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Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Food and Health
Session No. : 13
Consolidated e-file name : FHB(FE)-2-e1.docx

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FHB(FE)246	3985	CHAN Chi-chuen	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)247	3986	CHAN Chi-chuen	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)248	3987	CHAN Chi-chuen	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)249	3988	CHAN Chi-chuen	49	-
FHB(FE)250	3659	CHAN Hak-kan	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)251	4147	CHAN Tanya	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)252	4148	CHAN Tanya	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)253	4224	CHAN Tanya	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)254	4225	CHAN Tanya	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)255	4226	CHAN Tanya	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)256	4227	CHAN Tanya	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)257	4228	CHAN Tanya	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)258	4449	CHAN Tanya	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services (4) Public Education and Community Involvement
FHB(FE)259	4881	CHAN Tanya	49	-
FHB(FE)260	5179	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-

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FHB(FE)262	5181	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)263	5182	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)264	5183	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
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FHB(FE)266	5185	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)267	5186	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)268	5187	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)269	5188	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)270	5189	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)271	5190	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)272	5191	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)273	5369	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)274	5370	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)275	5371	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
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FHB(FE)277	5373	CHEUNG	49	(3) Market Management and

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FHB(FE)278	5374	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)279	5375	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)280	5376	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)281	5377	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)282	5776	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)283	6696	CHU Hoi-dick	49	-
FHB(FE)284	3556	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)285	3570	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)286	3571	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)287	3572	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)288	3574	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)289	3575	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)290	3576	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)291	3577	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)292	3578	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)293	3579	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)294	3580	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)295	3581	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)296	3582	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)297	3583	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
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FHB(FE)301	4532	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services (4) Public Education and Community Involvement
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FHB(FE)305	4553	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)306	4558	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)307	4563	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)308	4564	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)309	4565	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)310	4566	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)311	4567	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)312	4568	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)313	4569	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)314	4570	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)315	4571	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)316	4572	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)317	4573	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)318	4737	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)319	4738	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

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FHB(FE)320	4740	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)321	4741	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)322	4742	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)323	4746	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)324	4778	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)325	4779	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)326	4995	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)327	4996	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)328	4997	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)329	4998	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)330	6769	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)331	3392	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)332	3398	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)333	3399	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)334	3401	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)335	3402	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)336	3403	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)337	4430	MO Claudia	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)338	4438	MO Claudia	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)339	6042	MO Claudia	49	-
FHB(FE)340	6246	SHIU Ka-chun	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)341	6247	SHIU Ka-chun	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)342	6248	SHIU Ka-chun	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)343	6249	SHIU Ka-chun	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)344	6250	SHIU Ka-chun	49	(3) Market Management and

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				Hawker Control
FHB(FE)345	6314	SHIU Ka-chun	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)346	6315	SHIU Ka-chun	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)347	6337	SHIU Ka-chun	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)348	5146	TAM Man-ho, Jeremy	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)349	5147	TAM Man-ho, Jeremy	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)350	5148	TAM Man-ho, Jeremy	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)351	5151	TAM Man-ho, Jeremy	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)352	4466	WAN Siu-kin, Andrew	49	-
FHB(FE)353	4467	WAN Siu-kin, Andrew	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)354	4468	WAN Siu-kin, Andrew	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)355	4469	WAN Siu-kin, Andrew	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)356	4470	WAN Siu-kin, Andrew	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)357	4471	WAN Siu-kin, Andrew	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)358	4035	WU Chi-wai	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)359	6842	WU Chi-wai	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)360	3989	CHAN Chi-chuen	31	(5) Trade Controls
FHB(FE)361	4559	KWOK Ka-ki	31	(1) Control and Enforcement

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)001

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1110)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the salaries, allowances, job-related allowances and related expenses to be incurred by the Food and Health Bureau in 2020-21, please tabulate the following information:

(1) the estimated expenditures on the (i) salaries, (ii) benefits and allowances, (iii) job-related allowances, (iv) Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) contribution and (v) other allowances and contribution (please specify) of (a) the Secretary for Food and Health (SFH), (b) the Under Secretary for Food and Health (USFH) and (c) the Political Assistant (PA) to SFH in this financial year. If the above estimated expenditures of the three politically appointed officials are not included in their personal emoluments but are part of the estimated operating expenditure of the Bureau, please provide (d) the estimated expenditure of the Bureau on the items above;

	(i) Salaries	(ii) Benefits and allowances	(iii) Job-related allowances	(iv) MPF contribution	(v) Other allowances and contribution (please specify)
(a) SFH					
(b) USFH					
(c) PA to SFH					
(d) Total estimated expenditure of the Bureau					

(2) the estimated expenditures on the benefits and allowances for (a) SFH, (b) USFH and (c) PA to SFH in this financial year, including the following four categories of expenditures: (i) their medical and dental benefits, (ii) the medical and dental benefits of their spouses, (iii) their leave passage allowances and (iv) the leave passage allowances of their spouses. If the above estimated expenditures of the three

politically appointed officials are not included in their personal emoluments but are part of the estimated operating expenditure of the Bureau, please provide (d) the estimated expenditure of the Bureau on the items above;

	(i) Medical and dental benefits	(ii) Medical and dental benefits of spouses	(iii) Leave passage allowances	(iv) Leave passage allowances of spouses
(a) SFH				
(b) USFH				
(c) PA to SFH				
(d) Total estimated expenditure of the Bureau				

(3) the estimated expenditures on the (i) government vehicle services and (ii) security arrangements for (a) SFH, (b) USFH and (c) PA to SFH in this financial year. If the above estimated expenditures of the three politically appointed officials are not included in their personal emoluments but are part of the estimated operating expenditure of the Bureau, please provide (d) the estimated expenditure of the Bureau on the items above;

	(i) Cars and chauffeur services	(ii) Security arrangements
(a) SFH		
(b) USFH		
(c) PA to SFH		
(d) Total estimated expenditure of the Bureau		

(4) the estimated expenditures on the job-related allowances for (a) SFH, (b) USFH and (c) PA to SFH in this financial year, including the following two categories of expenditures: (i) official entertainment and (ii) passage for duty visits. If the above estimated expenditures of the three politically appointed officials are not included in their personal emoluments but are part of the estimated operating expenditure of the Bureau, please provide (d) the estimated expenditure of the Bureau on the items above; and

	(i) Official entertainment	(ii) Passage for duty visits
(a) SFH		
(b) USFH		
(c) PA to SFH		
(d) Total estimated expenditure of the Bureau		

(5) the estimated expenditures on the end-of-contract gratuity for (a) SFH, (b) USFH and (c) PA to SFH upon the completion of their term of office, including the following two categories of expenditures: (i) end-of-contract gratuity and (ii) related allowances. If the above estimated expenditures of the three politically appointed officials are not included in their personal emoluments but are part of the estimated operating expenditure of the Bureau, please provide (d) the estimated expenditure of the Bureau on the items above.

	(i) End-of-contract gratuity	(ii) Related allowances
(a) SFH		
(b) USFH		
(c) PA to SFH		
(d) Total estimated expenditure of the Bureau		

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

(1) The provisions reserved in the 2020-21 estimates for the salary in respect of the positions of the Secretary for Food and Health (SFH), the Under Secretary for Food and Health (USFH) and the Political Assistant to the Secretary for Food and Health (PA to SFH) are $4.18 million, $3.13 million and $1.25 million respectively. A sum of $18,000 has been reserved each for the Mandatory Provident Fund contribution of the above- mentioned positions.

(2) SFH, USFH and PA to SFH and their families are entitled to the same medical and dental benefits available to civil servants and their families.

(3) SFH is provided with the free use at her discretion of a car and driver in Hong Kong, while USFH and PA to SFH use government transport in compliance with the rules and regulations applicable to civil servants at comparable levels.

(4) The estimated expenditures on official entertainment and overseas duty visits for SFH's Office in 2020-21 are $0.24 million and $0.56 million respectively.

(5) SFH, USFH and PA to SFH are not entitled to regularly-paid benefits and allowances, job-related allowance, leave passage allowance, security arrangements and end-of-contract gratuity or related allowances.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 | Reply Serial No. **FHB(FE)002**

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0147)

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

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please list the estimated annual salary expenditure (including non-accountable entertainment allowance) for the Secretary for Food and Health, Under Secretary for Food and Health and Political Assistant to the Secretary for Food and Health in 2020-21.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)

Reply:

The provisions reserved in the 2020-21 estimates for the salary in respect of the positions of the Secretary for Food and Health (SFH), the Under Secretary for Food and Health (USFH) and the Political Assistant to the Secretary for Food and Health (PA to SFH) are $4.18 million, $3.13 million and $1.25 million respectively. SFH, USFH and PA to SFH are not entitled to non-accountable entertainment allowance.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1381)

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

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

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As regards taking forward initiatives to enhance pest control services, please inform this Committee:

1. of the Government expenditure in this area for the past 3 years.
2. of the estimated expenditure for such work in the coming year.
3. whether the Government will launch a territory-wide cleaning campaign once again this year. If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
4. whether the Government will regularise the territory-wide cleaning campaign. If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

1&2. The expenditure incurred by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) for pest control services for 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 was $569 million, $630 million and $647 million respectively. In 2020-21, the estimated expenditure in this regard is $667 million. Apart from FEHD, a number of government departments also carry out related work in premises under their purview and we do not have the relevant information.

3&4. Following the launch of the territory-wide cleansing campaign by the Government in May 2019 to raise public awareness of maintaining environmental hygiene, various departments have strengthened their pest control work. FEHD, the Home Affairs Department and the Highways Department have worked together to carry out improvement works and enhanced cleaning at back alleys where hygiene is relatively bad. The Hong Kong Housing Authority, with technical support from FEHD, has installed rodent-proofing structures in public housing estates. The Buildings Department and the Architectural Services Department have promulgated guidelines on incorporating rodent-proofing design in new buildings for building professionals' reference. These guidelines also serve as reference for renovation of old buildings. In addition, FEHD has stepped up enforcement against irregularities

of food premises such as food preparation at rear lanes. FEHD has also collaborated with District Councils and District Offices to organise anti-rodent promotional activities and encourage active participation of the community in anti-rodent work.

After concluding the experience gained from the territory-wide cleansing campaign, the Government will persistently implement environmental hygiene measures and continue to intensify its efforts in pest control with focus on enhanced prevention, co-ordination and surveillance.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3169)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (-) Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide:
1. the estimates of salary, benefits and allowances for the Secretary for Food and Health in the coming financial year; and
2. the estimates of salary, benefits and allowances for each of the other politically appointed officials in the coming financial year.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 9010)

Reply:

(1) The provision reserved in the 2020-21 estimates for the salary in respect of the position of the Secretary for Food and Health (SFH) is $4.18 million. A sum of $18,000 has been reserved for the Mandatory Provident Fund contribution of the above-mentioned position.

(2) The provisions reserved in the 2020-21 estimates for the salary in respect of the positions of the Under Secretary for Food and Health (USFH) and the Political Assistant to the Secretary for Food and Health (PA to SFH) are $3.13 million and $1.25 million respectively. A sum of $18,000 has been reserved each for the Mandatory Provident Fund contribution of the above-mentioned positions.

SFH, USFH and PA to SFH and their families are entitled to the same medical and dental benefits available to civil servants and their families. SFH is provided with the free use at her discretion of a car and driver in Hong Kong, while USFH and PA to SFH use government transport in compliance with the rules and regulations applicable to civil servants at comparable levels. SFH, USFH and PA to SFH are not entitled to regularly-paid benefits and allowances, job-related allowance, leave passage allowance, security arrangements and end-of-contract gratuity or related allowances.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0217)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As regards continuing to study the feasibility of reprovisioning and expanding the Food Safety Laboratory of the Government Laboratory to enhance its testing capability and operational efficiency for tests relating to food safety in 2020-21, please provide details, including the specific plan, the services and test quantities that can be increased, the items for which efficiency can be improved and the time expected to be shortened, the timetable for the reprovisioning and expansion, and the manpower required and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 11)

Reply:

The Government Laboratory (GL), including its Food Safety Laboratory, is currently facing shortage of space. The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and GL have, earlier on, identified a suitable site for the construction of a new complex for GL, and have initially consulted the relevant District Council (DC). Following the consultation, we have reviewed and revised the proposal in the light of the views of the DC, and sought comments from the technical departments. As and when the revised proposal is finalised, we will conduct further consultation. After we have completed the consultation and the technical assessments of the overall development, we will confirm the project details such as the timetable and budget estimates. FHB and GL are handling the above-mentioned work with existing resources.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2816)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the testing of live pigs/raw pork, Tai Lung Veterinary Laboratory of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department ("AFCD's Tai Lung Veterinary Laboratory") and Food Research Laboratory of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in Sham Shui Po ("FEHD's Food Research Laboratory") are both responsible for the relevant work at present. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

(a) The division of work between AFCD's Tai Lung Veterinary Laboratory and FEHD's Food Research Laboratory in conducting tests on raw pork.

(b) The maximum quantity of pork tested by AFCD's Tai Lung Veterinary Laboratory and FEHD's Food Research Laboratory per month in the past 3 years.

(c) Is there any limit on the number of tests for samples coming from various slaughterhouses? If yes, what are the reasons?

(d) The staffing and testing expenditure of AFCD's Tai Lung Veterinary Laboratory and FEHD's Food Research Laboratory in the past 5 years respectively.

(e) To deal with the threat of African Swine Fever, is there any plan for AFCD's Tai Lung Veterinary Laboratory and FEHD's Food Research Laboratory to expand, introduce new technology or strengthen testing capability and capacity? If yes, please provide the details.

(f) What kind of training is required for FEHD's health inspectors with regard to the inspection of live pigs/raw pork? Please provide the details and the number of training hours. Does it cover emerging infectious diseases and biosecurity?

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 2036)

Reply:

(a)&(b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department's Tai Lung Veterinary Laboratory(TLVL) is responsible for testing chemical and drug residues in pig urine samples and disease diagnosis of pig tissues (such as offals and skin), while food safety chemical tests on raw pork are conducted by the Government Laboratory (GL) as commissioned by the Food and Environmental Hygiene

Department (FEHD). The above work does not involve the Food Research Laboratory of the Centre for Food Safety of FEHD.

(c) TLVL and GL will provide testing services as required by the operational needs of the relevant departments with mutual understanding on the submission of samples. In general, these laboratories do not set limit on the number of tests for samples coming from slaughterhouses.

(d) In the past five years, the staffing and testing expenditure incurred by TLVL for tests on pigs are tabulated as follows:

Year	**Staffing expenditure for tests on pigs ($million)**	**Testing expenditure for tests on pigs ($million)**
2015-16	12.1	12.5
2016-17	11.0	11.8
2017-18	11.0	13.5
2018-19	13.8	14.8
2019-20 (revised estimate)	13.1	13.0

(e) To cope with African Swine Fever (ASF), TLVL has been reviewing its testing output. To strengthen the diagnosis and testing capabilities for ASF and other emerging animal diseases, TLVL has been given approval to create one permanent technical post in 2020-21. In addition, TLVL has been allocated with additional provision to create six time-limited posts in 2020-21 and 2021-22 to provide testing, research and development and clerical support for ASF surveillance.

(f) Health inspectors responsible for meat inspection are required to take a professional training programme of about 320 hours on meat inspection, which covers anatomy and pathology of food animals, parasitology, meat hygiene and meat inspection techniques. Pathology of food animals already covers zoonotic diseases such as ASF.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)007

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0691)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the appeals against the ex-gratia allowance for the trawl ban, please advise on the following:

(a) What are the respective expenditure and manpower involved in handling the appeals against the trawl ban in the past 3 years (from 2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(b) What are the respective numbers of hearings completed each year since the hearings began, and the respective numbers of hearings being handled by the relevant department(s)?

(c) What is the number of remaining hearings that have yet to be processed? What is the expected time for the Fishermen Claims Appeal Board to complete the processing of all of the aforesaid appeal cases?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 30)

Reply:

(a)
The Food and Health Bureau housekeeps the operation of Fishermen Claims Appeal Board (Trawl Ban) ("FCAB"). The manpower of FCAB Secretariat and expenditure involved in handling the appeals received by FCAB from 2017-18 to 2019-20 are as follows:

Financial Year	Manpower of FCAB Secretariat (Number of Staff)	Expenditure ($ million)
2017-18	7	5.8
2018-19	7	6.7
2019-20 (revised estimate)	7	6.3

The expenditure above includes both the staff and general operating costs of the Secretariat, as well as the fees for hiring outside legal advisers and other supporting services such as translation.

(b) & (c)
A total of 858 appeal applications from trawler owners have been received. As at mid-March 2020, 149 cases were subsequently withdrawn by the appellants and about 650 appeal cases have been heard. FCAB has issued decisions on over 590 appeal cases, of which 117 were allowed. Besides, the hearings for some 60 cases have been completed, pending drafting of judgements by legal advisers. In addition, 9 appeal cases from fish collector owners and 3 appeal cases from local deckhands have been received. In sum, about 91% of the appeals have been heard or withdrawn.

To ensure that the appeal cases are handled in a fair and just manner, all appeals are heard by FCAB, which would carefully examine and consider all information related to the cases. The workload involved in processing the appeals is exceptionally heavy, and it may require more than one hearing to conclude a complicated case. FCAB is served by a pool of chairmen and members who take turn to hold the hearings. To expedite the processing of appeals, 7 chairmen and 22 members were additionally appointed in April 2017 to allow more hearings to be held by FCAB. Given that the appeal cases vary in complexity, the time required to conclude all cases cannot be predicted.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)008

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2857)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the overseeing of development of new public markets at selected locations:

- What are the locations of the new public markets that are confirmed to be built? What are the details? What is the estimated expenditure involved? Please list out the information in the table below.

District in which new public market(s) is/are confirmed to be built	Proposed site	Will air-conditioning facilities be installed?	Estimated number of stalls	Estimated average rental (per square metre)	Estimated expenditure involved

- What are the districts in which public markets are expected to be built? What are the details? What is the estimated expenditure involved? Please list out the information in the table below.

District in which new public market(s) is/are expected to be built	Proposed site	Will air-conditioning facilities be installed?	Estimated number of stalls	Estimated average rental (per square metre)	Estimated expenditure involved

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

The Government is working on seven new market projects which are at different stages of planning. These projects include the development of new public markets in Tin Shui Wai, Tung Chung Town Centre, Tseung Kwan O, Kwu Tung North New Development Area (NDA), Tung Chung New Town Extension Area and Hung Shui Kiu NDA, as well as building a temporary market in Tin Shui Wai. The details required in respect of these projects are set out in the Annex.

Annex

	District in which new public market(s) is/are confirmed to be built	Proposed site	Project size	Estimated expenditure involved
1.	Tin Shui Wai (Temporary Market)	The open space adjacent to Tin Sau Road Park, Tin Shui Wai	To be built by the Modular Integrated Construction method, with an estimated number of about 40 stalls mainly for the sale of meat, fish, vegetables and fruits.	The current estimated project cost is nearly $30 million.
2.	Tin Shui Wai	A section of Tin Fuk Road adjoining Tin Shui Wai MTR Station	Expected to provide a maximum of about 150 stalls.	Actual project cost will also be adjusted according to the money-of-the-day prices.
3.	Tung Chung Town Centre	The lower floors of a commercial building in Area 6, which is adjacent to Tung Chung MTR Station	Expected to provide at least 100 stalls.	To be announced after the completion of technical feasibility studies and assessment.
4.	Tseung Kwan O	The lower floors of a joint-user building for community facilities planned to be built in Tseung Kwan O Town Centre	To be confirmed after the completion of site identification studies and initial planning.	
5.	Kwu Tung North NDA	To be confirmed after the completion of preliminary planning.		
6.	Tung Chung New Town Extension Area			
7.	Hung Shui Kiu NDA			

Note: All new markets will be equipped with air-conditioning facilities. Stall rentals are to be determined.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3106)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the salaries, allowances, job-related allowances and related expenses to be incurred by the Office of the Secretary for Food and Health in 2020-21, please tabulate the following information:

(1) the estimated expenditures on the (i) salaries, (ii) benefits and allowances, (iii) job-related allowances, (iv) Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) contribution and (v) other allowances and contribution (please specify) of (a) the Secretary for Food and Health (SFH), (b) the Under Secretary for Food and Health (USFH) and (c) the Political Assistant (PA) to SFH in this financial year. If the above estimated expenditures of the three politically appointed officials are not included in their personal emoluments but are part of the estimated operating expenditure of the Bureau, please provide (d) the estimated expenditure of the Bureau on the items above; (i) salaries; (ii) benefits and allowances; (iii) job-related allowances; (iv) MPF contribution; (v) other allowances and contribution (please specify); (a) SFH; (b) USFH; (c) PA to SFH; (d) total estimated expenditure of the Bureau;

(2) the estimated expenditures on the benefits and allowances for (a) SFH, (b) USFH and (c) PA to SFH in this financial year, including the following four categories of expenditures: (i) their medical and dental benefits, (ii) the medical and dental benefits of their spouses, (iii) their leave passage allowances and (iv) the leave passage allowances of their spouses. If the above estimated expenditures of the three politically appointed officials are not included in their personal emoluments but are part of the estimated operating expenditure of the Bureau, please provide (d) the estimated expenditure of the Bureau on the items above; (i) medical and dental benefits; (ii) medical and dental benefits of spouses; (iii) leave passage allowances; (iv) leave passage allowances of spouses; (a) SFH; (b) USFH; (c) PA to SFH; (d) total estimated expenditure of the Bureau;

(3) the estimated expenditures on the (i) government vehicle services and (ii) security arrangements for (a) SFH, (b) USFH and (c) PA to SFH in this financial year. If the above estimated expenditures of the three politically appointed officials are not included in their

personal emoluments but are part of the estimated operating expenditure of the Bureau, please provide (d) the estimated expenditure of the Bureau on the items above; (i) cars and chauffeur services; (ii) security arrangements; (a) SFH; (b) USFH; (c) PA to SFH; (d) total estimated expenditure of the Bureau;

(4) the estimated expenditures on the job-related allowances for (a) SFH, (b) USFH and (c) PA to SFH in this financial year, including the following two categories of expenditures: (i) official entertainment and (ii) passage for duty visits. If the above estimated expenditures of the three politically appointed officials are not included in their personal emoluments but are part of the estimated operating expenditure of the Bureau, please provide (d) the estimated expenditure of the Bureau on the items above; (i) official entertainment; (ii) passage for duty visits; (a) SFH; (b) USFH; (c) PA to SFH; (d) total estimated expenditure of the Bureau; and

(5) the estimated expenditures on the end-of-contract gratuity for (a) SFH, (b) USFH and (c) PA to SFH upon the completion of their term of office, including the following two categories of expenditures: (i) end-of-contract gratuity and (ii) related allowances. If the above estimated expenditures of the three politically appointed officials are not included in their personal emoluments but are part of the estimated operating expenditure of the Bureau, please provide (d) the estimated expenditure of the Bureau on the items above. (i) end-of-contract gratuity; (ii) related allowances; (a) SFH; (b) USFH; (c) PA to SFH; (d) total estimated expenditure of the Bureau.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 2)

Reply:

(1) The provisions reserved in the 2020-21 estimates for the salary in respect of the positions of the Secretary for Food and Health (SFH), the Under Secretary for Food and Health (USFH) and the Political Assistant to the Secretary for Food and Health (PA to SFH) are $4.18 million, $3.13 million and $1.25 million respectively. A sum of $18,000 has been reserved each for the Mandatory Provident Fund contribution of the above- mentioned positions.

(2) SFH, USFH and PA to SFH and their families are entitled to the same medical and dental benefits available to civil servants and their families.

(3) SFH is provided with the free use at her discretion of a car and driver in Hong Kong, while USFH and PA to SFH use government transport in compliance with the rules and regulations applicable to civil servants at comparable levels.

(4) The estimated expenditures on official entertainment and overseas duty visits for SFH's Office in 2020-21 are $0.24 million and $0.56 million respectively.

(5) SFH, USFH and PA to SFH are not entitled to regularly-paid benefits and allowances, job-related allowance, leave passage allowance, security arrangements and end-of-contract gratuity or related allowances.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0815)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding "(the Branch will) continue to implement a strategic plan for reducing the levels of salt and sugar in food to promote healthy eating" –

- what are the details; what is the estimated expenditure involved?
- as many countries have imposed tax on sugary drinks nowadays, has the Government studied this issue? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

The Government attaches much importance to the work on reducing salt and sugar intake of Hong Kong people. The Food and Health Bureau (FHB), the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Department of Health (DH) and the Committee on Reduction of Salt and Sugar in Food (CRSS) have all along been striving to promote salt and sugar reduction through five directions, including starting from an early age, enhancing transparency of information, encouraging restaurants to reduce salt and sugar, reformulation of prepackaged food products, as well as strengthening publicity and education.

On starting from an early age, DH has launched the Healthy Drinks at School Charter at kindergartens and child care centres starting from 2018/19 school year. As at to-date, more than 420 kindergartens and child care centres (i.e. about 40% of kindergartens and child care centres in Hong Kong) are participating in the Charter, pledging to provide children with water and healthy drinks, and not using food as a reward. Besides, DH has launched the Salt Reduction Scheme for School Lunches in primary schools since 2017/18 school year. So far, 13 school lunch suppliers joined the Scheme and provided sodium-reduced lunch options to more than 510 primary schools in Hong Kong (i.e. representing nearly 90% of primary schools in Hong Kong). DH's target is to reduce the average sodium level of primary school lunches by 5% to 10% per year, with a view to cutting the average sodium level of primary school lunches down to not more than 500 mg

in ten years. In 2017/18 school year, the average sodium content of primary school lunch decreased by 14%, meeting the Scheme's sodium reduction target for 2018.

On enhancing transparency of information, we launched the "Salt/Sugar" Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products in October 2017 to facilitate the public to identify more easily prepackaged food products which meet the legal definition of "low salt", "no salt", "low sugar" and "no sugar". At present, more than 210 prepackaged food products have participated in the Scheme. We will continue to actively promote the Scheme to manufacturers/importers to enlist their participation. In addition, several large-scale food manufacturers have undertaken to reformulate their prepackaged food products, covering various types of drinks, instant noodles and soups.

On encouraging restaurants to reduce salt and sugar, we launched the Less-salt-and-sugar Restaurants Scheme in early 2019. Up till now, about 960 restaurants have enrolled and provided customers with options of reduced salt and/or sugar or tailor-made less-salt-and-sugar dishes, so that the public can have more healthy choices when eating out. We have also promoted the Scheme to the public through an online restaurant searching platform. From February 2019 till now, the total number of searches for nearby less-salt-and-sugar restaurants through the platform has exceeded 140 million.

Regarding reformulation of prepackaged food products, we set voluntary sodium reduction targets for prepackaged white bread and wholemeal bread in late September 2019. Seven chained bakery shops and manufacturers have been invited to participate in the Salt Reduction Scheme, striving to reduce the sodium content in their bread through product reformulation. Our next step is to extend the Scheme to non-prepackaged white bread and wholemeal bread, and invite more bread manufacturers to join the Scheme.

On strengthening publicity and education, we organised various activities in 2019, including a large-scale publicity event at Tai Kwun in February, a media tea reception in May with seven celebrity chefs to conduct cooking demonstration with less salt and sugar, and staging, for the third time, less-salt-and-sugar cooking demonstrations by four "star chefs" at Food Expo in August. Moreover, we have been disseminating the message of salt and sugar reduction to the public via the Facebook and Instagram pages on "Hong Kong's Action on Salt & Sugar Reduction". We have also produced radio programmes, music videos and Announcements of Public Interest on television, and engaged key opinion leaders of social media to help promote less-salt-and-sugar diet and perform online cooking demonstration with less salt and sugar. Starting from 2019, FHB, CFS, DH and the Education Bureau jointly hold briefings for teachers to promote healthy living and less-salt-and-sugar eating habits.

The effectiveness of reducing salt or sugar intake among the general public through taxation measures as adopted in other economies is yet to be ascertained, and we would keep in view. The pros and cons of such taxation measures would need to be carefully scrutinised.

FHB has earmarked $7.5 million in 2020-21 for promoting salt and sugar reduction territory-wide. The earmarked funds are intended to implement various public education and publicity activities so as to promote a less-salt-and-sugar dietary culture to the public.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1325)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the development of new public markets: (i) what is the current progress for the temporary public market to be built on Tin Sau Road in Tin Shui Wai South as proposed by the Bureau? (ii) Is there any plan to build a new public market in Tin Shui Wai North? If so, what is the plan? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Che-cheung (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)

Reply:

The new public market in Tin Shui Wai is located at a section of Tin Fuk Road between Tin Shing Road and Tin Yiu Road adjoining the Tin Shui Wai Mass Transit Railway (MTR) Station. It is in the vicinity of a major transport hub in the district and is the main access point for local residents. Considering that it takes time to build a new market, the Government announced in October 2019 that a temporary market would be built at the open space adjacent to Tin Sau Road Park, Tin Shui Wai so as to offer more choice for purchase of fresh food to local residents as soon as possible.

We briefed the Environment, Climate Change, Agriculture and Fisheries Committee of Yuen Long District Council on the progress of building the new public market and temporary market in Tin Shui Wai on 9 March 2020. To shorten construction time for the temporary market, the Modular Integrated Construction method will be adopted with a view to early completion and commissioning for the benefit of the public. We are pressing ahead with the project, including preparing building plans and carrying out preliminary work. Depending on the actual progress, the temporary market is expected to be completed for commissioning by the end of 2020 the earliest.

In considering whether to build new public markets, the Government will take into account a host of factors, including demographic mix of the area, community needs, availability of market facilities and number of fresh provision retail outlets in the vicinity. On the suitability of any potential sites for a new public market when the need for it is confirmed, consideration will be given to their geographical location, existing and planned uses, usable

area and ancillary transport facilities nearby, in order to ensure that, upon completion, the markets will be of a substantial scale and viability and that public finances and land resources can be optimised. The current site selected for the new public market in Tin Shui Wai is well-connected by public transport and close to MTR station and public transport interchanges, and accessible to members of the public. The Government is studying the technical feasibility of the project. When the assessment is completed, the project will be implemented as soon as possible according to the established procedure. Depending on the actual progress, the market is expected to be completed in the first half of 2027.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2393)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Food Branch has mentioned that it will continue to implement a strategic plan for reducing the levels of salt and sugar in food to promote healthy eating in 2020-2021. In this regard, would the Government provide work details and a breakdown on the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

The Government attaches much importance to the work on reducing salt and sugar intake of Hong Kong people. The Food and Health Bureau (FHB), the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Department of Health (DH) and the Committee on Reduction of Salt and Sugar in Food (CRSS) have all along been striving to promote salt and sugar reduction through five directions, including starting from an early age, enhancing transparency of information, encouraging restaurants to reduce salt and sugar, reformulation of prepackaged food products, as well as strengthening publicity and education.

On starting from an early age, DH has launched the Healthy Drinks at School Charter at kindergartens and child care centres starting from 2018/19 school year. As at to-date, more than 420 kindergartens and child care centres (i.e. about 40% of kindergartens and child care centres in Hong Kong) are participating in the Charter, pledging to provide children with water and healthy drinks, and not using food as a reward. Besides, DH has launched the Salt Reduction Scheme for School Lunches in primary schools since 2017/18 school year. So far, 13 school lunch suppliers joined the Scheme and provided sodium-reduced lunch options to more than 510 primary schools in Hong Kong (i.e. representing nearly 90% of primary schools in Hong Kong). DH's target is to reduce the average sodium level of primary school lunches by 5% to 10% per year, with a view to cutting the average sodium level of primary school lunches down to not more than 500 mg in ten years. In 2017/18 school year, the average sodium content of primary school lunch

decreased by 14%, meeting the Scheme's sodium reduction target for 2018. In 2020-21, we will continue to implement these schemes.

On enhancing transparency of information, we launched the "Salt/Sugar" Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products in October 2017 to facilitate the public to identify more easily prepackaged food products which meet the legal definition of "low salt", "no salt", "low sugar" and "no sugar". At present, more than 210 prepackaged food products have participated in the Scheme. We will continue to actively promote the Scheme to manufacturers/importers to enlist their participation. In addition, several large-scale food manufacturers have undertaken to reformulate their prepackaged food products, covering various types of drinks, instant noodles and soups.

On encouraging restaurants to reduce salt and sugar, we launched the Less-salt-and-sugar Restaurants Scheme in early 2019. Up till now, about 960 restaurants have enrolled and provided customers with options of reduced salt and/or sugar or tailor-made less-salt-and-sugar dishes, so that the public can have more healthy choices when eating out. We have also promoted the Scheme to the public through an online restaurant searching platform. From February 2019 till now, the total number of searches for nearby less-salt-and-sugar restaurants through the platform has exceeded 140 million. We will continue to encourage more restaurants to participate in the Scheme and make use of the searching platform for promotion.

Regarding reformulation of prepackaged food products, we set voluntary sodium reduction targets for prepackaged white bread and wholemeal bread in late September 2019. Seven chained bakery shops and manufacturers have been invited to participate in the Salt Reduction Scheme, striving to reduce the sodium content in their bread through product reformulation. Our next step is to extend the Scheme to non-prepackaged white bread and wholemeal bread, and invite more bread manufacturers to join the Scheme.

On strengthening publicity and education, we organised various activities in 2019, including a large-scale publicity event at Tai Kwun in February, a media tea reception in May with seven celebrity chefs to conduct cooking demonstration with less salt and sugar, and staging, for the third time, less-salt-and-sugar cooking demonstrations by four "star chefs" at Food Expo in August. Moreover, we have been disseminating the message of salt and sugar reduction to the public via the Facebook and Instagram pages on "Hong Kong's Action on Salt & Sugar Reduction". We have also produced radio programmes, music videos and Announcements of Public Interest on television, and engaged key opinion leaders of social media to help promote less-salt-and-sugar diet and perform online cooking demonstration with less salt and sugar. Starting from 2019, FHB, CFS, DH and the Education Bureau jointly hold briefings for teachers to promote healthy living and less-salt-and-sugar eating habits. In 2020-21, we will continue to organise various public education and publicity activities.

FHB has earmarked $7.5 million in 2020-21 for promoting salt and sugar reduction territory-wide. The earmarked funds are intended to implement various public education and publicity activities so as to promote a less-salt-and-sugar dietary culture to the public.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 | Reply Serial No. **FHB(FE)013**

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2394)

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

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

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Food Branch has mentioned that it will oversee the refurbishment programme of public toilets in 2020-21. Please advise on the details of the programme (including the locations of public toilets where refurbishment is underway or will be carried out) and a breakdown of expenditure.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

As promulgated by the 2019-20 Budget, the Government will allocate more than $600 million to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme for about 240 public toilets (PTs) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) by phases in the coming five years to improve toilet facilities and enhance hygiene. In close cooperation with the Architectural Services Department, FEHD has launched refurbishment or facelifting works for 42 PTs in the first year at an estimated cost of about $151 million, among which the facelifting works for 7 PTs have been completed and the rest are being carried out according to the plan. A list of the 42 PTs and project timetable is at **Annex 1**. FEHD is planning for the refurbishment or facelifting works for another 49 PTs in 2020-21, the list of which is at **Annex 2**.

