged to Shenzhen Bay control point and Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (“HZMB”) Hong Kong Port</li> <li>● Passenger clearance services further suspended at <b>four control points</b>, namely Lo Wu, Lok Ma Chau Spur Line, Lok Ma Chau and Hong Kong-Macau Ferry Terminal. Cross-boundary coach, shuttle bus, hire car and private car using Lok Ma Chau Control Point were suspended</li> <li>● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice</li> </ul>

Date	Event
<p>5 February 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 21]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A 14-day <b>compulsory quarantine arrangement</b> on all the people entering Hong Kong from the Mainland <b>announced</b>. The new subsidiary legislation was gazetted as Cap. 599C</li> <li>● Customs, immigration and quarantine services at Kai Tai Cruise Terminal and Ocean Terminal suspended</li> <li>● The health declaration system extended to HZMB, Man Kam To (Cargo) and Sha Tau Kok (Cargo)</li> <li>● The Food and Health Bureau (“FHB”) attended the Sham Shui Po District Council to explain the arrangement and justification of using the Jao Tsung-I Academy as quarantine centre</li> <li>● CHP’s Port Health Division conducted health quarantine work on the “World Dream” cruise where some travellers from the Mainland in a previous sail were confirmed to have been infected with the novel coronavirus</li> <li>● CE led a press conference, attended by relevant Bureaux Secretaries and Heads of Department, to explain the new policy of compulsory quarantine arrangement, amongst others</li> </ul>
<p>6 February 2020 (Thursday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 24]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Education Bureau (“EDB”) announced two possible options for the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (“HKDSE”). Further assessment would be made towards the end of February</li> </ul>
<p>7 February 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government published in the Gazette the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation<sup>1</sup> and the Prevention and Control of Disease (Disclosure of Information)</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> The Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation provides that all persons having stayed in the Mainland for any period during the 14 days preceding arrival in Hong Kong, regardless of nationality and travel documents used, would be subject to compulsory quarantine for 14 days

Date	Event
Kong: 26]	<p>Regulation <sup>2</sup> . The two Regulations would be effective on 8 February</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice</li> <li>● CS led a press conference, attended by relevant Bureaux Secretaries and Heads of Department, to update the public of the implementation of compulsory quarantine arrangement<sup>3</sup></li> <li>● The special work arrangement for government departments was extended until 16 February subject to review closer to the time. In addition to emergency services and other essential public services, government departments would also provide basic public services of a limited scale</li> </ul>
8 February 2020 (Saturday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A media stand-up by CE was conducted to brief the public on the enhanced control measures</li> <li>● FHB, DH and other relevant government departments met with representatives from the cruise company of “World Dream”</li> <li>● DH had earlier taken specimens from symptomatic crew members and passengers of the “World Dream” cruise for test on novel coronavirus. Upon relevant experts’ advice, the Government decided to conduct tests on novel coronavirus for 1 800 odd crew members on board</li> <li>● The Government explained to residents in the neighbourhood on the arrangement for using Chun Yeung Estate as a quarantine centre</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> The Prevention and Control of Disease (Disclosure of Information) Regulation empowers a health officer to require a person to disclose or furnish any information relevant to the handling of a state of the public health emergency, such as travel history. The relevant power is extended to other medical practitioners who would encounter with a person involved in such public health emergency

<sup>3</sup> Non-Hong Kong residents will be quarantined in accommodation that they have arranged (which can be domestic or hotel units). Hong Kong residents will normally be subject to home-quarantine. Only when it is not possible for them to arrange for their own accommodation will they be quarantined in temporary accommodation arranged by the Government. (Note: Hong Kong residents who have been to Hubei in the 14 days prior to their arrival in Hong Kong and those with close contacts with confirmed cases will be quarantined in centres managed by DH. Those that come back from the Mainland (other than Hubei) and without their own accommodation will be quarantined in camps managed by LCSD.)

