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Replies to supplementary questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2017-18

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Food and Health

Session No. : 17

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-FHB(FE)01

(Question Serial No. SV031)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Mrs Cherry TSE)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Would the Government please provide information on the work related to the food tracing mechanism?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena

Reply:

The Government has been enhancing food safety and safeguarding that the food on sale in Hong Kong is fit for human consumption through a multi-pronged approach. The work of the Government includes formulating and updating the legislation on regulatory control, monitoring food safety by taking samples for testing at the import, wholesale and retail levels, taking enforcement actions against problematic food, maintaining close liaison with the regulatory authorities of the main places of origin of food, undertaking early monitoring at source, and enhancing consumer education and communication with the trade.

The Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (the Ordinance) (Cap. 132) stipulates that all foods for sale should be fit for human consumption. Subsidiary legislation under the Ordinance regulates certain imported foods of higher-risk, such as milk, milk products, frozen confections, game, meat, poultry and eggs. The import of milk, milk products and frozen confections requires the prior permission of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD), whereas the import of game, meat, poultry and eggs has to be accompanied with official health certificates issued by the issuing authorities of sources recognized by FEHD.

According to the Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Regulations (Cap. 132W), all prepackaged food shall be labelled with the name and full address of the manufacturer or packer. Alternatively, the prepackaged food shall be labelled with its country of origin, together with the name and office address of the distributor or brand owner in Hong Kong, provided that FEHD has been given prior notification of the full address of the manufacturer or packer of the food in its country of origin in writing. Besides, the Centre for Food

Safety (CFS) of FEHD requires importers to provide relevant import documents such as invoices, airway bills / bills of lading, packing lists and health certificates, whichever applicable.

The Food Safety Ordinance (Cap. 612) (the Ordinance), which has come into effect in 2012, introduces a food tracing mechanism to enable the Government to identify the source of food more effectively and take prompt action when dealing with food incidents in order to safeguard public health. The mechanism consists of a registration scheme for food importers and food distributors and a requirement for food traders to maintain proper transaction records. It also empowers the Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene to issue Food Safety Orders to prohibit the import and supply of problematic foods and to direct that these foods be recalled.

From 2014 to 2016, CFS conducted about 1 600 inspections on the compliance of the food importers and food distributors with the requirements under the Ordinance. CFS instituted 36 prosecutions against non-compliance cases. Among these cases, 32 resulted in conviction, with fines ranging from \$420 to \$10,000.

With a view to safeguarding foods for sale in the market are safe and ensuring that foods are properly labelled, CFS takes food samples at the import, wholesale and retail levels through the Food Surveillance Programme and adopts a risk-based principle in determining the types of samples to be collected, the frequency and number of samples taken for testing, and the types of laboratory analysis to be conducted. CFS takes appropriate follow-up actions according to the testing results, including tracing the food sources, advising vendors to stop selling and dispose of problematic foods which do not comply with the legal requirements. Where there is sufficient evidence, prosecution will be instituted.

It takes the tripartite cooperation of the regulator, industry and consumers to ensure the effective operation of the food safety regulation, including food tracing and handling of food incidents, etc. The Government will continue to keep in view and optimise the food safety work as usual.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**S-FHB(FE)02****(Question Serial No. S0062)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

With regard to Question Serial No. 1949 / Reply Serial No. FHB(FE)126, please further advise on the respective share of food supplied locally and imported into Hong Kong in the past 3 years (i.e. 2014, 2015 and 2016) as per the table below:

	Quantity of local supply (tonnes)	Quantity of food imported (tonnes) by top 10 jurisdictions									
		Country A	Country B	Country C	Country D	Country E	Country F	Country G	Country H	Country I	Country J
Rice											
Vegetables											
Live cattle											
Live goats											
Live pigs											
Live chickens											
Other live poultry											
Live fish											
Chilled beef											
Frozen beef											
Chilled mutton											
Frozen mutton											
Chilled pork											
Frozen pork											
Chilled chickens											
Frozen chickens											
Chilled poultry											
Frozen poultry											
Chilled or frozen fish											

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming

Reply:

The requested information is set out as follows –

(a) 2014

	Quantity of local supply (tonnes)	Quantity of food imported (tonnes) by top 10 jurisdictions									
Rice	0	Thailand 170 070	Vietnam 128 617	Mainland 23 695	Australia 7 198	Pakistan 4 695	USA 4 369	Japan 1 703	Cambodia 1 550	Myanmar 1 421	India 1 184
Vegetables	15 500	Mainland 756 685	USA 20 274	Australia 9 277	Taiwan 9 114	Thailand 4 227	New Zealand 3 842	Japan 2 771	India 2 529	Korea 1 989	Netherlands 1 250
^Live cattle	0	Mainland 18 602	-	-	-	-	-	--	-	-	-
^Live goats	0	Mainland 5 371	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
^Live pigs	87 432	Mainland 1 624 926	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
^Live chickens	4 000 899	[@] Mainland 912 300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
^Other live poultry	0	[@] Mainland 327 056	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Live fish	6 226	Mainland 78 625	Philippines 3 147	Thailand 2 096	Indonesia 1 760	Taiwan 1 261	Malaysia 1 121	Australia 416	Maldives 156	Bulgaria 109	Japan 77
Chilled beef	0	Australia 2 991	USA 1 890	Mainland 1 242	Brazil 729	New Zealand 402	Japan 234	Canada 169	Argentina 51	Netherlands 22	Spain 17
Frozen beef	0	Brazil 208 964	USA 133 878	Canada 16 608	Australia 11 790	Mexico 5 538	UK 5 030	New Zealand 4 653	Ireland 4 458	Argentina 3 259	South Africa 1 062
Chilled mutton	0	Australia 314	New Zealand 218	UK 68	France 11	USA 7	Spain less than 1	-	-	-	-
Frozen mutton	0	Australia 8 402	New Zealand 5 301	UK 2 403	Mainland 1 473	Spain 292	Ireland 255	Chile 95	Uruguay 62	Brazil 54	Argentina 34
Chilled pork	0	Mainland 8 367	Australia 180	Canada 115	Thailand 95	USA 61	UK 49	France 33	Brazil 30	Denmark 21	Japan 12
Frozen pork	0	Brazil 68 373	Mainland 52 563	Germany 32 713	Netherlands 18 369	USA 15 690	Vietnam 7 654	Poland 7 546	Spain 6 749	Canada 5 603	Belgium 2 651
Chilled chickens	0	Mainland 39 551	Thailand 312	Australia 216	Australasia & Oceania, Nesoi 96	New Zealand 93	France 46	USA 6	UK 1	Japan less than 1	-
Frozen chickens	0	Brazil 332 294	USA 263 321	Mainland 66 522	Turkey 24 850	Poland 20 916	Argentina 19 241	UK 16 828	Netherlands 15 028	Chile 10 374	Canada 8 775
Chilled poultry	0	Mainland 69 318	Thailand 312	Australia 216	Australasia & Oceania, Nesoi 149	New Zealand 93	France 59	Taiwan 25	Chile 24	USA 6	UK 4
Frozen poultry	0	Brazil 333 665	USA 267 397	Mainland 72 207	Turkey 24 850	Poland 23 888	Argentina 19 241	UK 17 836	Netherlands 15 378	France 13 663	Chile 11 361
Chilled and frozen fish	55 973	Mainland 53 861	Norway 21 370	Vietnam 21 246	Taiwan 4 068	Japan 2 877	Chile 2 354	Indonesia 2 295	Canada 2 094	USA 1 178	Thailand 1 083