Annex 1

42 Public Toilets under 2019-20 Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme (as at 6 March 2020)

(A) 20 Refurbishment Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/Actual commencement and completion dates[1]
1.	Lok Ku Road Public Toilet	Central/ Western	September 2020 – June 2021
2.	Ladder Street Public Toilet	Central/ Western	September 2020 – June 2021
3.	Rumsey Street Multi Storey Car-park Public Toilet	Central/ Western	September 2020 – April 2021
4.	Sheung Shui Wai Po Sheung Tsuen Public Toilet	North	April – December 2021
5.	Tseng Lan Shue Public Toilet	Sai Kung	August 2021 – April 2022
6.	Ma Liu Shui Waterfront Public Toilet	Sha Tin	December 2020 – August 2021
7.	Science Park Road Public Toilet	Sha Tin	August 2020 – April 2021
8.	Shan Mei Street Public Toilet	Sha Tin	February – September 2021
9.	Shap Yi Watt Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	August 2021 – April 2022
10.	Tai Wai PTI Public Toilet	Sha Tin	April – November 2021
11.	To Tau Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	April – November 2021
12.	No.16 Aberdeen Main Road Public Toilet	Southern	October 2021 – April 2022
13.	Fong Ma Po Public Toilet	Tai Po	November 2020 – August 2021
14.	Ma Wo Public Toilet	Tai Po	April – December 2021
15.	Tap Mun Pier Public Toilet	Tai Po	April – December 2021
16.	Sunny Bay Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	October 2020 – July 2021
17.	Wang Lung Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	April – November 2021
18.	Morrison Hill Road Public Toilet	Wan Chai	February – August 2021
19.	Science Museum Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	February – September 2021
20.	Hong King Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	March – December 2021

[1] The project commencement and completion dates depend on the progress of public consultation.

(B) 22 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/Actual commencement and completion dates[2]
1.	Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall Public Toilet	Central/ Western	March – June 2020
2.	Wing Lok Street Public Toilet	Central/ Western	March – June 2020
3.	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	Islands	October 2019 – January 2020 (completed)
4.	Tat Tung Road Public Toilet	Islands	September 2019 – January 2020 (completed)
5.	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	October 2019 – April 2020
6.	Kwai Hing Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	October 2019 – April 2020
7.	Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Kwun Tong	March – June 2020
8.	Shung Yan Street Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	February – June 2020
9.	Mong Kok Road Public Toilet	Mong Kok	June – October 2020
10.	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Mong Kok	September 2020 – February 2021
11.	Sai Yee Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	May – October 2020
12.	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	June – November 2019 (completed)
13.	Pei Ho Street Market Public Toilet (G/F & 1/F)	Sham Shui Po	1/F: September – December 2019 (completed) G/F: April – July 2020
14.	Yen Chow Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	December 2019 – May 2020
15.	Chai Wan Kok Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	April – June 2020
16.	Chuen Lung Village Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	October 2019 – February 2020 (completed)
17.	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	October 2019 – January 2020 (completed)
18.	Shing Mun Road Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	April – June 2020
19.	Wan Chai Market Public Toilet	Wan Chai	April – October 2020

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/Actual commencement and completion dates[2]
20.	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	September 2019 – February 2020 (completed)
21.	Jordan Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	September 2019 –January 2020 (completed)
22.	Market Street Public Toilet and Public Bathhouse	Yau Tsim	October 2019 – May 2020

[2] The project commencement and completion dates depend on the progress of public consultation.

Annex 2

49 Public Toilets under 2020-21 Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme

(A) 20 Refurbishment Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Wellington Street Public Toilet (Male Only)	Central/ Western	Junction of Wellington Street and Queen's Road Central, Central
2.	Wa Hing Lane Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Central/ Western	Junction of Shing Wong Street and Wa Hing Lane, Sheung Wan
3.	Ice House Street Public Toilet	Central/ Western	Opposite No. 16 Ice House Street, Central
4.	Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Central/ Western	2/F, Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building, No. 470 Queen's Road West, Shek Tong Tsui
5.	Stanley Tytam Village Public Toilet	Southern	Stanley Tytam Village near Hong Kong Sea School
6.	South Bay Public Toilet	Southern	South Bay Road near South Bay Beach
7.	Round Table I Village Public Toilet	Islands	Round Table I Village, Cheung Chau
8.	Ma Wan Chung Public Toilet	Islands	Ma Wan Chung, Tung Chung
9.	Anchor Street Playground Public Toilet	Mong Kok	Anchor Street Playground
10.	Chung Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Chung Uk Tsuen
11.	Kin Lung Street Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Kin Lung Street, Tuen Mun (near Shek Pai Tau Playground)
12.	Tai Tong Road Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yuen Long	Sai Ching Street (near Manhattan Plaza), Yuen Long
13.	Kuk Ting Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Kuk Ting Street, Yuen Long
14.	Luk Keng Public Toilet	North	Luk Keng Road near Chan Fung Kee Store, Sha Tau Kok
15.	Yue Kok Public Toilet	Tai Po	Yue Kok Village, Tai Po
16.	Tung Ping Chau Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tung Ping Chau
17.	Tap Mun Ha Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun Ha Wai, Tai Po
18.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village North Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village, Tai Po
19.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village South Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village, Tai Po
20.	Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Chun Yat Street

(B) 29 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Kennedy Road Public Toilet	Central/ Western	Junction of Kennedy Road and Garden Road, Central
2.	Macau Ferry Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Central/ Western	At side of Macau Ferry Bus Terminus, Sheung Wan
3.	Hospital Road Public Toilet	Central/ Western	Basement, Centre for Food Safety, No. 4 Hospital Road, Sai Ying Pun
4.	Quarry Bay Market Public Toilet	Eastern	No. 38 Quarry Bay Street
5.	Pak Fuk Road Public Toilet	Eastern	Junction of Pak Fuk Road and Healthy Street Central
6.	Yip Fat Street Public Toilet	Southern	Near No. 12 Yip Fat Street, Wong Chuk Hang
7.	Sok Kwu Wan Public Toilet	Islands	Sok Kwu Wan Ferry Pier, Lamma
8.	Lo Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Islands	Lo Uk Tsuen, Lantau
9.	Shui Hau Public Toilet	Islands	Shui Hau Village, Lantau
10.	Pok Man Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	No. 1 Sham Mong Road, Olympic Station
11.	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus
12.	Lung Kong Road Public Toilet	Kowloon City	No. 30-32, Lung Kong Road
13.	Kei Yip Lane Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	Near Kwun Tong Ferry Pier Bus Terminus at Kei Yip Lane, Kwun Tong
14.	Tai Lin Pai Road Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	Tai Lin Pai Road near Kung Yip Street
15.	Ta Chuen Ping Street Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	Ta Chuen Ping Street near a carpark
16.	Tin Sum San Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Tin Sum San Tsuen
17.	San Wai Public Toilet	Yuen Long	San Wai, San Sik Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
18.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)	Yuen Long	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)
19.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)	Yuen Long	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)
20.	Wo Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	North	At side of a carpark in Wo Hing Tsuen, Fanling

21.	Shui Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	Shui Wai Village, Tai Po
22.	Tai Po Tau South Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tai Po Tau Village
23.	Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Junction of Sha Tin Wai Road and Ngau Pei Sha Street
24.	Wo Liu Hang Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Wo Liu Hang Village
25.	Fo Tan Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Near Shan Mei Street, Fo Tan Village
26.	Pak Kong Tsuen Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Opposite lamp post No. EB31651 at Pak Kong Road
27.	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village
28.	Tai Mong Tsai Public Toilet	Sai Kung	At side of Tai Mong Tsai Carpark
29.	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan) Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan)

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)014

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2395)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Food and Health Bureau has mentioned that under this Programme, provision for 2020-21 is $13.4 million (15.2%) higher than the revised estimate for 2019-20. The reasons include dealing with any contingency measures arising from avian influenza incidents. Would the Government provide details of the relevant contingency measures and the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

Under Programme (2) : Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety, a reserve of $10 million has been ear-marked for dealing with contingency measures arising from avian influenza (AI) incidents, such as culling of live poultry in the event of an AI outbreak.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2548)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Please list out the estimates for the salaries of the Bureau Secretary, Under Secretary and Political Assistant in 2020-21.

2. What is the establishment of the Director of Bureau's Office in 2020-21? What are the salary expenditure and its percentage in the estimates of the whole Programme?

3. Since the work of the Director of Bureau's Office includes the planning, co-ordination and implementation of all arrangements for the Secretary's public, media and community functions, how many (a) District Council meetings and (b) other district activities did the Secretary attend in the last financial year? How many District Council meetings are expected to be attended by the Secretary in 2020-21?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 28)

Reply:

(1) The provisions reserved in the 2020-21 estimates for the salary in respect of the positions of the Secretary for Food and Health (SFH), the Under Secretary for Food and Health (USFH) and the Political Assistant to the Secretary for Food and Health (PA to SFH) are $4.18 million, $3.13 million and $1.25 million respectively.

(2) Other than SFH, USFH and PA to SFH, the staff establishment of the Director of Bureau's Office under Programme (1) also includes six civil service posts, namely, one Administrative Officer Staff Grade C, one Personal Assistant, one Senior Personal Secretary, one Personal Secretary I, one Clerical Assistant and one Personal Chauffeur, which provide support to the Office. The estimated expenditure on the salaries of these officers is $4.78 million, representing 32% of the estimated expenditure of Programme (1).

(3) SFH visited all 18 District Councils (DCs) in the territory from August 2017 to September 2019. SFH attended various events organised by the Government and various organisations from time to time, and we do not keep statistics on these activities. In 2020-21, SFH will continue to attend DC meetings based on actual circumstances and needs.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0525)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Under the powdered formula export licensing arrangement operated by the authorities, what were the numbers of licences issued for powdered formula for infants and young children under 36 months of age in the past 3 years and what were the quantities involved; in addition, what were the quantities of imports and re-exports of such powdered formula?

2. The authorities said that the operation of a powdered formula export licensing arrangement helped to ensure sufficient and stable supply of powdered formula for infants and young children under 36 months of age in Hong Kong. Have the authorities conducted any study to learn about the actual situation at present and the impacts on local infants and the economy? Will the authorities implement this measure on a long-term basis and take it as an established policy?

Asked by: Hon WONG Ting-kwong (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

The export licensing system of powdered formulae is implemented by the Trade and Industry Department in accordance with the Import and Export Ordinance (Cap. 60). The number of export licences covering powdered formulae for infants and young children under 36 months of age that were issued in the past 3 years and the quantities of powdered formulae listed on these licences are as follows:

Year	Number of powdered formula export licences issued	Quantity of powdered formulae involved (million kg)
2017	19 411	43.33
2018	21 846	83.44
2019	20 277	64.67

The quantity of powdered formulae listed on an export licence may be different from the actual export volume for reasons such as the exporter's ultimate decision to reduce the

shipment quantity. According to the Census and Statistics Department, the import and re-export volumes of powdered formulae in the past 3 years are as follows:

Year	Import volume (million kg)	Re-export volume (million kg)
2017	56	27
2018	55	25
2019	55	24

Since the introduction of the export control on powdered formulae in 2013, the Food and Health Bureau has been keeping in view the operation of this measure and the supply chain of powdered formulae through monitoring data obtained from various sources and market surveys conducted by consultancy firms. Following the completion of a review on the export control of powdered formulae early last year, we have announced that the measure will continue to be in place. We will keep in view the operation of the supply chain of powdered formulae, as well as the changes in the potential non-local demand for powdered formulae in the local retail market on an ongoing basis so as to safeguard the stable supply of powdered formulae in Hong Kong.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1713)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Government has implemented a new regulatory regime to strengthen the regulation of animal trading and dog breeding activities since March 2017. In this regard, would the Government advise this Committee of the following information over the past 3 years:

(a) What were the respective manpower and expenditures involved each year?

(b) What were the respective numbers of various licences issued each year?

(c) According to government information, how many dog breeding establishments have been closed down?

(d) What were the respective numbers of dogs bred locally each year?

(e) How many times did the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department collect DNA samples of registered breeding dogs and offspring for examination? What was the number of samples that did not pass the DNA test?

(f) What were the respective numbers of complaints received and substantiated cases each year since the implementation of the new regime? What were the number of prosecutions and the penalties imposed, the numbers of animals involved, as well as the numbers of animals injured and dead?

(g) What were the number of regular inspections, surprise inspections and decoy operations conducted (including those conducted on the internet)?

(h) Would the regime be extended to cover cats? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 26)

Reply:

(a) Since the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B) (the Regulations) came into effect on 20 March 2017, the expenditure and manpower involved in the regulatory work of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) are tabulated below.

Year	Expenditure ($ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2017-18	16.1	30
2018-19	17.2	30
2019-20 (revised estimate)	18.8	30

(b) Since the Regulations came into effect, the number of Animal Trader Licences (ATLs), Dog Breeder Licences (DBLs) and one-off permits issued by AFCD each year is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of licences issued			
	ATL	DBL (category A)	DBL (category B)	One-off permit
2017	338	12	12	1
2018	317	12	22	3
2019	281	9	24	3

(c) Over the past 3 years, there were 13 licensed dog breeding establishments (including DBL (category A) and DBL (category B)) whose licences were cancelled or not renewed.

(d) Since the Regulations came into effect, the number of dogs bred by local licensed dog breeding establishments is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of dogs bred by licensed dog breeding establishments
2017	325
2018	1 962
2019	2 061

(e) Up to 5 March 2020, AFCD has conducted a total of 1 854 DNA parentage tests (including re-verification) for enrolled female dogs and offspring to verify their parental relationship, among which 17 offspring were found to be not tallied with the parentage of the enrolled female dogs as specified on the Dog Breeder's Declaration. AFCD has conducted follow-up investigations.

(f) Since the Regulations came into effect, information on the number of complaints received by AFCD in relation to animal trading and dog breeding activities, successful prosecutions initiated against breaches of licensing conditions and trading animals without a valid licence or permit, as well as the relevant penalties is tabulated as follows:

Year	Complaints received (number)	Successful prosecutions against breach of licensing conditions		Successful prosecutions against trading animals without a valid licence or permit	
		Number of cases	Range of fine ($)	Number of cases	Range of fine ($)
2017	382	0	N/A	11*	400# to5,000
2018	309	0	N/A	34^	2,000 to10,000
2019	237	2	2,000	34^	600 to 20,000

*Among the 11 cases, 5 cases occurred in 2016 and the sentence was handed down in early 2017.

^2 cases occurred in 2018 involved 2 defendants. The sentences in relation to the cases were handed down in 2018 and 2019 respectively. Therefore, in the prosecution record of both 2018 and 2019, 1 case was recorded twice.

#The minimum sentence imposed for the 5 cases in 2016 was a fine of $400. The minimum sentence is a fine of $600 after the Regulations came into effect.

(g) Since the Regulations came into effect, the number of inspections (including routine ones, surprise checks and decoy operations) conducted on animal trading and dog breeding activities is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number
2017	5 044
2018	4 735
2019	4 259

(h) AFCD is reviewing the effectiveness of the Regulations and will also conduct a study on the trading of cats in the territory.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1714)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Over the past 3 years, regarding handling of animal cruelty in Hong Kong, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

(a) What were the manpower, expenditure and specific details of the work?

(b) How many reported cases of suspected animal cruelty were received by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department?

(c) What was the number of animals injured and dead?

(d) What was the number of successful prosecutions instituted under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (the Ordinance) and the penalty imposed on each case?

(e) How many applications for review of cases under the Ordinance were lodged by the Department of Justice on the grounds that the penalties imposed were too lenient? What were the results of these appeals?

(f) The Government has proposed reviewing the Ordinance. What is the timeframe concerned?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

(a), (b) and (d) Upon receiving reports of suspected animal cruelty cases, the Hong Kong Police Force (the Police) and / or the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will conduct investigations. Prosecution will be instituted if there is sufficient evidence.

The manpower and expenditure involved in the above work over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows (the manpower involved has to take up other duties):

Year	Manpower (Number of staff)	Expenditure ($ million)
2017-18	17	3.0
2018-19	17	3.2
2019-20 (revised estimate)	17	3.3

The number of suspected animal cruelty reports received and details of successful prosecutions under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) (the Ordinance) initiated by the Police and AFCD over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of suspected animal cruelty reports received*	Number of persons convicted	Penalties imposed	
			Fine ($)	Range of imprisonment
2017	275	24	4,000	7 days to 1 year
2018	368	21	2,000 to 6,000	14 days to 8 months
2019 (up to September)	288	19	2,000 to 8,000	20 days to 2 months

* Upon investigation, most of the cases were found to be related to nuisance with no elements of cruelty.

(c) The Police and AFCD do not have the figures of animals injured and dead in the local animal cruelty cases over the past 3 years.

(e) Over the past 3 years, the Department of Justice (DoJ) lodged two applications on the same case for review of sentence in 2017. Initially, the application for review of sentence in respect of the charge of "cruelty to animals" under the Ordinance was submitted to the magistracy. Upon review, the sentence was increased from 3 to 4 months' imprisonment. DoJ further applied to the Court of Appeal for review of this sentence (4 months' imprisonment) but the appeal was rejected and the sentence remained at 4 months' imprisonment.

(f) Having launched a three-month public consultation exercise in 2019 on enhancement of animal welfare, the Government is now examining the views received and plans to report the findings of the consultation and the way forward to the Legislative Council Panel concerned in April this year. Upon finalising the legislative proposals, we will commence the drafting work of the legislation.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1715)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the subvention for animal welfare organisations (AWOs), would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

(a) What was the number of partner AWOs of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 3 years? Are there any plans to explore collaboration with more organisations?

(b) Has AFCD regularly visited the said organisations?

(c) How many animals were handed to AWOs and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals by the Government each year? What are the successful rate and number of rehoming?

(d) Please provide in tabular form the number and projects of successful applications for subventions, the amounts of subvention sought by AWOs and the amount of subvention that they have been granted over the past 3 years.

(e) Will the Government consider extending the scope of subvention to cover rent payment? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

(f) Over each of the past 3 years, what were the number as well as the details of collaboration with AWOs? What are the plans for collaboration in the coming year?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 28)

Reply:

(a) The number of partnering animal welfare organisations (AWOs) of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 3 years (2017, 2018 and 2019) was 19, 18 and 18 respectively. AFCD welcomes applications from AWOs to

become rehoming partners of the Department and has uploaded the application details to the thematic website (http://www.pets.gov.hk).

(b) In general, AFCD will visit the relevant facilities of AWOs while assessing their applications and will only visit them where necessary afterwards. AFCD plans to visit the rehoming partners with animal facilities regularly from the coming year in order to strengthen communication and regulation. In view of the current situation in relation to COVID-19, we have cancelled the visits originally scheduled to be conducted recently and will resume visiting the organisations regularly when situation permits.

(c) The number of animals received by AFCD, the number of animals handed to AWOs for rehoming and the respective ratio in each of the past 3 years are tabulated below.

Year	**Number of animals received**			**Number of animals rehomed (rehoming rate)**		
	Dogs	**Cats**	**Other animals***	**Dogs**	**Cats**	**Other animals***
2017	2 926	823	1 883	588 (20.1%)	67 (8.1%)	94 (5.0%)
2018	2 254	689	6 316[#]	577 (25.6%)	89 (12.9%)	87 (1.4%)
2019	1 865	442	3 201[^]	547 (29.3%)	78 (17.6%)	44 (1.4%)

[*] Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptiles and birds, etc.

[#] The increase in number was mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled upon detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

[^] This mainly includes the number of animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586).

(d) The requested information is tabulated at the **Annex**.

(e) At present, subventions to AWOs are granted on a project-by-project basis, but do not cover recurrent expenditures such as rentals, staff remuneration, etc. Many AWOs mainly rely on foster homes to take care of animals to be adopted. This practice can provide more opportunities for the animals to interact with people and increase their chance of adoption. AWOs in need of premises running rehoming centres may consider vacant government sites, including vacant school premises sites, under the management of the Lands Department that are available for leasing by non-governmental organisations for community purposes on short-term basis. Non-profit making AWOs may also apply for subsidies from a funding scheme run by the Development Bureau to carry out one-off, basic and necessary restoration works so as to put the vacant government sites fit-for-use as rehoming centres.

(f) AFCD and AWOs have jointly organised 24 events (8 in 2017, 9 in 2018 and 7 in 2019) such as pet adoption days, carnivals etc. over the past 3 years to promote animal rehoming and welfare. AFCD will continue to work closely with AWOs to organise events for publicising and promoting animal welfare.

Annex

(i) Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2016-17 and released in 2017-18)

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount sought ($)	Amount released ($)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programmes	120,000	84,602
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide vaccination and food for rehoming animals	218,400	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To provide preventive medical treatment for rehoming animals	1,962,000	100,000
4	Society for Abandoned Animals	To produce educational materials for promoting animal welfare and responsible pet ownership	53,040	42,000
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	62,000	45,120
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide preventive medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	320,000	46,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	80,000	28,000
8	Hong Kong Cats	To promote adoption, produce educational materials and further improve the organisation website	40,500	18,300
		Total	**2,855,940**	**494,022**

(ii) <u>Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2017-18 and released in 2018-19)</u>

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount sought ($)	Amount released ($)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programme	140,000	83,329
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive care and food for rehoming animals	324,000	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To enhance rehoming facilities	1,629,579	82,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	60,000	47,960
5	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide preventive medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	400,150	48,000
6	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	80,000	28,000
7	Hong Kong Cats	To produce educational materials for promotion of animal welfare and adoption	24,700	16,522
8	Hong Kong Paws Guardian	To conduct education and publicity for responsible pet ownership	92,000	0*
9	Kirsten's Zoo	To provide preventive care and food for rescued and rehomed animals	270,000	45,000
10	Animal Friends	To provide medical treatment for rehoming animals	250,000	45,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	To enhance public awareness on animal welfare and adoption	62,390	45,000
		Total	**3,332,819**	**570,811**

* No claims for reimbursement from the AWO concerned have been received.

(iii) <u>Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2018-19 and released in 2019-20)</u>

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount sought ($)	Amount released ($)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programme	130,000	117,552
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive care and food for rehoming animals	345,600	250,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To educate children on responsible pet ownership and adoption	926,000	120,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	125,000	118,450
5	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	401,537	150,000
6	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	80,000	53,500
7	Hong Kong Cats	To conduct publicity for adoption	16,000	4,408
8	Society for Abandoned Animals	To refurbish the electric power system of the animal centre	189,450	120,000
9	Kirsten's Zoo	To provide preventive care and food for rescued and rehomed animals	285,000	120,000
10	Animal Friends	To provide medical treatment for rehoming animals	300,000	150,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	To enhance public awareness on animal welfare and adoption	63,079	50,000
		Total	**2,861,666**	**1,253,910**

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1716)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) programme for community dogs, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

(a) The time set for achieving the performance targets is rather short, which cannot reflect the actual effectiveness of the programme. Will the Government carry out another assessment? If yes, what are the details? Will the assessment be re-submitted to the Legislative Council?

(b) Currently, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department takes a passive role in the implementation of the programme by rendering assistance to organisations only. Will the Government actively explore suitable locations in the territory for conducting the programme?

(c) Has the Government received any proposal from organisations to conduct the programme in some districts? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

(d) Has the Government earmarked any resource for carrying out the TNR programme again? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

(e) Will the Government introduce the programme to the 18 District Councils in order to seek support for carrying out phase 2 of the programme? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)

Reply:

(a) Although the three-year Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) trial programme for stray dogs has been completed in 2018, the 2 concerned animal welfare organisations (AWOs) have agreed to continue to monitor the number of dogs recorded for the

trial programme, and regularly provide the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) with the information on the condition, average lifespan and changes of the population of the dogs concerned in the coming years. AFCD would make use of the data concerned for further assessment in due course. We would consider the next step forward subject to findings of the assessment.

(b) to (e) While the trial programme did not achieve the predetermined performance targets, AFCD keeps an open mind towards rendering assistance to AWOs in conducting similar programmes in other specific locations. To this end, AFCD issued letters to AWOs inviting their views on sites that may be suitable for conducting the TNR trial programme. The letter is also available on the Department's thematic website (www.pets.gov.hk). AFCD will consider a range of factors, including population density, community facilities in the vicinity, and traffic condition, in order to determine if a specific location is suitable for conducting such a programme. If a location is found suitable, AFCD will facilitate the liaison between the coordinating AWOs and the District Councils concerned as well as the local stakeholders in order to introduce the programme, with a view to enlisting their support, and seeking approval from the Legislative Council for the relevant legislative exemption.

So far, AFCD has not received any formal proposal from AWOs to launch the programme at specific locations, and no resources have been earmarked specifically for this purpose at this stage. Subject to the availability of suitable location(s), AFCD will review the resources requirement.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1717)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the operation of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department over the past 3 years, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

(a) The number of animals caught each year and their respective types;

(b) The number of animals received by each animal management centre each year and their sources;

(c) The number of animals neutered, rehomed and euthanised by animal type;

(d) The manpower and turnover rates of each animal management centre;

(e) The operational expenditure of each animal management centre;

(f) The number of inspections conducted each year;

(g) The number of dog training courses organised for dog owners, and the content and effectiveness of the courses;

(h) The number of enforcement actions and prosecutions taken;

(i) The number of animals permitted to be exported and imported and the number of smuggled animals.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 30)

Reply:

(a) At present, stray animals caught will be sent to the 4 animal management centres (AMCs) under the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) in the New Territories North (NTN), New Territories South (NTS), Kowloon (K) and Hong Kong Island (HK) respectively. The number of stray animals caught over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Stray animals caught			
	Dogs	Cats	Other Animals[1]	Total
2017	1 566	674	1 640	3 880
2018	1 235	547	1 369	3 151
2019	965	304	1 031	2 300

[1] Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), cattle, reptiles and poultry/birds, etc.

(b) The number of animals received and kept over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

AMC	2017			2018			2019		
	Dogs	Cats	Others[2]	Dogs	Cats	Others[2]	Dogs	Cats	Other[2]
AMC / HK	451	147	26	342	101	11	282	52	17
AMC / K	584	266	72	409	219	44	294	121	35
AMC / NTS	500	131	128	364	111	100	394	88	134
AMC / NTN	1 391	279	1 552	1 139	258	6 033[3]	895	181	2 890[4]
Total	**2 926**	**823**	**1 778**	**2 254**	**689**	**6 188**	**1 865**	**442**	**3 076**

[2] Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptiles, pigs and poultry/birds, etc.

[3] The increase in number was mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled upon detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

[4] This mainly includes the number of animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586).

Most animals received and kept were stray animals caught by AFCD, animals surrendered by owners and seized animals. A separate breakdown of animals received by each AMC by source is not available.

(c) The number of rehomed animals desexed by veterinary clinics engaged by AFCD over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of rehomed animals desexed		
	Dogs	Cats	Rabbits
2017	264	21	1
2018	157	36	6
2019 (up to November)	122	43	5

The number of animals rehomed over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of animals rehomed		
	Dogs	Cats	Others[5]
2017	588	67	94
2018	577	89	87
2019	547	78	44

[5] Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), cattle, reptiles and birds, etc.

The number of animals euthanised over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of animals euthanised		
	Dogs	Cats	Others[6]
2017	1 478	381	801
2018	1 026	333	5 007[7]
2019	837	219	2 363[8]

[6] Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs / cattle and poultry / birds, etc.

[7] The increase in number was mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled upon detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

[8] This mainly includes the number of animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586).

(d) The staff establishment of AMCs and turnover rate over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Total number of posts in the 4 AMCs[9]		Turnover rate	
	Veterinary Officer	Technical / Frontline staff	Veterinary Officer	Technical / Frontline staff
2017-18	4	183	0%	7.7%
2018-19	4	184	0%	9.8%
2019-20	4	183	0%	8.7%

[9] The 4 AMCs are overseen by 1 Senior Veterinary Officer.

(e) The operational expenditure of the 4 AMCs over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Operational expenditure ($ million)			
	AMC / NTN	AMC / NTS	AMC / K	AMC / HK
2017-18	23.8	16.9	21.2	15.3
2018-19	26.5	18.7	22.0	18.7
2019-20 (revised estimate)	26.4	18.3	21.9	18.7

(f) and (h) The number of inspections conducted (relating to licensed animal trading, dog breeding, boarding, riding and temporary exhibition establishments) and number of successful prosecutions against owners/operators of these premises over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of inspections	Number of successful prosecutions	Maximum amount of fine	Minimum amount of fine
2017	5 885	0	N/A	N/A
2018	5 596	0	N/A	N/A
2019	5 195	2	$2,000	$2,000

(g) The number of sessions and participants of the Dog Obedience Training Course held by AFCD over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of sessions held	Number of participants
2017	5	210
2018	8	188
2019	7	173

The Dog Obedience Training Course consists of theoretical and practical sessions. In theoretical sessions, learners gain knowledge of basic dog obedience training, including dog behaviours and mentality, positive reinforcement training methods as well as various training tools and techniques, etc. For practical sessions, learners shall attend with their dogs in order to learn the skills and relevant actions of giving orders and treats to dogs.

According to the data collected from the course evaluation survey, learners generally agree that the course has facilitated them to understand the basic obedience training skills, including how to give commands and when to give treats to their dogs, etc. We will review and adjust the course taking into account the feedback from the learners in a timely manner.

(i) The import of live animals and birds is regulated under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) Ordinance (Cap. 139) and the Rabies Ordinance (Cap. 421). The importers must obtain permits from AFCD prior to importation. The number of permits issued over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of permits issued[10]
2017	7 796
2018	7 896
2019	8 289

[10] Since one permit may cover one or multiple animals of different species, a breakdown on the number of permits by species is not available.

Export of animals does not require AFCD's approval in general. However, AFCD will issue animal health certificates as necessary. The number of animal health certificates for exporting animals issued by AFCD over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of animal health certificates issued[11]
2017	4 543
2018	5 394
2019	7 488

[11] Since an animal health certificate may cover one or multiple animals of different species, a separate breakdown on the number of such certificates issued by species is not available.

The number of live animals seized by AFCD over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Cats / Dogs	Other mammals	Birds	Pet reptiles	Food poultry	Food reptiles
2017	27	417	3	3 205	1	3 kg
2018	7	3	533	4 258	0	0
2019	24	31	623	2 159	3	48 kg and 292 reptiles

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1718)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Over the past 3 years, regarding the safety of pet food, would the Government advise this Committee of the following:

(a) What were the figures of imported pet food each year, and what was the local demand?

(b) What were the numbers of complaints received each year, what were the complaints about and what follow-up actions were taken?

(c) Has the Government investigated into and tested the pet food available in the local market (including those ready-made and freshly made)? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

(d) What were the numbers of local operators engaging in manufacturing, processing and/or import of pet food?

(e) Will the Government consider regulating the pet food in the market? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 31)

Reply:

(a) According to the figures of the Census and Statistics Department, the quantity of pet food imported to Hong Kong over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Quantity of pet food imported (kg)
2017	71 451 493
2018	62 782 532
2019	67 435 913

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) does not have figures on local demand for pet food.

(b) AFCD received 7, 5 and 6 complaints in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively, which were mainly related to the quality of pet food and business practices of the sellers. Upon receipt of a complaint, AFCD will contact the complainant and the manufacturer/importer/distributor of the pet food concerned to gather more information of the case, and may, depending on the nature of the case, advise the complainant on possible follow-up actions.

(c) & (e) AFCD commissioned a study in October 2017 to collect 360 samples of different pet food products commonly available in the Hong Kong market (including dry and wet dog food products, dry and wet cat food products and food products for other pets) to test against the following harmful substances and micro-organisms: Salmonella, *Escherichia coli* (including O157), *Listeria monocytogenes*, aflatoxin, melamine, malathion, lead and arsenic. So far the results of all samples tested are within the limits permitted by major pet food producing countries/places. The study has already come to the final stage. Upon completion of the study, AFCD will analyse the findings to assess the safety of pet food products in Hong Kong and plan the way forward.

(d) AFCD does not have figures related to local operators engaging in manufacturing, processing and/or import of pet food products.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1720)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding local veterinary services and related pet grooming services, please advise this Committee of the following information over the past 3 years:

(a) The number of local newly registered veterinary surgeons and the countries in which they obtained their qualification;

(b) The number of veterinary specialists (set out by specialty);

(c) The change in the ratio of the number of pets to that of veterinary surgeons;

(d) The number of existing veterinary clinics and the existing regulatory measures on veterinary clinics;

(e) The number of complaints about veterinary surgeons received each year, reasons for the complaints, details of the cases accepted and the penalties imposed;

(f) The average time taken by the Veterinary Surgeons Board of Hong Kong for processing each case, and the respective time taken in respect of the cases requiring the longest and shortest processing time; and

(g) As the pet grooming service lacks monitoring currently, will the Government step up regulation and require the practitioners of the industry to attend eligible courses?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 33)

Reply:

(a) According to the Veterinary Surgeons Board of Hong Kong (VSB), the number of local newly registered veterinary surgeons over the past 3 years, by the country/place where they acquired qualifications, is tabulated as follows:

Country/place where they acquired their qualifications	Year/ Number of newly registered veterinary surgeons			Breakdown
	2017	2018	2019	
Australia	28	33	24	85
Belgium	1	0	0	1
Canada	2	0	1	3
Europe*	3	1	1	5
Germany	0	0	1	1
Ireland	0	1	1	2
New Zealand	1	2	4	7
South Africa	2	2	2	6
Taiwan	19	32	27	78
United Kingdom	17	14	19	50
United States	3	7	7	17
Total	**76**	**92**	**87**	**255**

* Holder of a veterinary specialist qualification recognized by the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation

(b) According to VSB, the number of registered veterinary surgeons in Hong Kong who were authorised to advertise as, or profess to be, specialists in 2017, 2018 and 2019 was 32, 39 and 41 respectively.

Some veterinary surgeons have more than one specialty. Details of the specialities (showing position as at 31 December 2019) are tabulated as follows:

Speciality	Number of veterinary surgeons
Anesthesia and Analgesia	3
Avian Practice	2
Canine and Feline Practice	2
Companion Animals (Internal Medicine)	1
Dental Practice	1
Dermatology	2
Emergency and Critical Care	2
Equine Surgery	1
Exotic Companion Mammal Practice	2
Internal Medicine (Cardiology)	3
Internal Medicine (Oncology)	3
Neurology	1
Ophthalmology	4
Poultry Practice	1
Public Health and Food Hygiene	1
Public Health (Population Medicine)	1
Small Animal Internal Medicine	5

Speciality	Number of veterinary surgeons
Small Animal Surgery	4
Veterinary Pathology	6
Zoological Medicine	1

(c) According to VSB, the number of local registered veterinary surgeons in 2017, 2018 and 2019 was 920, 988 and 1 049 respectively.

The veterinarian-to-pet ratio is a common indicator for assessing the overall situation of veterinary services: the lower the ratio, the greater the number of veterinary surgeons. According to the Thematic Household Survey Report No. 66 compiled by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD), there were about 221 100 dogs and 184 100 cats being kept by households in Hong Kong in 2018. According to VSB's data on the number of registered veterinary surgeons in 2018, the veterinary surgeon-to-pet (dogs and cats) ratio was about 1:410 that year. Nevertheless, C&SD does not have related statistics of 2017 and 2019, and thus the veterinary surgeon-to-pet (dogs and cats) ratio of those 2 years and the changes in the ratio over the 3 years cannot be calculated. The said ratio of Hong Kong in 2018 is far below the ratios of other places (e.g. Singapore (1:2 543), the United Kingdom (1:2 374) and the United States (1:3 072)) (the data is retrieved from the report of study on the development of the veterinary profession in Hong Kong published by VSB in 2017).

