

ExCo supports Government's disease control measures

The following is issued on behalf of the Executive Council Secretariat:

The Government has announced further infection prevention and control measures, requiring all people entering Hong Kong from the Mainland, including Hong Kong residents, Mainland residents as well as other visitors, to receive mandatory quarantine for 14 days. The Executive Council support the Government in taking these decisive measures. After the Government implemented measures to scale back the operation of cross-boundary control points, the number of Mainland and overseas visitors entering Hong Kong has been substantially reduced. However, there remains a considerable number of Hong Kong residents travelling to and from the Mainland. The new measures should further reduce the cross-boundary people flow and thereby contain the risk of the spread of the virus. We appeal to the understanding of the people of Hong Kong who may be affected by these measures and call for them to join hands with us in the face of the infection.

Postal services to Martinique, French West Indies, subject to delay

Hongkong Post announced today (February 5) that, as advised by the postal administration of France, due to a major strike in the locality, all mail delivery services (except Speedpost) to Martinique, French West Indies, are subject to delay.

Hospital Authority statement on cyber-bullying against healthcare staff

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

The Hospital Authority (HA) made the following statement today (February 5) regarding doxxing and cyber-bullying against healthcare staff:

While thousands of staff members were absent from duty recently, the remaining healthcare staff members have stayed on duty to maintain emergency and essential patient services.

The HA strongly condemns the malicious behaviour of cyber-bullying that disclosed personal information of staff members staying on duty, and of private healthcare staff offering support to the HA.

The HA once again thanks all staff staying on duty for their dedication and commitment to safeguard the health of patients.

The HA urges members of the public to stop forwarding any kind of cyber-bullying messages, which will affect public hospital services and the morale of healthcare workers.

Public hospital daily update on Wuhan-related cases

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

As at noon today (February 5), public hospitals had reported to the Department of Health (DH) the admission of 62 patients (23 male and 39 female, aged 6 months to 93) in the past 24 hours who met the reporting criteria of severe respiratory disease associated with a novel infectious agent. Specimens of the patients concerned have been sent for testing. There are still 84 patients under isolation.

The Hospital Authority will maintain close contact with the Centre for Health Protection to monitor the latest developments and to inform the public and healthcare workers on the latest information in a timely manner.

Electors should reply to letters issued by Registration and Electoral Office before specified deadline

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) appealed today (February

5) to registered electors who received inquiry letters issued by the Office to reply as soon as possible by the statutory deadline of May 2 this year via post, fax or email in accordance with the letter's instructions, so as to maintain their voter registration (VR) status and so that they can vote at the Legislative Council General Election (LCGE) to be held in the third quarter of this year and at subsequent public elections.

To enhance the accuracy and completeness of the information in the registers of electors, from today until April the REO will issue inquiry letters in accordance with the relevant electoral laws to about 90 000 electors asking them to confirm or update their registered addresses.

"A prominent message, 'Immediate action required. Your voting right is at stake', is printed on the envelopes of all inquiry letters to remind the electors that the letters are important and should be opened and replied to as soon as possible. Electors who received an inquiry letter should reply to the REO on or before May 2 to confirm or update their registered addresses," the spokesman for the REO said.

"If the REO does not receive a valid reply from an elector under inquiry, the name of the elector will be included in the omissions list to be published on or before June 1. Electors included in the omissions list have to reply to the reminding letter separately issued by the REO to the elector concerned or lodge a claim before the statutory deadline of June 25, 2020, as well as obtain the approval of the Revising Officer before they can maintain their VR status, be included in the final register of electors to be published in July 2020, and be able to vote at the LCGE to be held in the third quarter of this year."

The aforesaid statutory inquiry procedure forms a critical part of the series of checking measures conducted by the REO in each VR cycle and aims to enhance the accuracy and completeness of the information on VR.

In addition, as part of the regular checking measures conducted in each VR cycle, the REO issued enquiry letters on December 13, 2019, to about 70 000 electors selected through random sampling, with the original deadline of reply as specified on the letter falling on January 31, 2020. In view of the temporary suspension of postal services of Hongkong Post from January 29 to February 2, 2020, due to the situation arising from the novel coronavirus, the REO has extended the reply deadline of the enquiry letters concerned to February 14, 2020. The REO advised that electors who received the enquiry letters may also submit their replies through email or fax apart from doing so by post.

Electors who have enquiries on the letters received from the REO may call the REO hotline at 2891 1001. Meanwhile, the frequently asked questions on checking measures of VR have also been uploaded to the homepage of the REO (www.reo.gov.hk).