(b) 2015

	Quantity of local supply (tonnes)	Quantity of food imported (tonnes) by top 10 jurisdictions									
Rice	0	Thailand 186 833	Vietnam 99 246	Mainland 21 066	Australia 7 364	Pakistan 5 095	Cambodia 3 520	Japan 2 396	India 1 221	Myanmar 1 125	Taiwan 798
Vegetables	15 000	Mainland 765 533	USA 19 794	Australia 11 579	Taiwan 8 805	Thailand 5 121	New Zealand 3 791	Japan 2 899	India 2 407	Korea 1 888	Netherlands 1 516
^Live cattle	0	Mainland 17 911	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
^Live goats	0	Mainland 4 381	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
^Live pigs	85 733	Mainland 1 583 398	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
^Live chickens	4 055 016	# Mainland 61 300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
^Other live poultry	0	# Mainland 465 305	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Live fish	5 810	Mainland 91 195	Philippines 2 709	Indonesia 1 866	Taiwan 1 807	Thailand 1 548	Malaysia 1 254	Australia 596	Japan 306	Maldives 147	Bulgaria 111
Chilled beef	0	Australia 3 631	USA 1 802	Brazil 1 282	Japan 415	New Zealand 403	Canada 195	Argentina 38	Netherlands 27	UK 8	France 8
Frozen beef	0	Brazil 142 712	USA 101 176	Canada 9 414	Australia 4 932	Mexico 3 480	UK 2 789	Ireland 2 338	Argentina 2 184	New Zealand 2 159	Netherlands 1 1 5 2
Chilled mutton	0	Australia 308	New Zealand 180	UK 24	France 8	USA 4	Korea 1	Spain less than 1	-	-	-
Frozen mutton	0	New Zealand 1 873	Australia 1 595	Mainland 1 345	UK 783	Ireland 76	Spain 54	Iceland 26	Uruguay 23	Hungary 12	USA 6
Chilled pork	0	Mainland 8 450	Australia 220	Canada 169	Brazil 129	USA 54	France 30	Spain 24	Japan 23	Thailand 13	Korea 6
Frozen pork	0	Brazil 73 124	Mainland 52 136	Germany 27 857	USA 22 764	Netherlands 17 719	Poland 9 725	Vietnam 9 176	Canada 8 840	Spain 7 865	France 2 989
Chilled chickens	0	Mainland 48 479	Thailand 400	Australia 230	France 62	Australasia & Oceania, Nesoi 35	New Zealand 25	Brunei Darussalam 20	UK 2	Namibia less than 1	USA less than 1
Frozen chickens	0	USA 272 204	Brazil 244 821	Mainland 63 305	Poland 15 736	Turkey 15 020	Ireland 11 768	Argentina 9 807	Japan 5 837	France 5 809	Canada 5 553
Chilled poultry	0	Mainland 79 565	Thailand 423	Australia 230	France 79	Poland 46	Brunei Darussalam 43	Australasia & Oceania, Nesoi 35	New Zealand 25	UK 4	USA 1
Frozen poultry	0	USA 279 065	Brazil 245 630	Mainland 66 636	Poland 19 076	Turkey 15 049	UK 12 784	France 11 153	Argentina 9 807	Japan 5 837	Canada 5 632
Chilled and frozen fish	52 996	Mainland 57 622	Norway 19 556	Vietnam 18 855	Taiwan 3 921	Indonesia 3 514	Japan 3 509	Canada 2 424	USA 1 429	India 1 083	Australia 344

(c) 2016

	Quantity of local supply (tonnes)	Quantity of food imported (tonnes) by top 10 jurisdictions									
Rice	0	Thailand 196 592	Vietnam 86 820	Mainland 18 644	Australia 7 061	Pakistan 5 333	Cambodia 4 592	Japan 3 163	USA 2 908	India 1 610	Myanmar 1 117
Vegetables	14 200	Mainland 789 345	USA 18 628	Australia 14 522	Thailand 5 083	Taiwan 4 987	New Zealand 4 150	Japan 3 298	Korea 2 013	India 1 898	Netherlands 1 796
^Live cattle	0	Mainland 17 493	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
^Live goats	0	Mainland 3 396	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
^Live pigs	87 948	Mainland 1 439 568	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
^Live chickens	4 041 960	* Mainland 32 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
^Other live poultry	0	Mainland 590 598									
Live fish	6 740	Mainland 58 317	Malaysia 3 012	Philippines 2 8 3 7	Indonesia 2 484	Taiwan 2 443	Thailand 1 368	Australia 693	Maldives 190	Japan 169	Vietnam 107
Chilled beef	0	Australia 3 669	USA 2 306	Brazil 758	Japan 426	New Zealand 393	Canada 201	Argentina 43	Korea 37	Netherlands 26	Central and South America, Nesoi 14
Frozen beef	0	Brazil 194 694	USA 96 348	Canada 21 324	UK 3 970	Ireland 3 936	Poland 3 653	Argentina 3 330	India 3 129	Mexico 3 024	Uruguay 2 654
Chilled mutton	0	Australia 360	New Zealand 175	UK 32	France 10	USA 1	Korea 1	Spain 0.6	Bosnia and Herzegovina less than 1	Canada less than 1	Italy less than 1
Frozen mutton	0	New Zealand 1 611	Mainland 1 171	Australia 829	UK 208	Ireland 104	USA 22	Spain 12	Saudi Arabia 8	Iceland 5	Brazil 4
Chilled pork	0	Mainland 7 625	Brazil 1 123	USA 411	Canada 316	Australia 309	Spain 40	Japan 37	Thailand 34	Germany 29	France 24
Frozen pork	0	Brazil 121 996	USA 52 684	Mainland 35 003	Germany 25 315	Netherlands 18 978	Poland 18 402	Spain 17 330	Vietnam 12 480	Italy 4 927	Canada 4 823
Chilled chickens	0	Mainland 57 446	Australia 113	France 54	Brunei Darussalam 8	New Zealand 5	UK less than 1	-	-	-	-
Frozen chickens	0	USA 268 570	Brazil 240 391	Mainland 59 313	Poland 15 650	UK 13 446	France 9 683	Canada 9 405	Netherlands 8 942	Germany 7 518	Japan 7 310
Chilled poultry	0	Mainland 30 715	Australasia & Oceania, Nesoi 12	France 9	Brunei Darussalam 1	USA less than 1	Australia less than 1	UK less than 1	-	-	-
Frozen poultry	0	USA 16 298	France 5 434	Mainland 3 476	Poland 3 042	Hungary 2 607	Germany 1 825	UK 1 575	Brazil 1 214	Thailand 897	Canada 710
Chilled and frozen fish	35 450	Mainland 48 952	Vietnam 19 701	Norway 17 782	Taiwan 4 287	Japan 3 883	Denmark 3 100	Canada 2 003	Indonesia 1 837	New Zealand 1 512	France 1 463