(d) VSB is established under the Veterinary Surgeons Registration Ordinance (the Ordinance) (Cap. 529) and charged with responsibility for the regulation of the practice of veterinary surgery, the registration of veterinary surgeons, and the disciplinary oversight of the professional conduct of registered veterinary surgeons. All registered veterinary surgeons have received professional training before practising in Hong Kong, and obtained the qualifications for registration specified under the Ordinance, and are required to comply with the Ordinance and the Code of Practice for the Guidance of Registered Veterinary Surgeons (CoP) promulgated by VSB. Although VSB does not keep the number of clinics or inspect them regularly, CoP promulgated by VSB includes operational requirements for the relevant clinics, e.g. maintenance of professional relations between veterinary surgeons and their clients, as well as requirements for professional premises and equipment. In addition, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) also provides a list of veterinary clinics for the reference of the public on their thematic website (pets.gov.hk) (this list only includes those clinics which have voluntarily agreed to be listed).

(e) In accordance with the Rules of the Veterinary Surgeons Board (Disciplinary Proceedings) (the Rules), all complaints received by VSB are first investigated by the Preliminary Investigation Committee, which will determine and advise on whether VSB should conduct a disciplinary inquiry. VSB will then consider whether or not the complaint cases should be referred to the Inquiry Committee for disciplinary inquiry.

The number of complaints about registered veterinary surgeons received by VSB, the number of complaint cases referred to the Inquiry Committee (as at February this year), and the number of cases found substantiated upon completion of disciplinary inquiry hearings over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	**Number of complaints received[#]**	**Number of complaints dismissed after preliminary investigation**	**Number of complaints referred to Inquiry Committee**	**Number of inquiry hearings completed within the year**	**Number of complaints found substantiated upon inquiry hearings**
2017	56	42	5	8	4
2018	51	25	0	8	7
2019	41	14	0	2	1

[#] Some of the cases are still being investigated.

The complaints received were mainly related to the process or results of the diagnosis and treatment or surgery provided by the veterinary surgeons.

Over the past 3 years, a total of 12 complaint cases in relation to conviction of disciplinary offences of misconduct or neglect in a professional respect of veterinary surgeons were found substantiated by the Inquiry Committee after conducting inquiry hearings with the following orders made:

Order concerned	**Number of cases involved**
Reprimand and compulsory participation in continuing professional development programme/professional seminar	11
Reprimand	1
Total	12

(f) Among the cases received and closed over the past 3 years, the shortest time taken for processing the case was about 1 month while the longest time was about 28 months. The average processing time was about 6 months.

(g) Currently, operating pet grooming business does not require any licence from AFCD. However, AFCD conducts inspections to relevant shops from time to time to monitor any illegal animal trading or suspected animal cruelty cases. Upon receipt of such complaints or detection of the aforementioned situation during inspections, AFCD will conduct investigations and take corresponding actions, which include conducting joint operations with the Hong Kong Police Force and initiating prosecutions subject to sufficient evidence.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2610)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What were the expenditures on the promotion of organic cultivation and intensive greenhouse production incurred by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department over the past 5 years, as well as the estimated expenditure on the same aspects in 2020-21?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 56)

Reply:

The expenditures of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department on the promotion of organic cultivation and intensive greenhouse production over the past 5 years and the estimated expenditure in this respect in 2020-21 are tabulated below.

Year	Organic cultivation ($ million)	Intensive greenhouse production ($ million)
2015-16	5.8	4.9
2016-17	6.4	7.1
2017-18	7.3	7.4
2018-19	8.9	7.6
2019-20 (revised estimate)	9.4	7.7
2020-21 (estimate)	9.4	7.7

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 | Reply Serial No. **FHB(FE)025**

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0432)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the regulation of animal trading and dog breeding activities, would the Government advise this Committee of the following:

(a) The number of applications for Animal Trader Licences, Category A and Category B Licences as well as one-off permits received, approved, under processing and rejected by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) every year respectively since the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B) (Regulations) came into effect.

(b) The number of complaints received by AFCD in relation to dogs offered for sale on the internet without a licence or one-off permit, and the number and details of complaints which were substantiated and with relevant persons penalised every year since the Regulations came into force.

(c) The number of routine inspections and surprise checks conducted, and the number of cases of non-compliance with licensing requirements and the additional conditions of the licences by animal traders found in the aforementioned inspections and surprise checks as well as the details of the punishments in each of the past 3 years.

(d) Has AFCD reviewed the effectiveness of the Regulations? If yes, what are the details and would AFCD consider extending the scope of the Regulations to cover cats? If not, what is the timetable for the review?

(e) What are the manpower and expenditure involved in the supervision of relevant work by AFCD in the forthcoming year?

Asked by: Hon CHIANG Lai-wan (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

(a) Since the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B) (the Regulations) came into effect on 20 March 2017 and up to end February 2020, the number of applications for Animal Trader Licences (ATL), Dog Breeder Licences (DBL) and one-off permits received, approved, under processing and withdrawn / rejected by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) is tabulated as follows:

Licence / Permit	Number of applications			
	Received	Approved	Under processing	Withdrawn / Rejected
ATL	991	911	22	58
DBL (category A)	51	33	4	14
DBL (category B)	87	60	11	16
One-off permit	11	7	0	4

(b) Since the Regulations came into effect and up to February 2020, AFCD received 328 complaints in relation to dogs offered for sale on the internet without a licence or permit. AFCD followed up all these cases and conducted further investigation (including decoy operations) into 90 cases with suspected illegal dog trading activities. Amongst these cases, 68 cases of dog selling without a permit have been successfully prosecuted, 17 cases are still under investigation and warning letters were issued to the persons involved in the remaining 5 cases.

(c) Information on the number of inspections (including routine ones and surprise checks) conducted by AFCD in relation to animal trading and dog breeding activities, successful prosecutions against breaches of licensing conditions and trading animals without a valid licence or permit, as well as the relevant penalties is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of routine inspections and surprise checks	Successful prosecutions against breach of licensing conditions		Successful prosecutions against trading animals without a valid licence or permit	
		Number of cases	Range of fine ($)	Number of cases	Range of fine ($)
2017	4 995	0	N/A	11[*]	400[#] to 5,000
2018	4 625	0	N/A	34[^]	2,000 to 10,000
2019	4 120	2	2,000	34[^]	600 to 20,000

[*] Among the 11 cases, 5 cases occurred in 2016 and the sentence was handed down in early 2017.

[^] 2 cases occurring in 2018 involved 2 defendants. The sentences in relation to the cases were handed down in 2018 and 2019 respectively. Therefore, in the prosecution record of both 2018 and 2019, 1 case was recorded twice.

[#] The minimum sentence imposed for the 5 cases in 2016 was a fine of $400. The minimum sentence is a fine of $600 after the Regulations came into effect.

(d) AFCD is reviewing the effectiveness of the Regulations and will also conduct a study on the trading of cats in the territory.

(e) In 2020-21, AFCD will continue to deploy 30 staff members to regulate animal trading and dog breeding. A provision of $18.8 million has been earmarked in this respect.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0433)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to better safeguarding animal welfare, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

(a) The number of reported cases of suspected animal cruelty received by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) or relevant organisations, the number and details of substantiated cases with penalty imposed on the relevant parties, as well as the number of successful prosecutions instituted under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance and the maximum and minimum penalties imposed in each of the past 3 years;

(b) The number of applications for review of cases under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance lodged by the Department of Justice on the grounds that the penalties imposed were too lenient as well as the results of these appeals; and

(c) During 2020-21, AFCD will focus on the public consultation on the review of the existing legislation related to animal welfare, including introducing a positive duty of care on animal keepers. What is the progress of the review?

Asked by: Hon CHIANG Lai-wan (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

(a) The number of suspected animal cruelty reports received and details of successful prosecutions under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) (the Ordinance) initiated by the Police and AFCD over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of suspected animal cruelty reports received*	Number of persons convicted	Penalties imposed	
			Fine ($)	Range of imprisonment
2017	275	24	4,000	7 days to 1 year
2018	368	21	2,000 to 6,000	14 days to 8 months
2019 (up to September)	288	19	2,000 to 8,000	20 days to 2 months

* Upon investigation, most of the cases were found to be related to nuisance with no elements of cruelty.

(b) Over the past 3 years, the Department of Justice (DoJ) lodged two applications on the same case for review of sentence in 2017. Initially, the application for review of sentence in respect of the charge of "cruelty to animals" under the Ordinance was submitted to the magistracy. Upon review, the sentence was increased from 3 to 4 months' imprisonment. DoJ further applied to the Court of Appeal for review of this sentence (4 months' imprisonment) but the appeal was rejected and the sentence remained at 4 months' imprisonment.

(c) Having launched a three-month public consultation exercise in 2019 on enhancement of animal welfare, the Government is now examining the views received and plans to report the findings of the consultation and the way forward to the Legislative Council Panel concerned in April this year. Upon finalising the legislative proposals, we will commence the drafting work of the legislation.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2811)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the basic figures, development impacts, licensing conditions and enforcement of the livestock keeping licences, would the Government please inform this Committee of the following:

(a) Please set out the number of applications for livestock keeping licences processed under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Licensing of Livestock Keeping) Regulation (Cap 139L) during 2015-2019.

Year	Pig farms				Chicken farms			
	Number of new applications received	Number of renewal applications received	Number of new applications approved	Number of renewal applications approved	Number of new applications received	Number of renewal applications received	Number of new applications approved	Number of renewal applications approved
2015								
2016								
2017								
2018								
2019								

(b) Please set out the change in the number of pig farms and chicken farms, their rearing capacities and the total number of farms each year since 2006 (as at the end of each year).

Up to year end	Pig farms				Chicken farms			
	Number of licences added	Number of licences surrendered	Total number of licences	Rearing capacity	Number of licences added	Number of licences surrendered	Total number of licences	Rearing capacity
2006								
2007								
2008								
2009								
2010								
2011								
2012								
2013								
2014								
2015								
2016								
2017								
2018								
2019								
(Estimated) 31 March 2020								

(c) Please set out the number and size of the pig farms and chicken farms that are expected to be affected by development projects in the coming 5 years and the development project by which they are affected.

(d) Please set out in detail the common terms and conditions of the livestock keeping licence for pig farms and chicken farms in terms of livestock keeping, public health, biosecurity measures and environmental protection.

	Common terms and conditions of the livestock keeping licence	
	Pig farms	Chicken farms
Livestock keeping		
Public Health		
Biosecurity measures		
Environmental protection		
Others		

(e) Compliance with the Code of Practice for Pig Farming is required for pig farm owners in order to enhance the management and hygiene standards of local pig farms. Please set out the number of inspection and law enforcement actions conducted by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department according to the Code of Practice for Pig Farming over the past 5 years:

Year	Number of inspections (set out surprise and announced inspections separately)	Number and Nature of Breaches as well as Degree of Threats to Public Health and Environmental Health							
		Grade 1 Minor breaches with no immediate threat		Grade 2 Breaches causing minor threat		Grade 3 Serious breaches causing no immediate threat		Grade 4 Serious breaches causing immediate threat	
		Number of breaches/ Number of pig farms involved	Breaches	Number of breaches/ Number of pig farms involved	Breaches	Number of breaches/ Number of pig farms involved	Breaches	Number of breaches/ Number of pig farms involved	Breaches
2015									
2016									
2017									
2018									
2019									

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 2028)

Reply:

(a) and (b) Under the prevailing policy, the Government issues no more new Livestock Keeping Licences (LKL) and freezes the total rearing capacity of the livestock farms over the territory to safeguard public health and protect the environment. Currently, there are respectively 43 and 29 licences for pig farms and chicken farms in Hong Kong, with the total rearing capacity amounting to 74 640 pigs and 1 300 500 chickens. During 2015-2019, the number of renewal applications for LKL processed by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) is tabulated as follows:

Year/Number	**Pig farm**		**Chicken farm**	
	Renewal applied	**Renewal approved**	**Renewal applied**	**Renewal approved**
2015	23	23	8	8
2016	5	5	14	14
2017	16	16	6	6
2018	23	23	8	8
2019	6	6	14	14

(c) According to the existing information of the Development Bureau, there is a pig farm with licensed area of about 690 m^2 fell within the remaining phase of the Kwu Tung North New Development Area. Moreover, there are a total of 2 chicken farms (with licensed area of about 1 610 m^2 and 650 m^2 respectively) and 3 pig farms (with licensed area of about 2 150 m^2, 3 130 m^2 and 7 110 m^2 respectively) fell within the later phase of the Yuen Long South Development. As the implementation timetable of the said development projects is subject to detailed study, it is not certain at this stage whether the pig farms and chicken farms concerned will be affected in the coming 5 years.

(d) The information required is tabulated as follows:

Area	Conditions of LKL	
	Pig farm	**Chicken farm**
Livestock keeping and biosecurity measures	The licensed rearing capacity must be complied with. The use of swill of pork origin or in contact with pork or pork products as pig feeds is banned.	The licensed rearing capacity must be complied with. No movement of chickens, eggs, or feed between the licenced premises and other farms is allowed. Chickens intended for sale must be subject to tests for avian influenza antibody or any other appropriate tests. The biosecurity requirements and the standard operation procedures as set out in the licence must be complied with. The requirements include the hygiene and epidemic prevention facilities in the production areas; control on human movement, materials and vehicles; measures to prevent wild birds and other animals from entering the chicken sheds; placement of sentinel chickens, maintenance of records on disinfection of chicken sheds, chicken movements, and vaccination, etc.
Public health	Livestock carcasses must be properly disinfected, packed and disposed of.	Any dead chicken must be sprinkled with disinfectant powder and completely sealed in double plastic bags before disposal.
Environmental protection	The livestock waste treatment system specified in the licence must be adopted.	
Others	The Water Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap. 358) and the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) must be complied with.	

(e) The Code of Practice for Pig Farming (CoP) is implemented by AFCD as general guidelines for pig farm operation but no law enforcement action is taken according to CoP. Over the past 5 years, AFCD conducted 430 visits to pig farms with a view to inspecting the implementation of the guidelines and helping the trade to enhance the management of pig farms through education and technical support.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)028

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0662)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise of the locations of the agricultural land, active agricultural land, and arable land in Hong Kong over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20) (please show with a map). What were the sizes of the said land?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 1)

Reply:

According to the survey on agricultural land use conducted by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, the total area of agricultural land in Hong Kong is around 4 300 hectares. The estimated area of agricultural land in active farming use over the past 3 years is tabulated by district below. The survey did not provide information on the boundaries of the relevant land for compiling a location map.

District / Year	**Estimated area in active farming use (hectare)***		
	2017	**2018**	**2019**
North	280	290	290
Yuen Long	250	230	250
Tai Po	60	90	90
Tuen Mun	40	50	40
Islands	30	30	30
Sai Kung	20	20	20
Tsuen Wan	10	10	10
Others	10	20	20
Total	**710***	**740***	**750***

* Rounded to the nearest 10 hectares

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)029

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0664)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding "the expansion of the existing fish culture zones to improve the fish culture environment and promote the development of marine fish culture", please advise of the following:

(a) What were the sizes and average densities of rafts in fish culture zones over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)? (Please set out by the 26 fish culture zones.)

(b) What were the total sizes of fish culture zones over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(c) What were the expenditures and manpower involved in processing matters related to fish culture zones over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(d) What is the number of applications for the new marine fish culture licence recently introduced by the Government? When are the licences expected to be issued?

(e) Regarding the Department's current plan and study on the expansion of existing fish culture zones, please specify the expenditures and manpower involved in the above matters as well as the work progress and effectiveness.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

(a) The total area and average densities of rafts in the 26 fish culture zones (FCZs) over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

FCZ	Year					
	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20 (up to end-February 2020)	
	Total raft area (m^2)	Raft density* (%)	Total raft area (m^2)	Raft density (%)	Total raft area (m^2)	Raft density (%)
Ap Chau	255	6.1	255	6.1	255	6.1
Cheung Sha Wan	10 248	4.8	9 739	4.5	9 776	4.6
Kai Lung Wan	5 263	19.5	5 508	20.4	5 439	20.1
Kat O	3 386	10.5	3 059	9.4	3 010	9.3
Kau Lau Wan	1 241	11.1	1 202	10.7	1 205	10.8
Kau Sai	12 548	27.2	12 507	27.1	12 524	27.1
Leung Shuen Wan	6 037	34.9	5 826	33.7	5 825	33.7
Lo Fu Wat	1 469	27.2	1 476	27.3	1 531	28.4
Lo Tik Wan	22 026	20.2	21 421	19.6	21 550	19.7
Ma Nam Wat	5 129	12.8	5 380	13.4	5 361	13.4
Ma Wan	13 879	30.0	13 871	30.0	13 853	29.9
O Pui Tong	277	0.3	277	0.3	442	0.4
Po Toi	276	9.2	265	8.8	265	8.8
Po Toi	3 411	8.9	3 423	9.0	3 164	8.3
Sai Lau Kong	142	2.0	142	2.0	132	1.8
Sha Tau Kok	12 582	7.0	11 904	6.6	11 495	6.4
Sham Wan	12 018	6.7	12 220	6.8	12 371	6.9
Sok Kwu Wan	27 020	19.1	26 846	19.0	26 513	18.8
Tai Tau Chau	11 926	19.0	12 168	19.4	12 155	19.4
Tap Mun	7 520	10.4	7 710	10.6	7 670	10.6
Tiu Cham Wan	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Tung Lung Chau	12 703	15.9	11 878	14.8	11 156	13.9
Wong Wan	2 063	9.2	2 063	9.2	2 060	9.2
Yim Tin Tsai	21 120	15.5	21 051	15.4	21 245	15.6
Yim Tin Tsai (East)	19 991	13.4	21 147	14.1	20 636	13.8
Yung Shue Au	35 852	10.5	35 307	10.3	34 559	10.1
Total	**248 382**	**11.9**	**246 645**	**11.8**	**244 191**	**11.7**

* Raft density refers to the ratio of the total raft area of an FCZ to the total FCZ area.

(b) There is no change in the total area of FCZs over the past 3 years, which is about 209 hectares.

(c) The expenditure and manpower involved in processing applications related to the marine fish culture licence and conducting patrols and inspections in FCZs over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	**Expenditure ($ million)**	**Manpower (number of staff)**
2017-18	8.4	21
2018-19	10.6	21
2019-20 (revised estimate)	11.1	21

(d) Starting from December 2019, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has invited licence holders and persons interested in engaging in mariculture to apply for the new marine fish culture licence. 14 applications were received as at March 2020. The applications are being processed and licences are expected to be issued in the first half of 2020.

(e) The consultancy study on the identification of new FCZs in Hong Kong has been completed, of which the fee was around $2 million while the manpower on overseeing the consultancy study was absorbed from within existing resources of AFCD. As recommended in the consultancy study, 4 sites, namely Wong Chuk Kok Hoi, outer Tap Mun, Po Toi (Southeast) and Mirs Bay, were identified with priority for designation of new FCZs. AFCD has commissioned a consultancy to conduct environmental impact assessment on designating these sites as FCZs, which is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2022. The establishment of new FCZs will allow mariculturists to expand their business as well as interested ones to enter into mariculture, and thus increase the capacity of local production of marine fish.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0666)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the New Agriculture Policy, please advise of the following:

(a) What were the total expenditure and manpower involved in the establishment of the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund, the Agricultural Park and the Agricultural Priority Areas respectively over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(b) What is the current estimated total expenditure involved in the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund, the Agricultural Park and the Agricultural Priority Areas respectively?

(c) Since the introduction of the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund and the Farm Improvement Scheme thereunder, how many project applications have been received, approved, rejected and are being examined? What are these projects by type (e.g. planting, culture, industrial buildings or others)?

(d) Further to the above question, what were the numbers of applications (including those approved and rejected), persons benefited, and, among all, the existing farmers benefited since the introduction of the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund and the Farm Improvement Scheme thereunder over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(e) What is the progress of the work on the Agricultural Park and the Agricultural Priority Areas? What are the estimated work schedules for the two projects?

(f) What were the details, expenditure and manpower involved in promoting the sustainable development of agriculture (e.g. the development of eco-tourism, leisure agricultural industries, agricultural industries employing innovative technology and other sustainable agriculture, etc.) over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

(a) and (b) Over the past 3 years, the expenditure and manpower of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) involved in administering the $500 million Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund (SADF), preparing for the establishment of the Agriculture Park (the Agri-Park) and commissioning a consultancy study on Agricultural Priority Areas (APAs) are tabulated as follows:

Year	**Expenditure ($ million)**	**Manpower (Number of staff)**
2017-18	7.5	16
2018-19	8.1	17
2019-20 (revised estimate)	16.0	22

(c) and (d) As at February 2020, a total of 302 applications seeking financial assistance for individual farms to acquire farming equipment and/or materials from the Farm Improvement Scheme (FIS) under SADF have been received. 290 applications have been approved, involving a total funding commitment of about $8.5 million. 3 applications have been rejected and 6 applications have been withdrawn (including 1 approved application). The rest are being processed.

In addition, a total of 37 applications seeking funding support for projects that will benefit the local agricultural industry as a whole have been received. Among them, 10 applications have been approved, 13 rejected, 8 withdrawn by the applicants, 2 returned to the applicants (for further information/re-submission if necessary) and 3 found to be ineligible for application. The remaining 1 application is being processed. 9 approved projects have been implemented in 2019 or early 2020. The applications are categorised as follows:

Category	**Number of applications**	
	received	**approved**
Promoting farm mechanisation and modernisation	7	1
Research and development of new products and new farming practices, and transfer of knowledge	21	5
Facilitating rehabilitation of fallow agricultural land	2	0
Brand-building and marketing of local agricultural produce	7	4
Total	**37**	**10**

Upon completion of these projects, the actual number of farmers benefiting from

them will be assessed.

(e) AFCD will establish an Agri-Park in Kwu Tung South to help nurture agro-technology and knowledge of modern farm management. The Agri-Park will be developed in 2 phases. Phase 1 will be developed in a relatively small scale (about 11 hectares) with a view to enabling its partial commissioning for use by farmers as early as possible. Subject to funding approval of the Finance Committee in 2020, the construction works of Agri-Park Phase 1 will commence as soon as possible and is expected to be completed in stages by 2021-23. AFCD is in parallel planning and preparing for the Agri-Park Phase 2.

To support the development of the local agriculture, the Government is conducting a consultancy study to identify relatively large areas of quality agricultural land and explore suitable policies and measures to encourage landowners to put fallow agricultural land back into long-term agricultural use. The consultant is currently reviewing the existing farmland in Hong Kong and studying overseas experience, and will then make recommendations. As a considerable size of agricultural land is involved, it is estimated that the study will take several years to complete.

(f) AFCD promotes the sustainable development of local agriculture through measures such as (i) developing new farming techniques to raise productivity; (ii) introducing new and improved crop varieties for local cultivation; (iii) promoting leisure farming and organic farming; (iv) assisting in setting up farmers' markets to help farmers reach out to customers and organising the annual FarmFest to showcase local agricultural and fishery production; (v) administering 3 funds to provide loans to farmers as development and/or working capital; and (vi) implementing the various measures under the New Agriculture Policy. The expenditure and manpower involved in the above area of work are tabulated as follows:

Year	**Expenditure ($ million)**	**Manpower (Number of staff)**
2017-18	48.3	99
2018-19	56.4	114
2019-20 (revised estimate)	74.0	123

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0668)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the surveys on fisheries resources, please advise of:

(a) the manpower and the expenditures involved over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20) and the timeframe for the surveys;

(b) the manpower and the expenditures involved in employing external local trawlers to conduct the surveys over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20) and the timeframe of the work;

(c) the area of the waters involved in, the numbers of and the mechanism put in place for the surveys (please show with a map);

(d) the ways that the Department currently uses to inform the fishing vessels operating in relevant waters;

(e) during the surveys, the frequency of contractor monitoring as well as measures taken by the Department's staff on board the subject vessels to ensure that the contract terms are complied with?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 62)

Reply:

(a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) conducted surveys to monitor the status of fisheries resources in Hong Kong waters. The expenditure and manpower involved over the past 3 years are tabulated below.

Year	Expenditure ($ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2017-18	3.7	3
2018-19	4.2	3
2019-20 (revised estimate)	12.9	4

(b) The surveys conducted with trawlers were completed in early 2017 and no trawlers were involved in the surveys since then.

(c) The surveys mentioned in part (a) above include:

(i) the surveys on fish fry and eggs which were conducted in wet, dry and peak seasons at the spawning and nursery grounds in the Tolo Channel, Long Harbour and Port Shelter to collect samples;

(ii) the surveys on cage trapping which were conducted twice a month to study the impacts of the use of different cage traps on fisheries resources at sampling stations in the waters south of Cheung Chau and near Kau Yi Chau;

(iii) the monitoring programme for fisheries resources in Hong Kong waters was undertaken by fishing methods such as cage-trapping, long-lining and gill-netting at sampling stations in the waters near Port Shelter and Lamma Island; and

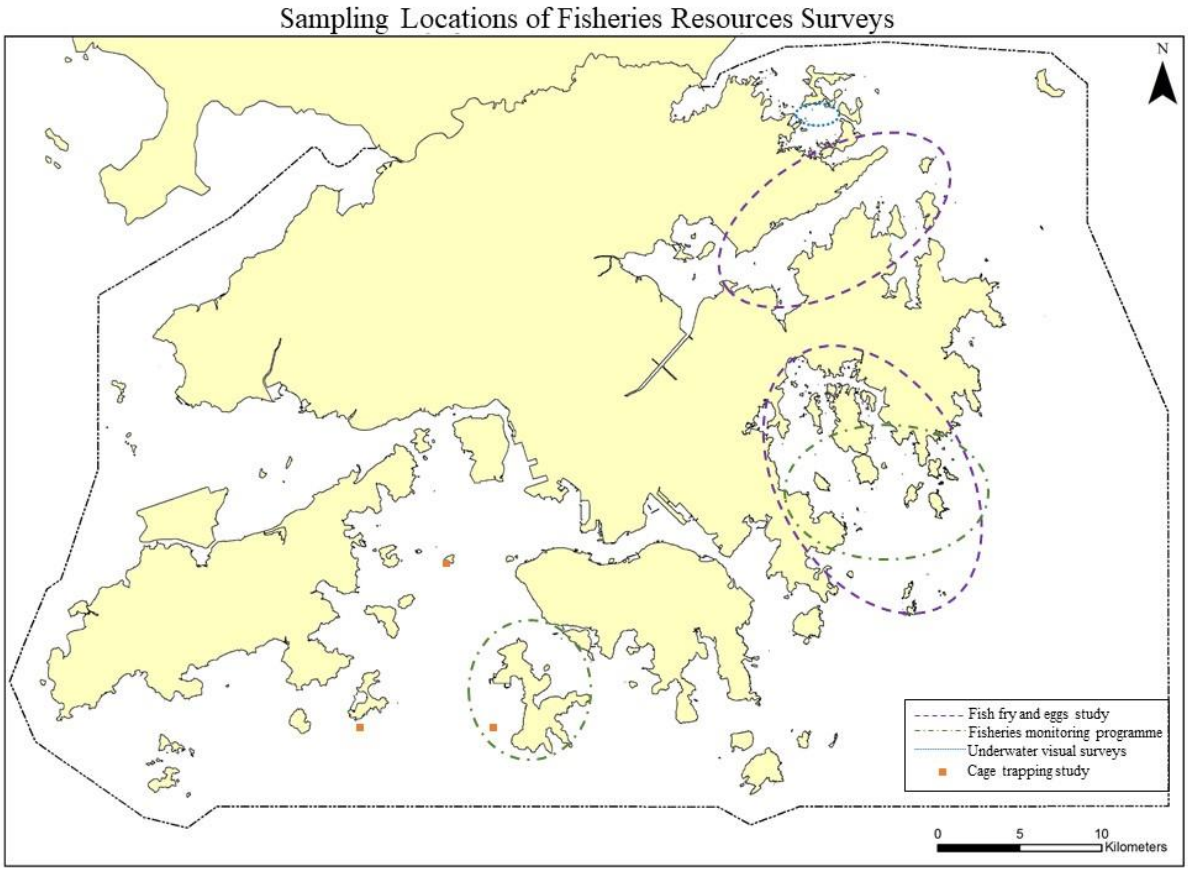
(iv) the surveys to monitor the effectiveness of the restocking exercise, using underwater visual surveys and passive acoustic telemetry to collect monthly data on the fish fingerlings released in the relevant northeast waters of Hong Kong.

A map indicating the sampling stations is at the **Annex**.

(d) As mentioned above, the surveys conducted with trawlers by AFCD officers were completed in early 2017. All surveys being conducted at present employ non-trawling methods such as cage-trapping, long-lining and gill-netting, which do not generally cause impacts on other fishing vessels in operation. It is therefore not necessary to inform the fishing vessels operating in the waters nearby.

(e) Over the past 3 years, AFCD officers went on board 55 times to monitor the performance of the contractors. Apart from collecting scientific information on the samples, AFCD officers also took photographs and made records when monitoring the performance of the contractors on board to ensure that the terms of contract were complied with.

Annex


Sampling Locations of Fisheries Resources Surveys
N
Fish fry and eggs study
Fisheries monitoring programme
Underwater visual surveys
Cage trapping study
0
5
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Kilometers

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0669)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Fish farmers shall obtain permits issued by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (the Department) before temporarily relocating their fish rafts out of the fish culture zones. Regarding this matter, please advise on the numbers of the permits concerned that were issued by the Department over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20). Please set out the numbers with a breakdown by the fish rafts in various fish culture zones.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 74)

Reply:

The number of permits issued for temporary relocation of fish rafts and the fish culture zones (FCZs) involved over the past 3 years are tabulated below.

Year	**Number of permits issued for temporary relocation of fish rafts (FCZs involved)**
2017-18	1 (Sok Kwu Wan FCZ)
2018-19	0 (N/A)
2019-20 (up to end February 2020)	2 (Sok Kwu Wan FCZ and Kau Sai FCZ)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0671)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the issue of cattle being indiscriminately fed with various kinds of food by visitors in rural areas, please advise of the following:

(a) What is the respective number of inspections carried out by the Department in the light of the indiscriminate feeding of cattle currently? Has the Department found any cases of indiscriminate feeding of cattle over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)? If yes, please provide the number of prosecutions and arrests concerned.

(b) What are the Department's manpower and expenditure involved in producing publicity banners and posters for this work? In addition, how will the Department enhance the existing mechanism to resolve this issue in 2020-21?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 76)

Reply:

(a)&(b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) does not encourage members of the public to feed stray cattle, even though it is not against the law. Stray cattle by nature forage in the wild. Providing food for cattle may affect their natural behaviour and survival instinct, causing them to become reliant on human for food. In 2020-21, AFCD will continue to put up publicity banners and posters to enhance public awareness of stray cattle and remind the public not to disturb or feed stray cattle when encountering them. The manpower and expenditure involved will be absorbed within AFCD's existing resources and hence no separate breakdown is available in this respect.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)034

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0672)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the fish rafts in Hong Kong, please advise of:

(a) the respective numbers of fish rafts in the 26 fish culture zones of Hong Kong over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20) in tabular form; and

(b) the manpower and the expenditure involved in conducting inspections at each fish culture zone over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20) and the timeframe for the inspections.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 78)

Reply:

(a) The number of fish rafts in the 26 fish culture zones over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Fish culture zone / Year	**2017-18**	**2018-19**	**2019-20 (up to end February 2020)**
Ap Chau	4	4	4
Cheung Sha Wan	60	60	57
Kai Lung Wan	39	39	39
Kat O	32	28	28
Kau Lau Wan	20	20	20
Kau Sai	64	64	64
Leung Shuen Wan	65	64	64
Lo Fu Wat	33	33	19
Lo Tik Wan	68	68	67
Ma Nam Wat	42	43	43
Ma Wan	95	94	94

Fish culture zone / Year	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (up to end February 2020)
O Pui Tong	3	3	3
Po Toi	6	6	6
Po Toi O	38	38	35
Sai Lau Kong	2	2	2
Sha Tau Kok	109	110	110
Sham Wan	173	162	163
Sok Kwu Wan	145	141	140
Tai Tau Chau	101	101	101
Tap Mun	70	71	71
Tiu Cham Wan	0	0	0
Tung Lung Chau	58	57	57
Wong Wan	15	15	15
Yim Tin Tsai	254	254	254
Yim Tin Tsai (East)	201	195	196
Yung Shue Au	281	280	278
Total	**1 978**	**1 952**	**1 930**

(b) To ensure the operation of fish rafts is in compliance with the Marine Fish Culture Ordinance (Cap. 353), the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department conducts regular patrols and inspections in the 26 fish culture zones. The expenditure and manpower involved over the past 3 years are tabulated below. There is no breakdown by individual fish culture zone.

Year	Expenditure ($ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2017-18	7.3	18
2018-19	9.8	18
2019-20 (revised estimate)	9.3	18

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0681)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the waters in Hong Kong, in which the entry of fishing vessels and fishing are permitted, please advise of the following:

(a) Please indicate on a map the areas in which the entry of fishing vessels and different types of fishing operation are permitted.
(b) Other than restricted areas of the airport, principal fairways, waters subject to the traffic separation scheme (except the dividing strips), various typhoon shelters, the areas stipulated in Section 14 of Cap. 548F of the Laws of Hong Kong, the core areas of marine parks, the marine reserve, fish culture zones, public bathing beaches, waters undergoing reclamation and the Kwai Chung Control Station, are there any other waters in Hong Kong, where fishing and entry of fishing vessels are not permitted? What are the respective sizes of the waters where entry of fishing vessels and fishing are not permitted, and that of the waters where these activities are permitted in Hong Kong?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 87)

Reply:

Hong Kong waters are generally available for fishing with the use of fishing vessels, except in certain areas such as the core areas of marine parks, marine reserve, fish culture zones, typhoon shelters, principal fairways, restricted areas of the airport, public bathing beaches and works areas of reclamation projects. These areas are under the purview of a number of different departments such as the Marine Department for principal fairways, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department for public bathing beaches, various works departments for reclamation projects, and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) for marine parks, marine reserve and fish culture zones. AFCD does not have comprehensive and precise technical information on areas under the administration of different departments.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0683)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding fishing vessels and industry-related vessels, please advise of the following:

(a) What were the respective numbers of pair trawlers, stern trawlers, shrimp trawlers, hang trawlers, purse seiners with light, purse seiners, liners and gillnetters, fish carriers, other fishing vessels and industry-related vessels over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(b) What were the number of fishing vessels registered in Hong Kong over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(c) Among the registered fishing vessels mentioned in part (b), what are the respective number of vessels conducting fishing activities with the methods mentioned in part (a)?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

(a) The Marine Department's (MD) information on the number of fishing vessels (Class III vessel) licensed under the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Certification and Licensing) Regulation (Cap. 548D) over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Type of vessel	**Number of local fishing vessels / Year**		
	2017	**2018**	**2019**
Fish carrier	30	26	29
Fishing sampan "C7"	1 942	1 961	1 892
Fishing vessel	1 949	1 899	1 874
Outboard open sampan "P4"	2 581	2 619	2 599
Total	**6 502**	**6 505**	**6 394**

No further breakdown on the number of fishing vessels is available.

(b) Vessels navigating in Hong Kong are required to possess a valid operating licence issued by MD which certifies the safety and seaworthiness of the vessel concerned. Vessels engaging in fishing operations in Hong Kong waters are required to further register with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department under the Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171) (the Ordinance). The number of fishing vessels registered under the Ordinance in 2017, 2018 and 2019 is 4 120, 4 145 and 4 116 respectively.

