

EXTENSION OF PILOT DURATION FOR BARS AND PUBS

1. On 6 November 2020, the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) and the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) announced the commencement of small-scale pilots for the nightlife industry to allow a limited number of nightlife outlets¹ to reopen with stringent safe management measures (SMMs).
2. The pilots aim to establish the viability and robustness of the stringent SMMs in ensuring the safe conduct of the activities, and the ability of the nightlife industry to comply with them, before the Government considers further steps in the resumption of nightlife businesses.
3. The two-month pilot for bars and pubs commenced on 8 December 2020, with the following three outlets:
 - a. Bar Kiharu, 150 Orchard Plaza, #03-17
 - b. Bell Bar, 5 Koek Road, Cuppage Plaza, #03-12
 - c. Skinny's Lounge, 82 Boat Quay #01-02
4. In view of the latest COVID-19 developments, where we have seen an increase in the number of unlinked community cases in Singapore recently, we will not be expanding the pilot to include more participants. This is to mitigate the risk of further community transmission and formation of clusters in high-risk settings. The same consideration was taken to defer the commencement of the nightlife pilots for nightclubs and karaoke outlets, as announced by MTI and MHA on 18 January 2021.
5. However, enforcement agencies have closely monitored the participating outlets' compliance with the SMMs throughout the pilot duration and found that the SMMs were in place. We will therefore extend the duration of the pilot by two more months until 7 April 2021, with no changes to the participating outlets and the SMMs prescribed. We will continue to monitor the public health situation closely, before any decision is taken to scale up the pilot for bars and pubs and/or commence the pilots for nightclubs and karaoke outlets.
6. The three operators participating in the pilot for bars and pubs must continue to comply with the SMMs set out for the nightlife industry. Enforcement agencies will also continue to monitor the compliance of these outlets and their customers with the SMMs. In the event of breaches, enforcement actions will be taken under the COVID-19 (Temporary

¹ Bars, pubs, nightclubs, discotheques and karaoke establishments.

Measures) Act 2020, and the participating operator may be removed from the pilot. The operator may also be liable for a fine of up to \$10,000 or imprisonment for a term of up to 6 months or to both.

7. Agencies will continue to monitor the public health situation closely, and work with existing pilot participants to tighten the SMMs to safeguard public health if necessary.

**MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
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