

Government completes enforcement action on compulsory testing notice at eight buildings in To Kwa Wan

The Kowloon City District Office together with Kowloon City Police District, the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) and the Auxiliary Medical Service (AMS), conducted an enforcement operation today (February 18) at eight buildings in To Kwa Wan, which were included in a compulsory testing notice earlier. The operation started at around 7.40am and ended at around 11.10am today.

Starting from around 7.40am today, residents of On Ping Building, On Wo Yuen (Phase II), 39 Mei King Street; On Hong Building, On Wo Yuen (Phase II), 55 Mei King Street; as well as buildings located at 9 & 11, 13 & 15, 17 & 19, 21 & 23, 25 & 27 and 29 & 31 Mei King Street in To Kwa Wan, were requested to provide the SMS notification received through a mobile phone or related certification containing the results of COVID-19 tests, to show that they had taken such tests as required pursuant to the compulsory testing notice covering relevant buildings within the specified period issued by the Government earlier on. The Government arranged for staff to verify the testing certifications of the residents at the entrances/exits of the eight buildings, and conducted checks in the buildings to verify whether residents had undergone testing in compliance with the requirements.

During the operation, test records of around 790 residents were checked. Among them, around 65 persons were found to have violated the compulsory testing notice. The Government has issued fixed penalties of \$5,000 and/or compulsory testing orders to them, requiring them to undergo testing within a specified period. Non-compliance with a compulsory testing order is an offence, and offenders are liable to a fine of \$25,000 and imprisonment for six months.

The Government reiterates that the aim of issuing a compulsory testing notice is to stop the spread of COVID-19 in the community as soon as possible to protect overall public health and safety. Persons subject to testing under a compulsory testing notice should, as far as reasonably practicable, take appropriate personal disease prevention measures including wearing a mask and maintaining hand hygiene, and, unless for the purpose of undergoing the specified test, stay at their place of residence and avoid going out until the test result is ascertained as far as possible.

The Government wishes to thank the many residents who had complied with the compulsory testing notice for their co-operation to fight against the virus together. The Government will continue to enforce the law strictly. All persons subject to compulsory testing should comply with the compulsory testing notice. Any person who fails to comply with the compulsory testing notice 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. Non-compliance with the order is an offence and the offender may be liable to a fine of \$25,000 and imprisonment for six months.

The Kowloon City District Office is grateful for the support and co-operation of the Police, the CHP and the AMS to enable the enforcement action to be carried out smoothly. The Government understands that the enforcement process may cause some inconvenience to the residents, but hopes that the residents can understand.