Remarks:

^ The unit is heads / number instead of tonnes.

@ There was no import of live poultry from the Mainland from 28 January to 5 September 2014.

There was no import of live poultry from the Mainland from 31 December 2014 to 9 February 2015.

* There was no import of live chickens from the Mainland since 17 February 2016.

Sources:

Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Census and Statistics Department

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-FHB(FE)03

(Question Serial No. S0063)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to "Reply Serial No. FHB(FE)144", please provide further information on the following:

1. the current staff establishment and expenditure for processing various licence applications in the Licensing Offices of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department), with a breakdown by type of licence; and the staff establishment of the Licensing Offices, their ranks and salaries, as well as the ratio between the number of licensing staff and the number of licence applications, in the past 3 years;
2. apart from the Licensing Offices that are responsible for processing applications for activities requiring the issue of a Temporary Places of Public Entertainment Licence and/or a Temporary Food Factory Licence, what section(s) or unit(s) in the Department is/are responsible for liaising with the organisers and the relevant policy bureaux ; and
3. given the Department's reply that there is currently no plan to set up a dedicated team or a dedicated establishment for processing applications relating to bazaars, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon LAU Siu-lai

Reply:

1. A total of 115 staff in 3 licensing offices (LOs) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) are responsible for handling applications for food business and other trade licences. They include Health Inspectorate Officers at Superintendents of Environmental Health, Chief Health Inspectors, Senior Health Inspectors and Health Inspectors ranks, Executive Officers, Clerical Officers, etc. The Department does not have a prescribed staff to licence application ratio. Information on the manpower in the 3 LOs and the number of licence applications received in the past 3 years is given below –

	2014	2015	2016
Manpower of 3 LOs	117	115	115
Expenditure #	\$53.886 million	\$56.002 million	\$60.590 million
Number of applications for food business licence	5 875	6 220	6 057
Number of applications for other trade licence	62	82	101
Number of applications for alteration	629	569	466
Number of applications for outside seating accommodation	121	88	98

Expenditure are for Financial years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively

The salary range of various grades/ranks of staff in the LOs is given below:

Grade/Rank	Salary Range
Superintendent of Environmental Health	\$84,385 – \$99,205
Chief Health Inspector	\$65,740 – \$80,905
Senior Health Inspector	\$56,755 – \$65,150
Health Inspector	\$26,700 – \$54,230
Executive Officer	\$28,040 – \$65,150
Clerical Officer	\$13,735 – \$37,570

2. Applications for Temporary Places of Public Entertainment Licence (TPPEL) and Temporary Food Factory Licence (TFFL) are now handled by concerned District Environmental Hygiene Offices and LOs of the Department respectively. The said offices have been providing a “one-stop shop” service for the TPPEL and TFFL applications, which includes liaison with the applicants and making referrals of the applications to concerned government departments for comments, etc.
3. The Department has its established mechanisms and staff for liaison with the relevant bureaux and departments regarding the use of sites for bazaars and for processing applications for holding activities which require a TPPEL and/or TFFL. The staff concerned are also involved in other duties. The current set up and workflow has been working well.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-FHB(FE)04

(Question Serial No. S0039)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to Reply Serial No. FHB(FE)141, please provide further information on the following:

- (1) the average daily working hours of workers providing respective types of outsourced services in the table below:

		2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Street cleansing	less than 8 hours			
	8 hours			
	9 hours			
	10 hours			
	more than 10 hours			
Public toilet management				
Waste collection				
Recyclables collection service				
Security				
Driver				
Others (Please specify)				

- (2) the number of outsourced workers receiving payment for meal breaks;

- (3) the numbers and the average monthly salaries of ethnic minority workers providing respective types of outsourced services in the table below:

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Street cleansing			

Public toilet management			
Waste collection			
Recyclables collection service			
Security			
Driver			
Others (Please specify)			

Asked by: Hon LAU Siu-lai

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

	Maximum working hour committed by contractors	No. of staff		
		2014-15 as at 31.3.2015	2015-16 as at 31.3.2016	2016-17 as at 28.2.2017
Outsourced street cleansing services, including cleansing and management of public toilets except portable toilets	≤ 8 hours	298	0	0
	≤ 10 hours	6 245	6 356	6 357
	≤ 11 hours	46	46	0
Portable toilets services	≤ 10 hours	88	88	88
Waste collection services	≤ 6 hours	6	0	0
	≤ 8 hours	7	7	7
	≤ 9 hours	7	7	0
	≤ 10 hours	87	93	112
Recyclable collection services	≤ 9 hours	0	0	9
	≤ 10 hours	21	21	12
Security guard services	≤ 10 hours	559	550	554
Driver / Supervisor-cum-driver engaged under street cleansing, portable toilets, waste collection and recyclables collection services contracts, etc.	≤ 8 hours	26	9	9
	≤ 9 hours	10	10	0
	≤ 11 hours	372	397	428

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep other information sought.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-FHB(FE)05

(Question Serial No. S0064)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to "Reply Serial No. FHB(FE)142", please provide further information on the following:

1. whether the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will, upon the surrendering of a hawker licence by its holder under the existing assistance scheme, consider giving priority to the registered hawker assistant for succession to the licence originally held by the holder, so that effective use of resources can be achieved by preventing the stall concerned from being left vacant (if yes, the details; if not, the reason(s)); and
2. whether the Department will identify appropriate locations in new towns or new development areas (e.g. Sha Tin District, Tai Po District and Islands District where the number of hawkers is limited) to set up on-street fixed hawker pitches for application by licensed hawkers and for issue of new hawker licences.

Asked by: Hon LAU Siu-lai

Reply:

1. On the question of whether to re-issue new hawker licences to fill any vacant pitches in relevant hawker areas upon surrender of hawker licences under the Hawker Assistance Scheme, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) would carefully consider the case, taking into account the circumstances of individual hawker areas, including their fire safety and environmental hygiene situations, the business environment, comments of relevant departments, as well as the views of the relevant District Council and local residents. Should there be a case for re-issuing new hawker licences, we would consider how best to draw up the eligibility criteria.
2. The Government is committed to implementing a hawker policy which can strike an optimal balance between allowing licensed hawking business to thrive on the one hand and meeting other legitimate concerns such as avoiding unreasonable nuisance to the

local community in addition to ensuring food safety, environmental hygiene and public security on the other hand. We keep an open mind towards proposals for developing the hawker trade or the establishment of bazaars with local characteristics, so long as food safety and environmental hygiene are not compromised, public passageways are not obstructed and local community support is obtained. If suitable sites are identified, support from the relevant District Councils has been obtained and food safety and environmental hygiene are not compromised, the Department stands ready to facilitate liaison with relevant government departments.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-FHB(FE)06

(Question Serial No. S0067)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to "Reply Serial No. FHB(FE)142", please provide further information on the following:

1. the locations and number of vacant hawker pitches, as well as the relevant vacancy rate, in each of the District Council districts; and
2. the number of newly issued hawker licences in the territory and in each of the District Council districts in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by type of licence.

Asked by: Hon LAU Siu-lai

Reply:

1. The information sought is provided at Annex.
2. Since the early 1970's, the former Urban Council had stopped issuing new hawker licences under normal circumstances. No new hawker licences have been issued in the past 3 years.

