



MEDIA ADVISORY

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ADJUSTMENT OF VACCINATION-DIFFERENTIATED SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES AT HAWKER CENTRES AND COFFEESHOPS WITH VDS ENTRY CHECKS

Singapore, 20 November 2021 – The Multi-Ministry Taskforce (MTF) announced on Saturday 20 November 2021 that groups of up to 5 fully vaccinated persons, regardless of household, will be able to dine in together at F&B establishments from Monday 22 November. This easing will extend to hawker centres and coffeeshops which will have in place access control and checking systems to perform vaccination checks at entry points.

Easing of dine-in restriction at hawker centres

2 The National Environment Agency (NEA) has been consulting the Hawkers' Associations and working with the Town Councils and NEA-appointed operators to prepare for the entry checks. From Tuesday 23 November, an initial batch of 11 hawker centres will have put in place vaccination checks at access points, and be able to have up to 5 vaccinated persons dine in together. This initial list can be found at <u>ANNEX</u>.

3 Patrons can either show the personnel manning the access points the vaccination verification on the TraceTogether (TT) App, or provide their TT token to be scanned to determine the vaccination status. Fully vaccinated or eligible persons will be given a sticker to identify them for dine-in at hawker centres, while those who are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated can only purchase food to take away. Individual stallholders do not need to check patrons' vaccination status.

4 The remaining hawker centres are expected to similarly have entry checks in place and also be permitted to have groups of up to 5 vaccinated persons dine in by 30 November. In the meantime, the restriction of dine-in by up to 2 fully vaccinated persons will continue to apply for the remaining hawker centres.

Easing of dine-in restriction at coffeeshops

5 Similarly, coffeeshops¹ that have implemented the necessary control measures will be able to accommodate dine-in groups of up to 5 fully vaccinated persons regardless of household from Tuesday 23 November. The Singapore Food Agency (SFA) has been engaging coffeeshop associations and operators on the required measures, which are as follows:

(a) **Access control:** Coffeeshops must control access to their premises by cordoning off areas and have dedicated entry points. Operators should ensure that access to

¹ Coffeeshops refer to premises with SFA coffeeshop, eating house or canteen licences that are not substantially enclosed by a permanent barrier.

common areas, such as the five-foot walkways in front of certain coffeeshops, are not obstructed.

(b) Vaccination status checks:

 At the entry points, coffeeshops must check the vaccination status of all patrons, and differentiate patrons who are fully vaccinated and dining in. Patrons may show the vaccination verification on the TT App, or provide their TT token to be scanned to determine the vaccination status.

6 To date, seven coffeeshops (refer to <u>ANNEX</u> for the list) have been assessed to meet these requirements. Signs will be displayed at the entrances of these coffeeshops to inform patrons of the adjusted Vaccination-Differentiated Safe Management Measures (VDS) and dine-in concessions. Other coffeeshops can come onboard when they have put in place the necessary control measures.

7 Safe Distancing Enforcement Officers and Safe Distancing Ambassadors deployed by SFA will continue to conduct regular checks at all coffeeshops to ensure that VDS and other Safe Management Measures are observed. For coffeeshops that allow dine-in groups of up to 5 fully vaccinated persons, enforcement actions will be taken if they do not have the required measures in place.

Mandatory checks on vaccination status and enforcement

8 NEA and SFA seek the understanding and cooperation of patrons on mandatory checks on vaccination status at hawker centres and coffeeshops under the adjusted VDS. The checks are to ensure compliance of VDS to better protect the unvaccinated who are at higher risk of infection and severe illness. Unvaccinated persons make up the majority of those who require intensive inpatient care, and disproportionately contribute to the strain on our healthcare resources.

9 We continue to encourage seniors to minimise dining activity at hawker centres and coffeeshops, and opt for takeaway food instead. Where possible, request for household members or neighbours to purchase takeaway food on their behalf.

- End -

About the National Environment Agency

The National Environment Agency (NEA) is the leading public organisation responsible for ensuring a clean and sustainable environment for Singapore. Its key roles are to improve and sustain a clean environment, promote sustainability and resource efficiency, maintain high public health standards, provide timely and reliable meteorological information, and encourage a vibrant hawker culture. NEA works closely with its partners and the community to develop and spearhead environmental and public health initiatives and programmes. It is committed to motivating every individual to care for the environment as a way of life, in order to build a liveable and sustainable Singapore for present and future generations.

For more information, visit <u>www.nea.gov.sg</u>

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About Singapore Food Agency

As the lead agency for food-related matters, the Singapore Food Agency's mission is to ensure and secure a supply of safe food for Singapore. SFA works hand-in-hand with the industry and consumers to grow our three "food baskets" – Diversify import sources, Grow local, and Grow overseas, as well as ensure food safety from farm-to-fork.

SFA also partners food businesses to strengthen capabilities, tap on technologies to raise productivity, undertake research to develop new lines of business, and catalyse industry transformation to ensure food security.

For more information on SFA, visit <u>www.sfa.gov.sg</u>.

List of hawker centres

- 1. Bedok Food Centre
- 2. Beo Crescent Market
- 3. Geylang Serai Market
- 4. Holland Village Market & Food Centre
- 5. Market Street Interim Food Centre
- 6. Sembawang Hills Food Centre
- 7. Tiong Bahru Market
- 8. Kampung Admiralty Hawker Centre
- 9. Ci Yuan Hawker Centre
- 10. Hawker Centre @ Our Tampines Hub
- 11. Pasir Ris Central Hawker Centre

List of coffeeshops

- 1. Barfood & Co Pte Ltd 1 Cantonment Road Unit 01-01, S(080001)
- 2. Goodyear Restaurant Enterprise Pte Ltd 15 Tampines Avenue, S(529788)
- 3. Qi Xiang Pte Ltd 973 Upper Serangoon Road, S(534725)
- 4. B4RI Pte Ltd 362 Tanjong Katong Road, S(437122)
- 5. The Patio 1018, Sembawang Road, S(758495)
- 6. Satay By The Bay Gardens By The Bay S(018953)
- 7. Makansutra Gluttons Bay Pte Ltd 8 Raffles Avenue #01-15, Esplanade Mall S(039802)