民政事務總署

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HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

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7 December 2021

To: All Club Certificate of Compliance Holders or Responsible Persons All Hotel / Guesthouse Licensees or Responsible Persons

Dear Sir/Madam,

"LeaveHomeSafe" Mobile Application Arrangements in Premises

The Government announced on 6 December 2021¹ that customers or users of **all premises** regulated under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F) must scan the "LeaveHomeSafe" (LHS) venue QR code using the LHS mobile application before entering the premises with effective from 9 December 2021. The requirement will be applicable to all **catering business premises** and **scheduled premises** under regulation, including all hotels and guesthouses, clubhouses, karaoke establishments, amusement game centres and mahjong/tin kau premises with licence/certificate of compliance/permit issued by the Office of the Licensing Authority under (OLA) the Home Affairs Department.

Alternative measure

- 2. Having considered that some individuals are unable to meet the requirement of using of the LHS mobile application due to reasonable reasons, the following three categories of persons may fill in a specified form (available on the Government COVID-19 Thematic Website: www.coronavirus.gov.hk/pdf/599F_visitorinfo_dec9_ENG.pdf) as an alternative to the use of the LHS mobile application:
 - (a) persons aged 65 or above and aged 15 or below²;
 - (b) persons with disability³; and

¹ The relevant Government Press Release is accessible at www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202112/06/P2021120600679.htm.

² For persons aged 15 or below, he or she would not have to register his or her personal information using the specified form if he or she is accompanied by an adult who has used the LHS mobile application or used the specified form to register relevant information as an alternative in accordance with the requirement.

³ Persons with disability can adopt alternative measure regardless of whether they are holding the "Registration Card for People with Disabilities", and the venue operators can make judgments based on common sense. If the person concerned declares that he or she is a person with disability while filling in the specified form, the person concerned might held legally liable if the information provided is false.

- (c) other persons recognised by the Government or organisation(s) authorised by the Government.
- 3. By ensuring that customers or users of of the premises have registered their names, contact numbers and the dates and times of their visits, staff of premises would have been able to fulfil the requirement of performing due diligence check. Law enforcement officers may take charge of the verification of the information provided.
- 4. For attention, the above alternative measure **is NOT applicable** to bars/pubs, bathhouses, party rooms, clubs/nightclubs, karaoke establishments and mahjong/tin kau premises. In other words, if a premises has any of these six facilities or venues, all customers or users of the facilities or venues must use the LHS mobile application.
- 5. To enable the trade and the general public to understand the relevant requirements, the Government will upload elaborations on a series of frequently asked questions onto the COVID-19 Thematic Website (www.coronavirus.gov.hk).

Adjustment to modes of operation for catering business

6. Having regard to the full implementation of the LHS requirement, <u>Type A Mode of Operation for catering businesses will no longer be applicable</u>. In other words, all catering business premises (except for bars or pubs which are subject to other requirements) must operate according to one of the operating modes among Types B, C and D Mode of Operation and follow the respective applicable requirements on social distancing and infection control measures, including requiring all staff members involved in the operation of the premises to undergo regular testing or receive COVID-19 vaccination. In light of the above arrangement, the period during which dine-in services are allowed under Type B Mode of Operation will be extended to 10.59 p.m.

Fight the virus, stay vigilant

- 7. The OLA will conduct inspections to various premises under its purview to ascertain the full compliance to the requirement. Since the epidemic situation could change at anytime, special arrangements may have to be re-introduced at short notice. Please continue to pay attention to further updates available on the website of the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health.
- 8. To safeguard public health and tackle the public health threat posed by the mutant strains, we appeal to the trades to co-operate and comply with the relevant requirements in order to further enhance the anti-epidemic capacity of Hong Kong.

Yours faithfully,

(signed)
(Ms. PANG Mei-tuan, Pauline)
Chief Officer (Licensing Authority)
Office of the Licensing Authority