(c) The breakdown on various fishing methods used by fishing vessels registered in accordance with the procedures in (b) above over the past 3 years is tabulated below:

Fishing method	**Number of local fishing vessels / Year**		
	2017	**2018**	**2019**
Purse seining / purse seining with light	27	32	41
Long lining / hand lining	37	35	36
Gill netting	520	514	516
Cage trapping	39	46	38
Mixed fishing methods	3 497	3 518	3 485
Total	**4 120**	**4 145**	**4 116**

Since trawling is prohibited in Hong Kong waters, no trawler could be registered under the Ordinance.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0684)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to promoting the sustainable development of the fisheries industry, please advise of the following:

(a) What were the details, expenditure and manpower involved in promoting the sustainable development of the fisheries industry (e.g. offshore fishing, open sea mariculture, the development of eco-tourism, recreational fishing, fisheries operations employing innovative technology and other sustainable fisheries operations) over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(b) What were the expenditures and manpower involved in the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund (SFDF) over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(c) Since the introduction of SFDF and its Equipment Improvement Project (EIP), how many project applications have been received, approved, rejected and are being examined in total? What are these projects by type (e.g. capture, culture, recreational fishing or others)?

(d) Further to the above question, what is the number of beneficiaries, and among them, the number of in-service fishermen benefited since the introduction of SFDF and its EIP?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)

Reply:

(a) The Government has been promoting the sustainable development of the fisheries industry through (i) implementing a series of fisheries management measures to help conserve and restore depleted marine resources such as the ban on trawling since December 2012 and the introduction of a registration system for local fishing vessels; (ii) assisting fishermen in switching to sustainable fisheries operations and helping fish farmers develop sustainable aquaculture through technical support services, credit

facilities and training courses; (iii) promoting good aquaculture practices and enhancing the monitoring of aquaculture environment; and (iv) administering the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund (SFDF) to help fishermen adopt a sustainable and high value-added operation mode and fund projects and research that help enhance the overall competitiveness of the industry, including developing offshore fishing, deep water mariculture, recreational fishing, ecotourism, etc.

The expenditure and manpower involved in promoting the sustainable development of the fisheries industry over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2017-18	108.8	106
2018-19	182.9	107
2019-20 (revised estimate)	175.4	109

(b) The expenditure and manpower involved in the administration of SFDF over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2017-18	2.5	7
2018-19	2.7	7
2019-20 (revised estimate)	2.8	7

(c) Since its inception, 50 applications have been received under SFDF and its Equipment Improvement Project (EIP). Details of these applications are tabulated as follows:

Number / Type of applications (as at March 2020)	Aquaculture	Capture fisheries	Recreational fisheries	Others	EIP	Total
Received	28	2	5	6	9	50
Approved	11	1	2	1	8	23
Rejected	8	0	2	4	0	14
Withdrawn by the applicant	4	0	1	1	0	6
Under processing	5	1	0	0	1	7

(d) As at March 2020, 3 SFDF projects were completed, benefiting around 255 in-service fishermen. Upon completion of more projects including EIPs, more fishermen will be benefited.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0686)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding illegal fishing activities, please advise of the following:

(a) the respective numbers of (i) patrols and (ii) joint operations conducted in the marine parks/marine reserve set out below over each of the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20);

Year		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park	Patrol			
	Joint operation			
Yan Chau Tong Marine Park	Patrol			
	Joint operation			
Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park	Patrol			
	Joint operation			
Tung Ping Chau Marine Park	Patrol			
	Joint operation			
Cape D'Aguilar Marine Reserve	Patrol			
	Joint operation			
The Brothers Marine Park	Patrol			
	Joint operation			

(b) the respective numbers of cases relating to illegal fishing activities in the marine parks/marine reserve mentioned in item (a) over each of the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20) regarding: (i) the number of complaint cases received; (ii) the number of cases relating to illegal fishing activities detected during patrols or joint operations but could not successfully make arrests; (iii) the number of persons arrested and cases; (iv) the number of persons convicted and cases; (v) the maximum and minimum penalties imposed on the persons convicted; and (vi) the number of repeated offenders arrested and cases (please set them out in the table below);

	Year		
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Number of complaint cases received			
Number of cases relating to illegal fishing activities detected during patrols or joint operations (cases which could not successfully make arrests)			
Number of successful arrests (number of persons arrested)			
Number of successful prosecutions (number of persons successfully prosecuted)			
Maximum and minimum penalties			
Number of repeated offences (number of repeated offenders)			

(c) the respective numbers of (i) patrols and (ii) joint operations conducted in the Hong Kong waters (except in various marine parks/marine reserve) set out below over each of the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20);

		Year		
		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Waters over the Hong Kong territory	(i)			
	(ii)			
Waters around Cheung Chau	(i)			
	(ii)			
Waters around Shek Kwu Chau	(i)			
	(ii)			
Waters around Soko Islands	(i)			
	(ii)			
Waters off the Brothers	(i)			
	(ii)			
Waters off Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau	(i)			
	(ii)			

(d) the respective numbers of cases relating to illegal fishing activities in the waters mentioned in item (c) over each of the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20) regarding: (i) the number of complaint cases received; (ii) the number of cases relating to illegal fishing activities detected during patrols or joint operations but could not successfully make arrests; (iii) the number of persons arrested and cases; (iv) the number of persons convicted and cases; (v) the maximum and minimum penalties imposed on the persons convicted; and (vi) the number of repeated offenders arrested and cases (please set them out in the table below);

	Year		
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Number of complaint cases received			
Number of cases relating to illegal fishing activities detected during patrols or joint operations (cases which could not successfully make arrests)			
Number of successful arrests (number of persons arrested)			
Number of successful prosecutions (number of persons successfully prosecuted)			
Maximum and minimum penalties			
Number of repeated offences (number of repeated offenders)			

(e) Would the Government consider strengthening the measures in combating illegal fishing activities, including: (i) purchasing additional patrol launches; (ii) increasing the number of patrols; (iii) increasing the number of joint operations; (iv) purchasing additional equipment; (v) imposing heavier penalty and (vi) other measures? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

(f) What were the expenditures and manpower involved in enforcement operations against illegal fishing activities over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(g) What were the numbers of patrol launches, patrol areas and numbers of patrols conducted against illegal fishing activities over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(h) Regarding illegal fishing activities, what fishing practices were detected during patrols or joint operations over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20), and what were their numbers and percentages involved?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 25)

Reply:

(a) The number of (i) patrols conducted by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD); and (ii) its joint operations^ mounted with the Marine Police at marine parks and marine reserve over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year / Location		**2017-2018**	**2018-2019**	**2019-20 (as at end February 2020)**
Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park	(i)	830	841	738
	(ii)	12	13	11
Yan Chau Tong Marine Park	(i)	599	535	471
	(ii)	12	12	7

Year / Location		2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-20 (as at end February 2020)
Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park	(i)	378	405	397
	(ii)	0	0	0
Tung Ping Chau Marine Park	(i)	556	513	458
	(ii)	12	10	5
Cape D'Aguilar Marine Reserve	(i)	388	479	424
	(ii)	0	0	0
The Brothers Marine Park	(i)	426	441	409
	(ii)	0	0	0

^ Concurrently with operations of relevant Mainland authorities in nearby Mainland waters in some cases.

(b) Statistics on illegal fishing activities at marine parks and marine reserve over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Item	Year		
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at end February 2020)
Number of complaints received	3	3	4
Number of cases relating to illegal fishing activities detected during patrols or joint operations (cases which could not successfully make arrests)	14 (2)	17 (2)	11 (4)
Number of successful arrests (number of persons arrested)	12 (12)	15 (15)	7* (7)
Number of successful prosecutions (number of persons successfully prosecuted)	6 (6)	12 (12)	1 (1)
Minimum and maximum penalties imposed	A fine of $800 to $1,500	A fine of $600 to $1,500	A fine of $1,000
Number of repeated offences (number of repeated offenders)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)

* 6 prosecution cases are still in progress.

(c) The number of (i) patrols conducted by AFCD; and (ii) its joint operations^ mounted with the Marine Police and the Marine Department in the waters outside marine parks and marine reserve over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year/Waters		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at end February 2020)
Waters over the Hong Kong territory	(i)	1 592	1 688	1490
	(ii)	65	78	34
Waters around Cheung Chau, Shek Kwu Chau and Soko Islands	(i)	533	507	454
	(ii)	47	44	23
Waters off the Brothers	(i)	62	54	43
	(ii)	0	0	0
Waters off Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau	(i)	67	66	45
	(ii)	0	0	0

^ Concurrently with operations of relevant Mainland authorities in nearby Mainland waters in some cases

(d) Statistics on illegal fishing activities in the waters mentioned in part (c) over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Item	Year		
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at end February 2020)
Number of complaints received	129	102	144
Number of cases relating to illegal fishing activities detected during patrols or joint operations (number of cases which could not successfully make arrests)	30 (18)	44 (36)	32 (27)
Number of successful arrests (number of persons arrested)	12 (30)	8 (23)	5* (11)
Number of successful prosecutions (number of persons successfully prosecuted)	8 (26)	7 (22)	4 (10)
Minimum and maximum penalties imposed	A fine of $1,200 to $5,000; imprisonment for 2 months	A fine of $1,500 to $2,000; imprisonment for 2 weeks to 2 months	A fine of $1,000 to $3,000; imprisonment for 2 weeks to 2 months
Number of repeated offences (number of repeated offenders)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)

* 1 of the cases is still under investigation

(e) AFCD enforces the relevant legislation through a risk-based approach, deploying resources flexibly to conduct random and targeted patrols in local waters (including marine parks and marine reserve) having regard to the circumstances to combat illegal fishing activities. AFCD also maintains close liaison with the Marine Police with a

view to mounting joint operations (including using the "vessel arrest system" to intercept trawlers who refuse to stop for inspection) as and when appropriate.

Under the Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171) (the Ordinance), any person who uses prohibited fishing gear for fishing is liable to a maximum fine of $200,000 and an imprisonment for 6 months upon conviction. In addition, under the Marine Parks Ordinance (Cap. 476), any person who carries out illegal fishing activities in marine parks and marine reserve is liable to a maximum fine of $25,000 and an imprisonment for 1 year upon conviction. AFCD considers that the existing statutory provisions are already effective in combating the illegal fishing activities, and that the penalties imposed by the court, including fines and imprisonment, have deterrent effect. AFCD will continue to enhance enforcement, exchange information and intelligence with the relevant government departments and Mainland authorities, adjust its enforcement strategy from time to time in the light of circumstances and intelligence gathered, and collaborate with the relevant parties to combat illegal fishing. To enhance the effectiveness of the enforcement action, AFCD plans to apply technology in its enforcement work, such as using real time satellite information to help identify fishing vessels.

(f) The expenditure and manpower involved in combating illegal fishing by AFCD over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	**Expenditure ($ million)**	**Manpower (Number of staff)**
2017-18	13.3	18
2018-19	14.0	18
2019-20 (revised estimate)	17.3	18

(g) From 2017 to 2019, AFCD deployed 3 vessels for regular and targeted patrols against illegal fishing at random hours (including night time and early morning) under the Ordinance. AFCD officers, when discharging duties on other vessels, will also stay vigilant to any illegal fishing activities, and inform AFCD's enforcement unit and the Marine Police for follow up.

The patrols focused on blackspots of illegal fishing activities such as Soko Islands, waters south of Cheung Chau and in Northeastern Hong Kong. The number of patrols conducted by AFCD in 2017, 2018 and 2019 is about 1 630, 1 610 and 1 740 respectively.

(h) Information on illegal fishing practices detected during patrols over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year / Illegal fishing practices	**2017-18**		**2018-19**		**2019-20 (as at February 2020)**	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Shrimp trawling	17	56.7	17	38.7	12	37.5
Hang trawling	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	6.3
Stern trawling	1	3.3	2	4.5	0	0.0

Year / Illegal fishing practices	**2017-18**		**2018-19**		**2019-20 (as at February 2020)**	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Pair trawling	0	0.0	2	4.5	7	21.8
Purse seining	1	3.3	0	0.0	0	0.0
Gill netting	8	26.7	16	36.4	6	18.8
Cage trapping	3	10.0	7	15.9	5	15.6
Total	**30**	**100.0**	**44**	**100.0**	**32**	**100.0**

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0689)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme and the Special Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme of the Vegetable Marketing Organization, please provide the following information over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20):

(a) What was the administrative and technical support provided for the schemes?

(b) What were the details of the expenditures and manpower involved?

(c) What were the expenditure and manpower involved in handling applications for the schemes?

(d) What were the respective numbers of applications and the land area involved (hectare)?

(e) What were the respective numbers of successful and unsuccessful cases? What was the farmland area (hectare) successfully rented?

(f) How long did the processing of an application take on average (from receipt of an application to notification of the result)?

(g) What was the number of landowners participating in the said schemes?

(h) How much was the annual rental for the successful cases?

(i) What were the accumulative number of applicants and the land area involved (hectare) on the waiting list?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 28)

Reply:

(a) to (i) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) operates the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme (ALRS) through bringing owners of farmland and interested farmers together to work out leasing agreements for the farmland. The manpower and expenditure involved in operating ALRS and the relevant statistics on the cases handled over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Number of staff	1	1	1
Expenditure ($ million)	0.9	0.9	0.9
Number of landowners participating in ALRS	41	24	32
Number of new applications/ land area involved (hectare)	58/8.7	77/8.1	49/7.8
Number of successful cases	9	10	43
- Total land area involved (hectare)	2.1	1.4	7.9
- Range of annual rental (per dau chung^)	$160 to $12,000	$25 to $60,000	$7 to $142,900
- Average waiting time (year)	5.5	3.2	3.8
Number of applications on the waiting list as at year-end/ land area involved (hectare)	347/74.7	413/81.0	445/81.8

^1 dau chung is equivalent to 7 260 square feet.

The Special Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme (SALRS) is a separate scheme proposed by the Government in relation to New Development Area projects. The Government proactively identifies government land suitable for agricultural rehabilitation. So far, 5 pieces of land (total area of about 3.3 hectares) in the North District have been open for application by about 30 farmers affected by the first phase of the Kwu Tung North and Fanling North New Development Area project and recorded by the Farm Operation Survey. The Development Bureau, in collaboration with relevant departments, is now processing 13 applications for agricultural rehabilitation to strive for making the SALRS sites available when the affected farmers move out in phases starting from later half of 2020. This scheme is undertaken with the existing manpower and resources.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0692)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the artificial reefs project, please advise of the following:

(a) The situation of deployment of artificial reefs, the number of artificial reefs deployed and the areas concerned over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20).

(b) Has the Government ever assessed the effectiveness of the artificial reefs project?

(c) What were the details of the revised estimated expenditure and the work involved in 2019-20?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 31)

Reply:

(a) No artificial reefs (ARs) were deployed by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 3 years.

(b) and (c) AFCD conducted underwater surveys on the fisheries resources in areas with ARs to assess their effectiveness. Results from past surveys indicate that areas with ARs deployed support higher diversity and abundance of fish species as compared with the natural habitat. Over 220 species of fish, including high-valued species like groupers, breams, snappers and sweetlips, have also been found using ARs for feeding, shelter, as well as spawning and nursing.

In 2019-20, an expenditure of $320,000 (revised estimate) was involved in the underwater survey.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)041

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0693)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding mariculture industry, please advise of the following:

(a) The expenditure and manpower of the Government for monitoring water quality and red tides respectively over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20).

(b) Please set out in tabular form the number of red tides occurred in Hong Kong and the species of phytoplankton that caused red tides respectively over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20), with a breakdown by district.

(c) Did the Government have any statistics on the cases relating to massive fish deaths due to water quality or pollution incidents over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)? Please set out by district.

(d) Did the Government have any statistics on the cases relating to massive fish deaths due to inclement weather (including typhoons, cold snaps) over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)? Please set out by district.

(e) Please set out the respective numbers of applications for the Emergency Relief Fund due to items (b), (c) and (d), cases approved and the amount involved.

(f) Currently, what assistance would the Government provide to mariculturists after red tides?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 32)

Reply:

(a) The expenditure and manpower involved in monitoring water quality and red tides are tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)	Manpower (Number of staff)
2017-18	12.0	12
2018-19	17.9	11
2019-20 (revised estimate)	16.6	11

(b) The number of red tides observed in different districts and the causative species involved over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

District/ Year	Number of red tides observed and the causative species involved		
	2017-18	**2018-19**	**2019-20**
North	1 *Akashiwo sanguinea*	Nil	Nil
Tai Po	5 *Gonyaulax polygramma, Chaetoceros salsugineum*	15 *Scrippsiella trochoidea, Takayama tuberculate, Prorocentrum balticum, Mesodinium rubrum, Noctiluca scintillans, Akashiwo sanguinea, Heterosigma akashiwo*	Nil
Sha Tin	1 *Gonyaulax polygramma*	3 *Cyclotella choctawhatcheeana, Heterosigma akashiwo, Noctiluca scintillans*	Nil
Sai Kung	5 *Gonyaulax polygramma, Cochlodinium convolutum, Pseudo-nitzschia pungens, Mesodinium rubrum, Noctiluca scintillans*	7 *Noctiluca scintillans, Akashiwo sanguinea*	Nil
Southern	5 *Gonyaulax polygramma, Akashiwo sanguinea, Cerataulina pelagica, Thalassiosira pseudonana, Noctiluca scintillans*	3 *Mesodinium rubrum, Gonyaulax polygramma, Noctiluca scintillans*	Nil

District/ Year	Number of red tides observed and the causative species involved		
	2017-18	**2018-19**	**2019-20**
Islands	2 *Cerataulina pelagica, Thalassiosira pseudonana*	10 *Takayama tuberculate, Noctiluca scintillans, Akashiwo sanguinea, Prorocentrum triestinum, Gonyaulax polygramma*	2 *Noctiluca scintillans*
Tuen Mun	2 *Thalassiosira tealata*	2 *Noctiluca scintillans, Mesodinium rubrum*	5 *Phaeocystis globosa*
Kwun Tong	2 *Gonyaulax polygramma, Chaetoceros salsugineum*	Nil	Nil
Tsuen Wan	Nil	5 *Noctiluca scintillans, Mesodinium rubrum*	4 *Phaeocystis globosa*
Kwai Tsing	Nil	1 *Noctiluca scintillans*	Nil

(c) to (d) There were no confirmed reports of massive fish deaths in fish culture zones and fish ponds due to water quality, pollution or inclement weather over the past 3 years.

(e) to (f) When there is a red tide incident which may pose significant threat to marine fish culture, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will provide immediate support to the concerned mariculturists, including helping relocate fish rafts away from the red tide area and disposing of fish carcasses.

AFCD may open application for the Emergency Relief Fund (ERF) having regard to the impacts and the scale caused by natural disasters. Over the past 3 years, there were no incidents due to red tides or massive fish deaths that had necessitated ERF applications. On the other hand, ERF was opened to marine fish farmers and pond fish farmers with respect to fish losses due to Super Typhoon Hato in 2017-18 and heavy rainstorms and Super Typhoon Mangkhut in 2018-19. The details concerned are as follows:

Category	2017-18		2018-19	
	Number of applications received (approved)	**Amount issued ($ million)**	**Number of applications received (approved)**	**Amount issued ($ million)**
Marine fish farmers	239 (200)	1.6	478 (434)	6.5
Pond fish farmers	45 (39)	0.5	56 (32)	0.4
Total	**284 (239)**	**2.1**	**534 (466)**	**6.9**

In 2019-20 (as at mid-March 2020), no financial assistance under ERF was granted to fish farmers.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0695)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

(a) Please set out the numbers, sizes and distribution of the vegetable farms, flower farms, organic farms, leisure farms, vegetable marketing co-operative societies, vegetable depots, farms in industrial buildings, fish rafts and licences for marine fish culture, fish ponds and oyster breeding rafts currently in operation.

(b) What are the numbers, sizes and distribution of local pig farms and chicken farms, and the licensed rearing capacity of each farm over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)? Please set out the information with a breakdown by the 18 districts.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

(a) As at 31 December 2019, there were about 2 400 crop farms (including vegetables, flowers and orchards) with a total cultivated area of about 750 hectares. These farms are mainly located in the North District and Yuen Long. Amongst these crop farms, there are 322 organic vegetable farms which have joined the Organic Farming Support Service Scheme of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department with a total area of about 103 hectares. It is estimated that there are 131 leisure farms with a total area of about 130 hectares. There are also 13 farms located in industrial buildings in Chai Wan, Kwun Tong, Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan, Shatin, Tai Po, Tuen Mun and Yau Tong Districts with a total area of 2.05 hectares.

Information on the number and distribution of vegetable marketing co-operative societies (VMCSs) and vegetable depots as at 31 December 2019 by district is tabulated as follows:

District	VMCS	Vegetable depots

District	VMCS	Vegetable depots
Yuen Long	13	0
North	9	0
Tuen Mun	3	1
Islands	2	0
Tai Po	1	0
Tsuen Wan	1	0
Total	**29**	**1**

Information of marine fish culture farms, pond fish farms and oyster rafts as at 31 December 2019 is as follows:

(i) There were about 920 licensed marine fish culture farms with about 1 930 fish rafts in 26 designated Fish Culture Zones[*]. The size of farms ranged from 13 to about 6 800 m^2.

(ii) There were about 330 pond fish farms with about 1 400 fish ponds, mainly in the north-west New Territories. The size of pond fish farms ranged from 83 to 424 810 m^2.

(iii) There were about 8 800 oyster rafts in Deep Bay, the size of which ranged from 96 to 300 m^2.

[*] There are 26 designated Fish Culture Zones located at Sha Tau Kok, Ap Chau, Kat O, O Pui Tong, Sai Lau Kong, Wong Wan, Tap Mun, Kau Lau Wan, Sham Wan, Lo Fu Wat, Yung Shue Au, Leung Shuen Wan, Tiu Cham Wan, Tai Tau Chau, Kai Lung Wan, Kau Sai, Ma Nam Wat, Po Toi O, Po Toi, Sok Kwu Wan, Lo Tik Wan, Ma Wan, Yim Tin Tsai, Cheung Sha Wan, Yim Tin Tsai (East) and Tung Lung Chau respectively.

(b) Over the past 3 years, the number of local pig farms and chicken farms remained the same as 43 and 29 respectively. The distribution, licensed areas and licensed rearing capacities of these farms as at 31 December 2019 are tabulated as follows:

Pig farms (by year)

	2017			2018			2019		
	District	Licensed area (m^2)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m^2)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m^2)	Licensed capacity (number)
1	Yuen Long	384.65	300	Yuen Long	384.65	300	Yuen Long	384.65	300
2	Yuen Long	626.82	450	Yuen Long	626.82	450	Yuen Long	626.82	450
3	Yuen Long	706.90	1 000	Yuen Long	706.90	1 000	Yuen Long	706.90	1 000
4	Yuen Long	838.59	1 500	Yuen Long	838.59	1 500	Yuen Long	838.59	1 500
5	Yuen Long	938.49	850	Yuen Long	902.78	1 000	Yuen Long	902.78	1 000
6	Yuen Long	1 142.90	600	Yuen Long	938.49	850	Yuen Long	938.49	850

	2017			2018			2019		
	District	**Licensed area (m^2)**	**Licensed capacity (number)**	**District**	**Licensed area (m^2)**	**Licensed capacity (number)**	**District**	**Licensed area (m^2)**	**Licensed capacity (number)**
7	Yuen Long	1 180.97	1 200	Yuen Long	1 142.90	600	Yuen Long	1 142.90	600
8	Yuen Long	1 327.53	1 000	Yuen Long	1 180.97	1 200	Yuen Long	1 153.33	1 990
9	Yuen Long	1 374.87	1 200	Yuen Long	1 327.53	1 000	Yuen Long	1 180.97	1 200
10	Yuen Long	1 392.30	1 990	Yuen Long	1 374.87	1 200	Yuen Long	1 327.53	1 000
11	Yuen Long	1 612.44	1 000	Yuen Long	1 392.30	1 990	Yuen Long	1 374.87	1 200
12	Yuen Long	1 709.24	1 500	Yuen Long	1 709.24	1 500	Yuen Long	1 709.24	1 500
13	Yuen Long	1 725.58	1 900	Yuen Long	1 725.58	1 900	Yuen Long	1 725.58	1 900
14	Yuen Long	1 864.27	600	Yuen Long	1 864.27	600	Yuen Long	1 864.27	600
15	Yuen Long	1 923.26	1 500	Yuen Long	1 923.26	1 500	Yuen Long	1 923.26	1 500
16	Yuen Long	2 146.27	1 600	Yuen Long	2 146.27	1 600	Yuen Long	2 146.27	1 600
17	Yuen Long	2 220.09	1 000	Yuen Long	2 220.09	1 000	Yuen Long	2 220.09	1 000
18	Yuen Long	2 614.85	2 000	Yuen Long	2 614.85	2 000	Yuen Long	2 614.85	2 000
19	Yuen Long	2 640.33	2 600	Yuen Long	2 765.33	2 600	Yuen Long	2 765.33	2 600
20	Yuen Long	2 860.03	1 500	Yuen Long	2 860.03	1 500	Yuen Long	2 860.03	1 500
21	Yuen Long	2 960.03	3 500	Yuen Long	2 960.03	3 500	Yuen Long	2 960.03	3 500
22	Yuen Long	3 015.53	2 000	Yuen Long	3 015.53	2 000	Yuen Long	3 015.53	2 000
23	Yuen Long	3 130.14	1 500	Yuen Long	3 130.14	1 500	Yuen Long	3 130.14	1 500
24	Yuen Long	3 205.77	2 000	Yuen Long	3 205.77	2 000	Yuen Long	3 205.77	2 000
25	Yuen Long	3 699.22	1 800	Yuen Long	3 699.22	1 800	Yuen Long	3 699.22	1 800
26	Yuen Long	3 914.32	3 000	Yuen Long	3 914.32	3 000	Yuen Long	3 914.32	3 000
27	Yuen Long	3 955.47	2 500	Yuen Long	3 955.47	2 500	Yuen Long	3 955.47	2 500
28	Yuen Long	3 965.31	2 000	Yuen Long	3 965.31	2 000	Yuen Long	3 965.31	2000
29	Yuen Long	4 106.13	3 000	Yuen Long	4 106.13	3 000	Yuen Long	4 106.13	3 000
30	Yuen Long	4 248.04	3 000	Yuen Long	4 248.04	3 000	Yuen Long	4 248.04	3 000
31	Yuen Long	4 524.78	2 600	Yuen Long	4 524.78	2 600	Yuen Long	4 524.78	2 600
32	Yuen Long	5 085.70	1 500	Yuen Long	5 085.70	1 500	Yuen Long	5 085.70	1 500
33	Yuen Long	6 345.66	6 000	Yuen Long	6 345.66	6 000	Yuen Long	6 345.66	6 000
34	Yuen Long	7 108.62	4 000	Yuen Long	7 108.62	4 000	Yuen Long	7 108.62	4 000
35	North	556.96	250	North	556.96	250	North	556.96	250
36	North	557.91	800	North	557.91	800	North	557.91	800

	2017			2018			2019		
	District	**Licensed area (m^2)**	**Licensed capacity (number)**	**District**	**Licensed area (m^2)**	**Licensed capacity (number)**	**District**	**Licensed area (m^2)**	**Licensed capacity (number)**
37	North	691.19	500	North	691.19	500	North	691.19	500
38	North	1 239.02	1 500	North	1 239.02	1 500	North	1 239.02	1 500
39	North	1 280.91	600	North	1 280.91	600	North	1 280.91	600
40	North	1 611.16	950	North	1 611.16	950	North	1 611.16	950
41	North	2 407.85	2 000	North	2 407.85	2 000	North	2 407.85	2 000
42	North	4 953.09	4 000	North	4 953.09	4 000	North	4 953.09	4 000
43	Sai Kung	388.79	350	Sai Kung	388.79	350	Sai Kung	388.79	350
Total		**104 181.98**	**74 640**		**103 597.32**	**74 640**		**103 358.35**	**74 640**

Chicken farms (by year)

	2017			2018			2019		
	District	**Licensed area (m^2)**	**Licensed capacity (number)**	**District**	**Licensed area (m^2)**	**Licensed capacity (number)**	**District**	**Licensed area (m^2)**	**Licensed capacity (number)**
1	Yuen Long	387.23	10 000	Yuen Long	387.23	10 000	Yuen Long	387.23	10 000
2	Yuen Long	569.30	25 000	Yuen Long	569.30	25 000	Yuen Long	569.30	25 000
3	Yuen Long	648.36	20 000	Yuen Long	648.36	20 000	Yuen Long	648.36	20 000
4	Yuen Long	682.16	19 000	Yuen Long	682.16	19 000	Yuen Long	682.16	19 000
5	Yuen Long	723.86	19 900	Yuen Long	723.86	19 900	Yuen Long	723.86	19 900
6	Yuen Long	775.26	20 000	Yuen Long	775.26	20 000	Yuen Long	775.26	20 000
7	Yuen Long	948.17	18 000	Yuen Long	948.17	18 000	Yuen Long	948.17	18 000
8	Yuen Long	1 067.54	31 000	Yuen Long	1 067.54	31 000	Yuen Long	1 067.54	31 000
9	Yuen Long	1 137.70	48 000	Yuen Long	1 137.70	48 000	Yuen Long	1 137.70	48 000
10	Yuen Long	1 250.84	42 000	Yuen Long	1 250.84	42 000	Yuen Long	1 250.84	42 000
11	Yuen Long	1 336.34	39 000	Yuen Long	1 336.34	39 000	Yuen Long	1 336.34	39 000
12	Yuen Long	1 563.39	48 000	Yuen Long	1 563.39	48 000	Yuen Long	1 563.39	48 000
13	Yuen Long	1 610.01	26 000	Yuen Long	1 610.01	26 000	Yuen Long	1 610.01	26 000
14	Yuen Long	1 655.73	36 000	Yuen Long	1 655.73	36 000	Yuen Long	1 655.73	36 000
15	Yuen Long	2 004.75	41 000	Yuen Long	2 004.75	41 000	Yuen Long	2 004.75	41 000
16	Yuen Long	2 477.98	46 000	Yuen Long	2 477.98	46 000	Yuen Long	2 477.98	46 000
17	Yuen Long	2 597.37	50 000	Yuen Long	2 597.37	50 000	Yuen Long	2 597.37	50 000
18	Yuen Long	2 944.67	62 800	Yuen Long	2 944.67	62 800	Yuen Long	2 944.67	62 800
19	Yuen Long	3 163.24	70 000	Yuen Long	3 163.24	70 000	Yuen Long	3 163.24	70 000
20	Yuen Long	3 226.20	108 000	Yuen Long	3 226.20	108 000	Yuen Long	3 226.20	108 000

	2017			2018			2019		
	District	**Licensed area (m^2)**	**Licensed capacity (number)**	**District**	**Licensed area (m^2)**	**Licensed capacity (number)**	**District**	**Licensed area (m^2)**	**Licensed capacity (number)**
21	Yuen Long	3 372.57	35 000	Yuen Long	3 372.57	35 000	Yuen Long	3 372.57	35 000
22	Yuen Long	4 604.03	102 000	Yuen Long	4 604.03	102 000	Yuen Long	4 604.03	102 000
23	Yuen Long	4 831.83	80 000	Yuen Long	4 831.83	80 000	Yuen Long	4 693.83	80 000
24	Yuen Long	10 454.52	162 300	Yuen Long	10 454.52	162 300	Yuen Long	10 454.52	162 300
25	North	708.10	18 000	North	708.10	18 000	North	708.1	18 000
26	North	873.34	27 000	North	873.34	27 000	North	873.34	27 000
27	North	1 757.95	38 500	North	1 757.95	38 500	North	1 757.95	38 500
28	North	4 518.98	48 000	North	4 518.98	48 000	North	4 518.98	48 000
29	Tuen Mun	433.41	10 000	Tuen Mun	433.41	10 000	Tuen Mun	433.41	10 000
Total		**62 324.83**	**1 300 500**		**62 324.83**	**1 300 500**		**62 186.83**	**1 300 500**

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0697)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the issue of capture fishermen, please advise of the following:

(a) The number of Hong Kong fishermen (those who could only operate in Hong Kong), the number of their fishing vessels, and their production values over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20).

(b) The number of Hong Kong fishermen (those who could only operate in Mainland China), the number of their fishing vessels, and their production values over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20).

(c) The number of Hong Kong fishermen (those who could operate both in Mainland China and Hong Kong), the number of their fishing vessels, and their production values over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20).

(d) The total number of Hong Kong fishermen, the number of their fishing vessels, and their production values over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20).

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

(a) to (d) Vessels navigating in Hong Kong are required to possess a valid operating licence issued by the Marine Department (MD) which certifies the vessels' safety and seaworthiness. Vessels engaging in fishing operations in Hong Kong waters are required to further register with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) under the Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171). The number of fishing vessels registered with MD, local fishing vessels registered with AFCD, local capture fishermen and their production values over the past 3 years is tabulated below.

Year (as at the end of the period)	Number of local fishing vessels registered with MD#	Number of local fishing vessels registered with AFCD	Number of local capture fishermen^	Production value ($ million)^	
				From Hong Kong waters	From waters outside Hong Kong
2017	6 502	4 120	10 600	860	1,740
2018	6 505	4 145	10 240	966	1,789
2019	6 394	4 116	10 130	1,022	1,777

\# Based on MD's information on the number of fishing vessels (Class III vessel) licensed under the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Certification and Licensing) Regulation (Cap. 548D).

^ Based on the fisheries survey on capture fishermen conducted by AFCD.

In order to conduct fishing operations in Mainland waters, the vessels have to meet the requirements of the relevant Mainland authorities. Since AFCD does not have the information of Hong Kong vessels that are permitted to operate in Mainland waters, information on fishermen and fishing vessels that could operate only in Mainland waters or in both Mainland and Hong Kong waters is not available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0698)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the loans in relation to the agriculture and fisheries industries, please advise of the following:

(a) Currently, what loans does the Government provide to the agriculture and fisheries industries respectively?

(b) Over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20), what were the numbers of applications for the above loans, the numbers of loans approved, the total amount of the fund(s) and the total loans granted in respective year? (Please set out by loans.)

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

(a) Currently, the Government provides credit facility to farmers, fish farmers and fishermen through 7 loan funds administered by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD). They are the J.E. Joseph Trust Fund, the Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund, the Vegetable Marketing Organization Loan Fund, the Fisheries Development Loan Fund, the Fish Marketing Organization Loan Fund, the World Refugee Year Loan Fund and the Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere Loan Fund.

(b) The total capital of the above loan funds, the number of applications, the number of loans and amount issued over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

J.E. Joseph Trust Fund

Year	Capital	Number of loans		Loans issued
	(as at 31 December) ($ million)	Applications	Issued*	Amount# ($ million)
2017	19.6	8	8	1.0
2018	19.8	10	10	1.3
2019	20.1	7	7	1.2

The Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund

Year	Capital	Number of loans		Loans issued
	(as at 31 December) ($ million)	Applications	Issued*	Amount# ($ million)
2017	15.2	42	40	4.2
2018	15.3	31	33	3.3
2019	15.5	30	30	3.2

The Vegetable Marketing Organization Loan Fund

Year	Capital	Number of loans		Loans issued
	(as at 31 December) ($ million)	Applications	Issued*	Amount# ($ million)
2017	12.7	32	32	2.3
2018	12.9	25	25	2.1
2019	13.1	19	19	1.6

The Fisheries Development Loan Fund

Year	Capital	Number of loans		Loans issued
	(as at 31 December) ($ million)	Applications	Issued*	Amount# ($ million)
2017	1,100	1	20	176.8
2018	1,100	4	14	138.3
2019	1,100	5	6	41.5

The Fish Marketing Organization Loan Fund (including normal loans and special fishing moratorium loans)

Year	Capital	Number of loans		Loans issued
	(as at 31 December) ($ million)	Applications	Issued*	Amount# ($ million)
2017	146.4	383	359	55.9
2018	146.8	599	588	105.4
2019	187.1	570	553	93.0

* Referring to the number of loans with their first instalment issued in the respective year.

