

**For information  
on 10 July 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”) and its Panel on Health Services in the past few months<sup>1</sup>, this paper provides 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. Hong Kong’s epidemic situation gradually stabilised in May and June and there were 21 consecutive days in mid-June with no confirmed local cases. However, the epidemic situation underwent drastic changes in recent days. New cases recorded during the period from 2 July to 8 July included 31 cases without travel history during the incubation period. It is expected that the number of new cases may continue to increase for some time. As at 8 July 2020, Hong Kong had 1 324 cumulative confirmed cases of COVID-19 (including 1 suspected case), including 7 fatal cases and 1 176 discharged patients after

---

<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)), 20 March 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)734/19-20(04)), 8 April 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)794/19-20(01)), 24 April 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)855/19-20(03)) and 8 May 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)934/19-20(03)) respectively. An information paper was also submitted to LegCo for information on 18 February 2020 (<https://www.legco.gov.hk/yr19-20/english/counmtg/papers/cm20200219p-e.pdf>).

treatment. Based on epidemiological classification, 882 of them are imported cases or epidemiologically linked with imported cases, 442 are local cases, possibly local cases or epidemiologically linked with local cases.

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

3. The global epidemic situation remains severe. Following the World Health Organisation's ("WHO") declaration on 11 March 2020 that the outbreak of COVID-19 can be characterised as a pandemic, the number of confirmed cases around the world continued to increase. As at 8 July 2020 (10 a.m.), 218 countries/regions in the world (including Hong Kong and the Mainland) had reported more than 11 568 288 confirmed cases, including more than 536 729 death cases. In the United States alone, the number of confirmed cases had reached 2 932 596 and the number has increased rapidly since late-June. In the past week, there have been around 40 000 to 50 000 new confirmed cases per day in the United States, which is a significant increase from the some 30 000 to 40 000 daily new cases recorded in the preceding week. Please refer to **Annex 1** for detailed statistics on the epidemic situation in major countries/regions.

4. On the other hand, despite significant improvement in the situation in the Mainland, individual provinces/regions continued to report imported and local cases in the past few weeks. As at 7 July, the cumulative number of confirmed cases in the Mainland reached 83 572 (4 634 deaths), with 68 135 confirmed cases (4 512 deaths) in Hubei Province. For Guangdong Province, the number of confirmed cases reached 1 645 (8 deaths). Over 80% of the confirmed cases were imported cases in April and May. In June, there was a local outbreak in Beijing impacting over 300 people and imported cases took up only 30% in that month. No new local cases have been recorded in Beijing on 6 and 7 July.

### **ANTI-EPIDEMIC STRATEGY AND KEY MEASURES**

5. According to the advice of the WHO and health experts,

COVID-19 would not be eradicated without effective treatment and vaccination. Under the situation where the global outbreak remains severe but economic activities and movement of people gradually resume, it is expected that the epidemic situation in Hong Kong will continue to fluctuate for some time in the future with local cases emerging from time to time. With the need for society to resume economic and social activities to a limited extent, emergence of new local cases is inevitable. Our target for disease prevention and control at this stage is not to completely eliminate the virus or to achieve zero infection for a sustained period of time, but to keep the infection and caseload to a level where Hong Kong's public healthcare system can cope with. Various disease prevention and control measures are in place to achieve such a target, including border control, social distancing, quarantine and isolation as well as monitoring and tracing, etc.

6. After the strict social distancing measures in the past few months, the Government understands the public's desire to resume their normal way of life, even if only to a limited extent. Public services and economic activities cannot be restricted in the long run either. For a period of time, after carefully considering and balancing factors such as public health protection, economic impact and society's acceptance level, etc., the Government has adopted the "suppress and lift" strategy, with a view to maintaining various appropriate anti-epidemic measures on one hand while allowing room for gradual resumption of normal operation and activities in society when the situation permits. However, with fluctuations in the epidemic situation and the increasing number of local cases, there is a need for the Government to tighten the prevention and control measures in a timely manner and consider implementing measures with different degrees of strictness in accordance with the severity of the situation. The actual anti-epidemic measures implemented must also be adjusted with regard to the prevailing situation and what it warrants.

7. With the global outbreak situation continuing to persist in the future, economic and social activities at all levels of society and the relaxing and tightening of various outbreak control and prevention measures will be important embodiments under the "new normal". We observed that some overseas counties/regions (such as South Korea and

Japan) have experienced rebounds in the outbreak situation and resurgences in new case numbers after resumption of economic activities and relaxation of social distancing measures. In view of overseas experience and Hong Kong's latest situation, there is a need for the Government to incorporate work in relation to disease prevention and control as well as infection management into the "new normal" of the daily operation of society. At the same time, Hong Kong citizens also need to get used to the fact that there will be imported cases for some time in the coming future and local confirmed cases will continue to emerge.

8. "Suppress and lift" does not mean letting our guard down. The recent emergence of a number of local cases with unknown source over a short period of time raises an alarm, reminding all Hong Kong citizens that they must not let their guard down and need to continue maintaining good personal and environmental hygiene. Before an effective vaccine is available and widely applied, all members of society still need to stay highly alert and be prepared to make prompt responses whenever necessary. WHO's guidelines on relaxing public health and social measures suggest that the relevant risk assessment should balance the risks of relaxing measures, the capacity of detecting a resurgence in cases, the capacity of handling extra patients in the healthcare system and other locations, and the ability to reintroduce public health and social distancing measures when necessary.

9. With regard to WHO's guidelines, the outbreak situation in Hong Kong and overseas experience, all relevant government bureaux and departments, the Hospital Authority ("HA") and relevant parties will continue to step up control of the outbreak and prevent transmission of the virus on all fronts in an evidence-based manner, with a view to getting well prepared in case the pandemic situation becomes more severe. An overview of our key measures is set out below. A chronology of major events and measures since May 2020 is at [Annex 2](#).

**(a) Strengthening immigration control**

10. To further prevent imported cases and cut the global and local virus transmission chain as far as possible, the Government has

implemented the following immigration control measures to restrict entry until further notice.

- All non-Hong Kong residents coming from overseas countries and regions by plane will be denied entry to Hong Kong;
- All travellers coming from Mainland, Macao or Taiwan, including Hong Kong and non-Hong Kong residents, will be subject to a 14-day compulsory quarantine; and
- 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<sup>2</sup>.

11. 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, actual situation and established procedures.

12. Furthermore, to strengthen surveillance and contact tracing, all inbound travellers arriving at the Hong Kong International Airport (“HKIA”) and other land control points must submit health declaration forms upon arrival. We have introduced an electronic health declaration system and currently over 98% of the declaration forms are submitted electronically.

---

<sup>2</sup> Currently, any Hubei resident and non-Hong Kong resident who have visited Hubei Province in the past 14 days before arrival are still denied from entering Hong Kong.

<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.

## **(b) Compulsory quarantine**

13. Restricting the movement of people between Hong Kong and other places and implementing compulsory quarantine or other infection control measures are integral parts of Hong Kong's strategy for combating the epidemic. In accordance with the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C), starting from 8 February 2020, except for exempted persons, all persons having stayed in the Mainland for any period during the 14 days preceding arrival in Hong Kong will be subject to compulsory quarantine for 14 days, regardless of nationality and travel documents used. Since 25 March 2020, the compulsory 14-day quarantine arrangement has been extended to all 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. Furthermore, according to the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E), starting from 19 March 2020, except for exempted persons, all persons arriving at Hong Kong from places outside China will be subject to compulsory quarantine for 14 days.

14. The above immigration control measures and the implementation of Cap. 599C and Cap. 599E mean that 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 help prevent the spread of COVID-19 outbreak in Hong Kong.

15. With the development of the epidemic, the Government holds the view that there is a need to introduce a mechanism to allow gradual relaxation of compulsory quarantine requirements for persons arriving from specific countries and places after assessing the relevant public health risks. To this end, the Government gazetted amendments to Cap. 599C and Cap. 599E on 2 June 2020, introducing a mechanism to empower the Secretary for Food and Health ("SFH") to specify two categories of places – persons arriving at Hong Kong from Category 1 specified places will be subject to compulsory quarantine, while persons arriving at Hong Kong from Category 2 specified places do not need to

undergo compulsory quarantine if relevant conditions are met (such as having a negative COVID-19 test result). At the same time, the criteria for the Chief Secretary for Administration to exempt travellers from the compulsory quarantine arrangements under Cap. 599E are expanded to cover persons whose travelling is necessary for purposes relating to manufacturing operations, business activities or the provision of professional services in the interest of Hong Kong's economic development.

