

**Chronology of Events in relation to
the Outbreak of Novel Coronavirus Infection
(as at 5 May 2020)**

Date	Event
31 December 2019 (Tuesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Department of Health (“DH”) received the first notification from the National Health Commission (“NHC”) about a cluster of 27 pneumonia cases with unknown causes (with seven cases being serious) in Wuhan, Hubei Province ● The Secretary for Food and Health (“SFH”) sought expert advice and alerted the public through media stand-up ● DH issued letters to doctors and hospitals on the latest situation and reporting criteria ● Health surveillance at the boundary control points (“BCPs”) enhanced. Suspected cases were referred to public hospitals for lab testing and isolation
2 January 2020 (Thursday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SFH chaired a cross-bureaux/departments meeting to examine the prevention measures adopted in response to the cluster of pneumonia cases and to alert them in enhancing cleaning. A media stand-up was conducted after the meeting to provide health advice to the public and appeal to the public to stay alert
3 January 2020 (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Chief Executive (“CE”) and SFH inspected the BCP at Hong Kong West Kowloon Station of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (“XRL”) ● SFH met with experts to seek advice on the latest situation and risk assessment ● A dedicated website was launched by the Centre for Health Protection (“CHP”) of DH, announcing the number of suspected cases under the heightened surveillance system

Date	Event
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CHP expanded the scope of surveillance and revised the reporting criteria, as well as strengthened port health measures and enhanced health promotion for travellers at all BCPs
4 January 2020 (Saturday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Administration launched the Preparedness and Response Plan for Novel Infectious Disease of Public Health Significance (“the Plan”). In parallel, SFH activated the Serious Response Level with immediate effect ● To tie in with the launch of the Plan, the Hospital Authority (“HA”) also announced the activation of the Serious Response Level in public hospitals with immediate effect
6 January 2020 (Monday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SFH chaired the first meeting of Steering Committee in accordance with the Serious Response Level under the Plan and engaged experts to review the situation in Wuhan and seek advice on risk assessment
7 January 2020 (Tuesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SFH chaired a cross-bureaux/departments meeting to assess the latest situation and discuss prevention measures ● SFH led a press conference to roll out the five major areas of works in preventing the diseases, including port health measures, the Plan, amendments to the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 599), control measures of the HA and risk communications
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 ● SFH attended the Legislative Council (“LegCo”) to

Date	Event
	respond to three urgent questions raised by LegCo Members
9 January 2020 (Thursday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SFH chaired a meeting and invited experts to discuss the latest developments of the cluster of pneumonia cases detected in Wuhan, followed by a press conference ● The Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases and the Scientific Committee on Infection Control under the CHP of DH convened the first joint meeting to review the measures in light of the latest local and global situation of novel coronavirus infection. The Controller for the CHP joined two local experts (Professor Yuen Kwok-yung and Professor David Hui) in the press conference after the meeting
10 January 2020 (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SFH briefed the LegCo Panel on Health Services on the Government’s measures in response to cluster of pneumonia cases
11 January 2020 (Saturday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SFH sought advice from experts on the latest situation
12 January 2020 (Sunday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NHC announced that it had shared the genetic sequences of the novel coronavirus associated with the cluster of pneumonia cases detected in Wuhan with the World Health Organization (“WHO”)
13 January 2020 (Monday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Thailand confirmed the first imported case of novel coronavirus infection ● The Under Secretary of Food and Health (“USFH”), together with representatives from DH and HA, departed for Wuhan to learn about the situation of the pneumonia cases, prevention and control measures and clinical management ● HA started the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance

Date	Event
	Scheme to conduct testing on pneumonia patients meeting relevant criteria (i.e. with unknown causes while not responding to treatment in three days, or requiring care in Intensive Care Unit, or occurring in clusters, or who is a healthcare worker) irrespective of their travel history as a measure for more proactive case finding
14 January 2020 (Tuesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SFH chaired a cross-bureaux/departments meeting to review the latest situation and revisit the robustness of the current prevention and control measures
15 January 2020 (Wednesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SFH convened an expert meeting and received report by the Hong Kong delegation that visited Wuhan ● A press conference led by USFH was held to report on the working visit to Wuhan to examine the situation concerning the cluster of pneumonia cases
16 January 2020 (Thursday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SFH chaired the second meeting of Steering Committee in accordance with the Serious Response Level under the Plan ● Japan confirmed the first imported case of novel coronavirus infection ● CHP revised the reporting criteria of “Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent” to enhance the surveillance of suspected cases
17 January 2020 (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SFH hosted a media stand-up to update the public on the latest situation
20 January 2020 (Monday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Korea confirmed the first imported case of novel coronavirus infection ● CE joined SFH’s cross-bureaux/departments meeting to receive report on the latest situation and review preventive and control measures ● SFH led a press conference to update the public on the

