

Government finishes exercise on “restriction-testing declaration” in respect of specified “restricted area” in Yau Ma Tei and enforcement operation for breaches of compulsory testing notice

The Government yesterday (February 4) 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 7pm yesterday, under which people (hereafter referred to as "persons subject to compulsory testing") within the specified "restricted area" in Yau Ma Tei (i.e. 7A-27A Pitt Street, 2-50 Tung On Street, 833-889 Canton Road and 10-16 Dundas Street) 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 area had undergone testing and the test results were mostly ascertained. Moreover, the Government issued a compulsory testing notice yesterday, requiring persons who had been present at the buildings, for more than two hours from January 22 to February 4, 2021, even if they were not present in the "restricted area" at the time when the declaration took effect, to undergo compulsory testing before February 6. The Government announced the completion of the compulsory testing exercise at around 7am today (February 5) and carried out enforcement actions in the "restricted area" afterwards to verify that all people in the "restricted area" had undergone compulsory testing in accordance with the declaration and the compulsory testing notice. The Government announced that the enforcement operation ended at around noon today.

In this exercise, about 660 staff from the Home Affairs Department (including the Yau Tsim Mong District Office and the Wong Tai Sin District Office), the Hong Kong Police Force, the Fire Services Department, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Auxiliary Medical Service, and the Administrative Officers from various bureaux and departments were mobilised to arrange for implementation of the declaration and enforcement actions for breaches of the compulsory testing notice issued earlier.

The Government provided simple food for persons subject to compulsory testing, including canned food, cup noodles, cakes, corn kernels, soy milk and bottled water, etc, so as to facilitate the dinner arrangements of some persons subject to compulsory testing. Masks and hand sanitizer were also provided to persons subject to compulsory testing to help them fight against the virus.

The Home Affairs 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 tireless efforts of the testing contractors, residents have been informed about their testing results by SMS notification. After finishing the compulsory testing exercise at around 7am 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 or wore a wristband 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 noon. 99 persons were found not having undergone compulsory testing, and a fixed penalty of \$5,000 and a compulsory testing order were issued to them. 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 hopes the household who has not answered the door will contact the Government for arrangement of testing as soon as possible after they read 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 understands that residents in the district are worried and anxious because of the increase in confirmed cases in recent days. The Government hopes this temporary inconvenience will completely cut the local transmission chains in the district and ease residents' worries and fear, so that they will regain confidence in resuming social and business activities in the area, and return to a normal life.

The Government thanks all participating government staff and the testing agencies for their hard work. The Government also thanks the persons subject to compulsory testing again 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 as a whole is united in fighting against the virus despite all the difficulties, and provided testing for all the residents in the district within a short period of time in the hope of achieving zero cases in the district.

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 \$5,000. 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 4 (\$25,000) and imprisonment for six months.

Hong Kong Customs steps up enforcement action with approach of Lunar New Year and seizes suspected counterfeit-branded cherries (with photo)

Hong Kong Customs yesterday (February 4) conducted an operation against the sale of counterfeit-branded fruits and seized 196 boxes of suspected counterfeit-branded cherries weighing about 400 kilograms in total, with an estimated market value of about \$80,000.

Customs earlier received information alleging that a shop was suspected of selling counterfeit-branded cherries. Upon investigation, Customs officers yesterday took action and seized the batch of suspected counterfeit-branded cherries together with a batch of packing materials from a fruit shop in Yau Ma Tei. A 41-year-old saleswoman was also arrested.

Investigation is ongoing. Customs is looking into the source of the cherries involved in the case and samples will be sent to the Government Laboratory for safety testing.

With the Lunar New Year around the corner, Customs will continue to step up inspections and enforcement to combat the sale of counterfeit goods and festive counterfeit food items before and during the holiday.

Customs appeals to consumers to purchase at shops with a good reputation and to check with the trademark owners or their authorised agents if the authenticity of a product is in doubt.

Customs also reminds traders to be cautious and prudent in merchandising since selling counterfeit goods is a serious crime and offenders are liable to criminal sanctions.

Under the Trade Descriptions Ordinance, it is an offence to sell or possess for sale any goods with a forged trademark. Upon conviction, offenders shall be liable to a maximum penalty of imprisonment for five years and a fine of \$500,000.

Members of the public may report any suspected infringing activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).



Proposed pedestrian facilities near Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre gazetted

The Government gazetted today (February 5) the proposed provision of pedestrian facilities between the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre and the pedestrian landscaped deck at its west.

Details of the proposal are set out in the Annex. The plan and scheme of the works are available for public inspection at the following government offices during office hours:

Central and Western Home Affairs Enquiry Centre,
G/F, Harbour Building,
38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong

Wan Chai Home Affairs Enquiry Centre,
G/F, 2 O'Brien Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

District Lands Office, Hong Kong East,
19/F, Southorn Centre,
130 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

The gazette notice, scheme, plan and location plan are available at www.thb.gov.hk/eng/psp/publications/transport/gazette/gazette.htm.