16. Guangdong ("GD"), Hong Kong and Macao are closely connected and there are frequent economic and trade activities among the three places. The exchanges between the personnels of the three places have substantially reduced under Cap. 599C. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("SAR") Government has been exploring with the governments of GD Province and Macao SAR under the framework of joint prevention and control on the resumption of the cross-boundary people flow between Hong Kong and GD, and between Hong Kong and Macao in an orderly manner once the epidemic situation has stabilised. In respect of the mutual recognition of COVID-19 test result, the three governments intend to mutually recognise the tests carried out by designated testing facilities which meet the standards. The mutual recognition will be done through the "Health Codes" of the three places. In relation to this, one of the preparatory tasks of the Hong Kong SAR Government is to develop a "Hong Kong Health Code" system. After completing the discussion with GD and Macao SAR Governments, we shall announce the details of the arrangement for implementation. Due to the drastic changes in the epidemic situation recently and the appearance of many local cases with unknown source over a short period of time, our top priority now is to slow down the spread of the outbreak in the Hong Kong community.

### **(c) Enhancing anti-epidemic facilities and services**

#### ***Services and facilities of public hospitals***

17. In view of the development of the outbreak, the Government and HA have introduced various measures to cope with the demand for services at public hospitals. Triage and test centres have been set up at

the Accident and Emergency Departments (“AEDs”) of a number of public hospitals to alleviate the demand for isolation facilities at public hospitals. The HA Major Incident Control Centre will liaise closely with the Department of Health (“DH”) to triage inbound travellers with upper respiratory symptoms, people undergoing home quarantine or close contacts of confirmed cases, etc. to the AEDs of various public hospitals for testing.

18. HA has also retrofitted one to two general wards in each cluster into standard negative pressure wards to provide more than 400 additional standard negative pressure beds for patients who are recovering but not yet showing negative results in their virus tests. HA will continue to closely monitor the situation and actively consider different plans for isolation facilities with a view to activating them as soon as possible when the need arises.

19. Public hospitals mainly provide supportive treatment for patients diagnosed with COVID-19, including oxygen therapy, intravenous fluid infusion, and empirical antibiotics for secondary bacterial infection. Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation life support machine will be used where necessary. HA has separately set up an expert group to conduct assessments according to the clinical conditions of diagnosed patients for providing suitable patients with antiviral therapy, such as protease inhibitor, interferon and ribavirin. The efficacy and the possible side effects of the medications are closely monitored. These drug treatments are formulated in accordance with the experts’ understanding of the coronavirus infection. The experts will make reference to the latest research data and make adjustments as appropriate.

20. As regards the new drug “remdesivir” which is still in research and development stage, HA has commenced clinical trials in Princess Margaret Hospital, Queen Mary Hospital and Prince of Wales Hospital. The global recruitment for clinical trials of “remdesivir” was completed on 29 May 2020. As at 30 May 2020, 34 patients in Hong Kong had participated in the clinical trial of “remdesivir”.



## *Adjustment of HA services*

21. In view of the initial development of the outbreak, HA has significantly adjusted non-emergency and non-essential medical services since 17 February 2020 so as to focus manpower and resources such as personal protective equipment, etc. to provide care for the most critical patients and respond to the epidemic. Specific measures include –

- except for emergency and essential treatment, non-emergency services such as elective surgeries will be postponed;
- specialist outpatient clinics will contact patients with stable conditions to reschedule their appointments and arrange drug refills for them according to their conditions; and
- except for emergency and essential examinations, non-emergency examinations such as routine endoscopy, etc. will be rescheduled.

22. To support the initial service adjustments, HA has expanded the service scope of some of the existing Public-Private Partnership (“PPP”) Programmes, including Project on Enhancing Radiological Investigation Services through Collaboration with the Private Sector, Haemodialysis PPP Programme as well as Colon Assessment PPP Programme. HA is also actively liaising with private hospitals and private healthcare organisations to launch new public-private collaboration initiatives, with a view to diverting some patients from public hospitals to receive treatment in the private sector. The ongoing projects include neonatal jaundice treatment, caesarean delivery, radiotherapy for cancer patients, orthopaedic surgery, cystoscopy, gastroscopy and breast cancer operation. The arrangement for the provision of relevant services by the private sector will form part of HA’s overall strategic service framework for meeting the service demand of patients.

23. On the other hand, HA will change its service model where practicable and provide services for patients using video conferencing technologies. For example, piloting the use of telemedicine consultations to provide psychiatric consultation services, allied health staff using video conferences to follow up on treatments, or providing videos of rehabilitation exercises to patients through HA’s mobile

application “HA Go”, so as to allow patients to continue their training at home according to schedule.

24. With the gradual stabilisation of the epidemic situation in May and June, after reviewing factors like overall manpower, stock of personal protective equipment and infection control measures, etc., HA gradually resumed its services by phases starting from May. In the first phase, HA increased the appointments of diagnostic services, such as diagnostic radiology, computed scans and cardiac ultrasound, etc. By the end of June, the service volume had returned to the level of the same period of last year. The second phase is the resumption of services that support the follow-up treatment of discharged patients such as specialist outpatient and daytime services, with over 90% of the relevant service volume being resumed. The final phase is to gradually resume elective surgeries and non-emergency inpatient services, during which surgeries under local anaesthesia will be resumed first, followed by surgeries under general anaesthesia. Elective surgeries and endoscopy services have already returned to over 80% of the original service volume so far. In view of the recent emergence of multiple local cases with unknown source, the risk of community outbreak has increased. HA will continue to closely monitor the development of the epidemic situation, support the Government’s overall disease prevention strategy and suitably adjust the pace of service resumption. Services of geriatric day hospitals and psychiatric day hospitals are suspended starting from 10 July. HA will closely monitor the usage of anti-epidemic equipment and facilities, as well as flexibly adjust hospital services and deploy manpower with a view to minimising impact on patients.

25. Regarding visiting arrangements, after assessing the relevant infection control risks, HA implemented special visiting arrangement in certain non-acute hospitals such as infirmaries and convalescent hospitals starting from 17 June 2020. Ward staff will contact patients’ family members for scheduling the visits. Each patient will have a one-hour visiting session each week. The hospitals will help register a visitor to visit the patient at that session. Visitors entering public hospitals are required to comply with infection control measures, including wearing surgical mask, checking temperature and making health declarations, etc., in order to properly safeguard patients, staff members and visitors.

26. In light of the recent infection clusters in elderly homes in the community, to reduce the flow of people in hospitals and the infection risks for inpatients, in line with the “suppress and lift” strategy, HA suspended the special visiting arrangement mentioned above starting from 9 July 2020 to protect patients, healthcare staff and visitors. Hospitals will continue to make compassionate arrangements or provide video-visiting as far as practicable.

### ***District Health Centre Services***

27. As the district primary healthcare hub, the Kwai Tsing District Health Centre (“DHC”) has been providing community support during the epidemic, such as setting up a community anti-epidemic support hotline, setting up anti-epidemic information centre, as well as distributing anti-epidemic support information and resources, etc. The DHC has collaborated with the Princess Margaret Hospital. If a doctor considers the condition of a recovered patient to be suitable after assessment, the patient can be referred to the DHC to receive services in the community including pathology explanation, infection control, emotional support, post-recovery nutritional supplement, consultation on anti-epidemic medication and restructuring of lifestyle, etc. At the same time, the DHC operator is also distributing specimen bottles at the DHC and in the community to enhance community testing.

### ***Quarantine facilities***

28. Currently, the Government has four quarantine centres for close contacts who may have been exposed to the risk of contracting COVID-19 but are nonetheless asymptomatic to undergo quarantine, namely the Lei Yue Mun Park and Holiday Village in Chai Wan, the Junior Police Call Permanent Activity Centre at Pat Heung, Yuen Long, Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre and Chun Yeung Estate, Fo Tan, providing around 2 300 units in total.

29. The Government announced on 26 June that the use of the quarantine centre at Chun Yeung Estate would cease in end-July. After clearing and thoroughly disinfecting the relevant units, the estate will be

handed over to the Hong Kong Housing Authority immediately. The fourth and fifth blocks of Chun Yeung Estate have already been vacated in the second half of June and restoration works are underway. It is expected that the first batch of prospective tenants can gradually move in starting from the end of August.

30. The construction of additional quarantine facilities through the application of the modular integrated construction method at the Penny's Bay Government site is in good progress. It is expected that an additional 800 quarantine units can be put to use in end-July. Excluding the quarantine units in Chun Yeung Estate, by then there will still be a total of about 1 500 units (about 3 000 beds) in Hong Kong. In addition, the Government is constructing quarantine facilities at a site at Penny's Bay which has been reserved for future tourism development and is estimated to provide additional 700 units in September. The Government will closely monitor the latest development and make corresponding preparations with regard to the situation.

