



本署檔號 Our Ref. HAD/LA/15/2-80/2C  
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29 April 2021

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

Dear Sir/Madam,

### **Government to relax social distancing measures under ‘vaccine bubble’**

Taking into account the enhanced anti-epidemic capabilities in Hong Kong and with the steady progress of the Government's vaccination programme, we consider it an opportune time to adopt a new direction in fighting the pandemic and relax certain restrictions with ‘vaccine bubble’ as the basis, with a view to responding to the aspirations of various trades and the public to resume normal daily lives as soon as possible. The Government gazette directions and specifications under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F). The requirements and restrictions under the latest directions come into effect on 29 April 2021 for a period of 14 days till 12 May 2021.

2. Scheduled premises including **hotels, guesthouses and club-houses** may continue to open when the relevant requirements and restrictions are fulfilled. The following facilities in hotels, guesthouses and club-houses (if any) can operate according to the specified operation mode if specified measures are adopted –

#### **(a) Bar / Pub**

Bars or pubs can be reopened, if the responsible person of the premises ensures that **all staff and customers** have received the first COVID-19 vaccine dose, and that all customers scan the ‘LeaveHomeSafe’ QR code using the ‘LeaveHomeSafe’ mobile application on their mobile phones. The premises may operate every day from **5am to 1.59am** on the subsequent day, with the number of customers at the premises at any one time not exceeding 50% of the normal seating capacity of the premises and no more than two persons seated together at one table.

#### **(b) Club / Nightclub, Bathhouse, Party Room and Karaoke Establishment**

Club / nightclub, bathhouse, party room and karaoke establishment can be reopened, if the responsible person of the premises ensures that **all staff and customers** have received the first COVID-19 vaccine dose, and that all customers scan the ‘LeaveHomeSafe’ QR code using the ‘LeaveHomeSafe’ mobile application on their mobile phones. The premises may operate every day from **9am to 1.59am** on the subsequent day. For club / nightclub, bathhouse, party

room and karaoke establishment, the number of customers at the premises at any one time not exceeding 50% of the normal capacity of the premises. For club / nightclub, no more than two persons can be seated together at one table; for party rooms and karaoke establishments, the maximum number of people allowed per room / to be seated together at one table is four.

**(c) Mahjong-tin kau Premises**

Mahjong-tin kau premises can be reopened, if the responsible person of the premises ensures that **all staff** have received the first COVID-19 vaccine dose, and that all customers scan the 'LeaveHomeSafe' QR code using the 'LeaveHomeSafe' mobile application on their mobile phones. The premises may operate every day from **12noon to 11.59pm**, with the number of customers at the premises at any one time not exceeding 50% of the normal capacity of the premises.

**(d) Catering Business**

All catering business must operate according to one or more of the operating mode(s) according to the latest directions. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has launched a designated webpage ([https://www.fehd.gov.hk/english/events/covid19/vaccine\\_bubble\\_FP.html](https://www.fehd.gov.hk/english/events/covid19/vaccine_bubble_FP.html)) to explain the relevant requirements to the trade and provided the template notices, forms, posters and QR Code Verification Scanner for download and use.

In addition, person responsible for carrying on a catering business must fulfil the requirements on air change or air purifiers for the seating area of catering business premises specified by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department on or before 30 April 2021. This office issued letters on 23 March 2021<sup>1</sup> and 19 April 2021<sup>2</sup> to remind licensees.

(For details of the above requirements, please refer to the Government press release<sup>3</sup> issued on 28 April 2021, and Government Notice (GN) 249 of 2021<sup>4</sup> and GN 250 of 2021<sup>5</sup>.)

3. The Office of the Licensing Authority of the Home Affairs Department will conduct inspections to various premises to ascertain the compliance to the directions. Since the epidemic situation could fluctuate, 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 (CHP) of the Department of Health.

4. May I take this opportunity to thank you for your support in fighting the virus.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

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

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<sup>1</sup> The letter of 23 March 2021 [https://www.hadla.gov.hk/filemanager/en/docs/LetterToPremises\\_20210323\\_en.pdf](https://www.hadla.gov.hk/filemanager/en/docs/LetterToPremises_20210323_en.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> The letter of 19 April 2021 [https://www.hadla.gov.hk/filemanager/en/docs/LetterToPremises\\_clubs\\_20210419\\_eng.pdf](https://www.hadla.gov.hk/filemanager/en/docs/LetterToPremises_clubs_20210419_eng.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> The press release is accessible at <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202104/28/P2021042800868.htm>

<sup>4</sup> GN 249 of 2021 is accessible at <https://www.gld.gov.hk/egazette/pdf/202125115e/egn202125115249.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> GN 250 of 2021 is accessible at <https://www.gld.gov.hk/egazette/pdf/202125115e/egn202125115250.pdf>