

[Transfer passengers arriving at Hong Kong International Airport through SkyPier Terminal via Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge to be exempted from Air Passenger Departure Tax](#)

The Government will publish in the Gazette on May 20 the Air Passenger Departure Tax Ordinance (Amendment of Second Schedule) Order 2022 to specify that transfer passengers who arrive at Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) through the SkyPier Terminal (SPT) via the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) for direct onward travel by air will be exempted from Air Passenger Departure Tax (APDT).

"The arrangement will encourage more tourists from the Mainland and Macao to make use of HKIA and is conducive to enhancing Hong Kong's status as a regional and international aviation hub," a Government spokesman said.

The exemption will tie in with the expected commissioning of the SPT at HKIA in 2023. The terminal will enable bridge-to-air passengers from the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to enter HKIA through the SPT via the HZMB by land transport approved by the Airport Authority Hong Kong for onward departure by air, much in the same way as existing SkyPier sea-to-air passengers.

"Under the existing Air Passenger Departure Tax Ordinance, direct transit, connecting airside transfer and SkyPier sea-to-air passengers are exempt from payment of APDT.

"The legislative amendment will provide the same exemption for all transfer passengers arriving at HKIA through the SPT via the HZMB," the spokesman added.

[Government finishes exercise on "restriction-testing declaration" in respect of specified "restricted area"](#)

in Ping Wah House, Lok Wah North Estate, Kwun Tong, and enforcement operation for breaches of compulsory testing notice

The Government yesterday (May 17) exercised the power under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation (Cap. 599J) to make a "restriction-testing declaration" effective from 6pm yesterday, under which people (hereafter referred to as "persons subject to compulsory testing") within the specified "restricted area" in Kwun Tong (i.e. Ping Wah House, Lok Wah North Estate, Kwun Tong, excluding Lok Wah North Estate Office on G/F) were required to stay in their premises and undergo compulsory testing. Persons subject to compulsory testing were required to stay in their premises until all such persons identified in the "restricted area" had undergone testing and the test results were mostly ascertained. All persons in the "restricted area" who have tested positive in the past 14 days, including positive cases identified either by nucleic acid tests recorded by the Department of Health (DH) or by rapid antigen tests that have been self-declared to the DH, were not required to undergo testing in this compulsory testing exercise.

In addition, the Government issued a compulsory testing notice yesterday, requiring persons, other than those specified above, who had been present at the above building for more than two hours from May 11 to May 17, 2022, to undergo compulsory testing on or before May 19, 2022, even if they were not present in the "restricted area" at the time when the declaration took effect.

The Government finished the compulsory testing exercise at around 8.30am today (May 18) and carried out enforcement action in the "restricted area" afterwards to verify that all people in the "restricted area" had undergone compulsory testing in accordance with the requirements of the relevant declaration and compulsory testing notice. The Government announced that the enforcement operation ended at around 10am today.

The Government provided food packs for persons subject to compulsory testing to facilitate their meal arrangements. Anti-epidemic proprietary Chinese medicines donated by the Central People's Government and rapid antigen test kits were also distributed to persons subject to compulsory testing to help them fight against the virus. The Social Welfare Department also set up a hotline for people restricted by the declaration to make enquiries and seek assistance.

The Government thanks persons subject to compulsory testing for their support and understanding. With everyone's co-operation and efforts, coupled with the efforts of the testing contractors throughout the night, residents have been informed about their testing results by SMS notification. After

finishing the compulsory testing exercise at around 8.30am today, the Government took enforcement action in the "restricted area" immediately to verify that all people in the "restricted area" had undergone testing according to the requirements of the declaration and the compulsory testing notice. Persons who could present an SMS notification containing a negative testing result and wear wristbands as proof of having undergone the compulsory testing could leave the "restricted area" through the designated exit after providing personal information to a prescribed officer. The enforcement operation was completed at around 10am. Test records of 227 persons subject to compulsory testing were checked. Nobody was found to have not undergone compulsory testing. Taking into account the above situation, the Secretary for Food and Health revoked the "restriction-testing declaration" in accordance with Cap. 599J (see attachment).

The Government reminds the 32 households who have not answered the door to undergo a nucleic acid test as soon as possible after reading the notices put up by the Government, in the hope of eliminating the possible risk of further spread of the virus in the community.

The Government thanks all participating government staff and the testing agencies for their hard work. The Government is also grateful to those subject to compulsory testing for their support and understanding, and their full co-operation during this period in undergoing testing and waiting for the results at home.

The Government will seriously follow up on the compliance situation of the compulsory testing notices and the "restriction-testing declaration" by persons subject to compulsory testing. Any person who fails to comply with the compulsory testing notices commits an offence and may be liable to a fixed penalty of \$10,000. The person will also be issued with a compulsory testing order, requiring him or her to undergo testing within a specified time frame. Failure to comply with the order or the "restriction-testing declaration" is an offence and the offender may be liable to a fine of level 5 (\$50,000) and imprisonment for six months.

Red flags hoisted at some beaches

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (May 18) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Shek O Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island; and Silverstrand Beach and Clear Water Bay Second Beach in Sai Kung District. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at

these beaches.

Public consultation on review of Statutory Minimum Wage rate to end on May 31

The following is issued on behalf of the Minimum Wage Commission:

The Minimum Wage Commission (MWC) today (May 18) reminded members of the public and stakeholders that the public consultation on the review of the Statutory Minimum Wage (SMW) rate will end on May 31.

The MWC commenced a six-week public consultation on April 20, 2022. Various sectors of the community, including members of the public and stakeholders, are welcome to express views on the review of the SMW rate to the MWC in writing by e-Form on its website (www.mwc.org.hk); by email (mwc@labour.gov.hk); by fax (2110 3518); or by post (The Minimum Wage Commission, 1/F, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central), on or before May 31. The public can also contact the Secretariat of the MWC at 2852 3862. Details and relevant reference data and information are available at the MWC's website.

LD organises online exhibition on Employment Ordinance and Minimum Wage Ordinance

The Labour Department (LD) has launched a two-day online exhibition from 9am today (May 18) to 6pm tomorrow (May 19) at the LD's website disseminating information about the Employment Ordinance and the Minimum Wage Ordinance to enhance the public's understanding of employment rights and benefits.

Consolidating the content of physical exhibitions held by the LD, the online exhibition features the main provisions of the Employment Ordinance and the Minimum Wage Ordinance, employment rights and benefits for foreign domestic helpers, as well as good human resource management measures. The relevant hyperlink

is www.labour.gov.hk/Online_exhibition_E0_MW0/index_en.html.