Man sentenced for breaching compulsory quarantine order

A 73-year-old man was sentenced to immediate imprisonment for 14 days by the Kowloon City Magistrates' Courts today (June 12) for violating the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C).

The man was earlier issued a compulsory quarantine order stating that he must conduct quarantine at home for 14 days. Acting on a report, the Police were deployed at the scene on April 22 and he was found to have left the place of quarantine without reasonable excuse nor permission given by an authorised officer before the expiry of the quarantine order. He was charged with contravening sections 8(1) and 8(5) of the Regulation and was sentenced by the Kowloon City Magistrates' Courts today to immediate imprisonment for 14 days.

A spokesman for the Department of Health (DH) said the sentence sends a clear message to the community that breaching a quarantine order is a criminal offence and that the Government will not tolerate such actions. The spokesman reiterated that compliance with quarantine orders is of paramount importance in Hong Kong's fight against COVID-19.

Pursuant to the Regulation, save for exempted persons, all persons who have stayed in the Mainland, Macao or Taiwan in the 14 days preceding arrival in Hong Kong, regardless of their nationality or travel documents, will be subject to compulsory quarantine for 14 days. Moreover, pursuant to the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E), starting from March 19, all persons arriving from countries or territories outside China would also be subject to compulsory quarantine for 14 days. Breaching a quarantine order is a criminal offence and offenders are subject to a maximum fine of \$25,000 and imprisonment for six months. The DH solemnly reminds persons under quarantine to comply with the statutory requirements and conduct quarantine for 14 days.

<u>Appeal for information on missing maning Hom (with photo)</u>

Police today (June 12) appealed to the public for information on a man who went missing in Hung Hom.

Leung Wai-man, aged 55, went missing after he left a hostel on Chi Kiang Street on June 10 morning. Staff of the hostel made a report to Police

yesterday (June 11).

He is about 1.8 metres tall, 80 kilograms in weight and of medium build. He has a long face with yellow complexion and short black hair. He was last seen wearing a blue short-sleeved shirt, black shorts, black slippers, a green face mask and carrying a black shoulder bag.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing man or may have seen him is urged to contact the Regional Missing Person Unit of Kowloon West on 3661 8036 or 9020 6542, or email to rmpu-kw-2@police.gov.hk, or contact any police station.



Police will take resolute law enforcement action to combat illegal acts

Police are aware that some people have called for members of the public to participate in public events in multiple districts throughout Hong Kong tonight (June 12). Police reiterate that anyone participating in such events may be found guilty of "taking Part in an unauthorised assembly" in accordance with the Public Order Ordinance and liable to a maximum penalty of five years' imprisonment. Besides, participation in public gatherings will also increase the risk of transmission of the virus in the community and may commit certain offences under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation regarding prohibited group gatherings.

Police call upon members of the public to refrain from taking part in unauthorised assemblies and prohibited group gatherings. Police do not condone any illegal and violent acts, and will take resolute action to enforce the law, including making arrests.

<u>Grading of beach water quality</u> released

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) today (June 12) released the latest grading of water quality for 38 gazetted beaches (see Note 1) and one non-gazetted beach (i.e. Discovery Bay, see Note 2).

Thirteen beaches were rated as Good (Grade 1), 19 as Fair (Grade 2) and seven as Poor (Grade 3).

Grade 1 beaches are:

Hung Shing Yeh Beach*
Lo So Shing Beach
Lower Cheung Sha Beach
Middle Bay Beach
Repulse Bay Beach*
Shek O Beach*
South Bay Beach

St Stephen's Beach Stanley Main Beach* Tong Fuk Beach Trio Beach** Turtle Cove Beach Upper Cheung Sha Beach

Grade 2 beaches are:

Big Wave Bay Beach**
Butterfly Beach*
Cafeteria New Beach**
Cafeteria Old Beach
Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach*
Chung Hom Kok Beach
Clear Water Bay First Beach
Clear Water Bay Second Beach*
Deep Water Bay Beach*
Discovery Bay

Hap Mun Bay Beach*
Kadoorie Beach
Kiu Tsui Beach
Kwun Yam Beach
Lido Beach*
Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach*
Pui O Beach*
Silver Mine Bay Beach*
Silverstrand Beach**

Grade 3 beaches are:
Anglers' Beach
Approach Beach
Casam Beach*
Castle Peak Beach**

Golden Beach* Hoi Mei Wan Beach Ting Kau Beach** Under the present grading system, beaches are classified into four grades, namely Good (Grade 1), Fair (Grade 2), Poor (Grade 3) and Very Poor (Grade 4), according to the level of E. coli in the water. Grades are calculated on the basis of the geometric mean of the E. coli counts on the five most recent sampling occasions.

A summary of beach grades is published weekly before the weekend. The latest beach grades based on the most current data may be obtained from the EPD's website on Beach Water Quality (www.epd.gov.hk/epd/beach) or the beach hotline, 2511 6666.

Note 1: The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced on June 10 that six gazetted beaches (marked with two asterisks above) will reopen on June 13. The 15 gazetted beaches (marked with a single asterisk above) have reopened since May 23. Meanwhile, the other beaches will remain temporarily closed until further notice.

Note 2: Discovery Bay is a non-gazetted beach without lifeguard service.