Date	Event
	<p>latest situation and measures, including enhanced surveillance through extension of health declaration arrangement, the “containment” strategy and health advice on travelling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CHP further revised the reporting criteria of “Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent”
21 January 2020 (Tuesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Taiwan confirmed the first imported case of novel coronavirus infection ● SFH met with experts to review the latest situation in Wuhan ● Health declaration arrangement implemented on all inbound travellers by air from Wuhan starting from midnight ● HA extended the scope of the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance to include any inpatients with pneumonia and travel history to the Mainland within 14 days before onset of symptoms
22 January 2020 (Wednesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The first highly suspected imported case of novel coronavirus infection was reported in Hong Kong ● SFH held a media stand-up to update the public on the latest situation ● CHP set up a hotline (2125 1122) for contact tracing ● Hong Kong residents were strongly advised to avoid all non-essential travel to Wuhan, Hubei Province and stay vigilant
23 January 2020 (Thursday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 2]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The second highly suspected imported case of novel coronavirus infection was reported in Hong Kong ● On the same day, the two imported cases of novel coronavirus infection was confirmed ● Quarantine centre at The Lady MacLehose Holiday Village under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) was activated and close contacts would be transferred to the village for

Date	Event
	<p>quarantine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Daily media briefing by CHP and HA started ● SFH chaired the third meeting of Steering Committee, with the Chief Secretary for Administration (“CS”) in attendance, in accordance with the Plan. A press conference led by CS was held afterwards ● CHP further revised the reporting criteria of “Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent” to enhance the surveillance
<p>24 January 2020 (Friday)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The health declaration system was extended to cover the Hong Kong West Kowloon Station of XRL ● Flights and high-speed train services between Hong Kong and Wuhan suspended ● The Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases and the Scientific Committee on Infection Control under the CHP of DH convened the second joint meeting to review the measures in light of the latest local and global situation of novel coronavirus infection
<p>25 January 2020 (Saturday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 5]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE announced activation of Emergency Response Level under the Plan with immediate effect and set up four working groups ● CE held a press conference and announced the following strategies: (a) enhancing mechanism and organisation structure to tackle disease; (b) strengthening immigration control, including expanding the arrangements of health declarations by incoming travellers from the Mainland as soon as possible to all BCPs; (c) minimising risks of virus infection and spreading in local community, including extending the Chinese New Year holidays of secondary schools, primary schools, kindergartens, child care centres and special schools so that they would resume classes not earlier than 17 February; (d) enhancing personal hygiene of the public and issuing

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	<p>guidelines; (e) improving anti-epidemic facilities and services; (f) allocating sufficient resources for the strategies and measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To tie in with the Government raising response level to “Emergency”, HA also announced the activation of the Emergency Response Level in public hospitals with immediate effect to implement a series of measures to enhance infection control and focus resources to cope with the epidemic
26 January 2020 (Sunday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE chaired the first meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan
27 January 2020 (Monday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 8]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE chaired the second meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan ● Except for Hong Kong residents, residents from Hubei Province and persons who visited the Hubei Province in the past 14 days were not permitted to enter Hong Kong until further notice
28 January 2020 (Tuesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE chaired the third meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan ● Through a press conference, the Government further announced seven disease prevention and control measures: (a) significantly reducing the flow of people between the Mainland and Hong Kong, including reduction and suspension of transport and BCP services; (b) adjusting fee charging policy for Non-eligible Persons (“NEP”) of HA and to charge all NEPs the relevant fees starting from 29 January 2020; (c) reducing the flow and contacts of people in Hong Kong, including appealing to employers to make flexible work arrangements for employees in accordance with their operational needs, and

Date	Event
	<p>implementing the special work arrangement for government employees other than those providing emergency and essential public services until 2 February subject to review closer to the time; (d) assisting Hong Kong residents in Hubei Province; (e) reaching out to hotels through the hotel industry and Hong Kong Tourism Board to contact travellers from Hubei province, for follow-up by the CHP; (f) continuing to identify suitable places to serve as quarantine centre facilities and other purposes; (g) worldwide procurement in order to ensure adequate supply for tackling the disease</p>
<p>29 January 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 10]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Commerce and Economic Development Bureau and relevant government departments met members of local chambers of commerce and the retail industry to learn more about the situation of the supply of surgical masks and problems encountered by importers and retailers ● The health declaration system was extended to all inbound flights from the Mainland ● The Immigration Department (“ImmD”) reached out to hotels, hostels and guesthouses to contact travellers from Hubei Province and give them relevant health advice
<p>30 January 2020 (Thursday)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE chaired the fourth meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan ● WHO declared that the outbreak of the novel coronavirus constituted a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (“PHEIC”) ● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice ● SFH attended the special meeting of the LegCo Panel on Health Services to brief Members on the latest situation

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● With effect from 30 January 2020, (1) cross-boundary coach, hire car and private car using Sha Tau Kok and Man Kam To Control Points were suspended due to the suspension of the immigration clearance service; (2) all services of the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong XRL and Intercity Through Train were suspended, and (3) cross-boundary ferry services of China Ferry Terminal and Tuen Mun Ferry Terminal were suspended
<p>31 January 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 13]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Through a press conference led by CE, the Government announced measures to further prevent and control the spread of the disease: (a) suspending classes at all schools in Hong Kong with class resumption no earlier than 2 March; (b) special work arrangement for government departments would be extended until 9 February subject to review closer to the time; (c) all Hong Kong residents who have visited Hubei Province in the past 14 days should approach staff of the DH's Port Health Division for relevant assessment upon their arrival and would be arranged to stay in quarantine centres for surveillance; (d) for those Hubei residents who have already entered and were still staying in Hong Kong, DH would also arrange for them to stay in quarantine centres or, if asymptomatic, to leave Hong Kong as soon as possible; (e) enhancing exit screening and health declaration; (f) all-out efforts to support front-line healthcare staff; and (g) increasing supply of surgical masks through a multi-pronged approach ● HA further extended the scope of the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance to include all pneumonia inpatients ● HA announced the Special Rental Allowance for staff who have to work in high risk areas under Emergency Response Level with temporary accommodation needs.

