

Government begins to relax social distancing measures in gradual and orderly manner

Thanks to the efforts of the whole community in Hong Kong, the epidemic situation has been gradually improving in the past month. With the epidemic situation under control, the Government will relax social distancing measures in a gradual and orderly manner with effect from 18 February to 3 March 2021 in accordance with the latest developments of the epidemic situation and risk assessments.

Some scheduled premises can be open, including sports premises, beauty parlour and massage establishment, place of public entertainment, place of amusement, amusement game centre and fitness centre. Catering business may sell or supply food or drink for consumption on the premises of the business until 10pm and the number of persons at each table is limited to four.

In addition to the current series of infection control measures, the scheduled premises and catering premises shall adopt the following two newly added measures:

Measure (a): To ensure that users scan the "LeaveHomeSafe" QR code or register their names, contact numbers and the dates and times of their visits before the persons are allowed to enter the premises, with records to be kept for 31 days; and

Measure (b): To arrange for all staff involved in the operation of the premises to undergo a polymerase chain reaction-based nucleic acid test for COVID-19 once every 14 days (the first test must be conducted within 14 days starting from February 11, 2021, i.e. by February 24, 2021), and ensure that the staff keep records of every SMS notification containing the result of the test for 31 days.