Referring to the total amount of loans issued in the respective year, including all stages of instalments.

Over the past 3 years, the World Refugee Year Loan Fund and the Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere Loan Fund received no application for loans. Their capitals stand at some $2 million and $200,000 respectively.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)045

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0703)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Government stated in 2018 that the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Licensing of Livestock Keeping) Regulation (Cap. 139L) would be relaxed to facilitate the relocation of chicken farms affected by the land developments of the Government for continued operation. What are the progress and the timetable for commencement of the work?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 43)

Reply:

The Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Licensing of Livestock Keeping) (Amendment) Regulation 2020 was gazetted on 13 March and tabled in the Legislative Council for vetting on 18 March this year. It is expected to come into operation on 1 July this year.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)046

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0705)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The 2019-20 revised estimate under Programme 1 is lower than the original estimate by 18.4%. What are the reasons for that?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

The 2019-20 revised estimate under this Programme is lower than the original estimate by 18.4% (or $101.7 million) mainly due to lower-than-expected cash flow requirement for the one-off assistance package to trawler vessel owners, local deckhands and fish collector owners affected by the trawl ban. The Fishermen Claims Appeal Board is currently processing the appeal cases relating to the abovementioned assistance package. The cash flow requirement is subject to the decisions of individual appeal cases and the overall progress of case processing.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0707)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding water quality, please advise of the following:

(a) What are the mechanism and standard currently adopted by the Government to assess whether the water quality is suitable for fish culture? Has there been any occasion in which the water quality in the 26 fish culture zones was unsuitable for fish culture over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)? What are the details?

(b) What are the mechanism and standard currently adopted by the Government to assess the impacts of the water quality around marine works to fisheries resources? Has there been any occasion in which the water quality in local fishing grounds was unsuitable for fish culture over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)? What are the details?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 47)

Reply:

(a) Marine water quality is measured by a set of water quality objectives (WQOs) established under the Water Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap. 358) (WPCO). The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department monitors the water quality of fish culture zones (FCZs) having regard to 4 WQOs, viz dissolved oxygen, pH, unionised ammonia and *E. coli*. Over the past 3 years, the water quality in all 26 FCZs was in general suitable for mariculture as it complied with the aforesaid 4 WQOs levels, and there was no incident during the period that had caused massive fish kills or impact on FCZs of a permanent nature.

(b) The Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499) requires proponents of designated projects to assess the potential environmental impacts. Fisheries impact assessment is conducted as part of an environmental impact assessment (EIA) study for a proposed development project that may affect fishing and aquaculture activities, fisheries resources and production, as well as fisheries habitats, fishing grounds,

nursery and spawning grounds and aquaculture sites. In addition, project proponents are also required to implement Environmental Monitoring and Audit (EM&A) programmes to monitor the water quality as required by the Director of Environmental Protection. Over the past 3 years, no unacceptable impacts arising from marine works on fisheries had been identified in EIAs, or reported under the monitoring of EM&A programmes.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0711)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the wholesaling of fish, please advise of the following:

(a) What were the annual total and daily average wholesale quantities, as well as the highest and lowest figures thereof for different kinds of marine fish (including Golden thread, Horse-heads, Yellow croakers, Big-eyes, Scads, Breams, Hair-tails, Mackerels, Croakers, Filefish, etc.) and freshwater fish (including Grass carp, Big head, Mud carp, etc.) over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(b) What were the monthly average, the highest and lowest prices for different kinds of marine fish (including Golden thread, Horse-heads, Yellow croakers, Big-eyes, Scads, Breams, Hair-tails, Mackerels, Croakers, Filefish, etc.) and freshwater fish (including Grass carp, Big head, Mud carp, etc.) over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 51)

Reply:

(a) Information on the quantity of freshwater fish traded through government wholesale food markets over the past 3 years is shown below. We do not have a breakdown on the figures for different kinds of freshwater fish.

Year	Total quantity (tonnes)	Daily average quantity (tonnes)	Highest daily quantity (tonnes)	Lowest daily quantity (tonnes)
2017	41 196	113	160	24
2018	43 468	119	205	16
2019	43 224	118	167	20

Information on the wholesale quantity of marine fish traded over the past 3 years (2017 to 2019) is shown in **Annex A**.

(b) Information on the monthly value of freshwater fish traded through government wholesale food markets over the past 3 years is shown below. We do not have breakdown on the figures for different kinds of freshwater fish.

Year	Monthly average wholesale value ($/tonne)											
	Jan	**Feb**	**Mar**	**Apr**	**May**	**Jun**	**Jul**	**Aug**	**Sep**	**Oct**	**Nov**	**Dec**
2017	27,090	26,866	26,532	26,365^	26,671	26,764	27,155	27,522	27,639	27,671	27,716*	27,271
2018	27,590^	28,512	28,328	28,898	29,588*	29,003	28,753	28,677	28,886	28,799	28,602	28,345
2019	28,250	28,583*	27,947	27,386	27,061	26,699	26,353	26,739	26,922	26,881	26,443	26,263^

* Highest monthly average value in the respective year
^ Lowest monthly average value in the respective year

Information on the monthly average wholesale price of marine fish over the past 3 years (2017 to 2019) is shown in **Annex B**.

Annex A

Wholesale quantity of marine fish over the past 3 years (2017 to 2019)

Year	Fish	Total quantity (tonnes)	Daily average quantity (tonnes)	Highest daily quantity (tonnes)	Lowest daily quantity (tonnes)
2017	Golden thread (紅衫)	2 901.2	7.9	9.2	6.5
	Horse-heads (馬頭)	2 806.6	7.7	10.2	6.3
	Yellow croakers (黃花)	1 997.9	5.5	7.1	4.0
	Big-eyes (木棉)	2 173.9	6.0	8.1	3.9
	Scads (池魚)	1 283.9	3.5	5.2	1.6
	Breams (立魚)	1 965.4	5.4	6.7	4.4
	Hair-tails (牙帶)	1 374.9	3.8	5.3	2.7
	Mackerels (鮫魚)	1 438.5	3.9	4.9	3.4
	Croakers (鰔魚)	858.3	2.4	3.2	1.5
2018	Golden thread (紅衫)	2 862.3	7.8	9.4	4.6
	Horse-heads (馬頭)	3 097.2	8.5	9.9	5.0
	Yellow croakers (黃花)	2 252.1	6.2	7.3	3.8
	Big-eyes (木棉)	2 119.9	5.8	7.9	4.2
	Scads (池魚)	1 152.6	3.2	4.1	1.9
	Breams (立魚)	1 870.4	5.1	5.9	3.9
	Hair-tails (牙帶)	1 215.7	3.3	3.9	2.0
	Mackerels (鮫魚)	1 459.5	4.0	4.8	2.2
	Croakers (鰔魚)	668.8	1.8	2.5	1.0
2019	Golden thread (紅衫)	2 699.8	7.4	9.1	5.6
	Horse-heads (馬頭)	3 208.7	8.8	10.5	6.4
	Yellow croakers (黃花)	2 345.7	6.4	7.2	5.0
	Big-eyes (木棉)	1 890.7	5.2	6.3	3.7
	Scads (池魚)	1 010.1	2.8	3.5	1.8
	Breams (立魚)	2 080.3	5.7	6.9	3.8
	Hair-tails (牙帶)	1 329.1	3.6	4.1	2.3
	Mackerels (鮫魚)	1 589.0	4.4	5.3	2.4
	Croakers (鰔魚)	543.7	1.5	2.2	0.9

Data on Filefish (沙鰔) are not readily available.

Annex B

Monthly average wholesale price of marine fish over the past 3 years (2017 to 2019)

Year	Fish	Monthly average wholesale price ($/kg)											
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2017	Golden thread (紅衫)	62.64^	77.61	69.14	66.10	77.60	83.36	84.56*	82.98	64.97	67.03	74.43	82.20
	Horse-heads (馬頭)	51.14	53.70	55.07	47.27^	52.53	55.85	54.73	53.58	47.51	47.56	56.06*	54.21
	Yellow croakers (黃花)	115.13	106.17	134.73*	131.81	91.29	78.36	81.95	79.66	76.72^	92.37	100.72	98.64
	Big-eyes (木棉)	81.15	89.61	85.81	85.08	87.85	94.90	95.33	93.18	80.35^	86.34	94.42	97.17*
	Scads (池魚)	21.75	22.01	20.21	20.78	25.14	29.59*	29.34	25.27	17.65^	20.24	22.01	22.39
	Breams (立魚)	85.78	90.93*	88.49	85.35	87.89	90.38	88.76	87.57	78.54^	83.71	86.51	89.64
	Hair-tails (牙帶)	45.28	49.89	44.39	46.37	50.26	57.05*	55.89	53.89	43.77^	44.47	45.61	47.05
	Mackerels (鮫魚)	76.24	78.14	75.71	78.99	80.34	84.87*	82.55	79.03	63.81^	69.22	70.19	75.10
	Croakers (鰔魚)	23.78	24.20	23.26^	27.00	28.54	33.79	34.58*	34.33	27.44	24.97	26.41	28.42
2018	Golden thread (紅衫)	81.80	76.16	75.80	71.06^	72.43	79.20	81.04	84.41*	72.77	77.74	74.77	74.47
	Horse-heads (馬頭)	55.60	54.78	58.33	54.45	55.60	60.53	64.76*	63.45	54.37^	56.03	57.27	59.58
	Yellow croakers (黃花)	104.90	112.17*	103.21	103.18	85.38	82.69	79.68^	79.93	93.02	104.01	107.93	104.99
	Big-eyes (木棉)	106.65	99.79^	102.13	108.65	103.33	116.79	118.45*	118.34	101.25	115.35	107.78	112.78
	Scads (池魚)	23.29^	24.01	25.34	25.99	29.08	27.02	30.23	32.20*	26.30	25.95	24.44	28.79
	Breams (立魚)	91.88	98.91	97.96	95.95	95.14	101.36*	100.78	101.20	86.35^	86.98	94.32	98.35
	Hair-tails (牙帶)	48.05	49.32	48.60	51.57	52.37	52.18	53.29	55.02*	47.17^	47.42	48.36	51.56
	Mackerels (鮫魚)	76.85	76.90	75.53	74.60	75.80	76.91	74.62	75.59	68.68^	71.93	70.75	76.94*
	Croakers (鰔魚)	32.63	31.95	30.67	29.57	31.43	35.07*	34.14	30.27	26.19	26.12^	28.40	31.31

2019	Golden thread (紅衫)	72.07^	82.81	76.08	80.48	92.84	98.85	101.71	104.62	92.30	119.19*	90.32	87.64
	Horse-heads (馬頭)	57.30^	63.41	64.08	66.36	70.62	72.88	76.42	77.26*	62.23	68.35	64.90	62.02
	Yellow croakers (黃花)	96.42	88.53^	109.87	95.03	89.28	93.00	98.72	102.38	107.88	105.58	107.15	110.60*
	Big-eyes (木棉)	104.80	123.40	115.67	131.24	129.06	140.13*	136.82	129.82	97.68	96.68^	99.80	100.13
	Scads (池魚)	27.97	27.32	23.36	23.56	27.32	30.71	32.84*	32.43	24.14	23.56	23.27^	24.13
	Breams (立魚)	96.49	100.92	96.49	95.85	98.06	108.51	115.56*	113.55	87.77	87.25^	90.10	90.31
	Hair-tails (牙帶)	49.32	53.26	51.04	52.48	56.11	61.77	64.15	65.05*	49.97	49.16	46.30	44.92^
	Mackerels (鮫魚)	80.25	82.72	79.93	80.08	80.50	85.33	88.67*	87.63	79.44	79.43	78.61	77.64^
	Croakers (鰔魚)	28.75	29.77	29.72	31.38	32.98	36.98	46.63*	38.34	31.04	31.02	28.36	27.50^

Data on Filefish (沙鰔) are not readily available.

* Highest monthly average wholesale price in the respective year.

^ Lowest monthly average wholesale price in the respective year.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)049

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2330)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the wholesaling of vegetables, please advise of the following:

(a) What were the annual total and daily average wholesale quantity, as well as the highest and lowest figures thereof for different kinds of vegetables (including flowering cabbage, water cress, white cabbage, broccoli, Chinese lettuce, green cabbage, chrysanthemum garland, tomato, Chinese kale, pea shoot, European celery, potato and spinach, etc.) over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(b) What were the monthly average, the highest and lowest value for different kinds of vegetables (including flowering cabbage, water cress, white cabbage, broccoli, Chinese lettuce, green cabbage, chrysanthemum garland, tomato, Chinese kale, pea shoot, European celery, potato and spinach, etc.) over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 52)

Reply:

(a) In respect of vegetables transacted through government wholesale markets, the information sought is tabulated below. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) does not have the breakdown on the figures for different kinds of vegetables.

Year	**Quantity (tonne)**			
	Total	**Daily average**	**Highest daily**	**Lowest daily**
2017	240 617	659	842	60
2018	252 022	690	894	49
2019	264 274	724	855	48

(b) The monthly average value, the highest and the lowest monthly average value for vegetables transacted through government wholesale food markets over the past 3 years are tabulated below. AFCD does not have the breakdown on the figures for different kinds of vegetables.

Year	Monthly average wholesale value ($ / tonne)											
	Jan	**Feb**	**Mar**	**Apr**	**May**	**Jun**	**Jul**	**Aug**	**Sep**	**Oct**	**Nov**	**Dec**
2017	9,792	9,799	9,225	9,116	8,948^	9,501	10,390	10,386	10,885*	10,750	10,452	10,445
2018	10,345	11,507	10,925	10,295^	10,451	11,113	11,742*	11,175	11,686	11,699	10,888	10,826
2019	11,351	12,034*	11,681	11,680	11,937	11,230	11,133	11,168	10,855	10,741	10,674^	11,090

* Highest monthly value

^ Lowest monthly value

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2331)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the wholesale of eggs, please advise of the following:

(a) What were the annual total and daily average wholesale quantities, as well as the highest and lowest figures thereof for different kinds of eggs (including brown-shelled egg (medium) from the Mainland, Grade II brown-shelled eggs from Germany (360/box), brown-shelled eggs (medium) from the USA, etc.) over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(b) What were the monthly average, the highest and lowest prices for different kinds of eggs (including brown-shelled eggs (medium) from the Mainland, Grade II brown-shelled eggs from Germany (360/box), brown-shelled eggs (medium) from the USA, etc.) over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 53)

Reply:

(a) The volume of hen eggs transacted through government wholesale food markets over the past 3 years is tabulated below. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) does not have the breakdown in terms of the types of eggs and the places of origin.

Year	Quantity (tonnes)			
	Total	**Daily average**	**Highest daily**	**Lowest daily**
2017	66 102	181	392	4
2018	62 964	173	337	1
2019	68 760	188	415	3

(b) The monthly average price, the highest and the lowest monthly average price for brown-shelled medium eggs from the Mainland and USA transacted through

government wholesale food markets over the past 3 years are tabulated below. AFCD does not have similar figures for brown-shelled medium eggs or other types of eggs from other places of origin.

Year	Monthly average wholesale price ($ / tonne) for brown-shelled medium eggs (the Mainland)											
	Jan	**Feb**	**Mar**	**Apr**	**May**	**Jun**	**Jul**	**Aug**	**Sep**	**Oct**	**Nov**	**Dec**
2017	13,865	13,657	13,465	12,747	11,574	11,333^	12,703	14,258	15,000	14,665	14,580	15,103*
2018	15,458	15,314	15,110^	15,633	15,245	15,267	15,561	15,523	15,820	15,910*	15,693	15,774
2019	15,787^	15,950	15,981	15,873	15,800	15,927	16,006	15,839	15,807	16,013	16,100	16,142*

Year	Monthly average wholesale price ($ / tonne) for brown-shelled medium eggs (USA)											
	Jan	**Feb**	**Mar**	**Apr**	**May**	**Jun**	**Jul**	**Aug**	**Sep**	**Oct**	**Nov**	**Dec**
2017	13,510	13,736	13,748	13,587	13,523	12,880	12,103^	14,181	14,993*	13,452	14,093	14,329
2018	14,432	14,207^	14,471	15,260	16,484*	15,187	15,084	15,290	15,347	15,387	15,433	15,219
2019	15,226	15,386	15,439	15,373	15,381	15,400	15,400	15,400	15,400	15,465*	15,427	15,142^

* Highest monthly average wholesale price

^ Lowest monthly average wholesale price

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3230)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the wholesale of live chickens, please advise of:

(a) the monthly total quantities and daily average quantities of imported and local live chickens, as well as the largest and the smallest daily wholesale quantities over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20);

(b) the monthly average prices, as well as the highest and the lowest monthly prices of imported and local live chickens over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20);

(c) the monthly total quantities and daily average quantities of imported minor poultry, as well as the largest and the smallest daily wholesale quantities over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20);

(d) the monthly average prices, as well as the highest and the lowest monthly prices of imported minor poultry over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20);

(e) the monthly total quantities and daily average quantities of imported day-old chicks, as well as the largest and the smallest daily wholesale quantities over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20);

(f) the percentage of live chickens, minor poultry and day-old chicks imported from various places over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20);

(g) the total expenditure on handling matters on import of live chickens, day-old chicks and minor poultry (e.g. quarantine management, wholesale markets, etc.), the average expenditure on each chicken, as well as the manpower involved in 2019-20 and the estimated expenditure in 2020-21.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 56)

Reply:

(a) The quantity of local live chickens traded through the Cheung Sha Wan Temporary Wholesale Poultry Market (CSWTWPM) over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Quantity (number)			
	Total	Daily average	Highest daily	Lowest daily
2017[#]	4 199 354	11 505	43 200	6 555
2018[#]	4 255 909	11 660	38 775	630
2019[#]	4 246 862	11 635	45 866	4 600

[#] There was no import of live chickens from the Mainland since 17 February 2016.

The monthly wholesale quantity of local live chickens over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Monthly quantity (number)											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2017[#]	417 938[*]	301 859[^]	333 008	352 741	382 650	317 583	330 195	327 848	325 968	365 823	339 811	403 930
2018[#]	345 889	383 084	342 672	321 507[^]	341 159	357 033	353 087	338 127	377 841	357 908	337 165	400 437[*]
2019[#]	365 021	384 993	324 728	342 615	358 856	367 682	325 863	323 103[^]	367 245	350 480	326 234	410 042[*]

[*] Highest monthly quantity

[^] Lowest monthly quantity

[#] There was no import of live chickens from the Mainland since 17 February 2016.

(b) The average price of local live chickens traded through CSWTWPM over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Monthly average wholesale price ($/kg)											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2017[#]	47.74	52.49[*]	38.83	33.96[^]	43.21	49.62	49.08	48.46	45.17	49.64	46.31	48.80
2018[#]	51.52	70.91[*]	66.62	66.27	58.24	35.66	33.81	32.70[^]	38.18	42.63	42.59	50.17
2019[#]	67.47	77.55[*]	68.86	55.92	52.83	57.27	55.71	48.00	50.82	48.97	46.84[^]	52.60

[*] Highest monthly average price in the respective year

[^] Lowest monthly average price in the respective year

[#] There was no import of live chickens from the Mainland since 17 February 2016.

(c) The quantity of imported minor poultry over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Quantity (number)			
	Total	Daily average	Highest daily	Lowest daily
2017[&]	76 720	1 668[~]	7 350	900
2018[&]	0	0	0	0
2019[&]	0	0	0	0

[&]There was no import of live minor poultry from the Mainland since 16 February 2017.

[~] The average number for a period of 46 days from 1 January to 15 February 2017.

The monthly quantity of imported minor poultry over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Monthly quantity (number)											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2017[&]	48 650[*]	28 070[^]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2018[&]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2019[&]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

[*] Highest monthly quantity

[^] Lowest monthly quantity

[&] There was no import of live minor poultry from the Mainland since 16 February 2017.

(d) The average price of imported minor poultry over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Monthly average wholesale price ($/kg)											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2017[&]	76.6[^]	77.7[*]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2018[&]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2019[&]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

[*] Highest monthly average price in the respective year

[^] Lowest monthly average price in the respective year

[#] There was no import of live minor poultry from the Mainland since 16 February 2017.

(e) The quantity of day-old chicks imported over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Quantity (number)			
	Total	Daily average	Highest daily	Lowest daily
2017	2 011 700	5 512	34 480	2 800
2018	2 385 291	6 535	37 500	2 500
2019	2 763 020	7 570	28 500	3 000

The monthly quantity of imported day-old chicks over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Monthly quantity (number)											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2017	134 800[^]	176 800	154 600	136 080	159 340	180 340	163 240	173 000	191 040[*]	177 020	190 320	175 120
2018	180 300	182 220	209 760	192 980	196 441	219 360	173 710[^]	184 740	214 920	229 980[*]	209 500	191 380
2019	199 100	199 800	249 040	226 260	185 540[^]	225 640	213 740	186 400	240 000	296 900[*]	267 000	273 600

* Highest monthly quantity
^ Lowest monthly quantity

(f) The percentage of supply of live chickens, minor poultry and day-old chicks imported from various places over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year / Percentage of imported supply	Chickens			Minor poultry		Day-old chicks	
	Guangdong	Shenzhen	Hainan	Guangdong	Zhuhai	Guangdong	Zhuhai
2017	-	-	-	47	53	88	12
2018	-	-	-	-	-	94	6
2019	-	-	-	-	-	97	3

(g) The revised estimate for the expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) incurred on CSWTWPM in this area of work in 2019-20 is $18.3 million and the manpower involved is 17 staff members. To step up the rodent prevention and control work in the market, the estimated expenditure will be increased to $18.9 million in 2020-21.

A total of 23 AFCD staff members are deployed at the boundary control points for inspection of imported animals, including day-old chicks. The expenditure involved in the inspection of day-old chicks is absorbed within AFCD's surveillance on avian influenza (AI).

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) is responsible for inspection of food poultry imported from the Mainland to Hong Kong, as well as routine AI surveillance at CSWTWPM. The expenditure involved is absorbed within FEHD's inspection of imported live food animals.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0355)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In recent years, with the frequent occurrence of animal cruelty cases in Hong Kong, there has been a growing concern about issues related to animal protection, animal rights and welfare, etc. in society. The Government launched a public consultation on the proposals for enhancing animal welfare in April last year, with a view to extending the existing legislation which prohibits and penalises acts of cruelty to animals to include taking positive actions on looking after animals well through amending the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Ordinance (Cap. 169) (the Ordinance). In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

(a) Regarding the enforcement of the Ordinance, what were the details and the expenditures involved, as well as the percentages in the overall expenditures of the Department over the past 3 years?

(b) Regarding public education and the protection of animal rights and welfare, what were the details and the expenditures involved, as well as the percentages in the overall expenditures of the Department over the past 3 years?

(c) Over each of the past 3 years, what were the number of suspected cases received and the number of successful prosecutions regarding animal cruelty? What were the number of persons arrested, the number of persons convicted and their respective penalties in each case?

(d) Regarding the amendment of the Ordinance, what is the progress and the expected commencement date of the amended legislation?

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-yee, Regina (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)

Reply:

(a) Upon receiving reports of suspected animal cruelty cases, the Hong Kong Police Force (the Police) and / or the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will conduct investigation. Prosecution will be initiated if there is sufficient evidence.

The expenditure of AFCD involved in the above work over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	**Expenditure ($ million)**	**Percentage in the overall expenditure of the Department (%)**
2017-18	3.0	0.2
2018-19	3.2	0.2
2019-20 (revised estimate)	3.3	0.2

(b) AFCD implements the following measures to safeguard and promote animal welfare:

(i) conducting a review on the existing legislation and overseas experience related to animal welfare, as well as launching a three-month public consultation exercise in 2019 on proposals to enhance animal welfare;

(ii) enhancing public education and publicity programme to promote responsible pet ownership and proper care of animals, advise against the abandonment and needless surrendering of pets, and champion the need for dog licensing and rabies vaccination as well as the benefits of neutering;

(iii) implementing the licensing regime under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B) to regulate pet trading and breeding of dogs for sale;

(iv) devising codes of practices for the proper trading, breeding and keeping of pets and other animals;

(v) enhancing enforcement against pet owners and traders in contravention of relevant legislation;

(vi) improving the handling of reports or complaints on cruelty through an inter-departmental special working group comprising representatives of the relevant government departments and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong);

(vii) strengthening collaboration with, and providing technical and financial support to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) in rehoming of animals and carrying out activities relating to animal welfare and management; and

(viii) implementing the long term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with the relevant AWOs and local communities.

The expenditure and manpower involved in the above work over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)	Percentage in the overall expenditure of the Department (%)
2017-18	60.3	4.4
2018-19	74.7	4.7
2019-20 (revised estimate)	73.1	4.2

(c) The number of suspected animal cruelty reports received and details of successful prosecutions under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) initiated by the Police and AFCD over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of suspected animal cruelty reports received*	Number of persons convicted	Penalties imposed	
			Fine ($)	Range of imprisonment
2017	275	24	4,000	7 days to 1 year
2018	368	21	2,000 to 6,000	14 days to 8 months
2019 (up to September)	288	19	2,000 to 8,000	20 days to 2 months

* Upon investigation, most of the cases were found to be related to nuisance with no elements of cruelty.

(d) Having launched a three-month public consultation exercise in 2019 on enhancement of animal welfare, the Government is now examining the views received and plans to report the findings of the consultation and the way forward to the Legislative Council Panel concerned in April this year. Upon finalising the legislative proposals, we will commence the drafting work of the legislation.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1000)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

(a) Regarding the $1.5 million subventions for animal welfare organisations, please set out the name of and amount of subventions given to each subvented organisation in 2020-21.

(b) How does the Government monitor the use of the subvention to ensure that it is spent on promoting animal welfare?

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 107)

Reply:

(a) The subventions approved in 2019-20 and expected to be released in 2020-21 and the names of the subvented animal welfare organisations (AWOs) are at **Annex 1**.

(b) Only AWO applicants that fulfil the eligibility criteria at **Annex 2** and with applications that are project-based and directly related to the promotion of animal welfare and proper animal management will be considered by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD). When vetting applications, AFCD will assess the objective(s) and expected result(s) of the proposed projects, the cost-effectiveness of the project and whether the proposed expenditures are justified. Document review and audit inspections are conducted to monitor the implementation of subvented programmes. Upon completion of the projects, AWOs must submit the relevant receipts to AFCD. Subventions will only be released after checking the invoices and confirming the compliance of project expenditures.

Annex 1

Subventions approved in 2019-20 and expected to be released in 2020-21 and the subvented AWOs

	AWO	Subvention approved ($)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	150,000
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	250,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	122,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	150,000
5	Sai Kung Stray Friends	150,000
6	Cheung Chau Animal Care	60,000
7	Hong Kong Cats	15,000
8	Society for Abandoned Animals	146,951
9	Kirsten's Zoo	150,000
10	Paws United Charity	150,000
11	Hong Kong Animal Adoption Centre	100,000
12	Second Life Charity Foundation Limited	40,000
	Total	**1,483,951**

Annex 2

Eligibility criteria for application for subvention

(1) The organisation must be:

(i) a society as defined by section 2(1) of the Societies Ordinance (Cap. 151) and registered under section 5A(1) of that Ordinance;

(ii) a company registered under the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622) (or Cap. 32 as in force at the time of the registration); or

(iii) a body of persons, or charity, as defined by section 2(1) of the Registered Trustees Incorporation Ordinance (Cap. 306) which has been granted a certificate of incorporation under section 4(1) of that Ordinance.

(2) The organisation must also be a charitable institution or trust of a public character that is exempt from tax under section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) (Rehoming partners of AFCD who joined the animal rehome scheme prior to March 2017 may be exempted from this requirement).

(3) The core services and activities of the organisation must be related to promotion of animal welfare and proper animal management and it must be actively engaged in such services/activities over the past 3 years or more (rehoming partners of AFCD rehome scheme are exempted from the 3-year requirement).

(4) The organisation must be well-managed and properly constituted with good record keeping and accounting systems.

(5) Organisations charging an adoption or rehoming fee must possess an exemption from holding an animal trader licence under section 5A of the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations **(**Cap. 139B). For rehoming partners of AFCD rehome scheme that cannot meet the requirement as stated in (2), at least one individual acting on behalf of the organisation must possess the individual exemption.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1011)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In respect of "strengthening measures for stray animals management", would the Government advise of the following:

(a) What are the related policy measures and the budget involved?

(b) Please tabulate the figures on handling animal cases over the past 3 years by using the following table.

Year	2017-18			2018-19			2019-20		
	Dogs	Cats	Others	Dogs	Cats	Others	Dogs	Cats	Others
Stray animals caught									
Animals abandoned by owners									
Animals received through other channels									
Animals reclaimed by owners									
Animals rehomed									
Animals euthanised									

(c) Please tabulate the expenditure and manpower involved in the "Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation" programme over the past 3 years.

(d) Please tabulate the expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) on procurement and maintenance of animal traps over the past 3 years.

(e) Please tabulate AFCD's expenditure on capturing stray animals and euthanasia of animals over the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 112)

Reply:

(a) In 2020-21, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will implement various measures to strengthen the management of stray animals. These include:

(i) actively promoting the serious responsibility and commitment that go with pet keeping, through public education and publicity programmes to disseminate messages on proper care of animals and responsible pet ownership;

(ii) enhancing enforcement against pet owners in contravention of relevant legislation;

(iii) strengthening collaboration with, and providing technical and financial support to, animal welfare organisations (AWOs) in rehoming of animals and carrying out activities relating to animal welfare and management;

(iv) implementing a long term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with relevant AWOs and local communities; and

(v) liaising with different AWOs to carry out preventive management measures for stray animals and proactively promote animal rehoming in new development areas.

AFCD has earmarked $43.3 million for the said work in 2020-21.

(b) The number of animals handled by AFCD over the past 3 years is tabulated at the **Annex**.

(c) AFCD's expenditure and manpower involved in the "Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation" programme over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	**Expenditure ($ million)**	**Manpower (number of staff)**
2017-18	2.7	7
2018-19	4.0	7
2019-20 (revised estimate)	3.3	8

(d) AFCD's expenditure on procurement and maintenance of animal traps over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($'000)
2017-18	20
2018-19	80
2019-20 (revised estimate)	50

(e) AFCD's expenditure on capturing stray animals and euthanasia of animals over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)	
	Catching operations	Euthanasia of animals
2017-18	28.7	1.0
2018-19	32.3	1.3
2019-20 (revised estimate)	33.6	1.2

Annex

Year	Stray animals caught			Animals surrendered by owners			Animals received through other channels			Animals reclaimed by owners			Animals rehomed			Animals euthanised		
	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*
2017	1 566	674	1 640	1 024	84	39	336	65	204	560	269	10	588	67	94	1 478	381	801
2018	1 235	547	1 369	715	80	43	304	62	4 904#	512	206	9	577	89	87	1 026	333	5 007#
2019	965	304	1 031	674	75	69	226	63	2 101^	404	127	9	547	78	44	837	219	2 363^

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs/cattle, poultry/birds, etc.

\# The increase in number was mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled due to detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

^ This mainly includes the number of animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1162)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding animal euthanasia, please advise of the following:

(a) What were the actual expenditure incurred by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 3 financial years for catching stray animals and euthanasia of animals with detailed breakdown (e.g. the expenditure on the procurement of medical equipment, administration fees, etc.)?

(b) What was the number of animal cases handled by AFCD over the past 3 years?

Year	Stray animals caught			Animals abandoned by owners			Animals received through other channels			Animals reclaimed by owners			Animals rehomed			Animals euthanised		
	Dogs	Cats	Others	Dogs	Cats	Others	Dogs	Cats	Others	Dogs	Cats	Others	Dogs	Cats	Others	Dogs	Cats	Others
2019																		
2018																		
2017																		

Asked by: Hon LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)

Reply:

(a) The expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) on catching stray animals and euthanasia of animals over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	**Expenditure on catching operations ($ million)**	**Expenditure on euthanasia of animals ($ million)**
2017-18	28.7	1.0
2018-19	32.3	1.3
2019-20 (revised estimate)	33.6	1.2

AFCD does not have a detailed breakdown of the above expenditure items.

(b) The number and species of animals handled by AFCD over the past 3 years are tabulated in the **Annex**.

Annex

Year	Stray animals caught			Animals surrendered by owners			Animals received through other channels			Animals reclaimed by owners			Animals rehomed			Animals euthanised		
	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*
2017	1 566	674	1 640	1 024	84	39	336	65	204	560	269	10	588	67	94	1 478	381	801
2018	1 235	547	1 369	715	80	43	304	62	4 904#	512	206	9	577	89	87	1 026	333	5 007#
2019	965	304	1 031	674	75	69	226	63	2 101^	404	127	9	547	78	44	837	219	2 363^

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs/cattle, poultry/birds, etc.

\# The increase in number was mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled due to detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

^ This mainly includes the number of animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1865)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department stated that it would focus on assisting farmers in capturing high-value market niches by providing technical advice on organic cultivation and intensive greenhouse production. Would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

(a) What are the work target, implementation timetable, manpower and the estimated expenditure involved in this financial year?

(b) Are there any statistics on the total number of farmers engaged in organic cultivation and intensive greenhouse production in the territory?

(c) What is the estimated number of farmers benefited?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 47)

Reply:

(a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD)'s manpower and estimated expenditure involved in the promotion of organic cultivation and intensive greenhouse production in 2020-21 are tabulated below.

	Manpower (Number of staff)	Estimated expenditure ($ million)
Organic cultivation	18	9.4
Intensive greenhouse production	14	7.7

This year, AFCD will continue to provide support services to assist local farmers in capturing high-value market niches, including (i) introducing modern farming techniques and equipment; (ii) introducing new and improved crop varieties; (iii) supporting the organic certification of local farms; and (iv) assisting the industry in setting up farmers' markets and organising large-scale carnivals to promote local quality agricultural products.

Furthermore, there are 3 approved projects under the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund with a total funding commitment of $44 million which aim to enhance the technical support and certification of local organic farms and promotion of their produce. These projects already commenced in April 2019 and will last for 36 to 48 months.

(b) and (c) As at February 2020, about 340 farms in Hong Kong (with a total area of about 107 hectares) were engaged in organic cultivation and intensive greenhouse production. The promotion of organic cultivation and intensive greenhouse production technology can directly or indirectly benefit 2 000 crop farms over the territory.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1901)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As announced by the spokesperson of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), a pet dog of a confirmed female patient of the novel coronavirus disease was infected, with its nasal and oral cavity samples tested "weak positive" to the virus, causing widespread concerns and even anxieties among pet owners in the Mainland. According to the Department's figures in 2017, there were 681 600 pets in Hong Kong, with dogs making up the largest proportion of nearly 300 000. The Government's survey reported in 2016 that there were 146 private veterinary clinics in Hong Kong, and almost all of them provide services to cats and dogs. Apart from basic veterinary qualifications, over one-third of the registered veterinary surgeons have obtained other veterinary post-graduate/specialist qualifications, while over three-quarters of the registered veterinary surgeons have experience of 5 years or more in practicing. In the face of the coronavirus, however, it is doubtful whether pets will be infected, how to prevent them from being infected and whether veterinary surgeons are knowledgeable enough to provide treatments in this regard.