Date	Event
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE visited the BCPs and call centres to observe the implementation of the compulsory mandatory arrangement as well as the Public Health Laboratory Centre which tested the specimens of crew members of the “World Dream” cruise</li> </ul>
<p>9 February 2020 (Sunday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 36]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Public Health Laboratory Services Branch of DH completed tests on the novel coronavirus for 1 800 odd crew members on the “World Dream” cruise. All samples were tested negative for the novel coronavirus. All guests on board disembarked</li> <li>● Representatives from FHB, DH and the Housing Department (“HD”) briefed members of the Sha Tin District Council about the arrangement and justifications of using Chun Yeung Estate as a quarantine centre</li> <li>● CE, accompanied by SFH, visited HKIA and HZMB</li> </ul>
<p>10 February 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 42]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE chaired the sixth meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan</li> <li>● SFH led a press conference to communicate with the public on the compulsory home quarantine measure</li> <li>● The 42<sup>nd</sup> confirmed case was found to be residing at the same A07 unit of Hong Mei House, Cheung Hong Estate as the 12<sup>th</sup> confirmed case, albeit on different floors. Upon a site visit with the advice of Professor Yuen Kwok-yung, CHP observed that the possibility of disconnected vent pipes without proper sealing triggering the spread of the virus could not be ruled out. Evacuation was immediately arranged and about 100 residents from 30 plus households were transferred to quarantine centres. Prof Yuen Kwok-yung joined two media briefings to explain his assessment of the incident</li> <li>● Representatives from FHB, DH and HD briefed the Sha Tin District Council at its special meeting about</li> </ul>

Date	Event
	<p>the arrangement and justifications for using Chun Yeung Estate as a quarantine centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● WHO announced a name for the new coronavirus disease “COVID-19”</li> </ul>
<p>12 February 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 50]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Persons under compulsory quarantine who failed to share their real-time locations with their mobile phones at the BCPs would be requested to wear electronic wristbands so that they can be monitored as to whether they are staying at the dwelling places</li> </ul>
<p>13 February 2020 (Thursday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 53]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government announced that the special work arrangement for government departments would be extended until 23 February in order to reduce social contacts and the risk of the spread of the novel coronavirus in the community, subject to review closer to the time</li> <li>● EDB announced that all schools in Hong Kong would not resume classes before 16 March</li> <li>● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice</li> </ul>
<p>14 February 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 56]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government announced that ImmD and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Tokyo) would assist Hong Kong residents quarantined on the “Diamond Princess” cruise ship</li> <li>● SFH attended a meeting with the Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson of the District Councils to brief them on the latest Government actions in combating the disease and addressing their questions and concerns</li> </ul>
<p>15 February 2020 (Saturday)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE chaired the seventh meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan</li> <li>● The Government announced that it was arranging chartered flights to take the Hong Kong residents</li> </ul>

Date	Event
	quarantined on the “Diamond Princess” cruise ship back to Hong Kong free of charge as soon as possible after they are permitted to disembark and land.
16 February 2020 (Sunday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 57]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE, accompanied by SFH, inspected anti-epidemic work at various locations including the Junior Police Call Permanent Activity Centre in Pat Heung, the Shenzhen Bay Control Point and the Infectious Disease Centre of Princess Margaret Hospital</li> </ul>
17 February 2020 (Monday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 60]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases and the Scientific Committee on Infection Control under the CHP of DH convened the third joint meeting to review the measures in light of the latest situation of novel coronavirus infection in Hong Kong</li> </ul>
18 February 2020 (Tuesday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 62]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE, all Principal Officials and a number of Executive Council Members have joined/will join various non-governmental organisations to conduct visits and distribute surgical masks to persons in need in different districts</li> </ul>
19 February 2020 (Wednesday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 65]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● HA expanded the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme to cover adult out-patients with fever and respiratory symptoms or mild chest infection at Accident and Emergency Departments (“AEDs”) and General Out-patient Clinics (“GOPCs”)</li> <li>● CS, together with SFH and other relevant Principal Officials, attended LegCo to respond to two urgent questions raised by LegCo Members</li> </ul>
20 February 2020 (Thursday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A total of 106 Hong Kong residents on board the “Diamond Princess” cruise ship arrived at Hong Kong from Tokyo on a chartered flight arranged by the</li> </ul>