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1 February 2020 (Saturday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exit screening arrangement introduced in the Hong Kong International Airport (“HKIA”) ● HA started to provide laboratory testing in public hospitals
2 February 2020 (Sunday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 15]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE chaired the fifth meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan ● CE wrote to Consuls-General in Hong Kong and CS met them to explain in detail the measures taken by Hong Kong in disease prevention and control
3 February 2020 (Monday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE led a press conference, attended by relevant Bureaux Secretaries and Heads of Department, on the stepping up of control measures. CE appealed to the public that the spread of virus occurred regardless of race, nationality and residency status, and that the flow of people across the border should be reduced as much as possible ● The Government launched an Interactive Map Dashboard to provide the latest situation of novel coronavirus infection
4 February 2020 (Tuesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cross-boundary passengers by land or by sea converged to Shenzhen Bay control point and Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (“HZMB”) Hong Kong Port ● Passenger clearance services further suspended at four control points, namely Lo Wu, Lok Ma Chau Spur Line, Lok Ma Chau and Hong Kong-Macau Ferry Terminal. Cross-boundary coach, shuttle bus, hire car and private car using Lok Ma Chau Control Point were suspended ● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice

Date	Event
<p>5 February 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 21]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A 14-day compulsory quarantine arrangement on all the people entering Hong Kong from the Mainland announced. The new subsidiary legislation was gazetted as Cap. 599C ● Customs, immigration and quarantine services at Kai Tai Cruise Terminal and Ocean Terminal suspended ● The health declaration system extended to HZMB, Man Kam To (Cargo) and Sha Tau Kok (Cargo) ● The Food and Health Bureau (“FHB”) attended the Sham Shui Po District Council to explain the arrangement and justification of using the Jao Tsung-I Academy as quarantine centre ● CHP’s Port Health Division conducted health quarantine work on the “World Dream” cruise where some travellers from the Mainland in a previous sail were confirmed to have been infected with the novel coronavirus ● CE led a press conference, attended by relevant Bureaux Secretaries and Heads of Department, to explain the new policy of compulsory quarantine arrangement, amongst others
<p>6 February 2020 (Thursday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 24]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Education Bureau (“EDB”) announced two possible options for the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (“HKDSE”). Further assessment would be made towards the end of February
<p>7 February 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong</p>	<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)

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

Date	Event
Kong: 26]	<p>Regulation ² . The two Regulations would be effective on 8 February</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice ● CS led a press conference, attended by relevant Bureaux Secretaries and Heads of Department, to update the public of the implementation of compulsory quarantine arrangement³ ● The special work arrangement for government departments was extended until 16 February subject to review closer to the time. In addition to emergency services and other essential public services, government departments would also provide basic public services of a limited scale
8 February 2020 (Saturday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A media stand-up by CE was conducted to brief the public on the enhanced control measures ● FHB, DH and other relevant government departments met with representatives from the cruise company of “World Dream” ● DH had earlier taken specimens from symptomatic crew members and passengers of the “World Dream” cruise for test on novel coronavirus. Upon relevant experts’ advice, the Government decided to conduct tests on novel coronavirus for 1 800 odd crew members on board ● The Government explained to residents in the neighbourhood on the arrangement for using Chun Yeung Estate as a quarantine centre

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

³ Non-Hong Kong residents will be quarantined in accommodation that they have arranged (which can be domestic or hotel units). Hong Kong residents will normally be subject to home-quarantine. Only when it is not possible for them to arrange for their own accommodation will they be quarantined in temporary accommodation arranged by the Government. (Note: Hong Kong residents who have been to Hubei in the 14 days prior to their arrival in Hong Kong and those with close contacts with confirmed cases will be quarantined in centres managed by DH. Those that come back from the Mainland (other than Hubei) and without their own accommodation will be quarantined in camps managed by LCSD.)

Date	Event
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE visited the BCPs and call centres to observe the implementation of the compulsory mandatory arrangement as well as the Public Health Laboratory Centre which tested the specimens of crew members of the “World Dream” cruise
<p>9 February 2020 (Sunday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 36]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Public Health Laboratory Services Branch of DH completed tests on the novel coronavirus for 1 800 odd crew members on the “World Dream” cruise. All samples were tested negative for the novel coronavirus. All guests on board disembarked ● Representatives from FHB, DH and the Housing Department (“HD”) briefed members of the Sha Tin District Council about the arrangement and justifications of using Chun Yeung Estate as a quarantine centre ● CE, accompanied by SFH, visited HKIA and HZMB
<p>10 February 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 42]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE chaired the sixth meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan ● SFH led a press conference to communicate with the public on the compulsory home quarantine measure ● The 42nd confirmed case was found to be residing at the same A07 unit of Hong Mei House, Cheung Hong Estate as the 12th confirmed case, albeit on different floors. Upon a site visit with the advice of Professor Yuen Kwok-yung, CHP observed that the possibility of disconnected vent pipes without proper sealing triggering the spread of the virus could not be ruled out. Evacuation was immediately arranged and about 100 residents from 30 plus households were transferred to quarantine centres. Prof Yuen Kwok-yung joined two media briefings to explain his assessment of the incident ● Representatives from FHB, DH and HD briefed the Sha Tin District Council at its special meeting about

