

## FEHD reminds market tenants and catering business operators to comply with anti-epidemic regulations (with photo)

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) today (December 11) reminded public market tenants and catering business operators to comply with relevant regulations and directions on prevention and control of disease in a concerted and persistent manner, with a view to minimising the risk of transmission of COVID-19 and keeping their staff, customers and the public safe.

FEHD officers today visited Yeung Uk Road Market in Tsuen Wan and Tai Po Hui Market in Tai Po to distribute masks and leaflets to market tenants, reminding them to adopt various anti-epidemic measures and comply with anti-epidemic regulations.

The FEHD also encouraged the tenants to actively participate in the subsidy scheme for promotion of contactless payment in public markets to reduce the risk of virus transmission.

A spokesman for the FEHD said, "To allow more time for eligible tenants of public markets to prepare their applications, the FEHD has extended the deadline for application for the scheme to December 21. As at yesterday (December 10), over 3 200 applications have been received."

The spokesman said that the latest directions issued by the Secretary for Food and Health in relation to catering business under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F) has taken effect since yesterday, and will last for a period of 14 days till December 23. The FEHD will continue to step up enforcement actions during this period and remind catering business operators to strictly comply with the regulations and directions under Cap. 599F. Also, the fixed penalty for violating regulations on group gatherings and mask wearing has been increased from \$2,000 to \$5,000 from today.

The spokesman added, "The Government has launched the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile app since mid-November. Catering premises and scheduled premises in operation are required to display the QR code of the app at a conspicuous location. Government departments will carry out designated patrols and step up enforcement actions against catering premises and scheduled premises which have violated the regulation to achieve a deterrent effect. From December 2 to yesterday, the FEHD conducted some 7 063 inspections at catering premises and all of the premises inspected (including 27 cases after verbal warnings given) were found in compliance with the regulation. The Government appeals to the trade to observe strict compliance."

