



本署檔號 Our Ref. HAD/LA/15/2-80/2C  
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6 January 2022

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

Dear Sir/Madam,

### **Government tightens social distancing measures in view of latest epidemic situation**

The Government announced on 5 January 2022<sup>1</sup> that social distancing measures will be tightened from 7 January 2022 for a period of 14 days to 20 January 2022 in view of the development of COVID-19 epidemic situation in Hong Kong with a view to containing the epidemic as early as possible.

2. For the above-mentioned period, the Government will tighten social distancing measures to the most stringent level as seen during the third and fourth waves of the epidemic, with a view to reducing public traffic, social functions and crowd gatherings to the greatest extent. This serves to curb the spread of the virus in the community through discouraging members of the public from going out and joining activities unnecessarily. Relevant measures will apply to all **catering business**<sup>2</sup> and **scheduled premises**<sup>3</sup> regulated under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F), including all hotels and guesthouses, clubhouses, karaoke establishments, etc. with licence/certificate of compliance/permit issued by the Office of the Licensing Authority (OLA) under the Home Affairs Department. Specific measures include:

#### **Catering Business**

- (1) From 6pm to 4.59am of the subsequent day, a person responsible for carrying on a catering business must cease selling or supplying food or drink for consumption on the premises of the business; and close any premises, or part of the premises (whichever is applicable), on which food or drink is sold or supplied by the business for consumption on the premises. The premises concerned may still sell or supply food and/or drink for takeaway services and deliveries. A person responsible for carrying on a catering business is also required to put up a notice at the entrance to the catering premises to remind customers that food or drink

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<sup>1</sup> The relevant Government Press Release is accessible at [www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202201/05/P2022010500859.htm](http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202201/05/P2022010500859.htm)

<sup>2</sup> For specification and directions in relation to catering business, please see the Government Notice No. 28 of 2022 which is accessible at [www.gld.gov.hk/egazette/pdf/20222606e/egn2022260628.pdf](http://www.gld.gov.hk/egazette/pdf/20222606e/egn2022260628.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> For directions in relation to scheduled premises, please see the Government Notice No. 29 of 2022 which is accessible at [www.gld.gov.hk/egazette/pdf/20222606e/egn2022260629.pdf](http://www.gld.gov.hk/egazette/pdf/20222606e/egn2022260629.pdf)

should not be consumed in areas adjacent to the catering premises. Maximum number of persons per table for catering premises under Types B, C and D Modes of Operation will be reduced to 2, 4 and 6 respectively, whereas the maximum number of customers per premises and per banquet will remain unchanged.

- (2) No live performance and dancing activity is allowed in catering premises. Karaoke or mahjong-tin kau activity should also be suspended therein.
- (3) Other requirements and restrictions on catering premises will remain in force, including that all customers, when they are away from the table, must not consume food or drink and must wear a mask; and they must scan the LeaveHomeSafe (LHS) venue QR code using the LHS mobile application on their mobile phones / other mobile devices before entering the premises (excluding persons who only order takeaways).
- (4) Bars or pubs will be closed.

### **Scheduled premises**

- (5) Except club-houses, hotels or guesthouses and event premises, all scheduled premises regulated under Cap. 599F as listed below must suspend operation, including Amusement game centres, Bathhouses, Fitness centres, Places of amusement, Places of public entertainment, Party rooms, Beauty parlours, Clubs or nightclubs, Karaoke establishments, Mahjong-tin kau premises, Massage establishments, Sports premises, Swimming pools and Cruise ships.
- (6) For club-houses, hotels or guesthouses and event premises, managers must comply with the relevant restrictions under Cap. 599F, including closing the facilities therein that are being used or operated as premises mentioned in points (4) and (5) above; and the catering premises therein must comply with all applicable requirements, including that of suspension of dine-in service during dinnertime.

3 The OLA will conduct inspections to various premises under its purview to ascertain full compliance to the requirements. 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.

4. 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 curb the spread of the virus in the community.

Yours faithfully,

(signed)

(Ms. Anny LAW)

for Chief Officer (Licensing Authority)  
Office of the Licensing Authority