

# HAD opens temporary cold shelters

In view of the cold weather, the Home Affairs Department has opened 18 temporary shelters in various districts today (January 25) for people in need of the service. The temporary shelters will remain open when the Cold Weather Warning continues to be in force.

To ensure that cold shelter users can rest in a quiet and undisturbed environment, members of the public or agencies wishing to make donations to shelter users are requested to register with the staff of the shelter first. Donors will then be directed to place the donated items at a specified indoor location. The staff will help notify the shelter users to collect the items on their own.

Anyone seeking temporary refuge or with any questions about the donation arrangements at the cold shelters may call the department's hotline 2572 8427 for more information.

The 18 temporary cold shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Island:

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Central and Western:

1/F, Kennedy Town Community Complex  
12 Rock Hill Street, Kennedy Town

Eastern:

Causeway Bay Community Centre  
3/F, 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Southern:

Wah Kwai Community Centre  
Wah Kwai Estate, Kellett Bay

Wan Chai:

Wan Chai Activities Centre  
LG/F, Wan Chai Market, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai

Kowloon:

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Kowloon City:

Hung Hom Community Hall  
1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices, 42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong:

Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre  
71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po:  
Nam Cheong District Community Centre  
1 Cheong San Lane, Sham Shui Po

Wong Tai Sin:  
Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre  
45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong:  
Henry G Leong Yaumatei Community Centre  
60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

New Territories:  
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Islands:  
Tung Chung Community Hall  
G/F, Tung Chung Municipal Services Building, 39 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung

Kwai Tsing:  
Kwai Shing Community Hall  
Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung

North:  
Cheung Wah Community Hall  
Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling

Sai Kung:  
Chi Shin Activity Centre  
G/F, Tseung Kwan O South Ancillary Facilities Block  
5 Chi Shin Street, Tseung Kwan O

Sha Tin:  
Lung Hang Estate Community Centre  
Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin

Tai Po:  
Tai Po Community Centre  
2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan:  
Lei Muk Shue Community Hall  
G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan

Tuen Mun:  
Wu Shan Road Community Hall  
101 Wu Shan Road, Tuen Mun

Yuen Long:  
Long Ping Community Hall

## **Public hospitals daily update on COVID-19 cases**

The following is issued on behalf of the Hospital Authority:

As at yesterday (January 24), a total of 2 440 patients who tested positive for COVID-19 were hospitalised for treatment. Among the hospitalised confirmed patients, 157 were new patients, 1 203 required isolation, 384 required oxygen therapy and 50 required ventilator support. There were 11 newly reported critical patients and eight newly reported serious patients. There were a total of 124 patients in critical condition and 129 serious condition, of which 28 critical patients were receiving intensive care. Moreover, there were 206 patients who had recovered, including 115 patients who had been discharged. In addition, 27 patients who passed away in public hospitals were reported. According to preliminary analysis, the cause of death of 10 patients was related to COVID-19, while that of the remaining 17 patients was not.

The overall occupancy of medical beds in acute hospitals is around 90 per cent.

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.

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## **Government follows up on positive results of sewage surveillance and appeals to residents to undergo virus testing**

The Government announced today (January 25) that in order to fight the coronavirus epidemic, the Environmental Protection Department and the Drainage Services Department have been collecting sewage samples for virus testing in all districts, and had detected positive results in some areas, indicating that there may be hidden cases in the premises within these areas.

## Rapid test

As regards positive sewage testing results with relatively high viral loads in the following areas, the respective District Offices will commence distributing about 30 000 sets of the COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) kits to residents, cleaning workers and property management staff working in the following areas for them to take the test on their own, in order to help identify infected persons:

- Sai Kung District – Wo Ming Court
- Kwai Tsing District – Po Sing Centre and The Apex

Members of the public may refer to ([www.coronavirus.gov.hk/rat/eng/rat.html](http://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/rat/eng/rat.html)) for enquiries relating to the use of the RAT kits.