Date	Event
[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 68, and no. of probable case: 1]	<p>Government. All passengers were sent to the quarantine centre in Chun Yeung Estate for 14-day quarantine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government announced that the special work arrangement for government departments would be extended until 1 March 2020 subject to review closer to the time. While it remained the Government's top priority to prevent and control the spread of the disease, preparations would be made for the gradual resumption of public services</li> </ul>
21 February 2020 (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● LegCo Finance Committee approved the injection of \$30 billion into the Anti-epidemic Fund</li> <li>● The Government released an enhanced website "COVID-19 Thematic Website" (<a href="http://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/index.html">www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/index.html</a>) and a Telegram channel, "Hong Kong Anti-epidemic Information Channel", to enhance dissemination of information through social media and online platforms</li> </ul>
<p>22 February 2020 (Saturday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 69, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Second batch of 84 Hong Kong residents on board the "Diamond Princess" cruise ship arrived at Hong Kong from Tokyo on a chartered flight arranged by the Government. All passengers were sent to the quarantine centre in Chun Yeung Estate for 14-day quarantine</li> <li>● Among the passengers on the flight were two Macao residents. The Macao Special Administrative Region Government has arranged a coach to pick up the two Macao residents directly at HKIA and return to Macao via HZMB</li> <li>● The Government announced that since the compulsory quarantine measure was introduced on 8 February 2020, the first batch of 663 persons had finished their 14-day compulsory quarantine at 0:00am and none of them became confirmed cases during the quarantine period</li> </ul>

Date	Event
<p>23 February 2020 (Sunday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 74]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Third batch of five Hong Kong residents on board the “Diamond Princess” cruise ship arrived at Hong Kong from Tokyo on a chartered flight arranged by the Government. All passengers were sent to the quarantine centre in Chun Yeung Estate for 14-day quarantine</li> <li>● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice</li> <li>● CE chaired the eighth meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan</li> </ul>
<p>24 February 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 81]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government announced that chartered flights would be arranged to bring back Hong Kong people in Hubei Province in batches</li> <li>● HA announced the Special Emergency Response Allowance for staff engaging in high risk duties under Emergency Response Level in response to COVID-19 epidemic</li> <li>● In light of the health risks arising from the outbreak of COVID-19 in <b>Korea</b>, the Government issued a <b>Red Outbound Travel Alert</b> (“OTA”) on the country and announced entry restrictions and quarantine requirements for those with travel history to Korea</li> <li>● The Government introduced a special scheme to deliver prescription medications to Hong Kong residents who are currently residing on the Mainland. Priority is given to help those who are currently located in Guangdong and Fujian Provinces who will run out of medications on or before end-March</li> <li>● CHP has updated the relevant reporting criteria of “Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent” to enhance surveillance of suspected cases with travel history to the Mainland or Korea</li> </ul>



Date	Event
<p>25 February 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 85]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Restrictions are imposed on non-Hong Kong residents arriving from <b>Korea</b> from entering Hong Kong with effect from 6 a.m.</li> <li>● Starting from 6 a.m., DH's Port Health Division will issue quarantine orders under the Prevention and Control of Disease Regulation (Cap. 599A) to Hong Kong residents returning to Hong Kong who have been to Daegu and Gyeongsangbuk-do in Korea in the past 14 days and arrange them to stay in quarantine centre for quarantine</li> <li>● Hong Kong residents returning from other cities and provinces of Korea will be required to undergo home quarantine and medical surveillance for 14 days</li> <li>● EDB announced that all schools in Hong Kong would not resume classes before 20 April</li> <li>● EDB and Hong Kong Examinations Assessment Authority ("HKEAA") announced the commencement of the HKDSE written examinations on 27 March and various special arrangements and enhanced precautionary measures</li> </ul>
<p>26 February 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 91]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CS chaired the first meeting of the Anti-epidemic Fund Steering Committee</li> <li>● The Government announced registration arrangement for first batch of chartered flights taking Hong Kong people in Hubei Province back to Hong Kong</li> </ul>
<p>28 February 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 94]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government issued a Red OTA on the Emilia-Romagna, Lombardy and Veneto regions in <b>Italy</b> and alerted the public about the outbreak of COVID-19 cases and associated health risk in <b>Iran</b> under the Red OTA in force</li> <li>● DH uploaded the list of buildings where persons under compulsory quarantine pursuant to the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C) are conducting quarantine</li> </ul>