31. Furthermore, due to the special medical needs (such as bedridden and the use of specific medical devices, etc.) of some residents in residential care homes for the elderly ("RCHEs"), when there are confirmed cases in RCHEs, normal quarantine centres will not be suitable for compulsory quarantine of the close contacts. Hence, the Government has activated the temporary quarantine centre set up for residents of RCHEs at the Hong Kong Physically Handicapped and Able-Bodied ("PHAB") Association Jockey Club PHAB Camp in order to meet their needs.

#### **(d) Virus testing**

32. Since the outbreak of COVID-19, laboratory surveillance and testing have been key to the Government's work in disease prevention and control. The goal is to achieve early testing and early diagnosis so as to actively identify infected people in the community, in order to cut the transmission chain as quickly as possible through "early detection, early isolation, and early treatment". The Government's goal is to expand community testing and make good use of the daily testing capacity and expand its coverage, with a view to enhancing Hong Kong's

overall testing capability (including public and private). Our work in testing falls under two main areas: (1) increasing testing capacity; and (2) improving and expanding the coverage of the testing scheme.

### *Increasing testing capacity*

33. With regards to public testing services, Hong Kong's overall virus testing capacity has been gradually increasing. As at 8 July 2020, Hong Kong had performed over 384 500 virus tests, or over 51 200 tests per million population. DH has enhanced testing in view of the local case clusters recorded recently. The average number of tests performed by DH and HA in total is around 4 630 in July (as at 8 July) and the number of tests performed in the past two days combined is over 12 000. In order to step up Hong Kong's overall testing capability, the Anti-epidemic Fund has approved funding of around 220 million for DH to provide more virus tests, and to the University of Hong Kong ("HKU") and Chinese University of Hong Kong ("CUHK") to provide more virus testing services. It is expected that the daily testing capacity would progressively increase.

34. DH's Public Health Laboratory Services Branch ("PHLSB") is working at full steam to set up a new laboratory at the Hong Kong Children's Hospital. It is expected that the daily testing capacity can be increased to around 1 000 progressively and every effort is being made to commence the services within this month. PHLSB is also procuring testing equipment and has extended working hours, with a view to stepping up testing capability. Furthermore, the Government has approved funding to the medical schools of HKU and CUHK to procure testing equipment. It is expected that the two medical schools can provide around 1 400 additional tests per day starting from next month. The Government expects that the above measures can progressively provide around 2 400 additional tests per day starting from next month.

35. As regards private testing services, the Government has been encouraging and assisting private laboratories to increase their virus testing capabilities. Per our understanding, there are currently around over 10 private laboratories in Hong Kong providing COVID-19 tests and they are capable of providing over 3 000 tests per day in total. In

addition, there is a company setting up a new large scale testing facility in Hong Kong, which can hopefully help boost Hong Kong's overall daily testing capacity within a short period of time. The costs of private testing hinge on various factors, such as the cost of imported equipment, reagents, manpower, rent, etc. With a view to lowering the price of testing, the Government is discussing with the private testing sector to actively explore ways to lower the cost as much as possible while upholding the testing standards.

### ***Improving and expanding the coverage of testing scheme***

36. On community surveillance, DH and HA have been striving to increase virus testing capacity and expand the coverage to include asymptomatic people, with a view to stopping the transmission of the virus in the community at source and enabling us to monitor and control the outbreak in a more comprehensive and targeted manner. Following the work related to virus testing set out in the paper presented by the Government to the meeting in May 2020, the progress of our work in relation to testing is as follow.

#### Testing arrangement for exempted persons

37. In light of the latest situation of the COVID-19 outbreak and on the premise to protect the health of Hong Kong people and safeguard Hong Kong's robust healthcare system, we have enhanced the testing arrangement for persons exempted from quarantine. Starting from 8 July 2020, all persons exempted from quarantine entering Hong Kong from the HKIA must proceed to DH's Temporary Specimen Collection Centre ("TSCC") at the AsiaWorld-Expo ("AWE") to have their deep throat saliva samples collected, or collect their samples at home and return it according to instructions.

38. All air crew and sea crew members who arrive at Hong Kong at HKIA must proceed to DH's TSCC to have their deep throat saliva samples collected. In view that air crew members arriving at Hong Kong from overseas make up the largest group of exempted persons, enhancing testing for this group of people can help further lower the chance of the virus spreading in Hong Kong.

39. For the remaining persons exempted from quarantine (such as government officials and Consul Generals in Hong Kong), DH will distribute to them specimen collection containers to collect their deep throat saliva samples at home according to instructions and submit the samples to one of the collection clinics in the same morning the sample was collected for testing. They will also be subject to medical surveillance.

40. At the same time, we also request vessel companies to arrange all crew members of cargo ships and passenger vessels to receive nucleic acid tests at the point of departure before embarking to travel to Hong Kong. The tests results need to be negative. If the above conditions are not met, the crew member will not be granted exemption and will be denied entry into Hong Kong.

#### High-risk groups

41. In response to the recent community cluster cases, we are proactively performing targeted tests to focus on groups including employees of elderly care homes, restaurant employees, and drivers of public transport vehicles, etc. The relevant government departments will arrange for private laboratories to perform tests for the targeted groups.

42. On quarantine arrangements for foreign domestic helpers (“FDH”) arriving at Hong Kong, the relevant government department will request the employer to arrange for the FDH to undergo 14 days of compulsory quarantine at a hotel and to present a negative nucleic acid test result upon arrival at Hong Kong. The fees will be borne by the employer. The FDHs also have to undergo testing when they arrive at Hong Kong and when they complete the quarantine.

43. Since 11 May, Hong Kong residents stranded in regions where the outbreak situation is unknown (e.g. Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Nepal and South Africa, etc.) will be arranged to undergo 14 days of compulsory quarantine at a designated quarantine centre after having their deep throat saliva samples collected at the TSCC at AWE.

Furthermore, since 17 June 2020, if a person exempted from quarantine arriving at Hong Kong has been to Beijing in the past 14 days, DH will issue to them a specimen collection container for them to collect their deep throat saliva samples at home in accordance with instructions. They will have to submit the sample to one of the collection clinics in the same morning the sample was collected for testing. They will also be subject to medical surveillance.

44. To enhance the testing for high-risk patients, since 12 May 2020, HA has been collecting samples from institutional residents from RCHEs, residential care homes for the disabled and nursing homes upon hospital admission. The virus testing has been expanded to cover high-risk day patients starting from 11 June 2020, currently including renal patients at HA's haemodialysis centres and patients at daytime chemotherapy centres.

#### Door-to-door specimen collection service

45. An additional member company of the Cyberport Startup Alumni Association (3 in total) has started providing door-to-door specimen collection service (including service on Sundays) since 29 June 2020 to deliver deep throat saliva samples to DH. This service also provides door-to-door specimen collection service for the private doctors concerned.

#### **(e) Maintaining social distancing**

46. 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 (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F)***

47. The Government gazetted 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 came into force on 28 March 2020 at 0.00 am to remain in force for three months, and was subsequently extended to 31 August. SFH had issued various directions in accordance with Cap. 599F to regulate catering business premises and scheduled premises with a view to restricting the operation or directing closure of the premises, and had also relaxed certain measures as appropriate having regard to the development of the outbreak situation.

48. In view of drastic changes in the epidemic situation and the many local cases recorded in recent days, we consider there is a need to tighten the limits on number of persons and capacity, as well as other infection control requirements on catering business and scheduled premises. The Government gazetted directions under Cap. 599F on 9 July 2020 to take effect from 11 July to 24 July for 14 days. The relevant details are as follow –

- On catering business, the number of customers at any catering premises at any one time must not exceed 60% of the normal seating capacity of the premises. No more than 8 persons may be seated together at one table within any catering premises, while for bars and pubs, no more than 4 persons may be seated together at one table therein. Other requirements and restrictions in relation to catering business premises will be maintained.
- On scheduled premises, the limit on number of persons at premises where activities are conducted without wearing masks are tightened –
  - For party rooms and karaoke establishments, the number of persons allowed in each room at the same time is tightened from 16 to 8.
  - For fitness centres, the number of persons (including the coach) allowed in each group training or class at the same time is tightened from 16 to 8. For a group

training or class of more than 8 persons, it must be conducted in a way to ensure that persons are arranged in groups of no more than 8 and there is at least 1.5 metres between each group or there is some form of partition which could serve as effective buffer between each group. The coach must wear a mask at all times if he/she is not staying at a fixed location not less than 1.5 metres from other persons.

