



By Email

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本署檔號 OUR REF: (4) in LCSD ADM GA/6-5/4/663 (2020)
來函檔號 YOUR REF:

9 September 2020

Mr Scott Edmunds
(foi+request-498-cfb3d4aa@accessinfo.hk)

Dear Mr Edmunds,

Code on Access to Information
Re : Application No. 75/2020

Your application dated 2 September 2020 made to the Department of Health was transferred to this Department on 7 September 2020 upon your consent. Your application sought access to information in relation to beaches. Our reply is as follows-

All gazetted beaches of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) have been temporarily closed since 15 July when the COVID-19 situation became severe. Members of the public were advised not to go swimming or sunbathing at closed beaches in order to prevent crowds from gathering and reduce the chances of spreading the virus in the community.

In view of the latest situation of COVID-19, some outdoor leisure venues such as running tracks in sports grounds, tennis courts and bowling greens have been reopened gradually from 29 August. When reopening these leisure facilities, special measures like adopting an entry limit at sports grounds for jogging and limiting the number of players permitted to stay in the courts/greens are put in place. However, due to the open environment and the nature of the activities, some essential control measures like body temperature screening, setting entry limits, reducing social contacts and mask wearing may

not be entirely practicable for implementation at beaches. Under the circumstances, reopening of beaches can be risky when the epidemic situation has still not completely stabilised. The LCSD will continue to monitor the situation closely and review the arrangements in a timely manner.

Regarding predicted transmission rates and evidence of cases of transmission on beaches, the LCSD does not possess such information.

Should you have any enquiry, please contact Mr Austin TUNG, Executive Officer (General)2, at 2601 8011.

Yours sincerely,



(Mrs Teresa SOH)

for Director of Leisure and Cultural Services