Date	Event
	<p>onto the Government's "COVID-19 Thematic Website"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases and the Scientific Committee on Infection Control under the CHP of DH convened the fourth joint meeting to review the measures in light of the latest local and global situation of novel coronavirus infection</li> <li>● CHP has updated relevant reporting criteria of "Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent" to enhance surveillance of suspected cases with travel history to a place with active community transmission of COVID-19</li> <li>● A pet dog of a confirmed patient was tested weak positive to COVID-19 virus on multiple occasions by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department ("AFCD"). The dog has been put under quarantine at AFCD's facility</li> <li>● HA widened the scope of the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme at AEDs and GOPCs to cover both adult and paediatric outpatients with fever and respiratory symptoms, or mild chest infection; or fever or respiratory symptoms subject to clinical assessment of physician in charge</li> </ul>
<p>29 February 2020 (Saturday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 95]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE chaired the ninth meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan</li> </ul>
<p>1 March 2020 (Sunday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 95]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Starting from 0:00 a.m., the DH's Port Health Division would issue quarantine orders under the Prevention and Control of Disease Regulation (Cap. 599A) to people (regardless of whether they are Hong Kong residents) arriving Hong Kong who have been to the</li> </ul>

Date	Event
Kong: 98, and no. of probable cases: 2]	Emilia-Romagna, Lombardy or Veneto regions in Italy or Iran in the past 14 days and arrange them to stay in quarantine centre for quarantine
2 March 2020 (Monday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 100, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Subject to targeted social distancing, and with special arrangements and precautionary measures taken, government departments started to gradually resume more public services in a smooth and orderly manner. The arrangements and measures aim at reducing social contact and protecting the health of the staff and members of the public</li> </ul>
3 March 2020 (Tuesday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 100, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice</li> </ul>
4 March 2020 (Wednesday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 104, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● HA further expanded the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme at AEDs and GOPCs to cover around 10 viruses such as Influenza, Parainfluenza and Rhinovirus</li> <li>● On 4 and 5 March, the Government arranged the first batch of four chartered flights to bring 469 Hong Kong residents in Hubei Province back to Hong Kong</li> </ul>
5 March 2020 (Thursday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 104, and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● HKEAA started to distribute HKDSE admission forms to schools along with face masks on the basis of one face mask for each examination day for all candidates</li> </ul>

Date	Event
no. of probable case: 1]	
<p>8 March 2020 (Sunday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 114, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The HA announced that one more GOPC will be covered by the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme from 9 March, making for a total of 64 GOPCs and 17 Accident and Emergency Departments</li> <li>● Starting from 00:00, the health declaration arrangements at the HKIA will be extended from inbound flights from the Mainland to all flights arriving in Hong Kong. All inbound travellers arriving at the HKIA are required to complete and submit a health declaration form</li> </ul>
<p>9 March 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 115, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE chaired the tenth meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan</li> <li>● The Innovation and Technology Commission launched a special call under the Public Sector Trial Scheme for projects to support product development and application of technologies for the prevention and control of the disease, and started taking applications</li> </ul>
<p>10 March 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 120, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SFH briefed the LegCo Panel on Health Services on the Government's latest measures for prevention and control of COVID-19</li> <li>● The Government issued the Red OTA on the Bourgogne-Franche-Comte and Grand Est regions in France, the North Rhine-Westphalia region in Germany, Hokkaido in Japan as well as the La Rioja, Madrid and Pais Vasco regions in Spain. Also, the Government extended the Red OTA in force on Emilia-Romagna, Lombardy and Veneto regions in Italy to cover the entire country</li> </ul>
<p>12 March 2020 (Thursday)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● AFCD reported that the blood test result of a pet dog which had repeatedly tested weak positive for</li> </ul>

Date	Event
[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 131, and no. of probable case: 1]	COVID-19 virus is negative
13 March 2020 (Friday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 137, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government issued the Red OTA on a number of European countries (Schengen Area), including Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Principality of Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Republic of Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland</li> </ul>
14 March 2020 (Saturday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 141, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Starting from 00:00, DH's Port Health Division officers will issue quarantine orders under the Prevention and Control of Disease Regulation (Cap. 599A) to people arriving in Hong Kong who have been to Italy (except Emilia-Romagna, Lombardy and Veneto regions), Bourgogne-Franche-Comte and Grand Est regions in France, the North Rhine-Westphalia region in Germany, Hokkaido in Japan as well as the La Rioja, Madrid and Pais Vasco regions in Spain in the past 14 days, regardless of whether they are Hong Kong residents. They will be subject to compulsory home quarantine</li> </ul>
15 March 2020 (Sunday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 148, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE chaired the eleventh meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan</li> <li>● The Government issued the Red OTA on Ireland, the United Kingdom and the United States</li> <li>● As the 59-year-old male patient of the 140<sup>th</sup> case confirmed on 14 March and a couple who had joined the Egypt tour group (the 119<sup>th</sup> and 124<sup>th</sup> cases</li> </ul>