Date	Event
	<p>the arrangement and justifications for using Chun Yeung Estate as a quarantine centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● WHO announced a name for the new coronavirus disease “COVID-19”
<p>12 February 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 50]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Persons under compulsory quarantine who failed to share their real-time locations with their mobile phones at the BCPs would be requested to wear electronic wristbands so that they can be monitored as to whether they are staying at the dwelling places
<p>13 February 2020 (Thursday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 53]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government announced that the special work arrangement for government departments would be extended until 23 February in order to reduce social contacts and the risk of the spread of the novel coronavirus in the community, subject to review closer to the time ● EDB announced that all schools in Hong Kong would not resume classes before 16 March ● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice
<p>14 February 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 56]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government announced that ImmD and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Tokyo) would assist Hong Kong residents quarantined on the “Diamond Princess” cruise ship ● SFH attended a meeting with the Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson of the District Councils to brief them on the latest Government actions in combating the disease and addressing their questions and concerns
<p>15 February 2020 (Saturday)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE chaired the seventh meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan ● The Government announced that it was arranging chartered flights to take the Hong Kong residents

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	quarantined on the “Diamond Princess” cruise ship back to Hong Kong free of charge as soon as possible after they are permitted to disembark and land.
16 February 2020 (Sunday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 57]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE, accompanied by SFH, inspected anti-epidemic work at various locations including the Junior Police Call Permanent Activity Centre in Pat Heung, the Shenzhen Bay Control Point and the Infectious Disease Centre of Princess Margaret Hospital
17 February 2020 (Monday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 60]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases and the Scientific Committee on Infection Control under the CHP of DH convened the third joint meeting to review the measures in light of the latest situation of novel coronavirus infection in Hong Kong
18 February 2020 (Tuesday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 62]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE, all Principal Officials and a number of Executive Council Members have joined/will join various non-governmental organisations to conduct visits and distribute surgical masks to persons in need in different districts
19 February 2020 (Wednesday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 65]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HA expanded the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme to cover adult out-patients with fever and respiratory symptoms or mild chest infection at Accident and Emergency Departments (“AEDs”) and General Out-patient Clinics (“GOPCs”) ● CS, together with SFH and other relevant Principal Officials, attended LegCo to respond to two urgent questions raised by LegCo Members
20 February 2020 (Thursday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A total of 106 Hong Kong residents on board the “Diamond Princess” cruise ship arrived at Hong Kong from Tokyo on a chartered flight arranged by the

Date	Event
[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 68, and no. of probable case: 1]	<p>Government. All passengers were sent to the quarantine centre in Chun Yeung Estate for 14-day quarantine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government announced that the special work arrangement for government departments would be extended until 1 March 2020 subject to review closer to the time. While it remained the Government’s top priority to prevent and control the spread of the disease, preparations would be made for the gradual resumption of public services
21 February 2020 (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LegCo Finance Committee approved the injection of \$30 billion into the Anti-epidemic Fund ● The Government released an enhanced website “COVID-19 Thematic Website” (www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/index.html) and a Telegram channel, “Hong Kong Anti-epidemic Information Channel”, to enhance dissemination of information through social media and online platforms
22 February 2020 (Saturday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 69, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Second batch of 84 Hong Kong residents on board the “Diamond Princess” cruise ship arrived at Hong Kong from Tokyo on a chartered flight arranged by the Government. All passengers were sent to the quarantine centre in Chun Yeung Estate for 14-day quarantine ● Among the passengers on the flight were two Macao residents. The Macao Special Administrative Region Government has arranged a coach to pick up the two Macao residents directly at HKIA and return to Macao via HZMB ● The Government announced that since the compulsory quarantine measure was introduced on 8 February 2020, the first batch of 663 persons had finished their 14-day compulsory quarantine at 0:00am and none of them became confirmed cases during the quarantine period

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<p>23 February 2020 (Sunday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 74]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Third batch of five Hong Kong residents on board the “Diamond Princess” cruise ship arrived at Hong Kong from Tokyo on a chartered flight arranged by the Government. All passengers were sent to the quarantine centre in Chun Yeung Estate for 14-day quarantine ● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice ● CE chaired the eighth meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan
<p>24 February 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 81]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government announced that chartered flights would be arranged to bring back Hong Kong people in Hubei Province in batches ● HA announced the Special Emergency Response Allowance for staff engaging in high risk duties under Emergency Response Level in response to COVID-19 epidemic ● In light of the health risks arising from the outbreak of COVID-19 in Korea, the Government issued a Red Outbound Travel Alert (“OTA”) on the country and announced entry restrictions and quarantine requirements for those with travel history to Korea ● The Government introduced a special scheme to deliver prescription medications to Hong Kong residents who are currently residing on the Mainland. Priority is given to help those who are currently located in Guangdong and Fujian Provinces who will run out of medications on or before end-March ● CHP has updated the relevant reporting criteria of “Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent” to enhance surveillance of suspected cases with travel history to the Mainland or Korea
<p>25 February 2020 (Tuesday)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Restrictions are imposed on non-Hong Kong residents arriving from Korea from entering Hong Kong with