- For clubs or nightclubs, the number of persons who may be seated together at one table is tightened from 8 to 4. The number of customers allowed therein at any one time is tightened from 80% to 60% of the normal seating capacity or normal capacity of such premises.
  
- No eating or drinking inside cinemas and all places of public entertainment with live performance is allowed.

We will continue to maintain the other regulations and restrictions for scheduled premises. Details of the latest directions issued in accordance with Cap. 599F can be found at **Annex 3**.

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

49. The Government gazetted on 28 March 2020 the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G). Cap. 599G came into effect on 29 March 2020 at 0.00 am to remain in force for three months, and was subsequently extended to 31 August.

50. In accordance with Cap. 599G, SFH issued a notice in the Gazette on 30 June 2020 to prohibit group gatherings with more than 50 people in public places, with effect from 3 July till 16 July for 14 days, except exempted group gatherings (please refer to **Annex 4** for details).

51. In response to the many local cases with unknown sources recorded in recent days, we will continue to keep in view the development of the epidemic. At this stage, the aforesaid limit on

number of people in a group gathering will be maintained.

### ***Enforcement situation***

52. Enforcement work under Cap. 599F and Cap. 599G has been generally satisfactory. With regards to the situation of catering business premises, as at 9 July 2020 at 0:00 am, enforcement departments including the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (“FEHD”), DH, Police and Home Affairs Department, etc. had carried out 185 288 inspections with a total of about 4 410 reminders and 90 prosecutions, including 15 cases involving illegal operation of bars and pubs, among which the persons responsible in 2 cases have been sentenced by the courts to jail for one week and two months respectively. The remaining 75 cases were related to not conducting body temperature screening on customers before their entering the catering business premises and buffer between one table and another not being in compliance with the relevant requirements, etc.

53. With regards to Scheduled Premises with restricted operations, law enforcement officers carried out a total of 14 786 inspections. It was found that the industry generally abided by the law. Only around 172 reminders (of advisory nature including immediate rectification) were issued and 3 prosecutions involving illegal operation of amusement game centres and 3 prosecutions involving illegal operation of mahjong-tin kau premises were instituted.

54. 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. If a person ignores repeated reminders or breaks the law, law enforcement officers also have the responsibility to take enforcement action. As at 9 July 2020 at 0:00 a.m., the Police handled 6 627 reports on non-compliance of the directions concerned, gave 911 verbal warnings, issued 720 fixed penalty tickets and instituted 15 prosecutions. There is a mechanism under Cap. 599G that the person receiving the penalty notice can dispute liability for the offence. 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 227 158 inspections and gave around 16 668 verbal warnings in total.

#### **(f) Second round of the Anti-epidemic Fund**

55. In response to the challenges arising from the COVID-19 outbreak situation, the LegCo Finance Committee approved the funding proposal of \$137.5 billion in relation to the second round of the Anti-epidemic Fund on 18 April 2020, so as implement measures to comprehensively help businesses stay afloat, keep employees in employment, relieve financial burdens on businesses and individuals, and enable the economy to recover as soon as possible once the epidemic has subsided. Also, the Government has waived the registration and enrolment fees for some 125 000 healthcare professionals for 3 years starting from July 2020 as a token of appreciation for their efforts in responding to COVID-19.

#### **(g) Health and Medical Research Fund**

56. The Research Council chaired by SFH approved on 27 April 2020 total funding of \$111 million under the Health and Medical Research Fund to support the two medical schools of HKU and CUHK to conduct 26 medical research studies on COVID-19.

57. The research studies include development of vaccines and novel antiviral drug candidates; sero-epidemiological studies of COVID-19 in the community; investigation of the properties, characteristics, spread, infection and effective therapeutic interventions of SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19); and investigation on Hong Kong's system of early detection, assessment and response measures to the COVID-19 outbreak.

58. As much is still unknown about the spread and diagnostics of COVID-19, the Food and Health Bureau ("FHB") has invited new research proposals to address important research questions from other universities in addition to the two medical schools. The research proposals are being examined, and the results are expected to be released within July.

## **(h) Liaison with Mainland health authorities and international cooperation**

59. The Government has been maintaining close liaison and cooperation with the Mainland health authorities as well as international organisations. The Government signed the Co-operation Agreement on Response Mechanism for Public Health Emergencies with the then-Ministry of Health of the Central People's Government and the Secretariat for Social Affairs and Culture of the Government of the Macao SAR in 2005. The aforesaid agreement was updated in 2018. The health authorities of Hong Kong, the Mainland and Macao have been in communication regarding confirmed cases, their close contacts or suspected cases, etc., in order to strengthen anti-epidemic work under the framework of joint efforts in disease prevention and control of the three places.

60. With respect to international collaboration, FHB and DH have been actively participating in meetings organised by the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Health Working Group on COVID-19, and have been working closely with other Member States and Member Economies. DH will continue to work closely with WHO and the health authorities of its Member States in accordance with the International Health Regulations (2005), including alerts on the outbreak situation and sharing information on relevant cases, with a view to handling and putting the epidemic situation under control together, in order to safeguard the health of Hong Kong people and maintain Hong Kong's robust healthcare system. Furthermore, FHB will continue to provide latest information on the Government's anti-epidemic policies to overseas consulates in Hong Kong and state-recognised organisations in a timely manner.

## **ADVICE SOUGHT**

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

**Food and Health Bureau  
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau  
Department of Health  
Hospital Authority**

**July 2020**

**Countries/areas with reported cases of Coronavirus Disease-2019**  
**(COVID-19)**

**(Last updated on July 8, 2020, 11 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#**

<b>Countries/areas</b>	<b>Cumulative number of confirmed cases</b>	<b>Number of confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days</b>	<b>Percentage of confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days</b>	<b>Cumulative number of deaths among all confirmed cases</b>
Afghanistan	33384	3903	11.7%	920
Albania	3038	991	32.6%	81
Algeria	16404	4484	27.3%	959
Andorra	855	0	0.0%	52
Angola	353	170	48.2%	19
Anguilla	3	0	0.0%	0
Antigua and Barbuda	68	42	61.8%	3
Argentina	77815	35030	45.0%	1523
Armenia	29285	8279	28.3%	503
Aruba	105	4	3.8%	3
Australia	8586	1112	13.0%	106
Austria	18326	1006	5.5%	706
Azerbaijan	20837	7630	36.6%	258
Bahamas	104	0	0.0%	11
Bahrain	29821	7414	24.9%	98
Bangladesh	165618	49832	30.1%	2096
Barbados	98	1	1.0%	7
Belarus	63804	4781	7.5%	429
Belgium	62058	1508	2.4%	9774
Belize	30	8	26.7%	2
Benin	1199	392	32.7%	21

<b>Countries/areas</b>	<b>Cumulative number of confirmed cases</b>	<b>Number of confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days</b>	<b>Percentage of confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days</b>	<b>Cumulative number of deaths among all confirmed cases</b>
Bermuda	146	0	0.0%	9
Bhutan	80	11	13.8%	0
Bolivia	39297	14909	37.9%	1434
Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba	7	0	0.0%	0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5393	1869	34.7%	193
Botswana	314	225	71.7%	1
Brazil	1603055	518017	32.3%	64867
British Virgin Islands	8	0	0.0%	1
Brunei Darussalam	141	0	0.0%	3
Bulgaria	5914	1930	32.6%	250
Burkina Faso	1000	97	9.7%	53
Burundi	191	47	24.6%	1
Cabo Verde	1463	519	35.5%	17
Cambodia	141	12	8.5%	0
Cameroon	14524	2632	18.1%	342
Canada	105536	4199	4.0%	8684
Cayman Islands	201	6	3.0%	1
Central African Republic	4033	1070	26.5%	52
Chad	872	14	1.6%	74
Chile	298557	51594	17.3%	6384
Colombia	117110	48458	41.4%	4064
Comoros	311	64	20.6%	7
Congo	1557	470	30.2%	44
Costa Rica	4996	2783	55.7%	19
Côte d'Ivoire	10966	3289	30.0%	75
Croatia	3220	884	27.5%	113
Cuba	2380	65	2.7%	86
Curaçao <sup>s</sup>	25	-	-	1
Cyprus	1004	16	1.6%	19
Czech Republic	12566	2005	16.0%	350
Democratic Republic of the Congo	7431	1507	20.3%	181
Denmark	12878	351	2.7%	607
Djibouti	4822	223	4.6%	55
Dominica	18	0	0.0%	0



