

HAD investigates suspected violations of anti-epidemic regulation at Hong Kong Scout Centre

The Office of the Licensing Authority (OLA) in the Home Affairs Department (HAD) today (April 12) conducted a joint investigation with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department for suspected violations of anti-epidemic requirements at Hong Kong Scout Centre located at 8 Austin Road, Jordan, Kowloon, in accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F) and the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G).

According to recent media reports, the responsible person of a clubhouse at the above centre was suspected of not complying with relevant requirements and directions issued by the Secretary for Food and Health in relation to the clubhouse under Cap. 599F on April 10, 2021 and arranged more than 20 persons participating in one banquet. Moreover, patrons organised a banquet at Hong Kong Scout Centre for about 100 guests on the same day, were suspected of violating the relevant restriction on group gathering under Cap. 599G.

A spokesman for the HAD urged those who joined the banquet at the premises concerned on April 10 and other persons in the know to come forward to OLA at 2881 7498 to provide relevant information to assist in the investigation. Depending on the progress of investigation, the OLA may consider further legal actions, including listing the persons concerned as wanted and/or instigating prosecution.

The OLA will continue to proactively take stringent enforcement action and step up inspections at clubhouses in various districts across the territory to ensure that the responsible persons of the premises and the patrons strictly comply with relevant provisions in the regulations for the prevention and control of diseases. The Government appeals to members of the public for their full compliance with various anti-epidemic requirements so as to minimise the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in the community.