- End -

Vacancy Position on On-street Fixed Pitches in 43 Hawker Areas (as at 31 December 2016)

District Council Boundary	Location of Hawker Areas	No. of Fixed-pitch Hawker Stalls ¹	Number of Vacant On-street Fixed Pitches ²	Vacancy Rate (%)
		(a)	(b)	(c)=(b)/(a)+(b)
Central and Western	Pottinger Street	36	6	14.3%
	Graham Street	43	11	20.4%
	Gage Street	11	0	0.0%
	Li Yuen Street East	58	0	0.0%
	Li Yuen Street West	53	0	0.0%
	Peel Street	28	11	28.2%
	Wing Kut Street	32	0	0.0%
	Upper Lascar Row	12	0	0.0%
	Man Wa Lane	31	0	0.0%
Wanchai	Gresson Street	40	8	16.7%
	Cross Street	68	2	2.9%
	Tai Yuen Street	76	0	0.0%
	Jardine's Crescent	141	9	6.0%
Eastern	Chun Yeung Street	74	2	2.6%
	Marble Road	76	4	5.0%
	Kam Wa Street	92	4	4.2%
	Tai Tak Street	22	3	12.0%
	Mong Lung Street	6	0	0.0%
Yau Tsim Mong	Reclamation Street	179	24	11.8%
	Pak Hoi Street	13	3	18.8%
	Saigon Street	16	2	11.1%
	Canton Road (Yau Tsim District)	19	16	45.7%
	Bowring Street	90	7	7.2%
	Temple Street	294	15	4.9%
	Tung Choi Street	579	34	5.5%
	Canton Road (Mongkok District)	272	29	9.6%
	Fife Street	21	10	32.3%
	Yin Chong Street	66	7	9.6%
	Ki Lung Street	9	8	47.1%
	Poplar Street	7	3	30.0%
	Fa Yuen Street	216	0	0.0%
	Nelson Street	51	11	17.7%
Sham Shui Po	Wing Lung Street	43	21	32.8%
	Fat Tseung Street	34	8	19.0%
	Cheung Fat Street	44	10	18.5%
	Fuk Wa Street	156	2	1.3%
	Fuk Wing Street	38	1	2.6%
	Pei Ho Street	147	2	1.3%
	Apliu Street	208	7	3.3%
	Ki Lung Street	126	4	3.1%
	Tai Nan Street	60	1	1.6%
	Kweilin Street	59	0	0.0%
Kowloon City	Pau Chung Street	45	6	11.8%

Note:

- 1 The number of fixed-pitch hawker stalls has taken into account changes due to licences surrendered under the Hawker Assistance Scheme (the Scheme) and other reasons such as the death of licensees, relocation of hawker stalls and succession of licence.
- 2 The figure represents the number of pitches vacated as a result of voluntary surrender of hawker licences under the Scheme. The figure does not include pitches located outside building staircase discharge points / emergency vehicular access, earmarked to accommodate stalls that require relocation due to fire safety consideration and absorbed in the course of rationalisation of the overall layout of hawker areas, etc. Fixed-pitches vacated for other reasons and reserved for various purposes such as resite commitments are also excluded.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-FHB(FE)07

(Question Serial No. S0066)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In its written reply to Question Serial No. 2288, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department mentioned about the pilot scheme on installation of Internet Protocol (IP) cameras at hygiene blackspots. Please advise on the following:

- 1) details of the pilot scheme and the estimated expenditure;
- 2) the criteria for selecting hygiene blackspots for implementing the pilot scheme;
- 3) the objective(s) of the pilot scheme;
- 4) whether follow-up actions will be taken for the footage captured by the IP cameras; and
- 5) whether privacy issues are involved regarding the images captured by the cameras; if yes, the measures to protect privacy.

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia

Reply:

The installation of Internet Protocol (IP) cameras aims to strengthen the monitoring of illegal deposits of refuse and facilitate the planning of more effective enforcement actions. As the relevant measure involves privacy and other legal and implementation considerations, we consider that the more prudent approach is to start on a trial basis before full implementation. Under the 6-month Pilot Scheme launched in late December 2016, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has installed IP cameras at a total of 6 illegal dumping blackspots in Central and Western, Sham Shui Po and Yuen Long districts. The estimated expenditure of the Pilot Scheme is about \$1.23 million.

The Department identified the aforesaid 3 districts on the basis of the environmental hygiene conditions of refuse dumping blackspots, the number of complaints received in the past, and the views of the district councils concerned. The specific locations for installation of IP cameras were selected with primary regard to technical feasibility.

The Department has implemented the Pilot Scheme in accordance with the “Guidance on CCTV Surveillance Practices” issued by the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data. For instance, notices are posted within the areas covered by the IP cameras to inform the public that IP cameras are in operation. In addition, the Department has formulated clear operational guidelines and required staff to strictly comply with them. All footage recorded would be kept in safe custody. The disclosure of the footage captured is restricted to the extent necessary for legal action to be taken. Should no prosecution be instituted against the offences within 6 months, the footage so captured will be deleted.

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