<b>Countries/areas</b>	<b>Cumulative number of confirmed cases</b>	<b>Number of confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days</b>	<b>Percentage of confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days</b>	<b>Cumulative number of deaths among all confirmed cases</b>
Dominican Republic	38128	10758	28.2%	804
Ecuador <sup>s</sup>	62380	11465	18.4%	4821
Egypt	76222	19413	25.5%	3422
El Salvador	8027	3219	40.1%	223
Equatorial Guinea	1043	0	0.0%	12
Eritrea	215	72	33.5%	0
Estonia	1994	13	0.7%	69
Eswatini	1011	368	36.4%	13
Ethiopia	6666	2003	30.0%	119
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	13	0	0.0%	0
Faroe Islands	187	0	0.0%	0
Fiji	19	1	5.3%	0
Finland	7257	113	1.6%	329
France	168810	7543	4.5%	29933
French Guiana	5054	2596	51.4%	20
French Polynesia	62	2	3.2%	0
Gabon	5743	1004	17.5%	46
Gambia	61	20	32.8%	3
Georgia	958	47	4.9%	15
Germany	196944	6082	3.1%	9024
Ghana	20085	5931	29.5%	122
Gibraltar	179	3	1.7%	0
Greece	3562	275	7.7%	192
Greenland	13	0	0.0%	0
Grenada	23	0	0.0%	0
Guadeloupe	184	10	5.4%	14
Guam	293	77	26.3%	5
Guatemala	23248	10103	43.5%	947
Guernsey	252	0	0.0%	13
Guinea	5610	622	11.1%	34
Guinea-Bissau	1790	234	13.1%	25
Guyana	273	89	32.6%	15
Haiti	6333	1122	17.7%	113
Holy See	12	0	0.0%	0
Honduras	23943	11118	46.4%	639

<b>Countries/areas</b>	<b>Cumulative number of confirmed cases</b>	<b>Number of confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days</b>	<b>Percentage of confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days</b>	<b>Cumulative number of deaths among all confirmed cases</b>
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region*	1300	122	9.4%	7
Hungary	4189	82	2.0%	589
Iceland	1866	43	2.3%	10
India	719665	279450	38.8%	20160
Indonesia	64958	18113	27.9%	3241
Iran	245688	35718	14.5%	11931
Iraq	62275	29599	47.5%	2567
Ireland	25531	148	0.6%	1741
Isle of Man	336	0	0.0%	24
Israel	30055	9242	30.8%	331
Italy	241956	3123	1.3%	34899
Jamaica	732	73	10.0%	10
Japan^	20174	2150	10.7%	980
Jersey	320	2	0.6%	31
Jordan	1167	125	10.7%	10
Kazakhstan <sup>§</sup>	49683	-	-	264
Kenya	8067	3270	40.5%	164
Korea	13244	709	5.4%	285
Kosovo	3660	1487	40.6%	69
Kuwait	50644	10353	20.4%	373
Kyrgyzstan	8141	4622	56.8%	99
Lao People's Democratic Republic	19	0	0.0%	0
Latvia	1127	16	1.4%	30
Lebanon	1885	282	15.0%	36
Lesotho	91	79	86.8%	0
Liberia	891	241	27.0%	39
Libya	1046	475	45.4%	32
Liechtenstein	85	2	2.4%	1
Lithuania	1841	40	2.2%	79
Luxembourg	4542	421	9.3%	110
Macao Special Administrative Region	46	1	2.2%	0
Madagascar	3250	1610	49.5%	33
Mainland China	83572	142	0.2%	4634

<b>Countries/areas</b>	<b>Cumulative number of confirmed cases</b>	<b>Number of confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days</b>	<b>Percentage of confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days</b>	<b>Cumulative number of deaths among all confirmed cases</b>
Malawi	1818	1073	59.0%	19
Malaysia	8668	81	0.9%	121
Maldives	2491	274	11.0%	12
Mali	2331	370	15.9%	119
Malta	672	7	1.0%	9
Martinique	249	13	5.2%	14
Mauritania	4879	1895	38.8%	130
Mauritius	342	2	0.6%	10
Mayotte	2679	245	9.1%	36
Mexico	256848	76303	29.7%	30639
Monaco	99	0	0.0%	1
Mongolia	220	7	3.2%	0
Montenegro	841	466	55.4%	14
Montserrat	11	0	0.0%	1
Morocco	14379	4207	29.3%	237
Mozambique	1012	275	27.2%	8
Myanmar	316	25	7.9%	6
Namibia	485	422	87.0%	0
Nepal	15964	6403	40.1%	35
Netherlands	50602	944	1.9%	6119
New Caledonia	21	0	0.0%	0
New Zealand	1186	21	1.8%	22
Nicaragua	2182	168	7.7%	83
Niger	1093	47	4.3%	68
Nigeria	29286	8367	28.6%	654
North Macedonia	7124	1928	27.1%	346
Northern Mariana Islands	31	1	3.2%	2
Norway <sup>s</sup>	8930	-	-	251
Oman	47735	16659	34.9%	218
Pakistan	234509	49475	21.1%	4839
Palestine	4786	3590	75.0%	21
Panama	38149	12119	31.8%	747
Papua New Guinea	11	2	18.2%	0
Paraguay	2456	1064	43.3%	20
Peru	302718	47782	15.8%	10589
Philippines	46333	15651	33.8%	1303

<b>Countries/areas</b>	<b>Cumulative number of confirmed cases</b>	<b>Number of confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days</b>	<b>Percentage of confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days</b>	<b>Cumulative number of deaths among all confirmed cases</b>
Poland	36155	3928	10.9%	1521
Portugal	44129	4737	10.7%	1620
Puerto Rico	8585	2021	23.5%	155
Qatar	100345	11942	11.9%	133
Republic of Moldova	17906	3543	19.8%	598
Réunion	550	43	7.8%	2
Romania	29223	4932	16.9%	1768
Russia	694230	94525	13.6%	10494
Rwanda	1113	326	29.3%	3
Saint Barthélemy	6	0	0.0%	0
Saint Kitts and Nevis	16	1	6.3%	0
Saint Lucia	22	3	13.6%	0
Saint Martin	44	2	4.5%	3
Saint Pierre and Miquelon	1	0	0.0%	0
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	29	0	0.0%	0
San Marino	713	0	0.0%	42
São Tomé and Príncipe	401	13	3.2%	11
Saudi Arabia	213716	52711	24.7%	1968
Senegal	7478	1508	20.2%	136
Serbia	16420	3430	20.9%	317
Seychelles	81	70	86.4%	0
Sierra Leone	1547	207	13.4%	62
Singapore	45140	2708	6.0%	26
Sint Maarten	78	1	1.3%	15
Slovakia	1765	177	10.0%	28
Slovenia	1716	195	11.4%	111
Somalia	3006	194	6.5%	92
South Africa	205721	104131	50.6%	3310
South Sudan	2098	206	9.8%	40
Spain	252130	5378	2.1%	28392
Sri Lanka	2078	127	6.1%	11
Sudan	9894	1196	12.1%	616
Suriname	604	286	47.4%	14
Sweden	73061	14129	19.3%	5433
Switzerland	32230	1013	3.1%	1685

Countries/areas	Cumulative number of confirmed cases	Number of confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days	Percentage of confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days	Cumulative number of deaths among all confirmed cases
Syrian Arab Republic	372	153	41.1%	14
Taiwan	449	3	0.7%	7
Tajikistan	6262	749	12.0%	53
Thailand	3195	39	1.2%	58
Timor-Leste	24	0	0.0%	0
Togo	680	111	16.3%	15
Trinidad and Tobago	133	10	7.5%	8
Tunisia	1199	40	3.3%	50
Turkey	206844	17947	8.7%	5241
Turks and Caicos Islands	48	34	70.8%	2
Uganda	953	179	18.8%	0
Ukraine <sup>§</sup>	49607	11533	23.2%	1283
United Arab Emirates	52068	6765	13.0%	324
United Kingdom <sup>##</sup>	286349	10085	3.5%	44391
United Republic of Tanzania	509	0	0.0%	21
United States of America <sup>**</sup>	2932596	630308	21.5%	130133
United States Virgin Islands	112	36	32.1%	6
Uruguay	956	80	8.4%	28
Uzbekistan	10459	3959	37.9%	38
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	7169	3251	45.3%	64
Viet Nam	369	20	5.4%	0
Yemen	1294	323	25.0%	346
Zambia	1632	202	12.4%	30
Zimbabwe	734	222	30.2%	9
<b>Number of affected countries/areas: 218</b>	<b>Total: at least 11568288 cases</b>	<b>Total: at least 2529514 cases</b>	<b>21.9%</b>	<b>Total: at least 536729 deaths</b>

