

Business Liaison Group for Hotels
Summary of Trade's views and Government's responses
January to April 2022

During the above-mentioned period, the Secretariat, Business Liaison Group for Hotels received some trade's views on licensing and regulatory matters. The Secretariat has excerpted the trade's views together with the responses of relevant bureaux/departments as follows for the trade's reference:

Item	Trade's views	Government's responses
1	Relief measures/ financial assistance to help the hotel trade tide over the pandemic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government understands that the business of certain industries, including the hotel industry, has been impacted by the tightening of social distancing measures under the 5th wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Government has therefore rolled out the 5th and 6th rounds of the Anti-epidemic Fund (AEF) in January and February 2022 respectively to provide assistance to the industries affected by the tightened measures. • As far as the hotel industry is concerned, each eligible hotel may receive \$300,000 if it has 100 or less licensed guestrooms or \$400,000 if it has 101 or more licensed guestrooms. Furthermore, the Government has been waiving the fees for new issue or renewal of hotel licences since October 2019 and the Financial Secretary has announced in the 2022-23 Budget that the waiver will be further extended to end September 2023. The hotel industry may also benefit from a number of other cross-sector relief measures announced in the 2022-23 Budget, including reduction of profits tax, rates concession for non-domestic properties, waiver for business registration fees, 75% waiver for water and sewage charges payable by non-domestic households, extension and enhancement of the Special 100% Loan Guarantee for Enterprises, etc. If the development of the epidemic situation permits, the Government will relax the social distancing measures in a gradual and orderly manner on the basis of "vaccine pass". • In addition, the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) has been supporting local tourism through the "Holiday at Home" promotion platform and rolled out two rounds of "Staycation Delights" in April and September 2021 respectively to encourage locals to be a tourist in their own city. The two rounds of "Staycation Delights" had a total quota of 40 000 which translated into an injection of \$20 million to the hotel industry, and were well received by the industry as well as the community. HKTB will continue to maintain close communication with the hotel industry and consider rolling out a new round of "Staycation Delights" when

		<p>the epidemic situation abates so as to provide continued support for the industry.”</p> <p>[Note: HKTB subsequently announced on 6 May 2022 the launch of a new round of “Staycation Delights”.]</p>
--	--	--

Secretariat, Business Liaison Group for Hotels
20 May 2022