CHP investigates additional confirmed case of COVID-19 and follows up on cluster in Luk Chuen House

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) has announced that as of 4pm today (June 12), the CHP was investigating an additional confirmed case of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), taking the number of cases to 1,109 in Hong Kong so far (comprising 1,108 confirmed cases and one probable case).

The case involves a 58-year-old female (the 1,109th case) with good past health, who is the sister-in-law of the 34-year-old female patient of the 1,084th case and the elder sister of the 56-year-old male patient of the 1,085th case confirmed on May 31. They all lived in Luk Chuen House, Lek Yuen Estate, Sha Tin. Pending admission to a quarantine centre as a close contact, the patient developed fever on May 31 and was sent to Prince of Wales Hospital (PWH) for management on the same day. During her treatment at the hospital, the patient's nasopharyngeal swabs and throat swabs collected on May 31 and June 1 tested negative for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). Her fever later subsided and she was discharged on June 2 and subsequently transferred to the quarantine centre. She had all along remained asymptomatic at the quarantine centre. The patient's deep throat saliva sample submitted before the end of quarantine yesterday (June 11) tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 and she was sent to PWH for management.

She is in a stable condition.

The patient is a close home contact of the 1,084th case and the 1,085th case and lived alone in the quarantine centre since June 2. She had no other close contact before turning into a confirmed case. According to the CHP's initial epidemiological investigation, the patient is thought to have possibly acquired the infection from the 1,084th case and the 1,085th case through home contact. The case is classified as epidemiologically linked with local cases.

Meanwhile, the CHP has been proactively conducting epidemiological investigations and carrying out preventive control measures in regard to the cluster in Luk Chuen House, Lek Yuen Estate, Sha Tin. As of 4pm today, 1,397 deep throat saliva samples had been collected in Luk Chuen House, among which six samples need to be collected again owing to leakage, while 1,391 samples have had testing for COVID-19 completed. Except for the four confirmed cases announced on June 2 with positive results, other samples have tested negative.

The CHP is also following up with the residents in Luk Chuen House who have not yet returned their deep throat saliva samples. The CHP strongly appeals to those who have not got in touch with the CHP to contact the CHP personnel according to the medical test order issued and return their samples to the CHP as soon as possible for testing.

Meanwhile, as of 4pm today, the CHP had collected and tested 2,120 samples for Luen Yuet House, Kwai Luen Estate, with no positive results.

The CHP again urged members of the public to maintain an appropriate social distance with other people as far as possible in their daily lives to minimise the risk of infection. In particular, they should go out less and avoid social activities such as meal gatherings or other gatherings to reduce the chance of contacting infected persons who may not present any symptoms, and minimise the risk of outbreak clusters emerging in the community.

A spokesman for the CHP said, "Given that the situation of COVID-19 infection remains severe and that there is a continuous increase in the number of cases reported around the world, members of the public are strongly urged to avoid all non-essential travel outside Hong Kong.

"The CHP also strongly urges the public to maintain at all times strict personal and environmental hygiene, which is key to personal protection against infection and prevention of the spread of the disease in the community. On a personal level, members of the public should wear a surgical mask when having respiratory symptoms, taking public transport or staying in crowded places. They should also perform hand hygiene frequently, especially before touching the mouth, nose or eyes.

"As for household environmental hygiene, members of the public are advised to maintain drainage pipes properly, regularly pour water into drain outlets (U-traps) and cover all floor drain outlets when they are not in use. After using the toilet, they should put the toilet lid down before flushing

to avoid spreading germs."

Moreover, the Government has launched the website "COVID-19 Thematic Website" (www.coronavirus.gov.hk) for announcing the latest updates on various news on COVID-19 infection and health advice to help the public understand the latest updates. Members of the public may also gain access to information via the COVID-19 WhatsApp Helpline launched by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer. Simply by saving 9617 1823 in their phone contacts or clicking the link wa.me/85296171823?text=hi, they will be able to obtain information on COVID-19 as well as the "StayHomeSafe" mobile app and wristband via WhatsApp.

To prevent pneumonia and respiratory tract infections, members of the public should always maintain good personal and environmental hygiene. They are advised to:

- Wear a surgical mask when taking public transport or staying in crowded places. It is important to wear a mask properly, including performing hand hygiene before wearing and after removing a mask;
- Perform hand hygiene frequently, especially before touching the mouth, nose or eyes, after touching public installations such as handrails or doorknobs, or when hands are contaminated by respiratory secretions after coughing or sneezing;
- Maintain drainage pipes properly and regularly (about once a week) pour about half a litre of water into each drain outlet (U-trap) to ensure environmental hygiene;
- Cover all floor drain outlets when they are not in use;
- After using the toilet, put the toilet lid down before flushing to avoid spreading germs;
- Wash hands with liquid soap and water, and rub for at least 20 seconds. Then rinse with water and dry with a disposable paper towel. If hand washing facilities are not available, or when hands are not visibly soiled, performing hand hygiene with 70 to 80 per cent alcohol-based handrub is an effective alternative;
- Cover your mouth and nose with tissue paper when sneezing or coughing. Dispose of soiled tissues into a lidded rubbish bin, then wash hands thoroughly; and
- When having respiratory symptoms, wear a surgical mask, refrain from work or attending class at school, avoid going to crowded places and seek medical advice promptly.