<sup>^</sup> Excluding 712 cases were confirmed among passengers/crews in a cruise ship (including 13 fatal cases)

\* Including 1 probable case

# According to the latest available information

\*\*Including probable cases and deaths

## Data was retro-adjusted by national health authority

§ Data adjustment according to the World Health Organization report

### Number of COVID-19 cases reported in Mainland China#

Provinces	Cumulative number of confirmed cases	Number of confirmed cases reported in the past 14 days	Cumulative number of deaths among all confirmed cases
Hubei	68135	0	4512
Beijing	929	79	9
Liaoning	159	5	2
Anhui	991	0	6
Chongqing	582	0	6
Shaanxi	321	3	3
Tianjin	199	1	3
Fujian	363	0	1
Hunan	1019	0	4
Sichuan	598	9	3
Gansu	167	9	2
Heilongjiang	947	0	13
Jiangxi	932	0	1
Guangdong	1645	11	8
Guizhou	147	0	2
Shanghai	718	15	7
Shandong	792	0	7
Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	254	0	2
Yunnan	187	2	2
Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region	244	6	1
Zhejiang	1269	0	1
Henan	1276	0	22
Hebei	349	1	6
Hainan	171	0	6
Jilin	155	0	2
Shanxi	199	1	0
Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region	75	0	0
Jiangsu	654	0	0
Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region	76	0	3
Qinghai	18	0	0
Tibet Autonomous Region	1	0	0

# According to the latest available information

**Chronology of Events in relation to  
the Outbreak of Novel Coronavirus Infection  
(as at 9 July 2020)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
31 December 2019 – 30 April 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Please refer to Annex 2 of LC Paper No.CB(2)934/19-20(03)</li></ul>
2 May 2020 (Saturday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 039, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The Chief Executive (“CE”) chaired the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Preparedness and Response Plan for Novel Infectious Disease of Public Health Significance (“the Plan”)</li><li>● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice</li></ul>
5 May 2020 (Tuesday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 040, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The Government announced that directions will be gazetted in accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F) and the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G) to relax some of the social distancing measures, effective from 8 May to 21 May 2020, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ relax some of the social distancing measures in relation to catering business premises and Scheduled Premises under Cap 599F, mainly the number of persons allowed to be seated together at one table within any catering premises to be increased from 4 to 8; bars or pubs and 7 types of Scheduled Premises (amusement game centre, fitness centre, place of amusement, place of public entertainment, beauty parlour, massage establishment and mahjong-tin kau premises) can resume operations but must follow specified</li></ul></li></ul>

Date	Event
	<p>preventive measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ the number of persons allowed in group gatherings in public places under Cap. 599G to be relaxed from 4 to 8 and expand the scope of existing exempted group gatherings. To dovetail Cap. 599F and Cap. 599G, gatherings within Scheduled Premises which can be opened according to directions issued under Section 8 of Cap. 599F will not be subject to the restriction on the number of persons in group gatherings under Cap 599G</li> <li>● The Government announced that it would distribute reusable CuMask+™ to all Hong Kong citizens, and distribute to each household a pack of 10 disposable masks. At the same time, the Government will distribute masks to employees of schools, elderly care homes and residential care homes for persons with disabilities and cleansing workers engaged by the Government’s outsourced cleansing service contractors. The Government will also distribute 500 000 masks to healthcare professionals in the private sector</li> <li>● The Government announced the phased arrangement for resumption of local schools</li> </ul>
<p>8 May 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 044, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Secretary for Food and Health (“SFH”) briefed the Legislative Council Panel on Health Services on the Government’s latest measures for prevention and control of coronavirus disease-2019 (“COVID-19”)</li> </ul>
<p>12 May 2020 (Tuesday)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Hospital Authority (“HA”) will conduct sample screening for inpatients who are institutional residents and those admitted to psychiatric wards to help</li> </ul>



<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 047, and no. of probable case: 1]	mitigate the risk of community outbreak at an early stage
13 May 2020 (Wednesday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 050, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government announced that the first chartered flight to bring back Hong Kong residents stranded in India is tentatively scheduled to depart New Delhi for Hong Kong on 17 May at the earliest</li> </ul>
15 May 2020 (Friday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 052, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Centre for Health Protection (“CHP”) further extended the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme, which provides free testing service of COVID-19 for staff members currently working at the Hong Kong International Airport (“HKIA”)</li> </ul>
18 May 2020 (Monday)  [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 055, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The chartered flight carrying 249 Hong Kong residents stranded in India arrived at HKIA</li> </ul>
19 May 2020 (Tuesday)  [No. of confirmed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government gazetted directions and amendments under Cap. 599F and Cap. 599G to extend the social distancing measures in relation to catering businesses, scheduled premises and group gatherings in public</li> </ul>

Date	Event
cases in Hong Kong: 1 055, and no. of probable case: 1]	<p>places, as well as make appropriate adjustments to these measures having regard to the latest situation. Details are as follow:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the scope of existing exempted group gatherings will be expanded to cover religious gatherings during which no food or drink is served (except food or drink as part of a religious ritual). The exempted religious activities must be held at premises constructed as or converted into a place of worship, such as a church, monastery or nunnery, mosque, synagogue or temple; or premises regularly used as a place of worship. Measures must be in place for restricting the number of participants in the activity to not more than 50% of the number of persons that may normally be accommodated on the premises as a place of worship;</li> <li>2. the prohibition of group gatherings with more than 8 persons in public places under Cap. 599G will remain in force for 14 days until 4 June 2020; and</li> <li>3. adjustments will be made to the directions under Cap. 599F</li> </ol>
<p>26 May 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 065, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SFH issued latest directions under Cap. 599F through notices published in the Gazette. The latest directions came into effect at 0.00 am on 29 May 2020 for a period of 7 days. Details are as follow: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. allow bathhouses, party rooms, clubs or nightclubs and karaoke establishments to resume operation;</li> <li>2. allow karaoke activities carried out in catering premises, party rooms and club-houses provided that the applicable directions in respect of karaoke establishments are complied with;</li> <li>3. allow any part(s) of the club-house being used or operated as a party room to resume operation provided that the applicable directions in respect</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

Date	Event
	<p>of party rooms are complied with; and</p> <p>4. maintain other measures regulating catering businesses and scheduled premises</p>
<p>27 May 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 066, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Local secondary 3 to 5 students resumed classes</li> </ul>
<p>29 May 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 079, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government gazetted subsidiary legislation to give effect to the waiver of statutory registration fees for 13 healthcare professions</li> </ul>
<p>31 May 2020 (Sunday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 084, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government announced that it has coordinated with the Consulate General of Nepal in Hong Kong and a local airline to arrange two special flights to bring back Hong Kong residents stranded in Nepal. The special flights will depart from Kathmandu for Hong Kong on 1 June (local time)</li> </ul>
<p>1 June 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 087, and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Transit services at HKIA resumed</li> <li>● The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) reopened its performance venues. Music Office’s music centres will also fully resume service</li> <li>● The Undersecretary for Food and Health attended the press briefing on updates of COVID-19 cases to report</li> </ul>

Date	Event
no. of probable case: 1]	the clustered cases of residents in Luk Chuen House of Lek Yuen Estate in Sha Tin and the relevant follow-up actions
<p data-bbox="193 434 497 533">2 June 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p data-bbox="193 586 497 815">[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 093, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="497 434 1401 676">● The Government announced that the second batch of 318 Hong Kong residents stranded in India will take a special flight arranged by the Government to return home. The flight is tentatively scheduled to arrive at Hong Kong from Mumbai on 4 June</li> <li data-bbox="497 676 1401 1438">● The Government gazetted amendments and directions under Cap. 599F and Cap. 599G, details are as follow: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="497 779 1401 913">1. the expiry dates of Cap. 599F and Cap. 599G will be extended by around two months to 31 August, 2020;</li> <li data-bbox="497 913 1401 1348">2. the existing regulations and restrictions on catering premises and scheduled premises will be maintained, with refinements made having regard to actual circumstances. Amongst others, continue to prohibit activities involving high health risks or temporarily close facilities with high health risks, such as live performance, dancing activities, steam and sauna facilities, etc. and</li> <li data-bbox="497 1348 1401 1438">3. unless exempted, group gatherings at public places will continue to be prohibited</li> </ol> <p data-bbox="497 1438 1401 1585">The latest directions under Cap. 599F and Cap. 599G will be effective from 0.00 am on 5 June 2020 for a period of 14 days till 18 June 2020</p> </li> <li data-bbox="497 1585 1401 2011">● The Government gazetted amendments to the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C) and the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E). The amendments will be effective from 0.00 am on 5 June 2020 with details as follow: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="497 1921 1401 2011">1. a mechanism will be introduced to empower SFH to specify two categories of places. For persons</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

