



28 October 2021

Circular to licensed corporations

Reminder of business continuity planning in view of COVID-19 Vaccination Programme

The Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) wishes to remind licensed corporations of the circular issued on <u>1 June 2021</u>, which strongly encouraged licensed corporations to consider vaccination as a critical part of operational risk management to ensure that their business operations and client interests are not unduly affected by COVID-19.

In that circular, the SFC urged licensed corporations to review their business continuity plan¹ (BCP) and encourage staff performing critical functions to get vaccinated. The SFC also urged licensed corporations to consider suitable arrangements for unvaccinated critical staff to undergo periodic COVID-19 testing.

In view of the HKSAR Government's vaccination-in-lieu of regular testing arrangement to require all civil servants to get vaccinated, licensed corporations are urged to adopt a similar arrangement and strongly encourage all of their staff who are medically fit to do so to get vaccinated by 30 November 2021 or to undergo effective testing for COVID-19 every two weeks.

Intermediaries Supervision Department Intermediaries Division Securities and Futures Commission

End

SFO/IS/029/2021

¹ Circular to Licensed Corporations concerning Effective Business Continuity Plans, 19 June 2014.