Date	Event
[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 85]	<p>effect from 6 a.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Starting from 6 a.m., DH’s Port Health Division will issue quarantine orders under the Prevention and Control of Disease Regulation (Cap. 599A) to Hong Kong residents returning to Hong Kong who have been to Daegu and Gyeongsangbuk-do in Korea in the past 14 days and arrange them to stay in quarantine centre for quarantine ● Hong Kong residents returning from other cities and provinces of Korea will be required to undergo home quarantine and medical surveillance for 14 days ● EDB announced that all schools in Hong Kong would not resume classes before 20 April ● EDB and Hong Kong Examinations Assessment Authority (“HKEAA”) announced the commencement of the HKDSE written examinations on 27 March and various special arrangements and enhanced precautionary measures
<p>26 February 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 91]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CS chaired the first meeting of the Anti-epidemic Fund Steering Committee ● The Government announced registration arrangement for first batch of chartered flights taking Hong Kong people in Hubei Province back to Hong Kong
<p>28 February 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 94]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government issued a Red OTA on the Emilia-Romagna, Lombardy and Veneto regions in Italy and alerted the public about the outbreak of COVID-19 cases and associated health risk in Iran under the Red OTA in force ● DH uploaded the list of buildings where persons under compulsory quarantine pursuant to the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C) are conducting quarantine onto the Government’s “COVID-19 Thematic Website”

Date	Event
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases and the Scientific Committee on Infection Control under the CHP of DH convened the fourth joint meeting to review the measures in light of the latest local and global situation of novel coronavirus infection ● CHP has updated relevant reporting criteria of “Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent” to enhance surveillance of suspected cases with travel history to a place with active community transmission of COVID-19 ● A pet dog of a confirmed patient was tested weak positive to COVID-19 virus on multiple occasions by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (“AFCD”). The dog has been put under quarantine at AFCD’s facility ● HA widened the scope of the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme at AEDs and GOPCs to cover both adult and paediatric outpatients with fever and respiratory symptoms, or mild chest infection; or fever or respiratory symptoms subject to clinical assessment of physician in charge
<p>29 February 2020 (Saturday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 95]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE chaired the ninth meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan
<p>1 March 2020 (Sunday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 98, and no. of probable cases:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Starting from 0:00 a.m., the DH’s Port Health Division would issue quarantine orders under the Prevention and Control of Disease Regulation (Cap. 599A) to people (regardless of whether they are Hong Kong residents) arriving Hong Kong who have been to the Emilia-Romagna, Lombardy or Veneto regions in Italy or Iran in the past 14 days and arrange them to stay in

Date	Event
2]	quarantine centre for quarantine
2 March 2020 (Monday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 100, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Subject to targeted social distancing, and with special arrangements and precautionary measures taken, government departments started to gradually resume more public services in a smooth and orderly manner. The arrangements and measures aim at reducing social contact and protecting the health of the staff and members of the public
3 March 2020 (Tuesday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 100, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice
4 March 2020 (Wednesday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 104, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HA further expanded the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme at AEDs and GOPCs to cover around 10 viruses such as Influenza, Parainfluenza and Rhinovirus ● On 4 and 5 March, the Government arranged the first batch of four chartered flights to bring 469 Hong Kong residents in Hubei Province back to Hong Kong
5 March 2020 (Thursday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 104, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HKEAA started to distribute HKDSE admission forms to schools along with face masks on the basis of one face mask for each examination day for all candidates

Date	Event
<p>8 March 2020 (Sunday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 114, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The HA announced that one more GOPC will be covered by the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme from 9 March, making for a total of 64 GOPCs and 17 AEDs ● Starting from 00:00, the health declaration arrangements at the HKIA will be extended from inbound flights from the Mainland to all flights arriving in Hong Kong. All inbound travellers arriving at the HKIA are required to complete and submit a health declaration form
<p>9 March 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 115, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE chaired the tenth meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan ● The Innovation and Technology Commission launched a special call under the Public Sector Trial Scheme for projects to support product development and application of technologies for the prevention and control of the disease, and started taking applications
<p>10 March 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 120, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SFH briefed the LegCo Panel on Health Services on the Government's latest measures for prevention and control of COVID-19 ● The Government issued the Red OTA on the Bourgogne-Franche-Comte and Grand Est regions in France, the North Rhine-Westphalia region in Germany, Hokkaido in Japan as well as the La Rioja, Madrid and Pais Vasco regions in Spain. Also, the Government extended the Red OTA in force on Emilia-Romagna, Lombardy and Veneto regions in Italy to cover the entire country
<p>12 March 2020 (Thursday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AFCD reported that the blood test result of a pet dog which had repeatedly tested weak positive for COVID-19 virus is negative