(a) Will the Department consider adopting a comprehensive strategy in examining whether pets (common pets such as cats and dogs) can be infected with the human novel coronavirus? Will it be included as a regular item? In the event of major outbreaks of infectious diseases, AFCD will conduct a detailed research to confirm whether pets can be infected with or transmit the disease so that the public can know whether preventive measures are necessary for their pets.

(b) If a pet owner is a confirmed patient or there are pets suspected to be infected, is there any guideline for ordinary private veterinary clinics to conduct examinations of pets? For any suspected cases, what are the details of the close monitoring procedures conducted by AFCD after the pets have been transferred to the Department? Will the Department disclose the locations and specifications of the pet isolation facilities?

Asked by: Hon LAU Kwok-fan (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)

Reply:

(a) According to the investigation by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), for the time being, the dog infected with COVID-19 is believed to have contracted the disease through close contact with its owner who was a confirmed patient. Unless the pets are kept by confirmed patients or the close contacts of confirmed patients, the risk of pets being infected with the virus is low in general. It is therefore not necessary to conduct a comprehensive examination on all pets. Multiple tests have been conducted on the infected dog and the results have been timely announced. AFCD has maintained close liaison with the Department of Health and relevant experts to jointly develop contingency plans for major zoonotic diseases.

(b) If a confirmed patient of COVID-19 or his/her close contact keeps a mammal (such as a cat or a dog) at home, the pet animal concerned will be collected and delivered by AFCD to an animal keeping facility at the Hong Kong Port of Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge for quarantine. There are a total of 12 separate rooms for animal keeping under the supervision of veterinary surgeons in order to safeguard public and animal health. AFCD will collect samples from the animal for testing of COVID-19 virus during the quarantine period. If the result of veterinary surveillance and relevant tests are satisfactory, the pet animal concerned will be returned to the owner or authorised person when they are ready for receiving the pet animal. A letter on this matter was sent to all veterinary surgeons in Hong Kong on 5 March 2020 to remind them to remain vigilant when performing examinations on pets and take preventive measures as necessary. They may report any unusual situation detected in animals to AFCD through the Government hotline 1823.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1774)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In view of the increasingly rampant illegal fishing activities of non-local fishing vessels in Hong Kong waters, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) manages the fishing activities within the Fisheries Protection Areas in Hong Kong according to the Fisheries Protection Ordinance. In this connection, would the Government advise this Committee of the following:

(a) Fisheries Supervisors are responsible for the control of illegal fishing in Hong Kong waters. Please set out the current staffing structure. How many of them are on short-term contracts? What is the shortest contract period?

(b) Does the Department provide sufficient professional training on maritime law enforcement and lifesaving for Fisheries Supervisors? How long after appointment will Fisheries Supervisors receive training? How long is the training period? Will Fisheries Supervisors conduct any sea patrols or operations before the completion of training?

(c) Please set out in tabular form the number of patrols conducted by Fisheries Supervisors each month over the past year. What was the number of joint operations conducted with the marine police?

(d) Over the past 3 years, what were the numbers of suspected cases of illegal fishing of Mainland fishing vessels in Hong Kong handled by various law enforcement departments, the numbers of cases involving Mainland fishermen prosecuted and convicted due to illegal fishing respectively each year? What was the modus operandi of illegal fishing activities?

(e) Illegal fishing with equipment such as fishing cages has been constantly detected in the Mai Po Nature Reserve. Has the Department arrested and prosecuted any poachers? If yes, what are the number of cases and penalties concerned? If not,

what are the reasons? Has the Department considered conducting blitz operations by Fisheries Supervisors on a long-term basis?

(f) Will the Department consider increasing the manpower and imposing heavier penalties with a view to curbing the illegal fishing activities of Mainland fishermen in Hong Kong and protecting the ecology of Hong Kong waters?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

(a) 18 staff members of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) are currently dedicated to the enforcement of the Fisheries Protection Ordinance (the Ordinance) (Cap. 171) in Hong Kong waters to combat illegal fishing. They include 1 Fisheries Officer, 9 Fisheries Supervisors and 8 Non-Civil Service Contract (NCSC) staff members. NCSC staff are appointed on contract terms for a period of 12 months.

(b) AFCD has been collaborating with the Hong Kong Police Force (the Police) to provide professional on-job training on enforcement for frontline staff regularly. Staff are also trained on occupational safety at sea through the Maritime Services Training Institute and the Hong Kong Seamen's Union. AFCD will arrange such training for newly-appointed frontline staff as soon as possible and arrange them to work under the supervision of experienced officers in the enforcement duties at sea.

(c) Information on AFCD's patrols and joint operations with the Marine Police by month over the past year is tabulated below.

2019	**Number of patrols**	**Number of joint operations with Marine Police**
January	164	8
February	128	5
March	151	7
April	128	5
May	139	6
June	128	5
July	135	4
August	148	2
September	146	4
October	163	0
November	156	1
December	151	2
Total	**1 737**	**49**

(d) Information on illegal fishing involving Mainland fishing vessels and fishermen over the past 3 years is tabulated below.

Year	Number of cases of illegal fishing involving Mainland fishing vessels*	Respective number of Mainland fishermen prosecuted and convicted#
2017	1	5
2018	7	27
2018	2	11

* Cases involving Mainland vessels intercepted by AFCD and the Marine Police.
# All prosecuted persons were convicted.

The illegal fishing activities by Mainland fishing vessels mainly included trawling and cage trapping. If Mainland fishing vessels are found illegally fishing in Hong Kong waters but cannot be successfully intercepted within the waters, AFCD will, having regard to the circumstances, refer the cases to the Mainland law enforcement agencies for follow-up.

(e) AFCD has conducted 34 patrols and 9 joint operations with the Marine Police in the waters around Deep Bay over the past year to combat illegal fishing activities and successfully prosecuted 2 persons involved in an illegal fishing case under the Ordinance. They were fined $1,000 and $1,500 respectively. In addition, the Wild Animals Protection Ordinance (Cap. 170) stipulates that any person who enters into or be within the Mai Po Marshes and Inner Deep Bay Restricted Area (Restricted Area) without a permit issued by the Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation is liable to a maximum fine of $50,000 on conviction. AFCD officers conduct regular patrols and enforcement operations as well as targeted surveillance, patrol, enforcement operation and intelligence collection and exchange with the Police in order to conserve the ecological habitats in the Mai Po Marshes effectively.

(f) Under the Ordinance, any person who conducts illegal fishing activities is liable to a maximum fine of $200,000 and imprisonment for 6 months upon conviction. We consider that the existing statutory provisions are already effective in combating the illegal entry of Mainland fishing vessels into Hong Kong waters for fishing activities, and that the penalties imposed by the court, including fines and imprisonment, have deterrent effect. AFCD will continue to enhance enforcement, exchange information and intelligence with the relevant government departments and Mainland authorities, adjust its enforcement strategy from time to time in the light of circumstances and intelligence gathered, and collaborate with the relevant parties to combat illegal fishing activities. To enhance the effectiveness of the enforcement action, AFCD plans to apply technology in its enforcement work, such as using real time satellite information to help identify fishing vessels.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2535)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

(a) How many applications for the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund were submitted in total over the past year? Among which, how many have been approved and what is the total amount involved?

(b) How does the Government monitor and assess the success of the projects after the approval?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

(a) In 2019, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) received 4 applications seeking support for projects that will benefit the local agricultural industry as a whole under the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund (SADF), as well as 61 applications seeking financial assistance for individual farms to acquire farming equipment and/or materials from the Farm Improvement Scheme (FIS) under SADF. A total of 2 applications related to projects that will benefit the local agricultural industry as a whole and 61 applications under FIS were approved in 2019, involving a total funding commitment of about $8.4 million and $1.8 million respectively.

(b) Upon approval of a project, an agreement which sets out information such as the grantee's obligations and the performance indicators will be signed between AFCD and the applicant. The grantee is required to submit the progress/annual report, together with the related financial statements and/or audited accounts on a regular basis in accordance with the agreement. AFCD will regularly review the reports and conduct on-site visits, with a view to monitoring the progress of the project and assessing whether the intended performance indicators can be achieved. In addition, AFCD will report to the SADF Advisory Committee regularly the implementation progress of SADF projects and submit the respective reports and assessment to the

Advisory Committee for consideration. If both AFCD and the Advisory Committee are satisfied with the implementation progress of the project, payment will be disbursed by instalment as set out in the agreement. If the performance or progress of the project is not satisfactory, AFCD will ask the grantee to make improvements and withhold or terminate payment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2536)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 that the surveillance on antimicrobial resistance and diseases in food animals in local farms would be enhanced. What are the details? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) makes continued efforts to prevent and control the outbreak of animal and zoonotic diseases in local chicken and pig farms through (i) conducting regular inspections of local farms to ensure that the farmers comply with the biosecurity, farm hygiene and other related requirements, including proper vaccination of poultry against avian influenza, and taking enforcement action against non-compliant cases; (ii) providing technical advice and assistance to farmers on proper farm management, prevention and control of animal diseases; and (iii) organising education seminars on farm management and disease prevention for local farmers and their workers. AFCD also promotes good aquaculture practices to enhance fish farm management and implements a fish health management programme.

On antimicrobial resistance (AMR), AFCD commissioned a consultancy study in October 2017 to devise a programme to monitor antimicrobial usage as well as the prevalence of bacteria with AMR in local food animal farms including livestock and fish farms. The consultancy study was completed in mid-2019 and the recommended surveillance programme for fish and livestock farms have been launched since June and July 2019 respectively.

Furthermore, 3 projects under the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund and the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund have been approved for providing veterinary services to local pig farms, local chicken farms and local fish farms. These projects involve formulation of tailor-made farm-specific disease management plans for the purposes of disease prevention and promoting responsible and prudent use of antimicrobials, and

assisting farmers in sourcing vaccines and other veterinary medications. AFCD maintains liaison with the personnel responsible for these projects through on-site inspection and meetings to closely monitor the progress of provision of veterinary services.

The resources earmarked for the above area of work in 2020-21 are $86.6 million and 85 staff members, of which $24.4 million and 13 staff members are for the work on AMR.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2549)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What are the details of the measures for improving animal farms' biosecurity?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)

Reply:

To enhance the hygiene of animal farms and to prevent and control the outbreak of animal and zoonotic diseases, the local animal farms have been encouraged to continuously review and improve their biosecurity measures. They include installing disinfection wheel baths and modernised manure discharge systems; stepping up the cleansing and disinfection of transportation trucks for animals; implementing the control of incoming and outgoing traffic of people and goods; stepping up the pest control measures; and implementing the "all in, all out"* mode of production, etc. In addition, measures that are applicable to chicken farms include installing modernised and well ventilated chicken sheds and bird proofing facilities; whereas for pig farms, measures include banning the use of swill as pig feed starting from January 2019 and strengthening the outer walls and fences to prevent the intrusion of wild pigs as and when necessary.

* "All in, all out" system is a farming practice in which animals in the whole farm or the whole shed be admitted and discharged from the shed at the same time. One of the major advantages is that emptying animals from a shed (all out) at regular intervals could allow the sheds to be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before the next batch of animals is admitted (all in), thereby reducing the level of pathogen contamination in the environment. The use of "all in, all out" system in livestock farms has been advocated by a variety of international organisations as a major component of an effective biosecurity plan.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2703)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the quantities of face masks, protective clothing and additional cleansing utensils frontline staff obtained during the epidemic.

Please set out in tabular form the additional district cleansing work arranged by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department during the epidemic, as well as the locations and frequency involved.

What are the manpower and expenditure involved in arranging household cleansing for home confinees by the Department during the epidemic? Please set out in tabular form the weekly frequency of cleansing work in the 18 districts.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

In view of the 2019 coronavirus disease epidemic, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has stepped up cleansing of facilities under its management, including public markets, cooked food centres, hawker bazaars, public toilets and refuse collection points (RCPs).

For public toilets with attendant service, the Department has instructed toilet attendants on duty to cleanse and disinfect the floor, water closets, urinals, wash hand basins, toilet seats, door handles, handrails, etc. every 2 hours with 1:99 diluted household bleach. For other public toilets, cleansing workers also carry out cleansing and disinfection with 1:99 diluted household bleach at least twice a day in performing routine cleansing service to ensure their cleanliness. In performing routine cleansing service in RCPs, cleansing workers will also cleanse and disinfect the floor, walls, large refuse bins, handrails, etc. with 1:99 diluted household bleach to ensure the cleanliness of RCPs.

The Department has stepped up cleansing for public markets with the use of 1:99 diluted household bleach to cleanse and disinfect the common areas and facilities in public markets

at least 4 times every day. Cleansing and disinfection are performed hourly for lift button panels and escalator handrails and every 2 hours for the toilets in the markets.

The street cleansing service of public places has also been strengthened as appropriate and when necessary, including locations where littering and other public cleanliness offences are prevalent, as well as the public places in the vicinity of the buildings where confirmed patients reside to maintain environmental hygiene. The increased frequency of street washing in various districts from 23 January 2020 to 8 March 2020 is provided at **Annex.** The Department has also arranged cleansing and disinfection of the residences of confirmed patients by cleansing workers according to the instructions of the Centre for Health Protection.

Annex

Increased Frequency of Street Washing in Various Districts

from 23 January 2020 to 8 March 2020

District	Increased frequency of street washing
Central & Western	18
Eastern	100
Southern	57
Wan Chai	142
Kowloon City	44
Kwun Tong	98
Mong Kok	14
Yau Tsim	70
Sham Shui Po	1
Wong Tai Sin	1
North	16
Sha Tin	83
Yuen Long	28
Sai Kung	64
Tuen Mun	56
Total	**792**

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2704)

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:

Please advise on the approximate fees for traditional burial services and green burial services. Which service is more attractive and competitive in terms of the cost? As people only begin to adopt green burial, there should be more incentives to encourage the public to opt for green burial. It is known that some cities, such as Shanghai, Guangzhou and Beijing, have encouraged people to scatter cremains of their deceased family members at sea by providing them with a cash subsidy. Will the Government make reference to such practice and attract the public to give it a go? What are the numbers of niches in existing public columbaria and in public columbaria under construction and under planning, including their locations? Please also advise on the latest waiting time for niches in public columbaria. Does the Department have any means to shorten the waiting time?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

At present, the majority of the public have accepted cremation as the mainstream mode of funeral arrangements. The number of cremations in 2019 accounted for over 90% of the number of deaths in the same year. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department charges a fee of $1,220 for adult cremation. After cremation, if the ashes of the deceased are interred in a public columbarium, $2,400 will be charged for a standard extendable niche for an initial 20-year interment period. Upon expiry, the interment may be renewed at 10-year intervals at prevailing fees. If the ashes of the deceased are disposed of by green burial and scattered in a Garden of Remembrance or at a designated area at sea, no fee is charged. For placing a memorial plaque at a Garden of Remembrance, the administrative charge is $90.

The Department follows closely the green burial measures being pursued elsewhere including the measure of providing financial incentives as adopted by some cities in the Mainland. The Department has also considered the merits of waiving the charges for cremation or other related services in those cases where green burial is opted for. But on balance, it is not considered ripe for pursuing such an idea at this stage, for fear that some may misconstrue this as according greater importance to financial considerations than filial

piety. Nevertheless, the Department maintains an open mind towards waiver of certain fees and charges as a modest financial incentive to encourage people's adoption of more environmentally friendly modes of ash disposal, should there be such calls in the community.

Currently, the Department manages 9 columbaria providing about 216 000 niches. These columbaria are located at Cape Collinson, Wong Nai Chung Road, Diamond Hill, Wo Hop Shek, Fu Shan, Kwai Chung, Cheung Chau, Peng Chau and Lamma Island.

Potential sites have been identified in various districts under the district-based columbarium development scheme. Between the second quarter of 2011 and the end of 2019, the Government consulted the relevant District Councils (DCs) on projects at 14 sites to which they all indicated support or no-objection, which would altogether provide around 590 000 new niches. As regards the remaining projects, the Government will continue the planning work and consult the relevant DCs when ready. If taken forward, they would provide an additional 300 000 niches.

Among the projects which have gone through DC consultation, the Department has obtained funding approval for taking forward the following:

Location	**Number of niches**	**Anticipated year of completion**
Tsang Tsui, Tuen Mun District	163 320	2020
Wo Hop Shek Cemetery (Phase 1), North District	44 100	2020
Cheung Chau Columbarium Extension, Islands District#	580	2020
Lai Chi Yuen Cemetery Extension, Islands District	784	2020
Cape Collison Road, Eastern District	25 000	2022

Not under the district-based columbarium development scheme

At present, the Department's new extendable niches are allocated to eligible applicants by open drawing of lots and computer balloting, instead of being allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. In late 2019, the Department completed the niche allocation exercise for two new public columbaria, namely Tsang Tsui Columbarium (first phase) in Tuen Mun (providing around 20 000 niches) and Wong Nai Chung Road Columbarium (providing 855 niches). In the next few years, with new columbarium projects being completed one after another, it is estimated that no less than 20 000 niches will be available for allocation each year.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)064

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1722)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

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 connection with the public columbaria and crematoria in Hong Kong, please advise this Committee of:

a. the service capacity of various crematoria managed by the Department, the actual usage figures and utilisation rates of the facilities of the crematoria in each of the past 3 years;
b. the number of deaths of local residents, with a breakdown by burial method (including scattering cremains at sea, scattering cremains in the Gardens of Remembrance, interring ashes in public niches, and interring ashes in private niches) in each of the past 3 years;
c. the latest number of applications for public niches and the average waiting time;
d. the number of new public niches to be provided in the next 10 years and their locations (please present the information in tabular form);
e. the number of applications for a licence under the Private Columbaria Ordinance received, the number of cases approved and the time required for processing the applications; and
f. the locations, quantity and utilisation rates of the temporary storage facilities for cremains provided by the Department.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

a. Information on the number of cremation sessions released and sessions booked as well as the percentage of use in public crematoria managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the past 3 calendar years is given as follows:

Name of Crematorium	2017			2018			2019		
	No. of cremation sessions released	No. of cremation sessions booked	Percentage of cremation sessions booked	No. of cremation sessions released	No. of cremation sessions booked	Percentage of cremation sessions booked	No. of cremation sessions released	No. of cremation sessions booked	Percentage of cremation sessions booked
Cape Collinson	14 869	14 161	95.2%	14 869	14 721	99.0%	15 532	15 240	98.1%
Diamond Hill	8 253	8 203	99.4%	8 270	8 242	99.7%	7 970	7 961	99.9%
Fu Shan	5 563	5 518	99.2%	6 148	6 101	99.2%	6 413	6 381	99.5%
Kwai Chung	6 622	6 558	99.0%	7 303	7 273	99.6%	7 752	7 722	99.6%
Cheung Chau	1 170	101	8.6%	1 222	133	10.9%	1 340	118	8.8%
Wo Hop Shek	8 611	8 268	96.0%	7 421	7 333	98.8%	8 300	8 121	97.8%
Total:	**45 088**	**42 809**	**94.9%**	**45 233**	**43 803**	**96.8%**	**47 307**	**45 543**	**96.3%**

b. The information sought is provided as follows:

Year	No. of deaths	No. of burials	No. of cremations	No. of cases of scattering of ashes		No. of ashes interment in public niches@
				At sea	In Gardens of Remembrance*	
2017	45 883	2 962	42 809	966	5 573	2 935
2018	47 479	3 136	43 803	972	6 074	3 657
2019	48 706	2 780	45 543	899	7 010	4 196

* Inclusive of cases handled by private cemeteries

@ The Department does not have information on the number of cases of interring ashes in private niches.

c. At present, the Department allocates new extendable niches to eligible applicants by open drawing of lots and computer balloting rather than on a first-come, first-served basis. In late 2019, the Department completed the niche allocation exercise for two public columbaria, namely Tsang Tsui Columbarium (first phase) in Tuen Mun (providing around 20 000 niches) and Wong Nai Chung Road Columbarium (providing 855 niches). In the next few years, with new columbarium projects being completed one after another, it is estimated that no less than 20 000 niches will be available for allocation each year.

d. Potential sites have been identified in various districts under the district-based columbarium development scheme. Between the second quarter of 2011 and the end of 2019, the Government consulted the relevant District Councils (DCs) on projects at 14 sites to which the DCs indicated support or no-objection, which would altogether provide around 590 000 new niches. As regards the remaining projects, the Government will continue the planning work and consult the relevant DCs when ready. If taken forward, they would provide an additional 300 000 niches.

Among the projects which have gone through DC consultation, the Department has obtained funding approval for taking forward the following:

Location	Number of niches	Anticipated year of completion
Tsang Tsui, Tuen Mun District	163 320	2020
Wo Hop Shek Cemetery (Phase 1), North District	44 100	2020
Cheung Chau Columbarium Extension, Islands District#	580	2020
Lai Chi Yuen Cemetery Extension, Islands District	790	2020
Cape Collison Road, Eastern District	25 000	2022

Not under the district-based columbarium development scheme

e. As at 6 March 2020, the Private Columbaria Licensing Board (PCLB) has received a total of 122 licence applications (excluding those withdrawn by or returned to the applicants), of which, 5 have been approved, 2 have been approved in principle and 12 have been rejected. Therefore, the PCLB is still processing 103 licence applications involving 89 private columbaria. The time the PCLB takes to process a licence application depends on the actual circumstances of each case, particularly on whether the private columbarium has complied with all the requirements for licence application stipulated in the Private Columbaria Ordinance (Cap. 630) and the requirements specified by the PCLB (including the requirements relating to planning, land, buildings, fire safety, electrical and mechanical safety, management plan, right to use the premises, environmental protection, etc.), and whether the applicant has submitted sufficient documents showing that the private columbarium has complied with such requirements.

f. At present, the Department provides some 64 000 temporary storage spaces for cremains at Kwai Chung Crematorium, Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phases III and V, Cape Collinson Crematorium, Fu Shan Columbarium and Hong Kong Cemetery. The temporary storage spaces at Kwai Chung Crematorium and Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phase III have been opened for public use. Regarding these two facilities, the information sought is provided as follows:

	Kwai Chung Crematorium (For storage of cremains bags)	**Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phase III (For storage of cinerary urns)**
Capacity for temporary storage of cremains	10 080 spaces	5 040
No. of space occupied as at 29.2.2020	1 405	3 492
Usage rate	13.9%	69.3%

In addition, it is estimated that some 12 000 temporary storage spaces will be available by the end of 2020.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1800)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding online sale of food, please provide:

I. the number of tests conducted on food sold online by the Department in each of the past 3 years;

II. a breakdown of the number of cases with unsatisfactory test results, the number of prosecutions instituted and the number of convictions recorded in the past 3 years;

III. a breakdown by establishment of the manpower deployed for the above work in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

I. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department takes samples of locally produced and imported food sold online for testing through purchasing directly from various websites and online platforms in accordance with a risk-based principle under its Food Surveillance Programme. The total number of food samples purchased online from 2017 to 2019 was 13 136. The breakdown by year is as follows:

Year	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**Total**
Number of food samples purchased online	4 091	4 164	4 881	13 136

II. The testing results of all, except 16, of the aforementioned food samples were satisfactory. Among the unsatisfactory samples, 9 were aquatic products, 5 were vegetable, fruit or cereal grain products, 1 was a meat product and 1 was a honey sample. The samples were detected with metallic contaminants, pesticide residues or preservatives. CFS has taken appropriate follow-up actions regarding the unsatisfactory testing results, including instructing venders to stop selling the

implicated batch of foods, requesting importers/distributors to recall the food items as needed and instituting prosecutions, etc. CFS conducted prosecution on 1 case in this regard with conviction secured.

III. The Health Inspectors of the Food Surveillance Unit and the Food Labelling Unit of CFS are responsible for collecting samples from foods available for sale online. The two units are also tasked with other duties. There was an establishment of 40 staff members for the above work in the past 3 years.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1801)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding pest control work, please set out:

I. the number of in-house staff of the Department who were responsible for work relating to the provision of pest control services, and the expenditure involved, in the past 3 years;

II. the number of pest control services provided by service contractors engaged by the Department, the service items and the number of staff employed in the past 3 years; and

III. the details of various types of work on pest control carried out by the Department (including the venues, item descriptions and manpower) in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by District Council district.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 17)

Reply:

I. The total number of in-house staff of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department responsible for pest prevention and control work in 2017, 2018 and 2019 was 702, 699 and 727 respectively. The expenditure on pest control services in 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 was $569 million, $630 million and $647 million respectively. The Department does not keep a separate breakdown on the expenditure relating to its in-house staff responsible for pest prevention and control work.

II. The Department currently procures a total of 19 contracts for pest control services. The total number of staff engaged by pest control services contractors in 2017, 2018 and 2019 was about 1 740, 1 860 and 1970 respectively. The services provided by these contractors include the prevention and control of mosquitoes, rodents and other arthropod pests with medical importance. The contractors' work includes patrolling and eliminating potential mosquito breeding places, applying larvicides to mosquito

breeding places, killing adult mosquitoes, biting midges or other adult insects by fogging, cutting grass, wild growth and other vegetation, as well as carrying out surveys and prevention and control work of rodent and other pests.

III. The Department is responsible for pest prevention and control work, such as the control of mosquitoes, rodents and other disease vectors. The Department has carried out a series of anti-mosquito operations, including removal of water accumulation, as well as mosquito prevention and control work at potential breeding places over the territory. Emphasis will be placed on the surrounding areas of residential buildings, schools, construction sites, public housing estates, hospitals, illegal cultivation sites, waterfront public and private cargo handling areas, cross boundary check points, typhoon shelters, cross boundary ferry terminals, etc. The Department adopts multi-pronged strategies for effective rodent disinfestation in designated target areas through elimination of the survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, by improving environmental hygiene, stepping up rodent disinfestation and enforcement actions. Emphasis will be placed on locations at markets, municipal services buildings, hawker bazaars, typhoon shelters, lanes adjacent to food premises and other problematic spots as well as their surroundings. For effective control of disease vectors, the prevention and control measures will be targeted at sites where the pests frequent. The Department does not keep a separate breakdown on the various types of pest control work carried out in each District Council district.

The Department carries out vector surveillance programmes to monitor the distribution and seasonal variation of vector mosquitoes and rodents including vector surveillance of dengue fever, Japanese encephalitis and malaria as well as rodent infestation surveys, rat-flea surveys and ad hoc surveys on other insect pests. In response to vector-borne diseases, the Department also conducts vector surveys in surrounding areas of all locations visited by the patients. The Department will continue to step up public education and publicity as well as provide support and technical advice to other departments on mosquito and rodent prevention and control. It also provides training to staff of other departments to enhance their knowledge and skills in pest control.

The Department has been proactively applying technologies in the provision of pest control services. Dedicated staff are assigned to explore technologies on pest control, including thermal imaging camera, ovitrap with a new design and new mosquito trap, and to put on trials these technologies with a view to assessing their applicability and effectiveness before putting them into use widely in the territory.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)067

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1802)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under the Programme, it is mentioned that the Department conducted a total of 10 379 pest control surveys in 2019.

I. Among the above surveys, please give details of those on mosquitoes, biting midges and rodents (including the number of surveys conducted, the areas surveyed and the coverage of the surveys) in each of the past 3 years.

II. 14 new posts were created in the Pest Control Advisory Section of the Department last year. What were the accomplishments of the Advisory Section in the past year? Is there any plan to create more posts in the coming year?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

I. The information sought is provided as follows:

Types of surveys	**Number of surveys conducted**		
	2017	**2018**	**2019**
Mosquito	5 284	6 077	6 585
Rodent	1 969	2 033	1 958
Biting midge	128	120	0
Other pests	1 863	1 886	1 836
Total	9 244	10 116	10 379

Mosquito surveys include the following:

1. Dengue vector surveillance is conducted by setting up ovitraps to understand the distribution of Aedes mosquitoes in all districts. In 2017, the number of survey locations was 52 and the surveys were conducted a week per month. Since July

2018, the number of survey locations has been increased to 57 and the survey frequency has been increased to 2 weeks per month. In addition, the frequency of surveys in all sea and land ports has also been increased from bi-weekly to weekly since July 2018. This is in line with the surveillance work at the Hong Kong International Airport.

2. Japanese encephalitis (JE) vector surveillance is done through setting up light traps every month to collect adult mosquitoes (Culex tritaeniorhynchus) for testing the presence of JE virus. The programme covers 7 districts, including Southern, Sham Shui Po, Sai Kung, North, Kwai Tsing, Tuen Mun and Yuen Long. Since 2018, Eastern District has also been included.

3. Malaria vector surveillance is conducted by carrying out rotational larval surveys at all fresh water streams in the territory to understand the distribution of local malaria vectors.

4. Ad hoc surveys are carried out in response to mosquito-borne diseases including dengue fever, JE, Zika virus infection, Chikungunya, etc. The surveys cover the surrounding areas of local movements of patients of relevant diseases.

Rodent surveillance includes the following:

1. Rodent infestation surveys are conducted half-yearly for detecting the presence of rodents in 41 selected locations covering all districts across the territory.

2. Rat-flea surveys are conducted in selected biotope every year to assess the risk of plague transmission. In 2017 and 2018, the surveys were conducted respectively in the industrial areas and in street market areas. In 2019, the survey was conducted in peripheral areas of housing estates.

3. Ad hoc surveys are conducted in response to rodent-borne diseases including Hantavirus infection, scrub typhus, urban typhus, spotted fever, leptospirosis, rat hepatitis E virus infection, etc. The surveys cover the surrounding areas of local movements of patients of relevant diseases.

Biting midges are not vectors for mosquito-borne diseases such as dengue fever, JE and Zika virus infection. The biting midges found locally are not major vectors of any vector-borne diseases. Therefore, the Department does not conduct regular survey on biting midges. In light of the biting midges problem in Hong Kong at that time, the Department conducted a special territory-wide survey from July 2017 to July 2018 to study the seasonal variation and distribution of biting midges as well as to re-assess the presence of any disease vector species in Hong Kong. The Department will continue to keep in view the biting midges problem and conduct further surveys when necessary to update the strategy in the prevention of biting midges.

II. The accomplishments of the Pest Control Advisory Section of the Department in 2019 were as follows:

On mosquito surveys, as mentioned above, the Department continued to conduct dengue vector surveillance to understand the distribution of Aedes mosquitoes. Besides, the Department worked on a new design for ovitrap with a sticky trap mounted inside the trap for collecting adult mosquitoes directly. Field trials were conducted in Wong Tai Sin, Cheung Chau and Yau Tong from June to November 2019 and the new design proved effective. The Department will place around 5 000 new ovitraps in the territory in 2020. Apart from the existing monthly ovitrap index for Aedes albopictus, the Department will also release the new adult mosquito density index for Aedes albopictus to better reflect the effectiveness of mosquito control work and facilitate government departments to formulate more targeted anti-mosquito measures.

In 2019, the Department continued to carry out JE vector surveillance in 8 districts in Hong Kong. During the surveillance period, no JE-infected vector mosquitoes were detected. The malaria vector surveillance, which was conducted by carrying out rotational larval surveys at all fresh water streams in the territory to monitor the distribution of local malaria vectors, also found no breeding of vector mosquitoes.

To strengthen control of mosquito-borne diseases and mosquito infestation, the Department tested a new mosquito trapping device in 2019. It involved the carrying of growth regulators by female mosquitoes to the water bodies where they laid eggs to prevent the larvae in those water bodies from developing into adult mosquitoes. The trial use of the new mosquito trapping device has achieved noticeable results, leading to a substantial reduction in the adult mosquito population. The Department has recommended various government departments to use this mosquito trapping device more widely in suitable locations. Before March 2020, around 2 700 new mosquito traps have been deployed by various departments in areas under their purview with a view to preventing mosquito breeding before the onset of rainy season.

On rodent surveys, the Department continued to conduct rodent infestation surveys at half-yearly interval in 41 locations in various districts in the territory and the number of survey locations will be increased to 50 in 2020. In addition, the Department conducted a test on a synthetic and non-poisonous bait having different flavours of food in the rodent infestation surveys in 2019. The bait is compared to sweet potatoes currently used in terms of their attractiveness to rodents, with a view to assessing whether the sensitivity of rodent infestation surveys can be enhanced by placing baits that are more attractive. The Department has also proactively introduced new technologies to monitor rodent infestation. Since April 2019, the Department has been putting on trial night-vision and thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence analytical function and collecting data of rodent activities to quantify and assess the effectiveness of anti-rodent operations.

The Department invited an expert in rodents, referred by the World Health Organization, to visit Hong Kong in November 2019. The expert provided advice on rodent control in the territory, including ways to improve the effectiveness of baits and traps. The Department is now following up on the expert's advice and continuously promoting rodent prevention and control in the community, as well as exploring the application of various technologies on baits and traps.

The Department does not plan to create new posts in the Pest Control Advisory Section in 2020-21. Depending on the latest progress of pest control work, manpower will be provided through internal redeployment of resources to cope with the work demand.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1803)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The number of food complaints handled by the Department under this Programme decreased substantially to 5 126 in the year, far lower than 6 000 as estimated last year.

I. What is/are the main reason(s) for the decrease?

II. Please set out the number of food-related complaints received by the Department in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by type of complaints;

III. Please set out the manpower and expenditure involved in handling food-related complaints in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)

Reply:

I. & II. The number of food complaints handled by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department each year is related to the actual number of food complaints received by the Department in the respective calendar year. The number of food complaints dealt with by the Department in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by type of complaints, is as follows:

Type of complaints	2017	2018	2019
Unwholesome food	2 669	2 430	2 354
Excreta/body parts of animals or insects in food	752	776	764
Foreign substances in food	595	604	464
Deteriorated food	769	663	448
Mouldy food	165	154	130
Chemicals in food	289	240	150
Fake/counterfeit food	157	36	20
Food labels	392	444	356
Sale of food beyond the expiry date	155	241	199

Packaging of food	8	13	13
Adulteration of food	5	7	7
Inadequately cooked food	115	113	120
Improper handling of food	20	13	31
Improper storage of food	14	7	11
Others	73	60	59
Total	6 178	5 801	5 126

III. Food complaints received by the Department are first handled by Health Inspectors (HIs) of the respective district environmental hygiene offices (DEHOs), and then referred to the Food Complaint Unit of the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Department for follow-up investigation. There are about 320 HIs in the DEHOs. Apart from processing food complaints, they also undertake other duties relating to environmental hygiene. Therefore, we do not have a separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure for handling food complaints. The manpower and expenditure of the Food Complaint Unit of CFS in the past 3 years are set out below:

Year	**Manpower**	**Expenditure ($ million)**
2017-18	23 officers	11.3
2018-19	23 officers	11.2
2019-20	24 officers	12.5 (estimate)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1804)

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:

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention this year under the Programme that the Department will "take action to close public markets which are under-utilised".

I. What are the details of the work plan, the manpower and the estimated expenditure involved this year?

II. Please set out the current number of stalls, occupancy rate and expenditure on management involved of individual public markets in the territory, with a breakdown by District Council district.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is conducting a comprehensive review of the usage and development potential of existing markets, with a view to formulating appropriate development plans for meeting the policy objectives of optimising land uses, benefitting the public and promoting district development.

I. With demographic changes, new development/redevelopment projects and competition from other fresh provision outlets, the appeal of some public markets has been diminishing over time, with some having low patronage and high vacancy rates. Closing such markets may release precious land resources for more gainful uses to better serve the community. When considering whether a market is to be closed, the Department will take into account a host of factors, including the vacancy rate of the market, prospects for improvement, availability of alternative fresh provision outlets in the vicinity, the cost-effectiveness that may be brought by the upgrading works and the views of the relevant District Councils, etc. When drawing up closure plans for markets, the Department will consult the District Councils and affected market tenants.