Date	Event
	<p>arriving at Hong Kong from (a) Category 1 specified places, those persons will be subject to compulsory quarantine arrangements; or (b) Category 2 specified places, those persons will be excluded from the requirements in respect of the compulsory quarantine arrangements subject to meeting certain conditions (such as obtaining a negative COVID-19 test result). In accordance with Cap. 599C and Cap. 599E, SFH published a notice in the gazette to specify all places in China outside Hong Kong and all places outside China as Category 1 specified places with effect from 0.00 am on 5 June 2020, unless relevant persons are exempted pursuant to the regulations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. the criteria for the Chief Secretary for Administration to exempt travellers from the compulsory quarantine arrangements under Cap. 599E will be expanded to cover persons whose travelling is necessary for purposes relating to manufacturing operations, business activities or the provision of professional services in the interest of Hong Kong's economic development, bringing them in alignment with relevant provisions under Cap. 599C; and</li> <li>3. extend the expiry date of Cap. 599C to 7 July 2020 and that of Cap. 599E to 18 September 2020</li> </ol>
<p>8 June 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 107, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Local primary 4 to secondary 2 students resumed classes</li> </ul>

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
<p>10 June 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 107, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● LCSD announced that more public swimming pools, gazetted beaches, libraries and museums will reopen. Booking applications for some land recreation and sports facilities and wedding venues will also resume</li> </ul>
<p>11 June 2020 (Thursday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 107, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● HA widened the scope of the screening to perform virus tests on patients at its haemodialysis centres</li> </ul>
<p>13 June 2020 (Sunday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 109, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE chaired the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan</li> <li>● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice</li> </ul>
<p>15 June 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 112, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Secondary 3 to 5 cross-boundary students resumed classes</li> </ul>

Date	Event
<p data-bbox="204 248 408 331">16 June 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p data-bbox="204 394 480 618">[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 112, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="512 248 1390 618">● The Government gazetted directions and amendments under Cap. 599F and Cap. 599G to extend the social distancing measures in relation to catering businesses, scheduled premises and group gatherings in public places, as well as make appropriate adjustments and relaxations having regard to the latest situation. The measures came into effect on 19 June 2020 for a period of 14 days till 2 July. Details are as follow: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="576 629 1390 864">1. the number of persons allowed in group gatherings in public places will be relaxed from 8 to 50. Unless exempted, the prohibition on group gatherings at public places will continue during the abovementioned 14 days;</li> <li data-bbox="576 875 1390 1055">2. group gatherings at catering business premises (such as banquets at those premises) would be exempted from the restriction on the number of persons at group gatherings under Cap. 599G;</li> <li data-bbox="576 1066 1390 1245">3. having regard to the latest limit on the number of persons at group gatherings, corresponding adjustments will be made to the exempted group gatherings under Cap. 599G;</li> <li data-bbox="576 1256 1390 1626">4. on catering businesses, other than the relaxation measure mentioned in item (2) above, the limit on the number of persons allowed to be seated together at one table will be removed while the number of persons allowed to be seated together at one table in bars/pubs will be increased from 4 to 8. Other requirements and restrictions on catering business premises will be maintained;</li> <li data-bbox="576 1637 1390 2007">5. on scheduled premises, the limit on the number of persons at each facility/group/room at these premises will be increased from 8 to 16, and the number of persons allowed to be seated together at one table in clubs or nightclubs will be increased from 4 to 8. Other requirements and restrictions on scheduled premises will be maintained and enhanced based on actual</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

Date	Event
	<p>circumstances; and</p> <p>6. live performance and dancing will be allowed to resume at catering businesses and scheduled premises, but persons working at the premises and performers must wear masks at all times except when there is some form of partition or adequate distancing which could serve as effective buffer between such persons/performers and customers (or for places of public entertainment, some form of partition or adequate distancing which could serve as effective buffer between such persons/performers and customers/the audience)</p>
<p>17 June 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 120, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government announced that two special flights will be arranged to bring back Hong Kong residents stranded in India</li> <li>● LCSD announced the gradual reopening of more leisure and cultural facilities and venues, including pitches and children facilities</li> </ul>
<p>18 June 2020 (Thursday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 124, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In response to the COVID-19 situation in Beijing, the Government strengthened testing for inbound travellers from Beijing</li> <li>● For all asymptomatic inbound travellers arriving at HKIA, if they are exempted from compulsory quarantine and had travelled to Beijing 14 days prior to arrival, DH has distributed specimen bottles to them since 17 June in response to the COVID-19 situation in Beijing. They should collect their deep throat saliva samples at home in accordance with the instructions, and deliver it to one of the collection points in the same morning for testing, and be subject to medical surveillance at the same time</li> <li>● As for arrivals from land control points, those who had been to Beijing in the past 14 days must possess proof</li> </ul>



Date	Event
	<p>of negative testing result for COVID-19 nucleic acid test that has been taken within the past 7 days. Those arrivals who are not exempted persons are subject to compulsory quarantine for 14 days at a designated place (home or other accommodation) while exempted persons are subject to medical surveillance upon arrival at Hong Kong. For the sake of prudence, those with travel history to Beijing 14 days prior to arrival at Hong Kong via land control points (applicable to all inbound travellers including exempted persons) will also be given specimen bottles for conducting COVID-19 testing and are required to collect and submit their deep throat saliva samples according to instructions</p>
<p>26 June 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 196, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government announced that as the COVID-19 outbreak in Hong Kong started to stabilise, the use of Chun Yeung Estate in Fo Tan as quarantine centre will be ceased in end July. After clearing and thoroughly disinfecting the relevant units, the Estate will be immediately handed over to the Hong Kong Housing Authority</li> </ul>
<p>29 June 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 203, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A member startup of the Cyberport Startup Alumni Association, namely HelloToby Technology (HK) Limited (Toby), began to provide door-to-door specimen collection service for COVID-19 testing (including Sunday) for the CHP's Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme</li> </ul>
<p>30 June 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government began to deliver masks free-of-charge to all residential addresses in Hong Kong through Hongkong Post. Each household will receive a pack of 10 disposable adult masks</li> </ul>

Date	Event
cases in Hong Kong: 1 205, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Government gazetted amendments and directions under Cap. 599F and Cap. 599G to further relax social distancing measures in relation to catering businesses, scheduled premises and group gatherings in public places. The latest directions will be effective for a period of 14 days from 3 July till 16 July 2020. Details are as follow: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. on catering businesses, the restriction on the number of customers at a bar/pub will be relaxed by increasing such limit from not exceeding 50% of the normal seating capacity of the premises and that part of the premises to 80%. Other requirements and restrictions in relation to catering business premises will be maintained;</li> <li>2. on scheduled premises, the restriction on the number of persons at large-scale entertainment stations, machines or facilities at places of public entertainment, cinemas or all places of public entertainment with live performance, as well as clubs or nightclubs, will be relaxed by increasing such cap from 50% of the capacity to 80%. Other requirements and restrictions in relation to scheduled premises will be maintained and enhanced based on actual circumstances;</li> <li>3. The number of persons allowed in group gatherings in public places will be maintained at 50. Unless exempted, the prohibition on group gatherings in public places will continue during the 14-day period set out in the paragraph above. Under the exempted group gatherings, the restriction on the number of participants in group gatherings during religious activities will be relaxed by increasing such limit from not more than 50% of the number of persons that may normally be accommodated on the premises as a place of worship to 80%. The group gathering must be held at premises constructed or regularly</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

Date	Event
	used as a place of worship and in which no food or drink is served (except as part of a religious ritual)
<p>3 July 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 247, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● HA widened the scope of the screening to perform virus tests on patients at its day chemotherapy centres</li> </ul>
<p>7 July 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 299, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE chaired the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan</li> <li>● In view of the latest epidemic situation, the Government announced that starting from 8 July 2020, crew members of aircraft and vessels entering Hong Kong from HKIA must proceed to DH's Temporary Specimen Collection Centre to collect their deep throat saliva samples for COVID-19 testing. At the same time, shipping companies are required to arrange all crew members of cargo ships and passenger vessels to receive nucleic acid tests at the point of departure before embarking to travel to Hong Kong. The tests results need to be negative in order for them to be exempted from compulsory quarantine upon arrival. If the above conditions are not met, the crew member will not be granted exemption and will be denied entry into Hong Kong.</li> </ul>
<p>9 July 2020 (Thursday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● As the epidemic situation has undergone drastic changes recently with multiple local cases, the Government gazetted directions under Cap. 599F to be effective for a period of 14 days from 11 July till 24 July 2020. Details are as follow:</li> </ul>