Date	Event
	<p>confirmed on 10 March and 11 March respectively) all reside at the “13” unit on different floors in Heng Tai House, Fu Heng Estate, CHP proactively followed up to investigate whether the three cases were related. Personnel from CHP conducted interviews with all residents living at the “13” and “14” units of the whole of Heng Tai House, Fu Heng Estate. In view that the units of the confirmed patients were on the 32<sup>nd</sup> and 34<sup>th</sup> floors respectively, CHP decided to take prudent infection control measures, and issued quarantine orders to all asymptomatic residents of “13” and “14” units of the 29<sup>th</sup> to 34<sup>th</sup> floors and arranged for them to enter quarantine centres</p>
<p>16 March 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 157, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice</li> <li>● The Government announced that it would arrange the second batch of chartered flights to take Hong Kong residents currently in Xiaogan, Xianning, Huangshi and Wuhan in Hubei Province back to Hong Kong.</li> </ul>
<p>17 March 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 167, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government issued the Red OTA on all overseas countries/territories based on public health considerations</li> <li>● Starting from 00:00, DH’s Port Health Division officers will issue quarantine orders under the Prevention and Control of Disease Regulation (Cap. 599A) to people arriving in Hong Kong who have been to Korea (except Daegu and Gyeongsangbuk-do, and also applicable to non-Hong Kong residents) and Schengen Area in Europe (i.e. Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy (except Emilia-Romagna, Lombardy and Veneto regions), Latvia, Principality of Liechtenstein, Lithuania,</li> </ul>

Date	Event
	<p>Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Republic of Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland) in the past 14 days, regardless of whether they are Hong Kong residents. They will be subject to compulsory home quarantine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Persons staying in temporary accommodation provided by the Government will be charged a daily fee of \$200 for accommodation and meal arrangements</li> </ul>
<p>18 March 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 192, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government gazetted the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E), mandating persons arriving in Hong Kong from all places outside China to undergo quarantine</li> </ul>
<p>19 March 2020 (Thursday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 208, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Starting from 00:00, DH's Port Health Division officers will issue quarantine orders to people arriving in Hong Kong who had been to all overseas countries/territories in the past 14 days, regardless of whether they are Hong Kong residents</li> <li>● CHP further extended the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme to provide testing service for COVID-19 to high-risk persons who need to be quarantined under the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E) despite being asymptomatic</li> </ul>
<p>20 March 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Under the instruction of the Government's Steering Committee in relation to COVID-19, HA set up test centres at the AsiaWorld-Expo and North Lantau Hospital for testing inbound travellers with upper respiratory symptoms</li> </ul>

Date	Event
Kong: 256, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SFH briefed the LegCo Panel on Health Services on the Government's latest measures for prevention and control of COVID-19</li> <li>● The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer finished sending SMS messages to all inbound travellers arriving at Hong Kong via HKIA before noon for activating the "StayHomeSafe" mobile app</li> <li>● The Government announced that, under the special scheme for delivering prescription medications to Hong Kong residents who are currently located in Guangdong and Fujian Provinces with urgent need for medications, priority would be extended to process cases in which prescription drugs would run out on or before 30 April 2020</li> <li>● DH increased the number of specimen collection points under the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Scheme to cover some general out-patient clinics under HA and 13 designated chest clinics and dermatological clinics under DH</li> </ul>
21 March 2020 (Saturday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 273, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government announced that it would commission a total of four chartered flights on 25 and 26 March to bring back Hong Kong residents in Hubei</li> <li>● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice</li> <li>● CE led a press conference to announce the following measures to strengthen prevention and control of the outbreak, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) enhancing virus testing for returnees to Hong Kong;</li> <li>(b) rationalise public services and temporarily close down some facilities;</li> <li>(c) HKDSE to be postponed to 24 April 2020;</li> <li>(d) strengthen enforcement actions to combat breaches of quarantine orders; and</li> <li>(e) strengthen measures at elderly homes to prevent disease outbreak</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



