

# Government makes “restriction-testing declaration” and issues compulsory testing notice in respect of specified “restricted area” in Hung Hom

The Government today (January 28) exercised the power under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation (Cap. 599J) to make a "restriction-testing declaration" (declaration) effective from 7.30pm, under which people (hereafter referred to as "persons subject to compulsory testing") within the specified "restricted area" in Hung Hom (i.e. Block D, Loong King Mansion, 23-35H Ma Tau Wai Road and 9-31 Man Yue Street, Hung Hom, excluding the shops and residential care home for the elderly located on the ground floor and first floor of Loong King Mansion. See Annex) are required to stay in their premises and undergo compulsory testing. Persons subject to compulsory testing are required to stay in their premises until all such persons identified in the "restricted area" have undergone testing and the test results are mostly ascertained. The Government aims at finishing this exercise at about 7am tomorrow (January 29).

A Government spokesman said, "Under Cap. 599J, the Government can, according to the needs of infection control, make a 'restriction-testing declaration'. As a case tested positive who has lived in the abovementioned building was detected today, and the test result involved a mutant strain, the risk of infection in the relevant area is assessed to be likely higher, so the Government decided to make a 'restriction-testing declaration' for the relevant area."

The Government will set up temporary specimen collection stations at the "restricted area" and request persons subject to compulsory testing to undergo testing before 11pm tonight. Arrangements will be made for persons subject to compulsory testing to undergo a nucleic acid test at specimen collection stations where dedicated staff will collect samples through combined nasal and throat swabs. Persons subject to compulsory testing must stay at their place of residence until all test results are ascertained to avoid cross-infection risk. The Government will arrange for door-to-door specimen collection for people with impaired mobility and elderly persons.

The Government spokesman said, "We understand that this exercise will cause inconvenience to the public. The Government has made arrangements to carry out testing for all persons present in the 'restricted area' as soon as possible. The aim is to strive to complete testing of all identified persons subject to compulsory testing and confirm the results, and finish the exercise at around 7am tomorrow. The Government will make a public announcement when the declaration expires officially. In the cases in which employees are unable to go to work because of the declaration, the Government

hopes their employers can exercise discretion and not deduct the salaries or benefits of the employees."

If staying in the "restricted area" will cause unreasonable hardship to individuals who are not residents in the area when the declaration takes effect, government officers may exercise discretion and allow that person to leave the area after considering the individual circumstances. That person must have followed the instructions to undergo testing and leave his/her personal information for contact purposes.

According to the compulsory testing notice to be issued today, any person who had been present at the above building for more than two hours from January 21, 2022 to January 28, 2022, even if they were not present in the "restricted area" at the time when the declaration took effect, must undergo compulsory testing on or before January 30, 2022. As a mutant strain is involved, and having considered relevant infection risks, for prudence's sake, vaccinated persons and persons who have recently been tested are also required to undergo testing.

In addition, in accordance with the latest arrangement, persons who resided in the same building as the case involving a mutant strain are required to undergo compulsory testing on days 2, 3, 4 and 7 counting from the day subsequent to that when the case last stayed in that building before being admitted to hospital for treatment or leaving Hong Kong.

The Home Affairs Department has set up a hotline (Tel: 2835 1473) which starts operation at 7.30pm today for residents restricted by the declaration to make enquiries and seek assistance. The Social Welfare Department will also provide assistance to the affected persons.

The Government appeals to persons subject to compulsory testing for their full co-operation by registering and undergoing testing, and waiting for the results patiently at home. The Government will strictly follow up on whether the persons concerned have complied with the compulsory testing notices and "restriction-testing declaration". Any person who fails to comply with the compulsory testing notices commits an offence and may be fined a fixed penalty of \$5,000. The person would 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 compulsory testing order or the "restriction-testing declaration" is an offence and the offender would be liable to a fine at level 4 (\$25,000) and imprisonment for six months.

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## [Missing man in Kwai Chung located](#)

A man who went missing in Kwai Chung has been located.

Chan Sum-kai, aged 79, went missing after he left a caring centre on Wo Tong Tsui Street on January 26 afternoon. Staff of the caring centre made a report to Police on the same day.

The man was located at Princess Margaret Hospital, Cheung Sha Wan today (January 28). No suspicious circumstances were detected.

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## **Latest arrangements for REO services**

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) announced today (January 28) that, in view of the latest situation of COVID-19, and to reduce social contact and the risk of the spread of virus in the community as far as possible, the public inspection service at the REO office located at Unit 2301-03, Millennium City 6, 392 Kwun Tong Road, Kwun Tong, will be temporarily suspended from next Monday (January 31) until further notice.

On the other hand, the office will remain open for candidates or their representatives to submit election return and, if applicable, claim for financial assistance.

For enquiries, please call the REO hotline at 2891 1001.

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## **Appeal for information on missing woman in Aberdeen (with photo)**

Police today (January 28) appealed to the public for information on a woman who went missing in Aberdeen.

Au Mong-sze, aged 74, went missing after she left her residence at Wah Fu (II) Estate yesterday (January 27). Her family made a report to Police on the same day.

She is about 1.55 metres tall, 46 kilograms in weight and of thin build. She has a long face with yellow complexion and short straight grey hair. She was last seen wearing a green sweater, a light green vest, dark-coloured trousers, white socks and light brown plastic slippers.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing woman or may have seen her is urged to contact the Regional Missing Person Unit of Hong Kong Island on 2860 1040 or email to [rmpu-hki@police.gov.hk](mailto:rmpu-hki@police.gov.hk), or contact any police

station.



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## [Government finishes exercise on “restriction-testing declaration” in respect of specified “restricted area” in Kwai Chung and enforcement operation for breaches of compulsory testing notice \(with photos\)](#)

The Government exercised the power under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation (Cap. 599J) on January 21 to make a "restriction-testing declaration" effective from 6pm that day, under which people (hereafter referred to as "persons subject to compulsory testing") within the specified "restricted area" in Kwai Chung (i.e. Yat Kwai House, Kwai Chung Estate) 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 "restricted area" had undergone testing and the test results were mostly ascertained. Moreover, the Government issued a compulsory testing notice on January 21, requiring persons who had been present at the above building in the past two weeks for more than two hours, even if they were not present in the "restricted area" at the time when the declaration took effect, to undergo compulsory testing on or before January 27, 2022. The

Government announced the completion of the compulsory testing exercise at around 7am today (January 28) and carried out enforcement action in the "restricted area" afterwards to verify that all people in the "restricted area" had undergone compulsory testing in accordance with the requirements of the relevant declaration and compulsory testing notice. The Government announced that the enforcement operation ended at around 10am today.

In this exercise, the Housing Department, the Kwai Tsing District Office, the Hong Kong Police Force and the Auxiliary Medical Service mobilised around 190 staff to arrange for implementation of the declaration and enforcement actions for breaches of the compulsory testing notice issued earlier.

During the effective period of the relevant declaration and compulsory testing notice, the Government delivered breakfast, lunch and dinner to persons subject to compulsory testing and provided simple food for them, including canned food, instant noodles and corn kernels, so as to facilitate their meal arrangements. In addition, the Government also provided anti-epidemic items like face masks for persons subject to compulsory testing.

The Housing Department 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 test 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 10am. Test records of 845 persons subject to compulsory testing were checked. Nobody was found to have not undergone compulsory testing. 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 reminded the households who have not answered the door to contact the Government for arrangement of testing as soon as possible after reading 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 thanks all participating government staff and the testing agencies for their hard work. The Government is also grateful to those subject to compulsory testing 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 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.