Date	Event
Kong: 131, and no. of probable case: 1]	
13 March 2020 (Friday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 137, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government issued the Red OTA on a number of European countries (Schengen Area), including Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Principality of Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Republic of Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland
14 March 2020 (Saturday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 141, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Starting from 00:00, DH's Port Health Division officers will issue quarantine orders under the Prevention and Control of Disease Regulation (Cap. 599A) to people arriving in Hong Kong who have been to Italy (except Emilia-Romagna, Lombardy and Veneto regions), Bourgogne-Franche-Comte and Grand Est regions in France, the North Rhine-Westphalia region in Germany, Hokkaido in Japan as well as the La Rioja, Madrid and Pais Vasco regions in Spain in the past 14 days, regardless of whether they are Hong Kong residents. They will be subject to compulsory home quarantine
15 March 2020 (Sunday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 148, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE chaired the 11th meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan ● The Government issued the Red OTA on Ireland, the United Kingdom and the United States ● As the 59-year-old male patient of the 140th case confirmed on 14 March and a couple who had joined the Egypt tour group (the 119th and 124th cases confirmed on 10 March and 11 March respectively) all reside at the "13" unit on different floors in Heng Tai House, Fu Heng Estate, CHP proactively followed up

Date	Event
	<p>to investigate whether the three cases were related. Personnel from CHP conducted interviews with all residents living at the “13” and “14” units of the whole of Heng Tai House, Fu Heng Estate. In view that the units of the confirmed patients were on the 32nd and 34th floors respectively, CHP decided to take prudent infection control measures, and issued quarantine orders to all asymptomatic residents of “13” and “14” units of the 29th to 34th floors and arranged for them to enter quarantine centres</p>
<p>16 March 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 157, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice ● The Government announced that it would arrange the second batch of chartered flights to take Hong Kong residents currently in Xiaogan, Xianning, Huangshi and Wuhan in Hubei Province back to Hong Kong.
<p>17 March 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 167, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government issued the Red OTA on all overseas countries/territories based on public health considerations ● Starting from 00:00, DH’s Port Health Division officers will issue quarantine orders under the Prevention and Control of Disease Regulation (Cap. 599A) to people arriving in Hong Kong who have been to Korea (except Daegu and Gyeongsangbuk-do, and also applicable to non-Hong Kong residents) and Schengen Area in Europe (i.e. Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy (except Emilia-Romagna, Lombardy and Veneto regions), Latvia, Principality of Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Republic of Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland) in the past

Date	Event
	<p>14 days, regardless of whether they are Hong Kong residents. They will be subject to compulsory home quarantine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Persons staying in temporary accommodation provided by the Government will be charged a daily fee of \$200 for accommodation and meal arrangements
<p>18 March 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 192, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<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
<p>19 March 2020 (Thursday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 208, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Starting from 00:00, DH's Port Health Division officers will issue quarantine orders to people arriving in Hong Kong who had been to all overseas countries/territories in the past 14 days, regardless of whether they are Hong Kong residents ● CHP further extended the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme to provide testing service for COVID-19 to high-risk persons who need to be quarantined under the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E) despite being asymptomatic
<p>20 March 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 256, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Under the instruction of the Government's Steering Committee in relation to COVID-19, HA set up test centres at the AsiaWorld-Expo and North Lantau Hospital for testing inbound travellers with upper respiratory symptoms ● SFH briefed the LegCo Panel on Health Services on the Government's latest measures for prevention and control of COVID-19

Date	Event
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer finished sending SMS messages to all inbound travellers arriving at Hong Kong via HKIA before noon for activating the “StayHomeSafe” mobile app ● The Government announced that, under the special scheme for delivering prescription medications to Hong Kong residents who are currently located in Guangdong and Fujian Provinces with urgent need for medications, priority would be extended to process cases in which prescription drugs would run out on or before 30 April 2020 ● DH increased the number of specimen collection points under the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Scheme to cover some general out-patient clinics under HA and 13 designated chest clinics and dermatological clinics under DH
<p>21 March 2020 (Saturday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 273, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government announced that it would commission a total of four chartered flights on 25 and 26 March to bring back Hong Kong residents in Hubei ● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice ● CE led a press conference to announce the following measures to strengthen prevention and control of the outbreak, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) enhancing virus testing for returnees to Hong Kong; (b) rationalise public services and temporarily close down some facilities; (c) HKDSE to be postponed to 24 April 2020; (d) strengthen enforcement actions to combat breaches of quarantine orders; and (e) strengthen measures at elderly homes to prevent disease outbreak
<p>23 March 2020 (Monday)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE led a press conference to announce measures in the following four areas to further strengthen the

Date	Event
<p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 356, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<p>prevention and control of the outbreak, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) starting from 0:00am on 25 March 2020, implement measures to prevent imported cases and cut the virus transmission chain⁴; (b) mandating that all arriving persons from the United Kingdom, other countries in Europe and the United States to undergo virus tests; (c) stringent enforcement actions to combat breaches of quarantine orders; and (d) further promoting reduction of social contacts and gatherings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HA to set up triage and test centres at AEDs of public hospitals by phase to alleviate demands for isolation facilities at public hospitals
<p>24 March 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 386, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<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 effective from 0:00am on 25 March 2020
<p>25 March 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 410, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● From 0:00am, all non-Hong Kong residents coming from overseas countries and regions by plane will be denied entry to Hong Kong; non-Hong Kong residents coming from the Mainland, Macao and Taiwan will be denied entry to Hong Kong if they have been to any overseas countries and regions in the past 14 days; all transit services at HKIA will be suspended; all travellers coming from Macao and Taiwan, including Hong Kong and non-Hong Kong residents, will be subject to a 14-day compulsory quarantine. The

⁴ For details, please see the entry for 25 March.