The Department closed Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market in June 2019, and plans to close Tui Min Hoi Market in 2020-21. It will continue to review the usage

and development potential of other markets, and tentatively plans to take forward the preparatory and consultation work for closure of another 4 markets. The Department has set up a dedicated team to develop new markets and take forward the Market Modernisation Programme and other reviews, including the review of the usage of existing markets. In 2020-21, there are 44 posts in the team and the estimated expenditure to be incurred is about $40 million.

II. The number of stalls and the occupancy rate of each public market are set out at Annex. The Department does not have breakdown on the expenditure on market management for individual public markets. The total expenditure (revised estimate) on overall management of public markets in 2019-20 is $866 million.

Annex

District	Name of public market	As at 31 December 2019	
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate[(a)]
Eastern	Yue Wan Market	380	94%
	Chai Wan Market	174	92%
	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	100%
	Java Road Market	194	90%
	Electric Road Market	99	81%
	Sai Wan Ho Market	274	96%
	Quarry Bay Market	113	68%
	North Point Market	42	83%
	Aldrich Bay Market	71	87%
Wanchai	Bowrington Road Market	296	92%
	Tang Lung Chau Market	34	91%
	Wong Nai Chung Market	69	96%
	Lockhart Road Market	166	74%
	Wanchai Market	50	98%
	Causeway Bay Market	51	92%
Central/ Western	Sheung Wan Market	223	96%
	Sai Ying Pun Market	93	95%
	Centre Street Market	46	74%
	Smithfield Market	216	99%
	Shek Tong Tsui Market	151	88%
	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	100%
Southern	Aberdeen Market	335	96%
	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	82%
	Tin Wan Market	180	95%
	Yue Kwong Road Market	197	84%
	Apleichau Market	63	94%
	Stanley Waterfront Mart	20	65%
Islands	Tai O Market	26	85%
	Peng Chau Market	18	94%
	Mui Wo Market	35	91%
	Cheung Chau Market	243	96%
	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	100%
	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	100%
Kwun Tong	Ngau Tau Kok Market	466	85%
	Shui Wo Street Market	302	97%
	Yee On Street Market	65	63%
	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	93%
	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	97%
	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	82%
	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	100%

District	Name of public market	As at 31 December 2019	
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate[(a)]
	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	95%
Kowloon City	Tokwawan Market	267	94%
	Kowloon City Market	581	90%
	Hung Hom Market	224	97%
	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	100%
Wong Tai Sin	Ngau Chi Wan Market	402	84%
	Choi Hung Road Market	116	59%
	Tai Shing Street Market	441	92%
	Sheung Fung Street Market	71	97%
Yau Tsim Mong	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	86	66%
	Kwun Chung Market	218	73%
	Yau Ma Tei Market	144	89%
	Fa Yuen Street Market	180	89%
	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	100%
	Tai Kok Tsui Market	135	97%
Sham Shui Po	Po On Road Market	449	87%
	Pei Ho Street Market	234	97%
	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	349	33%
	Lai Wan Market	42	95%
Kwai Tsing	Wing Fong Street Market	114	76%
	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	15	60%
	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	100%
	North Kwai Chung Market	222	87%
	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	100%
	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	11	91%
	Tsing Yi Market	76	93%
Tsuen Wan	Yeung Uk Road Market	318	95%
	Heung Che Street Market	225	92%
	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	81%
	Tsuen Wan Market	381	88%
	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	29	86%
Tuen Mun	Lam Tei Market	7	100%
	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	91%
	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	100%
	San Hui Market	324	96%
	Yan Oi Market	108	94%
	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	100%
Yuen Long	Kam Tin Market	41	100%
	Lau Fau Shan Market	25	72%
	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	100%
	Tai Kiu Market	379	95%
	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	100%
	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	100%
	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	172	65%
	Tung Yick Market	446	40%

District	Name of public market	As at 31 December 2019	
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate[(a)]
North	Sha Tau Kok Market	66	100%
	Shek Wu Hui Market	393	99%
	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	98	98%
	Luen Wo Hui Market	338	99%
Tai Po	Tai Po Hui Market	313	99%
	Plover Cove Road Market	244	78%
Sai Kung	Sai Kung Market	209	89%
	Tui Min Hoi Market	34	56%
Sha Tin	Sha Tin Market	172	97%
	Tai Wai Market	186	91%
	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	100%
	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	100%

Remarks:

(a) Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1805)

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:

Regarding hawker control, please provide the following information:

I. The number of licences surrendered and newly issued in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by hawker type.

II. The current number of vacant hawker pitches available for re-allocation, with a breakdown by location.

III. It was mentioned under this Programme last year that the Department would issue new hawker licences. Please advise on the progress of work, the target this year as well as the manpower and expenditure to be involved.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

I. The information sought is provided as follows:

Year	Number of fixed-pitch hawker licences surrendered[1]	Number of fixed-pitch hawker licences newly issued[2]
2017	145	115
2018	166	107
2019	68	121

Remarks:

[1] Including licences voluntarily surrendered by licensees for ex-gratia payment under the Hawker Assistance Scheme, licences temporarily or permanently surrendered for reconstruction works, and licences surrendered due to other reasons (licences surrendered due to death of licensees or transfer are not included).

[2] Including licences issued in the cases of succession to and transfer of hawker licence, newly issued tradesman licences and new licences collected under the Re-allocation of Vacant Fixed Hawker Pitches and Issue of New Licences scheme launched at the end of September 2019.

II. The information sought is provided at Annex.

III. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department launched the scheme of Re-allocation of Fixed Hawker Pitches and Issue of New Licences at the end of September 2019. Under the scheme, 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches located at 7 districts will be open for application by persons who are interested in the hawking business and able to meet the required conditions. Successful applicants will operate at the pitches after a licence is granted. After launching the scheme, the Department received a total of 14 126 applications, of which 12 788 applicants were initially eligible. The Department conducted an open computer random sequencing cum manual ballot exercise to determine the priority order of applicants for pitch selection at the end of November 2019. Applicants have been invited for the selection of vacant pitches starting from early December. As at 29 February 2020, 349 applicants were invited for pitch selection. Among them, 236 have selected the pitches (77 of them have been granted with the fixed pitch hawker licence), 109 have given up pitch selection, and 4 were considered not eligible for the scheme. The pitch selection exercise is scheduled for completion in late April 2020. The work is mainly performed by 12 departmental staff at an estimated expenditure of $8.04 million in 2020-21.

Available Vacant Hawker Pitches for Re-allocation under the Re-allocation of Vacant Fixed Hawker Pitches and Issue of New Licences Scheme 2019 (As at 29 February 2020)

District		Hawker Street/ Hawker Bazaar	Number of available vacant hawker pitches for allocation
Eastern		Chun Yeung Street	1
		Marble Road	11
		Kam Wa Street	6
		Tai Tak Street	4
		Sub-total	22
Central and Western		Pottinger Street	3
		Graham Street	6
		Peel Street	4
		Upper Lascar Row	1
		Aberdeen Street	1
		Douglas Lane	1
		Elgin Street	2
		Unnamed lane connecting Pedder Street and Theatre Lane	1
		Gilman's Bazaar	1
		Findlay Road	2
		Sub-total	22
Wan Chai		Gresson Street	7
		Cross Street	2
		Tai Yuen Street	3
		Jardine's Crescent	22
		Wun Sha Street	26
		Sub-total	60
Yau Tsim Mong	Yau Tsim	Reclamation Street	22
		Canton Road	14
		Bowring Street	5
		Temple Street	70
		Pitt Street	2
		Sub-total	113

District		**Hawker Street/ Hawker Bazaar**	**Number of available vacant hawker pitches for allocation**
Yau Tsim Mong	Mongkok	Tung Choi Street	29
		Canton Road	31
		Fife Street	8
		Yin Chong Street	4
		Ki Lung Street	5
		Poplar Street	3
		Nelson Street	3
		Nam Tau Street	1
		Sub-total	84
Sham Shui Po		Wing Lung Street	37
		Fat Tseung Street	6
		Cheung Fat Street	14
		Fuk Wing Street	1
		Pei Ho Street	1
		Apliu Street	4
		Ki Lung Street	2
		Sub-total	65
Kowloon City		Pau Chung Street	18
		Sub-total	18
Tsuen Wan		Hau Tei Square Hawker Bazaar	51
		Sub-total	51
		Total	435

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1806)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the import of live pigs, please provide:

I. the total number of live pigs imported to Hong Kong in each of the past 3 years;

II. the average, the highest and the lowest daily numbers of live pigs imported to Hong Kong per month in the past 5 years;

III. the total expenditure spent on the quarantine of imported live pigs by the Government in each of the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

I. The total number of live pigs imported to Hong Kong in each of the past 3 years is as follows:

Calendar Year	Total number of live pigs imported
2017	1 455 379
2018	1 468 150
2019	843 422

II. The number of live pigs imported to Hong Kong in the past 5 years is as follows:

2015

Month	Daily number of live pigs imported		
	Average	Highest	Lowest
January	4 662	5 347	3 221

February	4 330	6 993	2 094
March	4 500	5 118	3 964
April	4 308	4 872	2 557
May	4 434	5 086	3 813
June	4 513	5 065	3 839
July	4 266	4 936	3 198
August	4 119	4 744	2 972
September	4 251	5 130	3 486
October	4 266	5 044	3 668
November	4 284	4 918	3 642
December	4 124	4 953	3 211

2016

Month	**Daily number of live pigs imported**		
	Average	**Highest**	**Lowest**
January	4 263	5 165	2 740
February	3 912	6 642	1 934
March	3 994	4 617	3 186
April	3 844	4 423	3 274
May	3 953	4 486	2 913
June	3 909	4 618	3 010
July	3 862	4 380	3 183
August	3 717	4 679	2 486
September	3 903	4 505	3 175
October	3 977	4 756	2 988
November	4 014	4 740	3 542
December	3 849	4 563	2 748

2017

Month	**Daily number of live pigs imported**		
	Average	**Highest**	**Lowest**
January	3 869	5 747	1 930
February	3 869	4 662	3 111
March	4 011	4 495	3 574
April	3 809	4 630	3 038
May	4 056	4 620	3 502
June	4 089	4 677	3 346
July	4 044	4 544	3 244
August	3 987	4 832	2 969
September	4 144	4 637	3 723
October	4 047	4 634	2 978
November	4 064	4 391	3 495
December	3 854	4 712	2 687

2018

Month	**Daily number of live pigs imported**		
	Average	**Highest**	**Lowest**
January	4 180	4 833	3 618

February	3 807	7 049	1 949
March	3 895	4 408	3 078
April	3 963	4 476	2 698
May	4 133	4 674	3 754
June	4 171	4 675	3 531
July	4 061	4 453	3 414
August	4 030	4 822	3 446
September	4 100	5 243	1 188
October	4 097	4 952	3 511
November	4 136	4 719	3 167
December	3 683	4 842	1 874

2019

Month	**Daily number of live pigs imported**		
	Average	**Highest**	**Lowest**
January	3 792	5 043	2 822
February	3 318	5 586	2 311
March	3 895	5 111	2 989
April	3 675	4 687	2 482
May	2 653	4 708	960
June	1 485	2 686	967
July	1 706	2 096	1 384
August	1 426	2 014	1 155
September	1 523	1 831	1 238
October	1 439	1 692	1 041
November	1 477	1 824	1 269
December	1 404	1 641	805

III. The expenditure on the quarantine of imported live food animals by the Government in each of the past 3 years is as follows:

Year	**Expenditure ($ million)***
2017-18	13.4
2018-19	15.0
2019-20	16.5 (revised estimate)

* This includes the expenditure on the quarantine of imported live pigs, cattle and goats. The expenditure concerned for live pigs cannot be separately quantified.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1807)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the import of live pigs, please provide:

I. the average, the highest and the lowest auction prices per picul of imported live pigs in each of the past 5 years;

II. the manpower and expenditure involved in import control of live pigs in each of the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)

Reply:

I. All imported live pigs are sold through auctions. The auction prices of live pigs imported in the past 5 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Auction prices per picul of imported live pigs (HK$)		
	Average	Average Highest	Average Lowest
2015	1,361	1,545	1,252
2016	1,567	1,777	1,463
2017	1,302	1,534	1,166
2018	1,211	1,571	1,053
2019	2,387	2,897*	1,953

* The auction prices of live pigs increased substantially in the second half of 2019 due to lower supply of imported live pigs following the outbreak of African Swine Fever. The maximum auction price of a pig consignment reached HK$4,711 per picul on 20 August 2019.

II. The manpower and expenditure for the quarantine of imported live food animals in the past 5 years are as follows:

Year	**Manpower (No. of staff)**	**Expenditure ($ million)**
2015-16	42	11.8
2016-17	42	13.4
2017-18	42	13.4
2018-19	42	15.0
2019-20	42	16.5 (revised estimate)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1808)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the import of live pigs, please provide:

I. the number of Mainland pig farms eligible for exporting pigs to Hong Kong over the past 3 years, with a breakdown by province;

II. the number of inspections conducted by the Department to these Mainland pig farms and the manpower involved in each of the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

I. The number of registered Mainland live pig farms eligible for supplying pigs to Hong Kong (registered pig farms) in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by geographical location, is as follows:

Province / City / Autonomous region	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Anhui	1	1	-
Chongqing	1	1	-
Fujian (including Xiamen)	1	1	-
Guangdong, Shenzhen and Zhuhai	82	77	55
Guangxi	5	10	10
Guizhou	-	-	1
Hainan	2	3	3
Henan	15	14	11
Hubei	12	7	6
Hunan	33	21	20

Province / City / Autonomous region	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Jiangxi	18	16	12
Shanxi	1	1	1
Shanghai	1	1	1
Zhejiang	1	1	-
Total	173	154	120

Note: The eligible registered pig farms did not necessarily supply live pigs to Hong Kong in the respective years.

II. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department inspected 8, 7 and 11 registered pig farms in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively. Inspections of live pig farms outside Hong Kong are undertaken by an inspection unit comprising 11 CFS officers. Its work also includes the inspection of Mainland farms supplying other livestock and poultry to Hong Kong.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1809)

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:

Regarding the temporary food factory licence, please advise on:

I. the number of applications received and the number of licences issued by the Department in each of the past 5 years (with a breakdown by year);

II. the number of licences relating to holding bazaar activities among the licences issued (with a breakdown by name of the activity and venue for holding the activity).

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 25)

Reply:

I. The information sought is provided as follows:

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of applications received	2 202	1 925	2 343	2 689	2 066
Number of licences issued (Note)	3 354	2 998	1 624	2 183	1 774

Note: Some licence applications were received in the preceding year.

II. Information on bazaar activities (held in public places by project proponents) that are issued with Temporary Food Factory Licence since 2017 is provided at Annex.

Annex

Bazaar Activities Issued with Temporary Food Factory Licence from 2017 to 2020

District	Bazaar#	Location	No. of licences issued
2017			
Sham Shui Po	農曆年熟食墟市2017	Under footbridge of Yen Chow Street	14
	深水埗·深水情·街坊節2017暨新春美食墟市	Maple Street Playground	12
	趁墟 ● 趁2017復活墟市@深水埗	Open space at junction of Kiu Kiang Street and Hai Tan Street	14
	夏日見光墟	Open space in front of No.5 Wai Chi Street	15
	深水埗中秋濃情見光墟	Open space at junction of Kiu Kiang Street and Hai Tan Street	16
	聖誕暖笠笠墟市	Wai Chi Street Playground	13
Wanchai	上班一族打氣墟	Gloucester Road Garden	7
2018			
Sham Shui Po	新春食通街	Open space near Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	35
	深水埗·深水情·街坊節2018暨新春美食墟市	Maple Street Playground and the pavement in Maple Street	14
	2018復活・墟市	Maple Street Playground	23
	女人墟	Open space at junction of Kiu Kiang Street and Hai Tan Street	1
	深水埗見光墟市	Wai Chi Street Playground	18
Kwun Tong	型活墟	126 Hoi Bun Road	2
Wong Tai Sin	黃大仙繽紛美食墟	Wong Tai Sin Square	8
Yuen Long	新春美食嘉年華	Open space in the vicinity of Lam Hau Tsuen	12
North	北區墟市節	Shek Wu Hui Farmers' Produce Retailing Point	1
Tai Po	聖誕音樂嘉年華@林村	Lam Tsuen The Wishing Square	4

District	Bazaar#	Location	No. of licences issued
2019			
Sham Shui Po	香港墟市節2018閉幕禮	Maple Street Playground	10
	深水埗農曆新年見光墟	Po On Road Playground	33
	深水埗·深水情·新春美食墟市	Maple Street Playground	14
	2019 深水埗復活墟市	Wai Chi Street Playground	20
	女人墟	Under Kwai Chung Road Flyover (Mei Foo section) in Sham Shui Po	10
	聖誕暖笠笠墟市及照顧者嘉年華	Under Kwai Chung Road Flyover (Mei Foo section) and open space enclosed by wire fences in Sham Shui Po	18
Wong Tai Sin	第4屆黃大仙繽紛美食墟	Wong Tai Sin Square and Temple Court	7
Tai Po	林村聖誕音樂節	Lam Tsuen The Wishing Square	1
2020 (Up to 1 March 2020)			
Sham Shui Po	深水埗新春墟市	Po On Road Playground	33

Only Chinese names of the bazaars are available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0968)

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:

It is stated under the programme that the Department will continue to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme to improve the design and facilities of existing public toilets by phases. In this connection, please advise this Committee of:

(a) the details and effectiveness of the Programme in the past year; and

(b) the details of the Programme in the coming year. When will the refurbishment of public toilets across the territory be completed? What is/are the plan(s) to enhance the hygiene conditions of public toilets?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Kin-por (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

(a) It was announced in the 2019-20 Budget that the Government would make an additional allocation of over $600 million to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme (Enhanced PTRP), under which the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department would roll out the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 240 public toilets under its management by phases in 5 years since 2019-20, so as to improve their installations and the level of hygiene. The Department has been working closely with the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) to roll out the refurbishment or facelifting projects for 42 public toilets in the first year, with a project estimate of about $151 million. The facelifting works for 7 public toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned.

(b) Refurbishment or facelifting projects for 49 public toilets are being planned to commence in 2020-21 at a project estimate of about $134 million. The Department will prioritise the remaining public toilets for inclusion in the Enhanced PTRP having regard to their utilisation rates, locations, maintenance conditions and the time lapsed since they were constructed or last refurbished, with special attention to those with high utilisation rates and in ageing conditions. Subject to the progress of the

programme, the Department will consider bidding for additional resources to expedite the refurbishment of the remaining public toilets in due course.

There are 2 types of works under the Enhanced PTRP, namely refurbishment and facelifting. New design and layouts will generally be adopted for the refurbishment of public toilets, with beautified facades and modern facilities, with a view to making them hygienic, clean and safe. The refurbishment works may cover exterior design, installations and equipment, materials, ventilation, odour control, lighting, infra-red sensor-activated taps and flushing facilities, etc. The Department will adjust the scope of the refurbishment of individual toilets having regard to the actual circumstances. The scope of works for facelifting of public toilets does not involve the prevailing layout and mainly includes replacement of aged facilities and installation of new features, repainting of ceiling, replacement of cubicle partitions, wall tiles and floor tiles as well as repainting or replacement of piping, conduits and water pipes, so as to improve the facilities and level of hygiene of public toilets.

On enhancing the hygiene of public toilets, the Department will continue to make good use of technology and step up collaboration with relevant departments (ArchSD and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD)) for enhancing the work and efficiency of public toilet management and maintenance. In November 2019, the revamped electronic Contract Management System was fully implemented to better monitor the management outcome of public toilets. Since March 2020, the Department has applied the newly developed mobile application "minor works order record system" to make repair requests to ArchSD and EMSD, as well as to track the progress and enhance the efficiency of repair works. It is also proactively planning to conduct surveys to collect the views of public toilet users and other stakeholders. The Department will continue to adopt new technology for headcount and review the utilisation rates of public toilets on a regular basis, so as to further enhance the planning, provision and management of public toilets. The Department will also conduct pilot schemes to provide air treatment and other facilities in public toilets so as to abate odour and improve air quality.

On top of routine cleansing services, dedicated deep cleansing teams have been set up in all districts to enhance deep cleansing services for public toilets with very high usage rate on a regular basis. In addition, surprise inspections have been stepped up to monitor the contractors' performance to ensure that they meet the service standard as stipulated in the contract provisions.

The Department endeavours to enhance the cleanliness of public toilets and continues to strengthen its efforts in public education by reminding the public to be civic-minded when using public toilets and properly use the facilities to avoid causing damage and dirtiness.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1530)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise this Committee on:

1. the total quantities of livestock and poultry, and the respective quantities of fresh/ chilled/frozen meat and poultry, imported into Hong Kong over the past 3 years, with a list of countries of origin showing the quantities of these imports; and

2. the number of samples of imported fresh/chilled/frozen livestock and poultry collected by the Department for testing in the past 3 years, the number of samples detected with irregularities and the details.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Pierre (LegCo internal reference no.: 30)

Reply:

1. The total quantities of livestock, poultry, meat and poultry meat imported into Hong Kong in 2017, 2018 and 2019 are as follows:

2017

	Quantities imported (tonnes)						
	Top 5 economies					**Others**	**Total**
^Live cattle	Mainland 17 338	-	-	-	-	-	17 338
^Live goats	Mainland 3 465	-	-	-	-	-	3 465
^Live pigs	Mainland 1 455 379	-	-	-	-	-	1 455 379
^Live chickens	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
^Other live poultry	Mainland 76 720	-	-	-	-	-	76 720
Chilled beef	Australia 3 813	USA 2 214	Japan 553	Brazil 545	New Zealand 376	471	7 972
Frozen beef	Brazil 212 796	USA 94 272	Canada 16 718	Ireland 10 523	UK 8 714	36 449	379 472

Chilled mutton	Australia 402	New Zealand 185	UK 66	France 7	Ireland 3	2	665
Frozen mutton	Australia 3 301	New Zealand 2 031	Mainland 1 285	Spain 619	UK 459	926	8 621
Chilled pork	Mainland 6 680	Brazil 2 856	Australia 344	Canada 342	Spain 206	323	10 751
Frozen pork	Brazil 98 013	USA 60 056	Mainland 42 719	Germany 40 974	Netherlands 24 514	82 345	348 621
Chilled poultry	Mainland 92 513	Thailand 828	Australia 274	France 94	Western Europe Nesoi 8	15	93 732
Frozen poultry	USA 293 696	Brazil 260 879	Mainland 63 620	Poland 24 039	France 13 508	79 182	734 924

2018

	Quantities imported (tonnes)						
	Top 5 economies					**Others**	**Total**
^Live cattle	Mainland 17 162	-	-	-	-	-	17 162
^Live goats	Mainland 3 513	-	-	-	-	-	3 513
^Live pigs	Mainland 1 468 150	-	-	-	-	-	1 468 150
^Live chickens	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
^Other live poultry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chilled beef	Australia 4 088	USA 2 973	Brazil 1 487	New Zealand 444	Japan 433	472	9 897
Frozen beef	Brazil 269 750	USA 92 143	Canada 15 812	UK 9 877	Ireland 8 796	27 804	424 182
Chilled mutton	Australia 325	New Zealand 217	UK 63	Mainland 29	Ireland 12	14	660
Frozen mutton	Australia 2 894	New Zealand 1 898	Mainland 1 148	UK 598	Ireland 570	942	8 050
Chilled pork	Mainland 5 421	Brazil 3 118	Canada 365	Spain 318	Australia 316	271	9 809
Frozen pork	Brazil 108 741	Mainland 33 265	USA 29 797	Netherlands 15 525	Germany 13 024	40 229	240 581
Chilled poultry	Mainland 90 812	Thailand 993	Australia 295	France 63	UK 47	52	92 262
Frozen poultry	USA 274 854	Brazil 223 571	Mainland 60 179	Poland 22 072	UK 10 585	75 959	667 220

2019

	Quantities imported (tonnes)						
	Top 5 economies					**Others**	**Total**
^Live cattle	Mainland 15 295	-	-	-	-	-	15 295
^Live goats	Mainland 1 594	-	-	-	-	-	1 594
^Live pigs	Mainland 843 422	-	-	-	-	-	843 422
^Live chickens	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

^Other live poultry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chilled beef	Brazil 5 758	Australia 3 857	USA 2 805	Japan 519	New Zealand 439	606	13 984
Frozen beef	Brazil 186 755	USA 73 659	Canada 15 486	UK 10 372	Ireland 8 214	30 965	325 451
Chilled mutton	Australia 286	New Zealand 249	UK 59	Ireland 10	France 6	0	610
Frozen mutton	Australia 3 231	New Zealand 1 896	Mainland 992	Ireland 906	UK 841	471	8 337
Chilled pork	Mainland 7 411	Thailand 3 837	Brazil 2 317	Australia 724	Spain 550	1 011	15 850
Frozen pork	Brazil 97 879	Mainland 18 782	Netherlands 16 153	Vietnam 11 494	USA 10 837	29 615	184 760
Chilled poultry	Mainland 101 288	Thailand 1 292	USA 686	Australia 296	New Zealand 121	165	103 848
Frozen poultry	USA 257 973	Brazil 195 212	Mainland 57 614	Poland 17 719	France 14 027	74 980	617 525

^ The unit is “heads / number” instead of “tonnes”.

2. From 2017 to 2019, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department collected more than 4 400 samples of meat, poultry meat and their products at the import level for chemical analysis (including analysis of veterinary drug residues, preservatives, etc). In 2018, 1 chilled goose sample was detected to have veterinary drug residue of doxycycline exceeding the legal limit. In 2019, 1 Giant Salamander sample and 1 chilled beef sample were detected with veterinary drug residues of malachite green and chloramphenicol respectively. Apart from these, all other samples were found satisfactory. CFS has made public the unsatisfactory test results and taken follow-up actions accordingly.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2594)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) has been sending officers to conduct site visits to places of food exports, including overseas countries. Please set out in tabular form the countries visited by the CFS officers in the past 3 years, the sources of food covered and details of the visits. Have any public health or food safety incidents been identified? Were the incidents minor or major in nature? Please provide the details and dates of the incidents and the rectifications made.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

The types and numbers of Mainland and overseas farms inspected by the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department from 2017 to 2019 are as follows:

Year	Vegetable farm	Orchard	Poultry farm	Pig farm	Cattle farm	Aquatic animal farm	Poultry egg farm	Reindeer farm	Total
2017	18	1	28	10	8	7	2	0	74
2018	7	8	18	8	9	16	0	1	67
2019	12	8	19	12	8	9	0	0	68

The types and numbers of Mainland and overseas food processing plants inspected by CFS during the same period are as follows:

Year	Poultry meat processing plant	Pork processing plant	Beef processing plant	Egg processing plant	Deer processing plant	Vegetables and fruits processing plant	Other food processing plant	Total
2017	35	9	10	3	0	3	8	68
2018	33	6	4	0	1	4	3	51
2019	32	12	6	0	0	5	1	56

The regions where the above farms and food processing plants were located are as follows:

Year	Location
2017	The Mainland, Costa Rica, Paraguay, Ukraine, Lithuania, Latvia and Brazil
2018	The Mainland, USA, New Zealand, Russia, Estonia and Norway
2019	The Mainland, Thailand, Czech Republic, Portugal and Philippines

The main items of the above visits by CFS include production management of the farms, farm hygiene and biosecurity measures adopted, use and storage of pesticides/veterinary drugs, surveillance test results and traceability of farm production records. The overall results of inspections were satisfactory.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)078

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1379)

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:

The Government will follow up proactively the recommendations in the Audit Report released in November 2019 and the Public Accounts Committee report concerned to further enhance the planning, provision and management of public toilets. It will also continue to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme to improve the design and facilities of existing public toilets by phases. Please advise this Committee on:

1. the specific details of enhanced planning, provision and management of public toilets in the past year;

2. the list of public toilets refurbished in the past year and those to be refurbished in the coming year, with their locations, commencement and completion dates of the works concerned as well as the details of refurbishment and enhancement under the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme by phases, with a breakdown by 18 districts;

3. the specific details of design of public toilets under the refurbishment or facelifting programme; and

4. the expenditure on the refurbishment and enhancement of public toilets in the past year and the estimated expenditure in the coming year.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

1. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is proactively following up the recommendations in the Audit Report released in November 2019 and the Public Accounts Committee report. With regard to the proposals of planning for public toilets, the Department will review its guidelines and criteria on construction and reprovisioning of public toilets. In reviewing the adequacy of public toilet facilities at tourist spots, the Department will continue to engage in dialogues with the Tourism Commission with a view to serving the needs of tourists. It will

communicate with the Tourism Commission on a regular basis to listen to the views of the industry on the refurbishment or facelifting works of the public toilets at major tourist spots. In parallel, the procedures of public consultation will be rationalised to minimise delays of works. The revamped electronic Contract Management System has been fully implemented since November 2019 to better monitor the management outcome of public toilets. Since March 2020, the Department has applied the newly developed mobile application "minor works order record system" to make repair requests to the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD), as well as to track the progress and enhance the efficiency of repair works. It is also proactively planning to conduct surveys to collect the views of public toilet users and other stakeholders. The Department will continue to adopt new technology for headcount and review the utilisation rates of public toilets on a regular basis, so as to further enhance the planning, provision and management of public toilets.

2.&4. It was announced in the 2019-20 Budget that the Government would make an additional allocation of over $600 million to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme, under which the Department will roll out the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 240 public toilets under its management by phases in 5 years starting from 2019-20, so as to improve their facilities and hygiene level. The Department has been working closely with ArchSD to roll out the refurbishment or facelifting projects for 42 public toilets in the first year, with an estimated expenditure of about $151 million. The facelifting works for 7 public toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. A list of the 42 public toilets with their works schedules is at **Annex I**. Refurbishment or facelifting projects for 49 public toilets are being planned to commence in 2020-21 at a project estimate of about $134 million. A list of the public toilets is at **Annex II**.

3. New design and layouts will generally be adopted for the refurbishment of public toilets, with beautified facades and modern facilities, with a view to making them hygienic, clean and safe. The improvement works may cover exterior design, installations and equipment, materials, ventilation, odour control, lighting, infra-red sensor-activated taps and flushing facilities, etc. The Department will adjust the scope of the refurbishment of individual toilets having regard to the actual circumstances. The scope of works for facelifting of public toilets does not involve the prevailing layout and mainly includes replacement of aged facilities and installation of new features, repainting of ceiling, replacement of cubicle partitions, wall tiles and floor tiles as well as repainting or replacement of piping, conduits and water pipes, so as to improve the facilities and hygiene level of public toilets.

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Annex I

List of 42 Public Toilets under the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2019-20 (As at 6 March 2020)

(A) 20 Refurbishment Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[1]
1.	Lok Ku Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to June 2021
2.	Ladder Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to June 2021
3.	Rumsey Street Multi Storey Car-park Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to April 2021
4.	Sheung Shui Wai Po Sheung Tsuen Public Toilet	North	From April to December 2021
5.	Tseng Lan Shue Public Toilet	Sai Kung	From August 2021 to April 2022
6.	Ma Liu Shui Waterfront Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From December 2020 to August 2021
7.	Science Park Road Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From August 2020 to April 2021
8.	Shan Mei Street Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From February to September 2021
9.	Shap Yi Watt Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From August 2021 to April 2022
10.	Tai Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From April to November 2021
11.	To Tau Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From April to November 2021
12.	No. 16 Aberdeen Main Road Public Toilet	Southern	From October 2021 to April 2022
13.	Fong Ma Po Public Toilet	Tai Po	From November 2020 to August 2021
14.	Ma Wo Public Toilet	Tai Po	From April to December 2021
15.	Tap Mun Pier Public Toilet	Tai Po	From April to December 2021
16.	Sunny Bay Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2020 to July 2021
17.	Wang Lung Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to November 2021
18.	Morrison Hill Road Public Toilet	Wan Chai	From February to August 2021
19.	Science Museum Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From February to September 2021
20.	Hong King Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	From March to December 2021

[1] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

(B) 22 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[2]
1.	Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall Public Toilet	Central & Western	From March to June 2020
2.	Wing Lok Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	From March to June 2020
3.	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	Islands	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
4.	Tat Tung Road Public Toilet	Islands	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
5.	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	From October 2019 to April 2020
6.	Kwai Hing Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	From October 2019 to April 2020
7.	Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Kwun Tong	From March to June 2020
8.	Shung Yan Street Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	From February to June 2020
9.	Mong Kok Road Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From June to October 2020
10.	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From September 2020 to February 2021
11.	Sai Yee Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From May to October 2020
12.	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	From June to November 2019 (completed)
13.	Pei Ho Street Market G/F & 1/F Toilet	Sham Shui Po	1/F: From September to December 2019 (completed) G/F: From April to July 2020
14.	Yen Chow Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	From December 2019 to May 2020
15.	Chai Wan Kok Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to June 2020
16.	Chuen Lung Village Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
17.	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
18.	Shing Mun Road Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to June 2020
19.	Wan Chai Market Public Toilet	Wan Chai	From April to October 2020
20.	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From September 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
21.	Jordan Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
22.	Market Street Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yau Tsim	From October 2019 to May 2020

[2] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

Annex II

List of 49 Public Toilets under the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2020-21

(A) 20 Refurbishment Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Wellington Street Public Toilet (Male Only)	Central & Western	Junction of Wellington Street and Queen's Road Central, Central
2.	Wa Hing Lane Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Central & Western	Junction of Shing Wong Street and Wa Hing Lane, Sheung Wan
3.	Ice House Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	Opposite No. 16 Ice House Street, Central
4.	Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Central & Western	2/F, Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building, No. 470 Queen's Road West, Shek Tong Tsui
5.	Stanley Tytam Village Public Toilet	Southern	Stanley Tytam Village near Hong Kong Sea School
6.	South Bay Public Toilet	Southern	South Bay Road near South Bay Beach
7.	Round Table I Village Public Toilet	Islands	Round Table I Village, Cheung Chau
8.	Ma Wan Chung Public Toilet	Islands	Ma Wan Chung, Tung Chung
9.	Anchor Street Playground Public Toilet	Mong Kok	Anchor Street Playground
10.	Chung Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Chung Uk Tsuen
11.	Kin Lung Street Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Kin Lung Street, Tuen Mun (near Shek Pai Tau Playground)
12.	Tai Tong Road Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yuen Long	Sai Ching Street (near Manhattan Plaza), Yuen Long
13.	Kuk Ting Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Kuk Ting Street, Yuen Long
14.	Luk Keng Public Toilet	North	Luk Keng Road near Chan Fung Kee Store, Sha Tau Kok
15.	Yue Kok Public Toilet	Tai Po	Yue Kok Village, Tai Po
16.	Tung Ping Chau Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tung Ping Chau
17.	Tap Mun Ha Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun Ha Wai, Tai Po
18.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village North Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village, Tai Po
19.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village South Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village, Tai Po

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
20.	Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Chun Yat Street

(B) 29 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Kennedy Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	Junction of Kennedy Road and Garden Road, Central
2.	Macau Ferry Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Central & Western	At side of Macau Ferry Bus Terminus, Sheung Wan
3.	Hospital Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	Basement, Centre for Food Safety, No. 4 Hospital Road, Sai Ying Pun
4.	Quarry Bay Market Public Toilet	Eastern	No. 38 Quarry Bay Street
5.	Pak Fuk Road Public Toilet	Eastern	Junction of Pak Fuk Road and Healthy Street Central
6.	Yip Fat Street Public Toilet	Southern	Near No. 12 Yip Fat Street, Wong Chuk Hang
7.	Sok Kwu Wan Public Toilet	Islands	Sok Kwu Wan Ferry Pier, Lamma
8.	Lo Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Islands	Lo Uk Tsuen, Lantau
9.	Shui Hau Public Toilet	Islands	Shui Hau Village, Lantau
10.	Pok Man Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	No. 1 Sham Mong Road, Olympic Station
11.	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus
12.	Lung Kong Road Public Toilet	Kowloon City	No. 30-32, Lung Kong Road
13.	Kei Yip Lane Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	Near Kwun Tong Ferry Pier Bus Terminus at Kei Yip Lane, Kwun Tong
14.	Tai Lin Pai Road Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	Tai Lin Pai Road near Kung Yip Street
15.	Ta Chuen Ping Street Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	Ta Chuen Ping Street near a carpark
16.	Tin Sum San Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Tin Sum San Tsuen
17.	San Wai Public Toilet	Yuen Long	San Wai, San Sik Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
18.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)	Yuen Long	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)
19.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)	Yuen Long	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)
20.	Wo Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	North	At side of a carpark in Wo Hing Tsuen, Fanling
21.	Shui Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	Shui Wai Village, Tai Po
22.	Tai Po Tau South Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tai Po Tau Village
23.	Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Junction of Sha Tin Wai Road and Ngau Pei Sha Street
24.	Wo Liu Hang Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Wo Liu Hang Village
25.	Fo Tan Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Near Shan Mei Street, Fo Tan Village
26.	Pak Kong Tsuen Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Opposite lamp post No. EB31651 at Pak Kong Road
27.	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village
28.	Tai Mong Tsai Public Toilet	Sai Kung	At side of Tai Mong Tsai Carpark
29.	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan) Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan)

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Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)079

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1380)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in the Estimates that the Government will take forward initiatives to enhance pest control services to strengthen response to communicable diseases and vector surveillance programmes. In concluding its experience of implementing the six-month territory-wide cleansing campaign last year, the Department pointed out that 10 000 live rodents had been caught, more than 5 000 rat holes filled and 12 000 dead rodents collected during the period. The number of rodents caught has significantly increased, but confirmed cases of rat hepatitis E virus were still reported in January 2020. Please advise this Committee of the following:

1. What are the details of the initiatives to be taken forward in the coming year to enhance pest control services?

2. The Department mentioned that it was studying the use of thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence analytical function for monitoring the areas and extent of rodent activities and that field trials would be conducted in Kowloon City early this year. What is the latest progress of the work?