Date	Event
Kong: 1 365, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ on catering businesses, the number of customers at any catering premises at any one time must not exceed 60% of the normal seating capacity of the premises. No more than 8 persons may be seated together at one table within any catering premises, while for bars and pubs, no more than 4 persons may be seated together at one table therein. Other requirements and restrictions in relation to catering business premises will be maintained;</li> <li>➤ on scheduled premises, the limit on number of persons at premises where activities are conducted without wearing masks are tightened – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ for party rooms and karaoke establishments, the number of persons allowed in each room at the same time is tightened from 16 to 8.</li> <li>○ for fitness centres, the number of persons (including the coach) allowed in each group training or class at the same time is tightened from 16 to 8. For a group training or class of more than 8 persons, it must be conducted in a way to ensure that persons are arranged in groups of no more than 8 persons and there is at least 1.5 metres between each group or there is some form of partition which could serve as effective buffer between each group. The coach must wear a mask at all times if he/she is not staying at a fixed location not less than 1.5 metres from other persons.</li> <li>○ for clubs or nightclubs, the number of persons who may be seated together at one table is tightened from 8 to 4. The number of customers allowed therein at any one time is tightened from 80% to 60% of the normal seating capacity or normal capacity of such premises.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ no eating or drinking inside cinemas and all places of public entertainment with live performance is</li> </ul>

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
	allowed. Other requirements and restrictions in relation to scheduled premises will be maintained.

- - - -

	Catering business		Scheduled premises										
	Catering business	Bars or pubs	Amusement game centre	Bathhouse	Fitness centre	Place of amusement	Place of public entertainment (PPE)	Party room	Beauty parlour and massage establishment	Club-house	Club or night club	Karaoke establishment	Mahjong-tin kau premises
Mask on requirement	✓	(except when consuming food/drink) <sup>1</sup>	✓	✓ <sup>2</sup>	✓ (pre & post exercise)	✓	✓ <sup>1,2</sup>	✓ <sup>2</sup>	✓ (except when having facial treatment)	✓ <sup>2</sup>	✓ <sup>1,2</sup>	✓ <sup>2</sup>	✓
Body temperature screening	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Provision of hand sanitisers	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Distancing	1.5m or some form of effective partitioning between tables		Game stations, machines and facilities next to one another and <1.5m apart must not be made available for use at the same time; or some form of effective partitioning between each of them	N/A	1.5m or some form of effective partitioning between fitness stations, machines and equipment in use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>for a group of &gt; 16 persons, it must be arranged in a way to ensure that persons are in sub-groups of ≤16 persons with at least 1.5m between each sub-group</li> </ul>	Entertainment stations, machines and facilities next to one another and <1.5m apart must not be made available for use at the same time; or some form of effective partitioning between each of them	N/A	1.5m or some form of effective partitioning between service beds or seats	See below on various facilities	N/A	N/A	Tables next to one another and <1.5m apart must not be made available for use at the same time; some form of effective partitioning between each table
Cleaning and disinfecting	N/A		✓	See note 4 on showering facilities	Fitness station, machine and equipment cleaned and disinfected before & after each use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cleaning and disinfection of facilities and accessories before the use of the next hirer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Billiard establishment and public bowling-alley</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓</li> </ul>	Equipment, tools and service places or areas disinfected before & after each use	See below on various facilities	N/A	All equipment, furniture and facilities must be cleaned and disinfected before and after each booked session	Replace tile sets with cleaned ones every time a new player joins; or application of disinfection materials
Headcount	≤8 persons per table	≤4 persons per table	≤16 persons at each game station, machine and facility	N/A	Each group training or class must consist of no more than 8 persons including the coach <sup>3</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>≤16 persons at each entertainment station, machine and facility, where applicable; for large-scale entertainment stations, machines or facilities ≤80% of its designed capacity or ≤16 persons in each individual compartment or vehicle, whichever is the larger</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>≤8 persons in each room or each area separated from the rest of the premises with effective partition</li> </ul>	N/A	See below on various facilities	Number of customers ≤60% of the normal seating capacity	≤4 persons at one table	≤8 persons in each room	N/A
	Number of customers ≤60% of the normal seating capacity												
Showering facilities <sup>4</sup>	N/A		N/A	✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	
Steam/sauna facilities	N/A		N/A	Close	Close	Close	N/A	See note <sup>5</sup>	Close	Close	N/A	N/A	
Ball pits	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Close	Close	N/A	Close	N/A	N/A	
Specific requirements and restrictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Karaoke activities and parts providing mahjong-tin kau playing facility to follow relevant directions</li> </ul>		N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Massage establishments to follow relevant directions</li> </ul>	N/A	See above on various facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Catering premises to follow relevant directions</li> <li>Cinemas and all PPEs with live performance –                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>≤80% seating capacity</li> <li>≤16 consecutive seats in the same row</li> <li>no eating or drinking inside a house or a place is allowed</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Karaoke activities, catering premises, and parts for providing mahjong-tin kau playing facility, to follow relevant directions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All staff must wear protective gears such as mask and face shield/ goggles all the time when providing services</li> <li>Change or sanitise protective gears after providing service to a customer</li> <li>All towels and consumables used must be changed after each use</li> <li>Steam machines and vaporised chemicals must not be used</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Karaoke activities, party rooms, catering premises, fitness centres, beauty parlours, massage establishments and parts for providing mahjong-tin kau playing facility, to follow relevant directions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Catering premises to follow relevant directions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Catering premises to follow relevant directions</li> </ul>	

<sup>1</sup> For bars/pubs, places of public entertainment and clubs/night clubs, persons working at the premises and performers must wear masks all the time except when there is some form of partition which could serve as effective buffer between such persons/performers and customers (or for PPEs, some form of partition or adequate distancing which could serve as effective buffer between such persons/performers and customers/the audience).

<sup>2</sup> Wearing a mask except when having a bath or shower (bathhouse) and consuming food/drink (PPE, party room, club-house, club/night club and karaoke establishment).

<sup>3</sup> For a group training or class of >8 persons, persons are to be arranged in groups of ≤8 persons with at least 1.5 metres between each group or there is some form of partition which could serve as effective buffer between each group. The coach must wear a mask all the time if he/she is not staying at a fixed location 1.5m from other persons.

<sup>4</sup> The following infection control recommendations must be applied to showering facilities: (a) arrange shower heads in use in a way to ensure there is a distance of at least 1.5m or some form of partition which could serve as effective buffer between them; (b) carry out cleaning and disinfection of the shower cubicles at least once every four hours; (c) carry out regular environmental cleaning and disinfection on the facilities including storage cabinet at least daily; and (d) forbid sharing of personal items such as towel.

<sup>5</sup> Any facility involving steam or vapour (except as part of eating, drinking or preparation of food or drink) must not be used in a party room.

## Annex 4

Schedule 1 to the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (“the Regulation”) (Cap. 599G) lists out the following 13 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 function 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 obtaining or receiving hospital or healthcare service at a healthcare facility
6. Group gathering of persons living in the same household
7. Group gathering for—
  - (a) the conduct of proceedings in a court, magistrates’ court or tribunal;
  - (b) the performance of any function of a judge or judicial officer;  
or
  - (c) the conduct of any other business of the Judiciary
8. Group gathering necessary for the proceedings in the Legislative Council or a District Council
9. Group gathering during a funeral, or during 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. *(Repealed)*
11. Group gathering during any of the following meetings at which no food or drink is served and measures are in place for separating the participants in the gathering in different rooms or partitioned areas, each accommodating not more than 50 persons—
  - (a) 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;
  - (b) a shareholders’ meeting of a company listed on a recognized stock market (as defined by section 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571)) that is held in

accordance with any Ordinance or other regulatory instrument that governs the operation of the company 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
13. Group gathering at any premises to which a direction issued under section 6 or 8 of the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599 sub. leg. F) applies, except premises that, according to the direction, must be closed
14. Group gathering during a religious activity—
  - (a) held at any premises constructed or regularly used as a place of worship (including a church, monastery or nunnery, mosque, synagogue or temple);
  - (b) in which no food or drink is served (except as part of a religious ritual); and
  - (c) in which measures are in place for restricting the number of participants in the activity to not more than 80% of the number of persons that may normally be accommodated on the premises as a place of worship

In addition to the 13 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