Date	Event
	<p>relevant arrangements will remain effective for 14 days tentatively</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CHP further extended the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Scheme to provide testing service for COVID-19 to cover all arriving persons from the United Kingdom, other countries in Europe and the United States who are asymptomatic ● The Government arranged the second batch of chartered flights to bring back Hong Kong residents in Hubei Province to Hong Kong. The first two chartered flights successfully brought back 281 Hong Kong residents in Hubei Province
<p>27 March 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 518, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<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, 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
<p>28 March 2020 (Saturday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 582, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<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 – <p>Direction 1 - Catering Business. The relevant requirements include:</p> <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

Date	Event
	<p>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;</p> <p>(c) no more than 4 persons may be seated together at one table within any catering premises;</p> <p>(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;</p> <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 ● CE chaired the 12th meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan

Date	Event
<p>29 March 2020 (Sunday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 641, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<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 ● DH further extended its Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme to all asymptomatic inbound travellers arriving from all places under the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Cap. 599E)
<p>30 March 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 682, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Three men were sentenced to immediate imprisonment for up to three months by magistrates' courts for violating the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C)
<p>31 March 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 714, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Around 80 retrofitted units at the Junior Police Call Permanent Activity Centre at Pat Heung is put into use for quarantine purpose ● To help Hong Kong residents stranded in Peru to leave the country smoothly, the Government announced that it would arrange a chartered flight to fly them from Lima to London, followed by a connecting flight with secured flight bookings back to Hong Kong
<p>1 April 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 765, and no. of probable</p>	<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

Date	Event
case: 1]	<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
<p>2 April 2020 (Thursday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 802, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<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 2020⁵

⁵ For details, please see the entry for 3 April.

Date	Event
<p data-bbox="204 248 400 331">3 April 2020 (Friday)</p> <p data-bbox="204 394 480 622">[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 845, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="512 248 1391 1144">● 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"> <li data-bbox="576 488 1391 763">(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; <li data-bbox="576 779 1391 958">(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 <li data-bbox="576 974 1391 1144">(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 <li data-bbox="512 1205 1391 1480">● Participants of the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme can make use of a door-to-door specimen collection service from member companies of the Cyberport Startup Alumni Association to submit their deep throat saliva specimens to DH for COVID-19 testing
<p data-bbox="204 1541 400 1624">4 April 2020 (Saturday)</p> <p data-bbox="204 1686 480 1915">[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 862, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="512 1541 1391 1816">● A chartered flight taking Hong Kong residents out of Peru is scheduled to depart from Lima to London at around 5am. Upon arrival in London, the Hong Kong residents concerned will take an ordinary connecting flight with secured flight bookings back to Hong Kong. The cost will be borne by the users

Date	Event
<p>5 April 2020 (Sunday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 890, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The test services for travellers entering Hong Kong with symptoms of upper respiratory symptoms are consolidated at the test centre at AsiaWorld-Expo. The test centre also handles suspected cases referred by CHP, including inbound travellers under home quarantine or close contacts of confirmed cases ● The operating hours of passengers clearance services at the Passenger Clearance Building of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port are shortened to run from 10am to 8pm daily, while for the clearance services for private cars are shortened from 6am to 10pm daily, until further notice. The operating hours for cargo clearance are not be affected and remain unchanged (i.e. 24 hours daily) ● 65 Hong Kong residents who took the chartered flights arranged by the Government safely arrived at Hong Kong from Peru and proceeded to CHP's testing centre at the AsiaWorld-Expo for COVID-19 testing
<p>6 April 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 915, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government will extend, until further notice, the entry restriction on non-Hong Kong residents coming from overseas countries or regions by plane and those having been to overseas countries or regions in the past 14 days preceding arrival at Hong Kong. All transit services at HKIA will also continue to be suspended until further notice
<p>8 April 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 960, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<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

Date	Event
	<p>to them by DH staff for collection of their deep throat saliva samples for virus testing when they are undergoing compulsory home quarantine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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), SFH issued directions through notices in the Gazette to be effective for 14 days from 0.00am on 10 April till 23 April 2020⁶
<p>9 April 2020 (Thursday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 973, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Starting from 9 April 2020, besides collecting their deep throat saliva samples at DH's Temporary Specimen Collection Centre at the AsiaWorld-Expo, asymptomatic inbound travellers arriving on flights from the United Kingdom must also wait for the test results there
<p>10 April 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 989, and no. of probable case: 1]</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;

⁶ For details, please see the entry for 10 April

Date	Event
	<p>(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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Shenzhen Municipal Government requires all cross-boundary goods vehicle drivers who enter Shenzhen via Shenzhen ports to present the “i Shenzhen” health certification code and proof of a negative result of a nucleic acid test conducted within the previous seven days. The Zhuhai Municipal Government also requires all cross-boundary goods vehicle drivers who enter Zhuhai via Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge to present proof of a negative result of a nucleic acid test conducted within the previous seven days ● 27 Hong Kong residents who left Morocco on a chartered flight arranged by the Chinese Embassy in the Kingdom of Morocco arrived at Guangzhou. Among them, 26 people subsequently took the coaches arranged by the Hong Kong SAR Government to return to Hong Kong via the Shenzhen Bay Port (1 of them subsequently became a confirmed case)
<p>13 April 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 009, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Starting from 13 April 2020, DH requires travellers arriving on flights from Europe and the United States to wait for their test results at the Temporary Specimen Collection Centre at the AsiaWorld-Expo after collecting their deep throat saliva samples there
<p>14 April 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 012, and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE chaired the 13th meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan ● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice ● Two of the member companies of the Cyberport