Date	Event
<p>23 March 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 356, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE led a press conference to announce measures in the following four areas to further strengthen the prevention and control of the outbreak, including:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) starting from 0:00am on 25 March 2020, implement measures to prevent imported cases and cut the virus transmission chain<sup>4</sup>;</li> <li>(b) mandating that all arriving persons from the United Kingdom, other countries in Europe and the United States to undergo virus tests;</li> <li>(c) stringent enforcement actions to combat breaches of quarantine orders; and</li> <li>(d) further promoting reduction of social contacts and gatherings</li> </ol> </li> <li>● HA to set up triage and test centres at AEDs of public hospitals by phase to alleviate demands for isolation facilities at public hospitals</li> </ul>
<p>24 March 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 386, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government published in the Gazette the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong (Amendment) Regulation 2020 (the Amendment Regulation). The Amendment Regulation extends the compulsory 14-day quarantine arrangements to all persons arriving from or having stayed in Macao and Taiwan, in the past 14 days prior to arrival, in addition to those arriving from the Mainland. The Amendment Regulation will become effective from 0:00am on 25 March 2020</li> </ul>
<p>25 March 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 410, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● From 0:00am, all non-Hong Kong residents coming from overseas countries and regions by plane will be denied entry to Hong Kong; non-Hong Kong residents coming from the Mainland, Macao and Taiwan will be denied entry to Hong Kong if they have been to any overseas countries and regions in the past 14 days; all transit services at HKIA will be suspended; all travellers coming from Macao and Taiwan, including</li> </ul>

<sup>4</sup> For details, please see the entry for 25 March.

Date	Event
	<p>Hong Kong and non-Hong Kong residents, will be subject to a 14-day compulsory quarantine. The relevant arrangements will remain effective for 14 days tentatively</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CHP further extended the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Scheme to provide testing service for COVID-19 to cover all arriving persons from the United Kingdom, other countries in Europe and the United States who are asymptomatic</li> <li>● The Government arranged the second batch of chartered flights to bring back Hong Kong residents in Hubei Province to Hong Kong. The first two chartered flights successfully brought back 281 Hong Kong residents in Hubei Province</li> </ul>
<p>27 March 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 518, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government gazetted the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirement and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F). The Regulation will commence at 0.00 am on 28 March 2020 and remain in force for three months. At the same time, SFH issued two directions for 14 days through a notice published in the Gazette in accordance with the Regulation. The directions will take effect at 6pm on 28 March 2020</li> </ul>
<p>28 March 2020 (Saturday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 582, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The two directions issued by SFH in accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirement and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F) took effect at 6pm. The directions are –</li> </ul> <p>Direction 1 - Catering Business. The relevant requirements include:</p> <p>(a) the number of customers at any premises on which food or drink is sold or supplied for consumption on the premises (catering premises) at any one time must not exceed 50% of the normal seating capacity of the premises;</p>

Date	Event
	<p>(b) tables available for use or being used by customers within any catering premises must be arranged in a way to ensure there is a distance of at least 1.5 metres or some form of partition which could serve as effective buffer between one table and another table at the premises;</p> <p>(c) no more than 4 persons may be seated together at one table within any catering premises;</p> <p>(d) a person must wear a mask at any time within any catering premises, except when the person is consuming food or drink on the premises;</p> <p>(e) body temperature screening on a person must be conducted before the person is allowed to enter the catering premises; and</p> <p>(f) hand sanitisers must be provided at any catering premises for any person at the premises.</p> <p>Direction 2 - Scheduled Premises. All premises as listed below must be closed –</p> <p>(a) amusement game centres;</p> <p>(b) bathhouses;</p> <p>(c) fitness centres;</p> <p>(d) places of amusement;</p> <p>(e) places of public entertainment; and</p> <p>(f) premises that are maintained or intended to be maintained for hire for holding social gatherings (commonly known as “party room”)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government gazetted the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G). The Regulation will commence at 0.00am on 29 March 2020 and remain in force for three months</li> <li>● CE chaired the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan</li> </ul>