Any person who wishes to object to the works or the use, or both, is required to address to the Secretary for Transport and Housing an objection in writing, which can be submitted via the following means:

- By post or by hand to the Transport and Housing Bureau's drop-in box No.

6 located at the entrance on 2/F, East Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong. The box is available for use between 8am and 7pm from Monday to Friday (except public holidays);

- By fax to 2868 4643; or
- By email to gazettethb@thb.gov.hk.

A notice of objection should describe the objector's interest and the manner in which he or she alleges that he or she will be affected by the works or the use. Objectors are requested to provide contact details to facilitate communication. A notice of objection should be delivered to the Secretary for Transport and Housing not later than April 7, 2021.

Proposed elevated walkway to new acute hospital at Kai Tak Development gazetted

The Government gazetted today (February 5) the proposed construction of a landscaped elevated walkway to the new acute hospital in the Kai Tak Development to enhance connectivity and walkability in the existing built-up areas of Kowloon East, and between the Kowloon Bay business area and the Kai Tak Development.

Details of the proposal are set out in the Annex. The plan and scheme of the works are available for public inspection at the following government offices during office hours:

Central and Western Home Affairs Enquiry Centre,
G/F, Harbour Building,
38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong

Kowloon City Home Affairs Enquiry Centre,
LG/F, Kowloon City Government Offices,
42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom, Kowloon

Kwun Tong Home Affairs Enquiry Centre,
G/F, The Grande Building,
398 Kwun Tong Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon

Wong Tai Sin Home Affairs Enquiry Centre,
Unit 201, 2/F, Lung Cheung Office Block,
138 Lung Cheung Road, Wong Tai Sin, Kowloon

Yau Tsim Mong Home Affairs Enquiry Centre,
G/F, Mong Kok Government Offices,
30 Luen Wan Street, Mong Kok, Kowloon

District Lands Office, Kowloon East and Kowloon West,
4/F, South Tower, West Kowloon Government Offices,
11 Hoi Ting Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon

The gazette notice, scheme, plan and location plan are available at
www.thb.gov.hk/eng/psp/publications/transport/gazette/gazette.htm.

Any person who wishes to object to the works or the use, or both, is required to address to the Secretary for Transport and Housing an objection in writing, which can be submitted via the following means:

- By post or by hand to the Transport and Housing Bureau's drop-in box No. 6 located at the entrance on 2/F, East Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong. The box is available for use between 8am and 7pm from Monday to Friday (except public holidays);
- By fax to 2868 4643; or
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A notice of objection should describe the objector's interest and the manner in which he or she alleges that he or she will be affected by the works or the use. Objectors are requested to provide contact details to facilitate communication. A notice of objection should be delivered to the Secretary for Transport and Housing not later than April 7, 2021.

Tenders invited for Braemar Hill Pedestrian Link

The Highways Department (HyD) today (February 5) invited tenders for the Braemar Hill Pedestrian Link (Contract No. HY/2021/04).

The works are scheduled to commence in the third quarter of 2021 and will take about 54 months to complete. The works mainly comprise:

(i) construction of a pedestrian subway of approximately 40 metres in length and 4.2m in width connecting the lift tower mentioned in (ii) below to the concourse of MTR Fortress Hill Station;

(ii) construction of a lift tower of approximately 33m in height with two lifts connecting the underground concourse of MTR Fortress Hill Station, King's Road and the access road between Fortress Garden and Fortress Metro Tower;

(iii) construction of an elevated covered pedestrian walkway of approximately 25m in length and 3.7m in width connecting the lift tower mentioned in (ii) above to the access road between Fortress Garden and Fortress Metro Tower;

(iv) construction of a lift tower with two lifts at Fortress Hill Road of approximately 21m in height, and an elevated covered pedestrian walkway of approximately 10m in length and 6.2m in width connecting the lift tower and Tin Hau Temple Road;

(v) construction of an elevated covered pedestrian walkway of approximately 33m in length and 3.7m in width across Tin Hau Temple Road, and a covered escalator with an associated stairlift at Tin Hau Temple Road connecting to the elevated covered pedestrian walkway;

(vi) construction of covered staircases, escalators and travellators along the Wan Tin Path stairway;

(vii) conversion of sections of the existing footpath at Fortress Hill Road into carriageway for relocation of an existing bus stop; and

(viii) ancillary works including geotechnical, electrical and mechanical, drainage, landscaping, public lighting and utilities works, as well as construction of retaining walls and covered footpaths.

The HyD has appointed WSP (Asia) Limited as the consultant to design and supervise the construction works. Interested contractors can obtain the tender forms and other particulars from WSP (Asia) Limited at 7/F, One Kowloon, 1 Wang Yuen Street, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

The invitation to tender was gazetted today. Submission of tenders will close at noon on March 26 (Friday). Tender submissions should be placed in the Government Secretariat Tender Box located at the lobby of the Public Entrance at G/F, East Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong.