

Government appeals to foreign domestic helpers and bar trade to fight the virus together

The Government is highly concerned about the local COVID-19 cases involving mutant strain that appeared earlier and strongly appeals to all sectors today (May 9) including foreign domestic helpers (FDHs) and bar trade to fight the virus together. Following the inter-departmental joint operation last week, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) conducted joint operations with several Government departments this weekend again at popular places in different districts where FDHs commonly gathered, and visited bars with the police on Friday and Saturday to carry out publicity and educational work.

The FEHD, in collaboration with the Hong Kong Police Force, the Labour Department, relevant District Offices and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, conducted joint operations in the past two days (May 8 to May 9) at the public places near popular FDH gathering places during weekends and public holidays, such as Tamar Park, Chater Road and Garden Road in Central, Victoria Park and Sugar Street in Wan Chai, the pedestrian footbridge at Mong Kok Road, and Lo Tak Court in Tsuen Wan. Apart from arranging cleansing contractors to strengthen the street cleaning services at the relevant spots, the FEHD also stepped up patrols to combat unlicensed hawking activities. During the operation, promotional leaflets in multiple-language were also distributed by the FEHD to appeal to FDHs to maintain environmental hygiene and refrain from conducting unlicensed hawking activities. FDHs were also reminded by other government departments to comply with the regulations on mask-wearing and prohibition of group gatherings in public places.ã€€

In addition, the FEHD and the Police also conducted joint operation from May 7 to May 8 to visit bar areas in Prince Edward, Soho and Wan Chai to carry out publicity and educational work. The two departments learnt from the bars how their business was going after their reopening, and conducted publicity and educational work on "vaccine bubble" to facilitate the operators to understand and adapt to the new regulation and measures.

To minimise the risk of COVID-19 transmission, the spokesman strongly appealed to all to stay vigilant and comply with the relevant regulations on prevention and control of disease in a concerted and persistent manner. The spokesman also reminded the operators and members of the public to exercise self-discipline and co-operate to fight the virus together.