

CCF to accept applications from four-or-more-person households for launch of living subsidy for non-public housing and non-CSSA households

The following is issued on behalf of the Community Care Fund Secretariat:

The Community Care Fund (CCF) will start accepting applications from four-or-more-person households for the "One-off Living Subsidy for Low-income Households Not Living in Public Housing and Not Receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA)" Programme (2020) from tomorrow (October 5). The amount of subsidy for four-person households and five-or-more-person households are \$14,500 and \$15,500 respectively.

Beneficiaries should currently be renting accommodation on a monthly basis (or for longer tenures) in private housing, industrial buildings, commercial buildings or social housing operated by non-governmental organisations (NGOs); renting bedspaces offered under the Home Affairs Department's Singleton Hostel Programme or bedspaces in hostels operated by NGOs for rehabilitated offenders; residing in temporary housing; living on board vessels; or being homeless. Their monthly income must not exceed the specified limits. They should not be receiving CSSA or own any property in Hong Kong. For persons renting accommodation in private housing, industrial buildings, commercial buildings or social housing, their monthly rent should not exceed the specified rent limits. The income and rent limits for four-person households, five-person households and six-or-more-person households are as follows –

Household size (persons)	Household income limit (\$)	Household rent limit (\$) (if applicable)
4	33,500	16,750
5	36,900	18,450
6 or above	40,800	20,400

Eligible four-or-more-person households should submit applications to the service units assisting in the implementation of the programme near their residence by post or in person starting from tomorrow. A drop-box arrangement is provided in some service units. Households comprising solely elderly persons aged 60 or above, households comprising solely young persons aged 24 or below or the homeless can submit applications to elderly service units, youth service units or service units accepting applications from the homeless

respectively by the deadline of November 30. Application forms and the programme brief can be downloaded at the CCF website (www.communitycarefund.hk). Applicants are advised to submit applications by post. Applicants who wish to submit applications to the service units in person are suggested to call the service units for the operating hours. Service units may require applicants to make a booking in advance.

The Secretariat and service units will vet each application, including verifying the eligibility, checking the supporting documents submitted, and conducting home visits/income tests on selected applications. The Secretariat will issue notifications of results to applicants after vetting applications and disburse the subsidy to eligible households through bank transfer or in the form of order cheques.

The Programme was launched on July 2 to relieve the financial pressure on low-income households. The Secretariat started accepting applications from one-person households, two-person households and three-person households on July 2, August 3 and September 1 respectively. As at September 30, the Secretariat has received more than 50 000 applications, and the Secretariat is handling such applications.

For details of the programme, please visit the CCF website (www.communitycarefund.hk) or call the programme hotline on 2180 6666.

Liquor Licensing Board to meet on Tuesday

The following is issued on behalf of the Liquor Licensing Board:

The Liquor Licensing Board (LLB) will meet on Tuesday (October 6) to consider three applications for renewal of liquor licences.

The applications are (not in order of discussion):

Hong Kong:

Old Bailey Restaurant and Petticoat Lane in Central

New Territories:

Big Fish in Sai Kung

The meeting will be held at 9.45am in the conference room, Room 102, 1/F, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai. In response to the latest developments of coronavirus disease 2019, to avoid the gathering of people in an enclosed

environment and to safeguard the health of all participants, public seats will not be available for all open hearings of the LLB in the interim.

Yellow fire danger warning

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Yellow fire danger warning

The fire danger situation today (October 4) is yellow and the risk of fire is high. People are urged to prevent fires breaking out and hikers should also be vigilant.

FEHD continues to step up inspections at food premises relating to anti-epidemic measures (with photos)

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) conducted joint operations with the Police today (October 3) to step up inspections at catering business premises (including "Dai Pai Dongs") in Sai Kung and Sham Shui Po districts and remind food business operators and food handlers to strictly comply with the relevant requirements under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F), and the public should also comply with the restriction in relation to group gatherings under the anti-epidemic regulation when patronising restaurants.

A spokesman for the FEHD said, "According to the directions issued by the Secretary for Food and Health in relation to catering business premises under the Regulation, food business operators and food handlers have to strictly comply with a series of requirements and restrictions. Among these, the number of customers at any premises must not exceed half of its normal seating capacity, no more than four persons may be seated together at one table at catering premises; a mask must be worn at all times within the premises, except when the person is consuming food or drink; and body temperature screening must be conducted before the person is allowed to enter the catering premises and hand sanitisers must be provided. According to the latest amendments of the anti-epidemic regulation and directions, members of the public also have to comply with the related restriction on group

gatherings that no more than four persons may be seated at one table at catering premises."

Under the Regulation, licensees and operators of food premises must strictly comply with the series of requirements and restrictions. Contravening the requirements and restrictions is a criminal offence. Offenders are subject to a maximum fine of \$50,000 and imprisonment for six months. Persons who violate the group gathering restriction of Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition in Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G) are subject to a fixed penalty of \$2,000.

"During the operations in Sai Kung and Sham Shui Po districts today, the FEHD inspected some 40 catering business premises and initiated legal proceedings of prosecution against the operators of seven premises. Apart from violating the requirements on the distance between tables, enforcement for violating other legislations on causing public obstruction is also included," the spokesman said.

The spokesman said that the FEHD will continue to step up inspections at food premises across the territory and conduct joint operations with the Police to ensure that food business operators, food handlers and the public strictly comply with the directions under the regulation and will take enforcement actions against offenders so as to minimise the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in food premises.

The FEHD spokesman appealed to food business operators and food handlers to comply with the relevant Regulation on prevention and control of disease in a concerted and persistent manner, with a view to keeping workers, customers and the public safe.



SB's response to media enquiries

In response to media enquiries, a spokesman for the Security Bureau said today (October 3) that the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Ordinance does not apply to Taiwan.

The spokesman said, "Last year the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government proposed to amend the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance and the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Ordinance to address this legal loophole. In response to the reactions of the community, the HKSAR Government withdrew the proposed amendments. Therefore, there is currently no law in Hong Kong that allows the HKSAR to handle legal assistance matters with Taiwan."

The spokesman stressed that the HKSAR Government cannot violate the law by providing relevant evidence on Chan Tong-kai's case to Taiwan. The HKSAR Government has already made multiple statements on this. It is irresponsible for a lawmaker who, despite clearly knows that Hong Kong has no legal basis to provide evidence to Taiwan, makes misleading remarks that make people think that the Government can do so.

"There are reports quoting that Taiwan has established a so-called 'single window' liaison point with Hong Kong. The HKSAR Government must point out that this is merely a unilateral description adopted by Taiwan. Taiwan had provided the Hong Kong Police with contact information that Chan Tong-kai could make use in contacting them. The Hong Kong Police had already relayed the information to Chan. The Hong Kong Police have not jointly established any so-called 'single window' liaison point with Taiwan and this does not involve any assistance on evidence. We call on Taiwan to genuinely follow the basic rule of law and actively facilitate Chan's surrender to Taiwan. The HKSAR Government will provide feasible arrangements to assist Chan in going to Taiwan in accordance with the law," the spokesman continued.