Date	Event
no. of probable case: 1]	Startup Alumni Association, GoGo Tech Limited and HK PICK-UP LIMITED, start providing door-to-door specimen collection service for private doctors who provide virus testing under CHP's Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme
15 April 2020 (Wednesday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 016, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Secretary for Education and Secretary General of the HKEAA held a press conference. Having considered the latest outbreak situation and consulted the views of CHP, they announced the arrangements for HKDSE, which will commence on 24 April 2020
18 April 2020 (Saturday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 023, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LegCo Finance Committee approved the Government's funding application for the second round of the Anti-epidemic Fund and other relief measures
19 April 2020 (Sunday) [No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 025, and no. of probable case: 1]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● With the declining number of inbound travellers, HA's test centre at AsiaWorld Expo suspended operations from noon to refocus manpower resources to hospital services. The HA Major Incident Control Centre will continue to liaise closely with DH to triage inbound travellers with respiratory symptoms, people undergoing home quarantine or close contacts of confirmed cases, etc. to various AEDs of public hospitals for testing ● DH requires travellers on flights arriving in the morning to collect their deep throat saliva samples at the Temporary Specimen Collection Centre at the AsiaWorld-Expo and wait for the test results there

Date	Event
	(same as the arrangement for travellers on flights arriving from the United Kingdom, the United States and other areas in Europe)
<p>20 April 2020 (Monday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 025, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● On a trial basis, DH provides to all inbound travellers who collect their deep throat saliva samples at the Temporary Specimen Collection Centre at the AsiaWorld-Expo with an extra specimen collection container, and requests that they collect their deep throat saliva samples on their own on the 12th day of their home quarantine for another round of virus testing
<p>22 April 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 034, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Holding Centre for Test Result set up in the Regal Oriental Hotel by DH comes into operation. Starting from the same day, for travellers arriving on flights in the afternoon or at night, as their tests will not be completed on the same day, they need to be transported to the above Holding Centre for Test Results to wait for their results after collection of deep throat saliva samples at DH's Temporary Specimen Collection Centre
<p>24 April 2020 (Friday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 036, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Special Chinese Medicine (CM) Out-patient Programme provides free CM outpatient rehabilitation service to discharged persons who had received treatment for COVID-19 at Chinese Medicine Clinic cum Training and Research Centres
<p>28 April 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong</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.

Date	Event
<p>Kong: 1 038, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<p>They will take effect starting from 29 April 2020 at 0:00 am. The major amendments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ extending the expiry date for the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Cap. 599C) to 7 June 2020; ➤ broadening the scope of exemption of persons or category of persons from compulsory quarantine; ➤ empowering the Director of Health to cancel quarantine order; ➤ updating and standardising the use of “coronavirus disease 2019” as the latest nomenclature for statutory notifiable disease in Hong Kong; ➤ extending the expiry date of the Prevention and Control of Disease (Disclosure of Information) Regulation (Cap. 599D) to 31 August 2020; and ➤ 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) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government announced that, upon the instruction of the Steering Committee cum Command Centre in relation to the COVID-19 virus, the Government will resume public services starting from 4 May 2020 in a phased manner
<p>29 April 2020 (Wednesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 038, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A flight from Doha carrying around 170 Hong Kong residents returning from Pakistan on their own arrived at Hong Kong. The relevant Hong Kong residents immediately had their deep throat saliva samples collected at the Temporary Specimen Collection Centre and were sent to the quarantine centre in Chun Yeung Estate for 14-day compulsory quarantine

Date	Event
<p>30 April 2020 (Thursday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 038, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A chartered flight taking Hong Kong residents stranded in Pakistan back home arrived at HKIA from Islamabad. The 319 passengers on board the flight immediately had their deep throat saliva samples collected at the Temporary Specimen Collection Centre upon their arrival at Hong Kong and were sent to the quarantine centre in Chun Yeung Estate for 14-day compulsory quarantine. On the same day, another flight from Doha carrying around 60 Hong Kong residents returning from Pakistan on their own arrived at Hong Kong. The relevant passengers were subject to the same arrangement
<p>2 May 2020 (Saturday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 040, and no. of probable case: 1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CE chaired the 14th meeting of Steering Committee cum Command Centre in accordance with the Emergency Response Level under the Plan ● CE met with Expert Advisory Panel to seek their expert advice
<p>5 May 2020 (Tuesday)</p> <p>[No. of confirmed cases in Hong Kong: 1 041, and no. of probable case: 1]</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

Date	Event
	<p>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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ the number of persons allowed in group gatherings 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 ● The Government announced that it will distribute reusable CuMask+™ to all Hong Kong citizens, and distribute to each household a pack of 10 disposable masks. At the same time, the Government will distribute masks to employees of schools, elderly care homes and residential care homes for persons with disabilities and cleansing workers engaged by the Government's outsourced cleansing service contractors. The Government will also distribute 500 000 masks to healthcare professionals in the private sector ● The Government announced the arrangement for resumption of schools by phase

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