

**Legislative work of the Government
(as at 5 May 2020)**

Date	Event
8 January 2020 (Wednesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● “Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent” was gazetted as a statutorily notifiable disease under the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 599) and the Prevention and Control of Disease Regulation (Cap. 599A) starting from 8 January 2020
7 February 2020 (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government published in the Gazette the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation¹ and the Prevention and Control of Disease (Disclosure of Information) Regulation². The two Regulations would be effective on 8 February
18 March 2020 (Wednesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government gazetted the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E), mandating persons arriving in Hong Kong from all places outside China to undergo quarantine
24 March 2020 (Tuesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government published in the Gazette the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong (Amendment) Regulation 2020 (the Amendment Regulation). The Amendment Regulation extends the compulsory 14-day quarantine arrangements to all persons arriving from or having stayed in Macao and Taiwan, in the past 14 days prior to arrival, in addition to those arriving from the Mainland. The Amendment Regulation will become

¹ The Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation provides that all persons having stayed in the Mainland for any period during the 14 days preceding arrival in Hong Kong, regardless of nationality and travel documents used, would be subject to compulsory quarantine for 14 days

² The Prevention and Control of Disease (Disclosure of Information) Regulation empowers a health officer to require a person to disclose or furnish any information relevant to the handling of a state of the public health emergency, such as travel history. The relevant power is extended to other medical practitioners who would encounter with a person involved in such public health emergency

Date	Event
	effective from 0:00am on 25 March 2020
27 March 2020 (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government gazetted the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirement and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F). The Regulation will commence at 0.00 am on 28 March 2020 and remain in force for three months. At the same time, Secretary for Food and Health (SFH) issued two directions for 14 days through a notice published in the Gazette in accordance with the Regulation. The directions will take effect at 6pm on 28 March 2020
28 March 2020 (Saturday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The two directions issued by SFH in accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirement and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F) took effect at 6pm. The directions are – Direction 1 - Catering Business. The relevant requirements include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the number of customers at any premises on which food or drink is sold or supplied for consumption on the premises (catering premises) at any one time must not exceed 50% of the normal seating capacity of the premises; (b) tables available for use or being used by customers within any catering premises must be arranged in a way to ensure there is a distance of at least 1.5 metres or some form of partition which could serve as effective buffer between one table and another table at the premises; (c) no more than 4 persons may be seated together at one table within any catering premises; (d) a person must wear a mask at any time within any catering premises, except when the person is consuming food or drink on the premises;

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	<p>(e) body temperature screening on a person must be conducted before the person is allowed to enter the catering premises; and</p> <p>(f) hand sanitisers must be provided at any catering premises for any person at the premises.</p> <p>Direction 2 - Scheduled Premises. All premises as listed below must be closed –</p> <p>(a) amusement game centres;</p> <p>(b) bathhouses;</p> <p>(c) fitness centres;</p> <p>(d) places of amusement;</p> <p>(e) places of public entertainment; and</p> <p>(f) premises that are maintained or intended to be maintained for hire for holding social gatherings (commonly known as “party room”)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government gazetted the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G). The Regulation will commence at 0.00am on 29 March 2020 and remain in force for three months
29 March 2020 (Sunday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Starting from 0:00am, the prohibition of group gatherings with more than four people in public places under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G) came into force and will remain in effect for 14 days
1 April 2020 (Wednesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government gazetted the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirement and Directions) (Business and Premises) (Amendment) Regulation 2020 (the Amendment Regulation). In accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirement and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (the Regulation) (Cap. 599F) and the Amendment

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	<p>Regulation above, SFH issued directions to be effective for 14 days from 6pm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the closure of karaoke establishments and the suspension of karaoke activities in catering premises and club-houses; (b) the closure of mahjong-tin kau establishments and the suspension of mahjong-tin kau activities in catering premises and club-houses; (c) the closure of establishment (commonly known as club or nightclub) that is open late into the night, usually for drinking, and dancing or other entertainment; (d) a person must wear a mask at any time where practicable within the beauty parlour, club-house and massage establishment premises as set out in Part 1 of Schedule 2 to that Regulation; (e) body temperature screening on a person must be conducted before the person is allowed to enter the beauty parlour, club-house and massage establishment premises as set out in Part 1 of Schedule 2 to that Regulation; and (f) hand sanitizers must be provided at any beauty parlour, club-house and massage establishment premises as set out in Part 1 of Schedule 2 to that Regulation
2 April 2020 (Thursday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government introduces new measures to regulate businesses that sell or supply intoxicating liquors for on-site consumption. In accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F), SFH issued directions through notices in the Gazette to be effective for 14 days from 6pm on 3 April 2020³

³ For details, please see the entry for 3 April.