Date	Event
<p>29 March 2020 (Sunday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 641, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Starting from 0:00am, the prohibition of group gatherings with more than four people in public places under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G) came into force and will remain in effect for 14 days</li> <li>● DH further extended its Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme to all asymptomatic inbound travellers arriving from all places under the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E)</li> </ul>
<p>30 March 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 682, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Three men were sentenced to immediate imprisonment for up to three months by magistrates' courts for violating the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C)</li> </ul>
<p>31 March 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 714, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Around 80 retrofitted units at the Junior Police Call Permanent Activity Centre at Pat Heung is put into use for quarantine purpose</li> <li>● To help Hong Kong residents stranded in Peru to leave the country smoothly, the Government announced that it would arrange a chartered flight to fly them from Lima to London, followed by a connecting flight with secured flight bookings back to Hong Kong</li> </ul>
<p>1 April 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 765, and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government gazetted the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirement and Directions) (Business and Premises) (Amendment) Regulation 2020 (the Amendment Regulation). In accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirement and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (the</li> </ul>

Date	Event
no. of probable case: 1]	<p>Regulation) (Cap. 599F) and the Amendment Regulation above, SFH issued directions to be effective for 14 days from 6pm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the closure of karaoke establishments and the suspension of karaoke activities in catering premises and club-houses;</li> <li>(b) the closure of mahjong-tin kau establishments and the suspension of mahjong-tin kau activities in catering premises and club-houses;</li> <li>(c) the closure of establishment (commonly known as club or nightclub) that is open late into the night, usually for drinking, and dancing or other entertainment;</li> <li>(d) a person must wear a mask at any time where practicable within the beauty parlour, club-house and massage establishment premises as set out in Part 1 of Schedule 2 to that Regulation;</li> <li>(e) body temperature screening on a person must be conducted before the person is allowed to enter the beauty parlour, club-house and massage establishment premises as set out in Part 1 of Schedule 2 to that Regulation; and</li> <li>(f) hand sanitizers must be provided at any beauty parlour, club-house and massage establishment premises as set out in Part 1 of Schedule 2 to that Regulation</li> </ul>
<p>2 April 2020 (Thursday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 802, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government introduces new measures to regulate businesses that sell or supply intoxicating liquors for on-site consumption. In accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F), SFH issued directions through notices in the Gazette to be effective for 14 days from 6pm on 3 April 2020<sup>5</sup></li> </ul>

<sup>5</sup> For details, please see the entry for 3 April.

Date	Event
<p>3 April 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 845, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F), SFH issued directions to be effective from 6pm. The directions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) any premises (commonly known as bar or pub) that is exclusively or mainly used for the sale or supply of intoxicating liquors as defined in section 53(1) of the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance (Cap. 109) (“intoxicating liquors”) for consumption in that premises must be closed;</li> <li>(b) any part of a catering business premise that is exclusively or mainly used for the sale or supply of intoxicating liquors for consumption in that part must be closed; and</li> <li>(c) any area in a club-house that is exclusively or mainly used for the sale or supply of intoxicating liquors for consumption in that area must be closed</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Participants of the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme can make use of a door-to-door specimen collection service from member companies of the Cyberport Startup Alumni Association to submit their deep throat saliva specimens to DH for COVID-19 testing</li> </ul>
<p>4 April 2020 (Saturday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 862, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A chartered flight taking Hong Kong residents out of Peru is scheduled to depart from Lima to London at around 5am. Upon arrival in London, the Hong Kong residents concerned will take an ordinary connecting flight with secured flight bookings back to Hong Kong. The cost will be borne by the users</li> </ul>

Date	Event
<p>5 April 2020 (Sunday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 890, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The test services for travellers entering Hong Kong with symptoms of upper respiratory symptoms are consolidated at the test centre at AsiaWorld-Expo. The test centre also handles suspected cases referred by CHP, including inbound travellers under home quarantine or close contacts of confirmed cases</li> <li>● The operating hours of passengers clearance services at the Passenger Clearance Building of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port are shortened to run from 10am to 8pm daily, while for the clearance services for private cars are shortened from 6am to 10pm daily, until further notice. The operating hours for cargo clearance are not be affected and remain unchanged (i.e. 24 hours daily)</li> <li>● 65 Hong Kong residents who took the chartered flights arranged by the Government safely arrived at Hong Kong from Peru and proceeded to CHP's testing centre at the AsiaWorld-Expo for COVID-19 testing</li> </ul>
<p>6 April 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 914, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government will extend, until further notice, the entry restriction on non-Hong Kong residents coming from overseas countries or regions by plane and those having been to overseas countries or regions in the past 14 days preceding arrival at Hong Kong. All transit services at HKIA will also continue to be suspended until further notice</li> </ul>