When using an RAT kit, please pay attention to and follow the instructions from the manufacturer to perform the test and read the result properly. It is advisable to record the displayed result by taking a photo immediately after reading. Users should wash their hands before and after performing the tests, and avoid placing non-essential items within the specimen collection area. After completing the test, wrap and seal all components of the test kit carefully and dispose properly. If the household environment is contaminated during the specimen collecting process, disinfection should be conducted with 1 in 49 diluted bleach solution or 70 per cent alcohol.

People who obtained a positive result through an RAT for the first time can report via the online platform "Declaration System for individuals tested positive for COVID-19 using Rapid Antigen Test" ([www.chp.gov.hk/ratp](http://www.chp.gov.hk/ratp)). If individuals encounter difficulties using the online platform, they can call the automated system at 183 6119 to register their identification document and telephone number. The Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health will contact the relevant person later to finish the report procedure.

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**CHP investigates locally acquired SARS-CoV-2 virus cases with 481 cases tested positive by nucleic acid tests and 1 784 cases by RATs as well as 30**

## imported cases

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) today (January 25) announced the latest epidemic situation of COVID-19. As of 0.00am, January 25, the CHP was investigating 2 265 additional locally acquired cases that tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, comprising 481 cases that tested positive by nucleic acid tests (193 confirmed cases, 93 asymptomatic cases and 195 cases with pending status) and 1 784 cases that tested positive by rapid antigen tests (RATs) in the past 24 hours.

Separately, 30 additional imported cases were reported, including four cases that tested positive by nucleic acid tests (one confirmed case and three asymptomatic cases) and 26 cases that tested positive by RATs.

Hong Kong has recorded a total of 1 213 871 and 1 650 736 cases that have tested positive by nucleic acid tests and RATs respectively for the SARS-CoV-2 virus so far.

The CHP is continuing with epidemiological investigations of the cases. Please refer to the Annex and the "COVID-19 Thematic Website" ([www.coronavirus.gov.hk](http://www.coronavirus.gov.hk)) for more information.

The CHP has been closely monitoring the situation of positive cases involving mutant strains by genetic analysis. The accumulative figures of cases identified by the DH's Public Health Laboratory Services Branch (PHLSB) as well as the proportion of sub-lineage and BA.4/BA.5 (including suspected cases) of the Omicron mutant strain among the specimens received by the DH's PHLSB for verification testing of local cases are listed in the Annex.

In addition, as of 0.00am, January 25, a total of 13 017 death cases that had tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus during the fifth wave (since December 31, 2021) were recorded, with 12 883 and 127 deaths reported from the Hospital Authority and public mortuaries respectively as well as seven deaths reported from private hospitals. Hong Kong has so far recorded a total of 13 230 death cases that tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Furthermore, among the earlier cases by nucleic acid tests reported, there were cases (including pending cases) changed to confirmed, asymptomatic or re-positive cases. As at yesterday (January 24), the total number of confirmed cases was 531 337, while the figures for asymptomatic cases, re-positive cases and pending/unknown cases recorded since January 1, 2022, were 418 456, 31 and 263 562 respectively.

The spokesman for the CHP said that COVID-19 vaccines are highly effective in preventing severe cases and deaths from the SARS-CoV-2 virus. They can provide effective protection to those vaccinated in preventing serious complications and even death after infection. People who have yet to receive vaccination, especially senior citizens, chronic patients, children and other immunocompromised persons who face a higher chance of death after COVID-19 infection, should get vaccinated as early as possible for self-

protection and to reduce the risk of falling seriously ill and death should they get infected.

The CHP appeals to the community to keep on maintaining personal hygiene and comply with relevant mask requirements in order to jointly contain the risk of virus transmission. The spokesman reminded members of the public that they can call various hotlines to make enquiries on COVID-19 ([www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/index.html#hotline](http://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/index.html#hotline)).

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## **Sham Shui Po Park Swimming Pool reopened**

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at regular intervals:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (January 25) that Sham Shui Po Park Swimming Pool in Sham Shui Po District, closed earlier due to urgent maintenance works, has been reopened.