Date	Event
3 April 2020 (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F), SFH issued directions to be effective from 6pm. The directions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) any premises (commonly known as bar or pub) that is exclusively or mainly used for the sale or supply of intoxicating liquors as defined in section 53(1) of the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance (Cap. 109) (“intoxicating liquors”) for consumption in that premises must be closed; (b) any part of a catering business premise that is exclusively or mainly used for the sale or supply of intoxicating liquors for consumption in that part must be closed; and (c) any area in a club-house that is exclusively or mainly used for the sale or supply of intoxicating liquors for consumption in that area must be closed
8 April 2020 (Wednesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease Regulation (Cap. 599A), DH mandates all asymptomatic inbound travellers arriving at HKIA to collect their deep throat saliva samples at the Temporary Specimen Collection Centre at the AsiaWorld-Expo for conducting testing for COVID-19. Also, for inbound travellers who have been to Hubei Province in the past 14 days arriving via land BCPs, specimen collection containers will be provided to them by DH staff for collection of their deep throat saliva samples for virus testing when they are undergoing compulsory home quarantine ● In accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F) and the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group

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	<p>Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G), SFH issued directions through notices in the Gazette to be effective for 14 days from 0.00am on 10 April till 23 April 2020⁴</p>
<p>10 April 2020 (Friday)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Directions issued by SFH through notices in the Gazette in accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F) and the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G) will take effect from 0.00am till 23 April 2020. The directions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) extend the requirements imposed on all catering businesses to 23 April 2020; (b) beauty parlours and massage establishments be closed and extend the closure of other Scheduled Premises listed in Cap 599F to 23 April 2020; (c) extend the relevant requirements imposed on all club-houses to 23 April 2020; (d) the prohibition of group gatherings with more than four people in public places under Cap. 599G continue to remain in force until 23 April 2020
<p>28 April 2020 (Tuesday)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government gazetted amendments to the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 599) and its subsidiary legislations and made the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong (Amendment) (No.2) Regulation 2020. They will take effect starting from 29 April 2020 at 0:00 am. The major amendments include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) extending the expiry date for the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C) to 7 June 2020; (b) broadening the scope of exemption of persons or category of persons from compulsory quarantine;

⁴ For details, please see the entry for 10 April

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	<p>(c) empowering the Director of Health to cancel quarantine order;</p> <p>(d) updating and standardising the use of “coronavirus disease 2019” as the latest nomenclature for statutory notifiable disease in Hong Kong;</p> <p>(e) extending the expiry date of the Prevention and Control of Disease (Disclosure of Information) Regulation (Cap. 599D) to 31 August 2020; and</p> <p>(f) empowering designated officers in addition to the Director of Health to perform a function under Schedule 2 to the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G)</p>
<p>5 May 2020 (Tuesday)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government announced that, in accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F) and the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G), directions will be issued through notices in the Gazette to relax some of the social distancing measures, effective from 8 May to 21 May 2020, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ relax some of the social distancing measures in relation to catering business premises and Scheduled Premises under Cap 599F, mainly the number of persons allowed to be seated together at one table within any catering premises to be increased from 4 to 8; bars or pubs and 7 types of Scheduled Premises (amusement game centre, fitness centre, place of amusement, place of public entertainment, beauty parlour, massage establishment and mahjong-tin kau premises) can resume operations but must follow specified preventive measures ➤ the number of persons allowed in group gatherings

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	<p>in public places under Cap. 599G to be relaxed from 4 to 8 and expand the scope of existing exempted group gatherings. To dovetail Cap. 599F and Cap. 599G, gatherings within Scheduled Premises which can be opened according to directions issued under Section 8 of Cap. 599F will not be subject to the restriction on the number of persons in group gatherings under Cap 599G</p>