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**Requirements imposed by the Secretary for Food and Health under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation**

	<b>Requirements</b>
<b>Catering Business</b> with food or drink for consumption on site	<p><u>(28 March 6pm – 11 April 5.59pm)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Number of customers must not exceed 50% of normal seating capacity</li> <li>b. Tables 1.5m apart or effectively partitioned</li> <li>c. No more than 4 persons each table</li> <li>d. Must wear mask except when eating/drinking</li> <li>e. Screen body temperature</li> <li>f. Provide hand sanitizer</li> </ul> <p><u>(1 April 6pm – 15 April 5.59pm)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>g. Suspend karaoke and mahjong-tin kau activities</li> </ul> <p><u>(3 April 6pm – 17 April 5.59pm)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>h. any premises (commonly known as bar or pub) that is exclusively or mainly used for the sale or supply of intoxicating liquors for consumption in that premises must be closed</li> <li>i. any part of a catering business premise that is exclusively or mainly used for the sale or supply of intoxicating liquors for consumption in that part must be closed</li> </ul>
<b>Scheduled premises</b> 1. Amusement game centre 2. Bathhouse 3. Fitness Centre 4. Place of Entertainment 5. Place of Public Entertainment 6. “Party room”	] ] <u>(28 March 6pm – 11 April 5.59pm)</u> ] Closure ] ] ]
7. Club or Night Club 8. Karaoke establishment 9. Mahjong-tin kau premises	] ] <u>(1 April 6pm – 15 April 5.59pm)</u> ] Closure
10. Club-house 11. Beauty parlour 12. Massage parlour	] <u>(1 April 6pm – 15 April 5.59pm)</u> ] a. Karaoke and mahjong-tin kau activities in club-house ] to be suspended ] b. For club-house, beauty parlour and massage parlour - ] (i) Wear mask where practicable ] (ii) Screen body temperature ] (iii) Provide hand sanitizer  <u>(3 April 6pm – 17 April 5.59pm)</u> c. any area in a club-house that is exclusively or mainly used for the sale or supply of intoxicating liquors for consumption in that area must be closed

Breach constitutes offence liable on conviction to Level 5 fine (\$50,000) and 6-month imprisonment.



## **Annex 4**

Schedule 1 to the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (“the Regulation”) (Cap. 599G) lists out the following 12 exempted group gatherings:

1. Group gathering for the purposes of or related to transportation
2. Group gathering for performing any governmental function
3. Group gathering for performing any duty of a statutory body or an advisory body of the Government
4. Group gathering at a place of work for the purposes of work
5. Group gathering for providing, obtaining or receiving hospital or healthcare service at a healthcare facility
6. Group gathering of persons living in the same household
7. Group gathering necessary for the conduct of proceedings in a court, magistrates’ court or tribunal
8. Group gathering necessary for the proceedings in the Legislative Council or a District Council
9. Group gathering during a funeral or any other occasion for mourning for or remembering a deceased who has yet to be buried or cremated (including any ritual or ceremony held in the vicinity of the place where the deceased died or suffered fatal injury to mourn for the death of the deceased)
10. Group gathering of not more than 20 persons during a wedding ceremony at which no food or drink is served
11. Group gathering at a meeting of a body that must be held within a specified period in order to comply with any Ordinance or other regulatory instrument that governs the operation of the body or its business
12. Group gathering held for imparting information or skills, or handling supplies or items, that are conducive to the prevention and control of the specified disease

In addition to the 12 exemptions listed under Schedule 1, the Regulation also empowers the Chief Secretary for Administration to permit any group gathering if the Chief Secretary for Administration is satisfied that the taking place of the gathering -

- (a) is necessary for governmental operation; or
- (b) because of the exceptional circumstances of the case, otherwise serves the public interest of Hong Kong.