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Centre

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FAQ: Requirements for Specified Hostels

Q: What is a specified hostel?

A: A “specified hostel” means any premises providing accommodation for guests, on land approved for use as a backpackers’ hostel, boarding house or guest house under the Planning Act (Cap. 232).

Q: What are the general requirements that a specified hostel has to fulfil?

A: A person operating or managing a specified hostel must take all reasonable steps to ensure all of the following:

- a) that access to shared facilities in the specified hostel is controlled in order to minimise physical interaction between individuals staying in different rooms;
- b) that records are kept of each individual who leaves the specified hostel each day;
- c) that the following are applied to every individual before entering or leaving the specified hostel:



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- i. the body temperature of the individual is taken in order to determine whether the individual is febrile; and
 - ii. the individual is examined without physical contact to visually ascertain whether the individual shows any specified symptom;
- d) no gatherings or events of any nature are held in the specified hostel;
 - e) that each bed provided for occupation in the specified hostel is at least one metre away from another bed provided for such occupation, whether or not they are occupied. However, where a bunk bed is provided at the specified hostel, only one level of the bunk bed is permitted for occupation and each occupied level of a bunk bed is not to be adjacent to an occupied level of an adjacent bunk bed;
 - f) to keep the specified hostel in a safe and sanitary condition.

Q: What if there is an individual who is a symptomatic case?

A: A person operating or managing a specified hostel must take all reasonable steps to ensure that any individual who is a symptomatic case:

- a) obtains medical treatment as soon as practicable after the onset of the fever or exhibition of the specified symptom;
- b) wears a surgical or other mask over the individual's nose and mouth at all times while in the specified hostel; and
- c) is moved to and isolated in a room away from other individuals resident in the same specified hostel.

The information contained in this FAQ is correct as of 21 May 2020

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