3. The Department indicated that it would carry out improvement works or clearance work at back alleys where there were hygiene problems. Please set out in detail the locations where the relevant measures were carried out in the past year, with a breakdown by district.

   What is the specific work plan for carrying out improvement works or clearance work at back alleys where there are hygiene problems in the coming year? Please set out the locations where the relevant measures will be carried out in the coming year, with a breakdown by district.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

1. Regarding the enhancement of pest control services, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department adopts an integrated approach to the prevention and control of mosquitoes and rodents. Such approach is mainly premised on the recommendations and technical guidelines of the World Health Organization.

In 2020, the Department will continue to carry out a series of anti-mosquito operations that mainly include removal of water accumulation, as well as mosquito prevention and control work in mosquito breeding places and potential mosquito breeding places over the territory. Emphasis will be placed on the surrounding areas of residential buildings, schools, construction sites, hospitals, illegal cultivation sites, waterfront public and private cargo handling areas, cross boundary check points, typhoon shelters, cross boundary ferry terminals, etc. Moreover, new mosquito trapping devices that are proved effective in field tests will be applied in the appropriate environments. The Department conducts an inter-departmental anti-mosquito campaign in 3 phases annually. Apart from stepping up mosquito control measures, education and publicity work will also be strengthened. In particular, members of the public will be reminded to eliminate the mosquito breeding places. After the first phase and the second phase of the anti-mosquito campaign, the Department will conduct special thematic mosquito prevention and control operations in the territory to enhance the effectiveness of the anti-mosquito campaign. In addition, the design of the new ovitrap has been finalised. Starting from April 2020, the Department will place around 5 000 new ovitraps in the territory to calculate directly the number of adult mosquitoes. Apart from the existing ovitrap index for Aedes albopictus, the Department will also release the adult mosquito density index to better reflect the effectiveness of mosquito control work and facilitate various departments to formulate more targeted anti-mosquito measures.

For rodent control, the Department adopts multi-pronged strategies and carries out anti-rodent operations in designated target areas through elimination of the 3 survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, by improving environmental hygiene, stepping up rodent disinfestation and enforcement actions. Emphasis will be placed on locations at markets, municipal services buildings, hawker bazaars, typhoon shelters, lanes adjacent to food premises and other problematic spots as well as their surroundings. Apart from the routine anti-rodent work, the Department conducts a territory-wide and inter-departmental anti-rodent campaign in two phases annually, with a view to stepping up rodent prevention and control in designated target areas and reminding the public of the importance of rodent prevention and control. The Department will also conduct two rounds of the anti-rodent operations in designated target areas in the territory, each lasts about 8 weeks, in May and November 2020 respectively. The measures to be taken include elimination of food sources and hiding places of rodents as well as blocking their passages, so as to keep the areas clean. The Department will step up public education and publicity during the anti-rodent operations and arrange health talks for building managers of private buildings, persons-in-charge of food premises, and operators of market and hawker stalls, etc. to provide information and technical advice on rodent prevention and control.

2. The Department is conducting studies on thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence analytical functions for monitoring the areas and extent of rodent

activities. Initial trial results have shown that the data captured can quantify and assess the effectiveness of anti-rodent work by directly comparing the rodent population density before and after carrying out anti-rodent operations. The technology can be used for identifying potential rodents' entry points, travel routes and areas they frequently visit, so that rodenticides and trapping devices can be placed in a more effective manner and more targeted rodent control measures can be implemented. The Department conducted field trials in early 2020 in order to assess the feasibility of quantifying rodent surveillance. It plans to install cameras before and after anti-rodent operations in individual designated target areas in May with a view to quantifying and reviewing the effectiveness of the operations.

3. Since May 2019, the Department has deployed additional manpower and equipment for street cleansing in various districts to step up inspection and clearance of rear lanes with a view to keeping the areas clean. During the territory-wide cleansing campaign launched between May and November 2019, the 21-day year-end clean-up operation commenced in late December 2019 and the clearance operation conducted in target rear lanes in February 2020, the Department mounted a total of 6 864 rear lane clearance operations. The number of clearance operations with a breakdown by district is set out at the Annex. Moreover, the Department has installed Internet Protocol (IP) cameras at more than 150 illegal refuse dumping blackspots (including rear lanes) over the territory since August 2019 to combat illegal refuse dumping and improve environmental hygiene. In 2020-21, the Department will continue to step up inspection of rear lanes and arrange for dedicated rear lane cleansing teams to clear refuse and waste. It will also revise the action plans as appropriate according to the actual circumstances, including relocation of IP cameras, so as to keep the areas clean and enhance the effectiveness of enforcement actions.

Rear lane clearance operations conducted between 2019 and February 2020

District	No. of clearance operations in rear lanes
Central and Western	35
Wan Chai	301
Eastern	1 138
Southern	966
Yau Tsim	659
Mong Kok	296
Sham Shui Po	217
Kowloon City	856
Wong Tai Sin	472
Kwun Tong	50
Kwai Tsing	110
Tsuen Wan	595
Tuen Mun	75
Yuen Long	182
North	216
Tai Po	459
Sha Tin	70
Sai Kung	95
Islands	72
Total	6 864

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Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)080

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1396)

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:

Please advise this Committee on:

(1) the 10 public toilets with the highest usage in the past 3 years;

(2) the 10 most heavily complained public toilets and the major items of complaints in the past 3 years in tabular form;

(3) the number of public toilets that are installed with automatic sensor taps in the territory, with a breakdown of 18 districts in tabular form; and

(4) the number of public toilets that are installed with automatic sensor flushing system (e.g. intelligent sensing or foot-operated flushing system) in the territory, with a breakdown of 18 districts in tabular form.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 41)

Reply:

(1) The 10 public toilets with the highest utilisation managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is set out at **Annex I**.

(2) From 2017 to 2019, the Department received 2 913, 2 626 and 2 367 complaints against public toilet/bathhouse services respectively. The major items of complaints involved service and management. The Department is enhancing the functions of the Complaints Management Information System which include maintenance of statistics of complaints with a breakdown by public toilet, so as to strengthen the analysis of relevant complaints for monitoring service outcome and implementing improvement measures. It is expected that the functions will be fully implemented after trial in the third quarter of 2020.

(3)&(4) The number of public toilets with automatic sensor taps and automatic sensor flushing system broken down by district is provided at **Annex II**.

List of Top 10 Public Toilets with the Highest Utilisation

Serial Number	**Name of public toilet (not in the order of utilisation rate)**	**District**
1.	Southorn Centre Public Toilet	Wan Chai
2.	Hing Fat Street Public Toilet	Wan Chai
3.	Tong Shui Road Public Toilet	Eastern
4.	Apliu Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po
5.	Tsim Sha Tsui Ferry Concourse Public Toilet	Yau Tsim
6.	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Mong Kok
7.	Tak Wah Park Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan
8.	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing
9.	Hong King Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long
10.	Kik Yeung Road Public Toilet	Yuen Long

Number of Public Toilets with Automatic Sensor Taps and Automatic Sensor Flushing System

District	Number of public toilets with automatic sensor taps	Number of public toilets with automatic sensor flushing system
Central & Western	23	11
Wan Chai	16	7
Eastern	11	7
Southern	21	14
Islands	61	21
Yau Tsim Mong	19	8
Sham Shui Po	9	9
Kowloon City	14	7
Wong Tai Sin	4	4
Kwun Tong	10	7
Kwai Tsing	16	9
Tsuen Wan	30	10
Tuen Mun	45	16
Yuen Long	172	44
North	132	49
Tai Po	65	14
Sha Tin	22	16
Sai Kung	57	16

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1455)

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:

1. Please advise on the number of government refuse bins and recycling bins to be written off for being damaged or burnt on streets in all 18 districts since June last year, with a breakdown by district.

2. What is the total value of loss with regard to the government refuse bins and recycling bins being damaged or burnt?

3. The Department is currently using transparent plastic bags instead of refuse bins for refuse collection on streets. Is this a temporary measure? When will the provision of refuse bins be resumed?

4. Has the total amount of refuse collected by the cleansing workers of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department from the streets in the territory between June and December 2019 increased significantly as compared with the same period of 2018? Please set out in tabular form the quantity for each month in the two years.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

1. Between June 2019 and February 2020, the number of litter containers (LCs) and recyclables collection bins (RCBs) managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department being sabotaged is provided, with a breakdown by District Council district, as follows:

District	LCs (No.)	RCBs (No.)
Central and Western	24	3
Eastern	34	5
Wan Chai	141	43

District	LCs (No.)	RCBs (No.)
Southern	41	5
Islands	25	0
Yau Tsim Mong	138	3
Kowloon City	103	7
Kwun Tong	102	7
Wong Tai Sin	132	5
Sham Shui Po	79	0
Sai Kung	48	3
Tuen Mun	50	12
Yuen Long	130	13
North	31	8
Kwai Tsing	7	0
Tai Po	50	4
Sha Tin	99	0
Tsuen Wan	47	0
Total	1 281	118

2. The reprovisioning cost of the said LCs and RCBs is about $1.6 million.

3. To help keep Hong Kong tidy, LCs are placed on streets to facilitate depositing of litter/small refuse by pedestrians. In the interests of public safety, LCs and RCBs at places where major public order events such as assemblies, processions and demonstrations took place were temporarily removed and successively placed back as appropriate. For places where major public order events are still frequent, temporary hanging litter bags are placed at appropriate locations to facilitate depositing of litter/small refuse by pedestrians. The Department will continue to keep in view the actual situation to determine the individual locations for provision of LCs in the districts.

4. The Department does not keep statistics on the total amount of refuse collected by cleansing workers from the streets.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)082

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0207)

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:

Please advise on the number of processed applications for restaurant licences, provisional restaurant licences and transfer of restaurant licences, the average time for processing an application, as well as the number of applications withdrawn in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively. Please also advise on the expenditure and manpower involved in each of the past 3 years (i.e. 2017, 2018 and 2019) and the estimated expenditure and manpower required for 2020.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 1)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows :

		2017	**2018**	**2019**
(a)	No. of full restaurant licences issued	1 448	1 651	1 482
	No. of applications withdrawn	165	184	141
	Average processing time for issuing a full restaurant licence (working days)	171	170	170
(b)	No. of provisional restaurant licences issued	1 695	1 551	1 581
	No. of applications withdrawn	161	180	135
	Average processing time for issuing a provisional restaurant licence (working days)	50	50	48
(c)	No. of applications for transfer of restaurant licences	1 198	1 142	1 021
	No. of applications withdrawn	5	1	0
	Average time for processing an application for transfer of restaurant licence (working days)	39	44	46

In 2017 and 2018, 114 staff in 3 licensing offices of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department were responsible for handling applications for food business and other trade licences. The manpower increased to 123 staff in 2019. There is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved in processing applications for full restaurant licences, provisional restaurant licences and transfer of restaurant licences.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)083

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0214)

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:

Please advise on the number of liquor licence applications received and appeals lodged, the average time taken for processing an application and listing an appeal for hearing, the success rate of appeal, as well as the number of liquor licences revoked (with a breakdown by reasons for revocation), in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively. After the implementation of the Reserve Licensee Mechanism in March 2017, what are the number of applications for nomination of a reserve licensee and the number of applications approved in 2017-18 and 2018-19?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

	2017		**2018**		**2019**	
Total number of liquor licence applications received (with number of applications for new licences in brackets)	6 324 (1 181)		6 865 (1 131)		7 565 (1 066)	
Average time for processing an application for liquor licence	1-year licence	2-year licence	1-year licence	2-year licence	1-year licence	2-year licence
	36 days[1]	34 days	34 days[1]	32 days	42 days[1]	41 days
Number of appeals lodged with Municipal Services Appeals Board (MSAB)	25		11		15	
Average time for listing an appeal for hearing[2]	83 days		82 days		76 days	

	2017	2018	2019
Success rate of appeal (i.e. appeals allowed by MSAB)[3]	86%	73%	57%

[1] The majority of applications for 1-year liquor licence were contested cases and the processing time was therefore longer.

[2] This is counted from the date of MSAB receiving the appeal application to the date of the case being heard.

[3] Only cases with MSAB's decision issued before the end of a year are taken into account for calculating the success rate of appeal in that year.

The numbers of liquor licences revoked in 2017, 2018 and 2019 with a breakdown by reason are provided as follows:

Reasons for revocation of liquor licences	**Number of liquor licences revoked**		
	2017	**2018**	**2019**
Cessation of business	20	12	14
Breach of licensing condition	0	1	2
Contravention of legislation	1	4	1
Total	**21**	**17**	**17**

The numbers of applications for nomination of a reserve licensee and the numbers of applications approved in 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 are provided as follows:

Nomination of reserve licensee	**2017-18**	**2018-19**	**2019-20**[4]
Number of applications received	2 411	1 482	1 276
Number of applications approved[5]	1 490	1 635	1 058

[4] As at 29 February 2020.

[5] Applications approved include those lodged in the previous year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0215)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Government will continue to re-engineer workflow, overhaul and develop new information technology systems for the Centre for Food Safety for more effective management of data in food import and food safety incidents. Please provide the details, including the specific measures, implementation timetable, information technology systems involved, specific targets of enhancement and optimisation, and the manpower and expenditure required.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department set up a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. CFS also launched the Food Trader Portal (FTP) in stages at the end of 2019 as a platform for electronic communication with the trade. Through the FTP, food traders can complete registration as importers or distributors by electronic means. In the first quarter of 2020, CFS further introduced an online service to facilitate food traders to apply online for import licences and import permission in respect of meat, poultry and game. In the future, CFS will provide online application services for import of more types of food. The existing Food Import Control System will be replaced by a newly developed system to support the workflow and procedures on food import applications and the issuance of food export certification with the delivery of e-service. In addition, there will be a newly established Food Incident Management System to strengthen the management of food safety incidents. The above systems will interface with each other to provide a well-connected network of information in support of risk profiling and risk-based inspection to step up food safety control. CFS will continue to enhance its IT systems in the order of priorities.

The dedicated team in charge of the above work will have 87 staff at an estimated staffing expenditure of about $71 million in 2020-21.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0220)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
(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:

It is expected that there will be a net increase of 138 posts in 2020-21. Please set out in tabular form the titles, ranks and duties of such posts, as well as the annual expenditure on salaries to be involved.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

There will be a net increase of 138 posts in the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in 2020-21. The information of all the posts proposed to be created is as follows:

Scope of duties	Grade	Total annual salary
(a) To strengthen environmental hygiene and related services (including setting up additional dedicated enforcement teams against public cleanliness offences, handling water seepage problems, enhancing rodent and mosquito prevention and control as well as administrative support)	Health Inspector Supplies Officer Executive Officer Foreman Motor Driver	$34.8 million
(b) To strengthen enforcement against street obstruction	Health Inspector Hawker Control Officer Motor Driver Workman I	$20.2 million

(c)	To strengthen food safety management and food import control	Health Inspector Field Officer	$10.5 million
(d)	To enhance information technology systems and services, and strengthen data management	Analyst / Programmer Computer Operator Health Inspector	$7.1 million
(e)	To set up a new team for overseeing the allocation of new niches, regulate private columbaria and enhance the provision of cemeteries and crematoria services	Health Inspector	$4.2 million
(f)	To plan new public markets and other municipal facilities, and implement modernisation of public markets	Health Inspector	$3.7 million

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)086

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0221)

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:

Please set out in tabular form the total number of stalls, the number of vacant stalls as well as the vacancy rate in each of the public cooked food markets across the territory in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

The information sought is set out at Annex.

Serial no.	Name of cooked food market[a]	No. of stalls			No. of vacant stalls (of which frozen [b]) as at 31 December			Vacancy rate [c] as at 31 December		
		2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
1	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	32	32	2(2)	4(4)	6(6)	6%	12.5%	19%
2	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
3	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	12	12	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
4	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	24	24	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
5	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	15	15	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
6	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	0	1(0)	1(0)	0%	9%	9%
7	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	15	15	15	6(6)	6(6)	6(6)	40%	40%	40%
8	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
9	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
10	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
11	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
12	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	1(1)	1(1)	1(1)	9%	9%	9%
13	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	29	29	1(1)	1(1)	1(1)	3%	3%	3%
14	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
15	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	20	20	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
16	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	28	28	5(3)	5(5)	5(5)	18%	18%	18%
17	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
18	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	2(2)	3(3)	3(3)	12%	18%	18%
19	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
20	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
21	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	56	56	4(4)	4(4)	4(4)	7%	7%	7%

Serial no.	Name of cooked food market[a]	No. of stalls			No. of vacant stalls (of which frozen [b]) as at 31 December			Vacancy rate [c] as at 31 December		
		2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
22	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	8	8	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
23	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%

[a] The figures in respect of 2 cooked food markets closed in February and June 2019 respectively are excluded.

[b] Including the number of vacant stalls that are frozen for reasons such as forthcoming improvement works.

[c] Vacancy rate is the percentage of stalls not leased versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0234)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of Mainland farms or processing plants supplying live, chilled and frozen chicken to Hong Kong, the quantities of live, chilled and frozen chicken imported from the Mainland into Hong Kong, their respective share and average import price in each of the past 3 years (i.e. from 2017 to 2019). Besides, please advise on the number of inspections to these farms or processing plants, as well as the manpower and expenditure required, in each of these years.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 28)

Reply:

There were 28, 29 and 25 Mainland registered poultry farms eligible for supplying live poultry to Hong Kong in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department inspected 25, 16 and 18 of them in the respective years.

There were 16, 16 and 17 Mainland processing plants eligible for supplying chilled chicken to Hong Kong in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively. CFS inspected 14, 17 and 16 of them in the respective years, including those then applying for CFS' approval.

There were 90, 92 and 87 Mainland processing plants eligible for supplying frozen chicken to Hong Kong in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively. CFS inspected 2, 1 and 4 of them in the respective years.

The quantities of live, chilled and frozen chicken imported from the Mainland into Hong Kong in 2017, 2018 and 2019 are as follows:

	Live chicken			Chilled chicken			Frozen chicken		
	Quantity (kg)*	**%**	**Average import price ($/kg)*#**	**Quantity (kg) @**	**%**	**Average import price ($/kg)#**	**Quantity (kg) @**	**%**	**Average import price ($/kg)#**
2017	—	—	—	61 996 000	51.87	20.9	57 532 000	48.13	16.1
2018	—	—	—	61 174 000	53.22	20.5	53 770 000	46.78	17.3
2019	—	—	—	69 765 000	57.04	19.4	52 536 000	42.96	19.6

* The information is provided by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department.

\# The information is provided by the Census and Statistics Department and based on traders' import declarations to the Customs and Excise Department.

@ This is based on information from the Hong Kong Merchandise Trade Statistics.

Inspections of live poultry farms outside Hong Kong are undertaken by an inspection unit of CFS comprising 11 officers. The actual expenditure for conducting inspections of this type of farms was $6.4 million in 2017-18 and $6.3 million in 2018-19. The revised estimate of expenditure for 2019-20 was $6.1 million.

Inspections of food processing plants outside Hong Kong are undertaken by the Food Import and Export Section of CFS. The actual expenditure for conducting inspections of this type of plants was $2.11 million in 2017-18 and $2.1 million in 2018-19. The revised estimate of expenditure for 2019-20 was $2.16 million. There is no separate breakdown on the resources specifically for conducting inspections on Mainland chilled and frozen chicken processing plants.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)088

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0235)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of Mainland processing plants supplying chilled pork to Hong Kong, the total import and average import price of Mainland chilled pork, as well as the number of inspections to the Mainland chilled pork processing plants, in each of the past 3 years (i.e. 2017, 2018 and 2019).

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 30)

Reply:

There were 6, 6 and 7 Mainland processing plants approved for supplying chilled pork to Hong Kong in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively.

According to the figures provided by the Census and Statistics Department, about 6 680 tonnes, 5 421 tonnes and 7 411 tonnes of Mainland chilled pork were imported into Hong Kong in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively. The average import price of Mainland chilled pork was $17.3, $16.6 and $20.8 per catty in the respective years.

In 2017, 2018 and 2019, the Centre for Food Safety of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department inspected 4, 3 and 5 Mainland chilled pork processing plants respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0236)

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:

Please advise on the usage rate of the on-line Licence Application Tracking Facility in respect of food business licences, as well as the usage rate of the on-line licence application service for liquor licences, food business licences and other relevant endorsements, in each of the past three years (i.e. from 2017 to 2019). Please provide details of the publicity work, manpower arrangement and expenditure required in promoting the service.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 31)

Reply:

In 2017, 2018 and 2019, 57%, 59% and 60% of the applicants for food business licences or their authorised persons made use of the online Licence Application Tracking Facility respectively. In 2017, 2018 and 2019, 59%, 65% and 55% of the applicants for liquor licences (including club liquor licences) or their authorised persons used the Liquor Licence Processing System respectively.

Starting from 1 January 2013, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department accepts online submission of applications for food business licences and permits. The usage rate of the service in the past 3 years is listed below:

	2017	**2018**	**2019**
Number of applications for food business licences and permits	8 047	8 762	7 456
Number of online applications	1 011	1 039	1 111
Percentage of applications submitted online	13%	12%	15%

To encourage wider use of the online service, the Department displays promotional posters in SME One of the Hong Kong Productivity Council, the 19 district environmental hygiene offices and the 3 licensing offices, and conducts briefings for the trade during meetings

organised by the Efficiency Office and bi-monthly seminars on restaurant licensing. The Department does not have a separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure for the promotion work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0238)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2020-21, the Department will follow up proactively on the recommendations in the Audit Reports released in November 2018 and the Public Accounts Committee reports concerned to strengthen the functions of the Centre for Food Safety in food safety management and food import control.

1) Please provide the details, including the specific measures, progress, implementation timetable, and manpower and expenditure required, and assess the effectiveness achieved in the previous year.

2) As regards food import control, how many Asian areas are currently subject to a ban by the Government on food imports to Hong Kong? What is/are the reason(s)? Will assessments be made in the future to lift the import ban on certain places? If yes, what are the details and the expenditure involved? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 33)

Reply:

1) In 2019, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department set up a task group led by the Controller, CFS, to take forward the recommendations of the Audit Commission (Audit) and the Legislative Council (LegCo) Public Accounts Committee (PAC) concerning its work of food safety management and import control. The task group has completed its comprehensive reviews on CFS's operational manuals and guidelines, staff management and supervision arrangements, training requirements, and manpower and resource requirements. CFS has rolled out concrete and effective short, medium and long-term measures to enhance its effectiveness by phases, including updating its guidelines where there were inadequacies or ambiguities and introducing a mechanism for regular updates, enhancing training and supervision of frontline staff, strengthening staff's law enforcement mindset and the keeping of data and records. The specific

measures taken and their implementation were set out in the Government minutes submitted to LegCo in May and December 2019.

In addition, CFS set up a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. CFS also launched the Food Trader Portal (FTP) in stages at the end of 2019 as a platform for electronic communication with the trade. Through the FTP, food traders can complete registration as importers or distributors by electronic means. In the first quarter of 2020, CFS further introduced an online service to facilitate food traders to apply online for import licences and import permission in respect of meat, poultry and game.

In 2020-21, CFS will continue to implement specific measures to follow up on the recommendations of Audit and PAC and enhance its IT systems in an order of priorities. The estimated expenditure of CFS in 2020-21 is about $49 million more than the revised estimate for 2019-20. This includes the expenditure incurred for the creation of 15 additional civil service posts to enhance the safeguard of food safety.

2) As regards food import control, the Government's prime consideration is to ensure that foods available for sale in Hong Kong are safe and fit for human consumption. CFS will monitor local and overseas food safety alerts and food incidents and prohibit the import of certain foods to Hong Kong if so warranted by risk assessment. Following the leakage of radioactive substances at the Fukushima nuclear power plants after the Great East Japan Earthquake in Japan on 11 March 2011, CFS immediately stepped up surveillance on radiation levels of food products imported from Japan. On 24 March 2011, an order was issued under section 78B of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) to prohibit the import of vegetables, fruits, milk, milk beverages and dried milk from Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Chiba and Gunma. CFS has been reviewing the risk management measures on food products imported from Japan in light of the latest situation. The factors taken into account include local surveillance results, assessments made by international expert organisations, surveillance results of the Japanese Government, the latest position of import control on Japanese food by other economies, consistency of the control measures with the World Trade Organization's requirements and public concern. Having carefully considered all relevant factors, CFS allowed the import of vegetables, fruits, milk, milk beverages and dried milk from Ibaraki, Tochigi, Chiba and Gunma into Hong Kong with conditions on 24 July 2018. It will continue to review the existing food bans under the above mechanism. As the officers responsible for the above work also undertake other duties, the manpower and expenditure for this aspect of work cannot be separately quantified.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0459)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (4) Public Education and Community Involvement

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the green burial services, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. the number of cases of using the services of scattering cremains in the Gardens of Remembrance and scattering cremains at sea, the utilisation rate, and the percentage of these cases over the number of deaths in each of the past 3 years;

2. whether the Government will provide a substantial number of additional memorial walls in view of the high utilisation rate of these walls in the existing Gardens of Remembrance; if yes, the details; if no, the reason(s);

3. whether the Government will consider expanding its memorial sailing service like providing free ferry services on festive days such as Father's Day, Mother's Day and New Year's Day to allow the public to pay tribute to their parents, thereby enhancing the attractiveness of the service of scattering cremains at sea; if yes, the details; if no, the reason(s);

4. whether the Government will waive the fees for cremation service and some of the post-death arrangements if the public choose green burial for the deceased, and provide a subsidy to the funeral trade for promotion of green burial, e.g. a cash subsidy to trade members who succeed in obtaining the consent of family members of the deceased to green burial in order to further promote green burial services; if yes, the details; if no, the reason(s);

5. the manpower and expenditure involved in implementing the Department's work plan for promoting the green burial services in the coming year.

Asked by: Hon CHIANG Lai-wan (LegCo internal reference no.: 4)

Reply:

1. The information sought is provided as follows:

No. of cases / Year	Scattering of ashes			Percentage of total no. of deaths
	In Gardens of Remembrance*	At sea	Total	
2017	5 573	966	6 539	14.3%
2018	6 074	972	7 046	14.8%
2019	7 010	899	7 909	16.2%

*Inclusive of cases handled by private cemeteries.

2. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is currently managing 12 Gardens of Remembrance (GoRs) in 8 columbaria, providing a total of around 39 400 plaque spaces. As at end February 2020, around 27 900 memorial plaques were mounted in these GoRs with around 11 500 remaining spaces being available for placing memorial plaques. Besides, the Tsang Tsui Columbarium in Tuen Mun, which is scheduled for completion in the second quarter of 2020, will also provide space for around 20 000 memorial plaques in its GoR. The Department will continue to explore the feasibility of providing more plaque spaces in its GoRs where circumstances permit.

3. The Department has arranged free sailings around the Ching Ming Festival and the Chung Yeung Festival every year since 2014. The previous users of the free service of scattering ashes at sea are offered free ferry rides to the designated areas at sea for ash scattering to pay tribute to the deceased. In 2019, there were around 800 participants in memorial sailings. The number of such sailings will be increased in 2020-21 to allow the public to pay respect to the deceased at the waters where ashes were scattered. To further enhance public awareness of the service of scattering ashes at sea and step up promotion of green burial, the Department launched a trial scheme in April 2019 to invite the public to visit the service of scattering ashes at sea at no charge. During these visits, which are organised on a monthly basis, dedicated staff will introduce the service to the visitors. So far, more than 50 people have participated in such visits.

4. The Department has considered the merits of waiving the charges for cremation or other related services in those cases where green burial is opted for. But on balance, it is not considered ripe for pursuing such an idea at this stage, for fear that some may misconstrue this as according greater importance to financial considerations than filial piety. Nevertheless, the Department maintains an open mind towards waiver of certain fees and charges as a modest financial incentive to encourage people's adoption of more environmentally friendly modes of ash disposal, should there be such calls in the community.

5. In 2020-21, green burial promotion will be coordinated by a dedicated team, comprising 7 officers and supporting staff. The estimated provision earmarked for promoting green burial in 2020-21 is about $17.2 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2802)

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 relation to the operation of refuse collection points (RCPs) and refuse collection vehicles (RCVs), please provide this Committee with:

1) the names of outsourced service providers, the periods covered, the numbers of staff employed, the scopes of work, the number of daily journeys required by all RCPs managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department for:

   i) compaction type RCV;
   ii) demountable RCV;
   iii) grab lorry; and
   iv) street washing vehicle,

   and also the reason(s) for and the number of delayed and cancelled journeys in the past 5 years. Please set out the information in a table and a map;

2) the gross floor area, the design refuse collection capacity and the actual monthly average amount of refuse collection as at February 2020 for each of the RCPs (including RCPs in rural areas) in the territory over the past 5 years in a table;

3) the names of contractors, contract period, manpower deployment (by the number of foreman, attendant and general cleaner) and facilities of all RCPs in the territory over the past 5 years in a table;

4) the manpower deployment (by the number of foreman, attendant and general cleaner) of Workmen II of the Cleansing Sections of the Department at all RCPs in the territory over the past 5 years in a table;

5) the names, addresses, and timetables of future in-situ reprovisioned off-street RCPs, non in-situ reprovisioned off-street RCPs and newly built off-street RCPs in a map; and

6) the service areas of all existing RCPs in a map.

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 5005)

Reply:

1) The refuse and waste collected at the refuse collection points (RCPs) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department are delivered by the Department or waste collection service contractors to the refuse transfer stations and landfills managed by the Environmental Protection Department. Information of the current waste collection service contractors in each district is provided at Annex 1. The Department does not keep the other information sought.

2) The approximate areas of 161 permanent off-street and 463 village-type RCPs managed by the Department and their estimated daily amount of collected refuse handled are provided at Annexes 2 and 3 respectively. Existing RCPs were set up at different times in the past with regard to land availability to meet local needs.

3) Generally speaking, permanent off-street RCPs under the management of the Department are provided with 1 attendant in each work shift. Newly built RCPs are equipped with water scrubber systems, vehicle exhaust extraction systems, mechanical ventilation systems, toilets, as well as changing and storage facilities. The Department will consider the provision of mobile refuse compactor in RCPs based on operational needs and where ground situation permits. Information of the current street cleansing contractors (which provide RCP and cleansing services) in each district is provided at Annex 4.

4) The list and staffing arrangement of permanent off-street RCPs with Workmen II of the Cleansing Sections of the Department on duty as RCP attendants are provided at Annex 5.

5) & 6) The permanent off-street RCPs planned to be reprovisioned by the Department are set out at Annex 6. RCPs receive household waste from nearby residential developments delivered either by the public or private waste collectors, as well as street waste collected by the Department's street sweepers. There is no defined service area for each RCP.

Annex 1

Existing Waste Collection Service Contractors

District	Name of contractor	Contract commencement date	Contract expiry date
Central & Western	Neways (HK) Services Company Limited	1 May 2019	30 April 2024
Wan Chai	Lapco Service Limited	1 July 2017	30 June 2022
Eastern	Lik Shun Services Limited	1 October 2016	30 September 2021
Mong Kok	Lapco Service Limited	1 June 2017	31 May 2022
Kowloon City	Kan Kee Cleaning Services Co., Ltd	1 November 2017	31 October 2022
Wong Tai Sin	Law's Cleaning Services Limited	1 May 2016	30 April 2021
Kwun Tong	Baguio Waste Management & Recycling Limited	1 July 2016	30 June 2021
	Shiny Glory Services Limited	1 July 2016	30 June 2021
Tsuen Wan	Man Shing Cleansing Service Company Limited	1 June 2016	31 May 2021
Tuen Mun	Baguio Waste Management & Recycling Limited	1 November 2015	31 October 2020
Yuen Long	Shiny Glory Services Limited	1 March 2017	28 February 2022
Tai Po	China Type Limited	1 May 2018	30 April 2023
Sha Tin	Kan Kee Cleaning Services Co., Ltd	1 November 2018	31 October 2023
Sai Kung	Shiny Glory Services Limited	1 May 2016	30 April 2021
Islands, Kwai Tsing	Baguio Waste Management & Recycling Limited	1 May 2016	30 April 2021
Southern, Islands, Yau Tsim, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing, North, Sai Kung	Shiny Glory Services Limited	1 April 2017	31 March 2022

Annex 2

List of Permanent Off-street Refuse Collection Points (RCPs)

District	Name	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (tonnes)
Central & Western	Shek Tong Tsui RCP	430	19
Central & Western	In Ku Lane RCP	364	12
Central & Western	Man Kat Street RCP	360	19
Central & Western	Smithfield Municipal Services Building RCP	160	25
Central & Western	Third Street RCP	58	6
Central & Western	Lan Kwai Fong RCP	312	30
Central & Western	Sai Ying Pun Market RCP	140	4
Central & Western	Gage Street RCP	209	8
Central & Western	Arbuthnot Road RCP	57	2
Central & Western	Lok Ku Road RCP	29	10
Central & Western	Queensway Plaza RCP	20	3
Central & Western	Sheung Wan Municipal Services Building RCP	210	21
Central & Western	Centre Street RCP	180	8
Central & Western	Peak Galleria RCP	70	2
Central & Western	Robinson Road RCP	56	2
Central & Western	Kennedy Road RCP	22	2
Wan Chai	Sing Woo Road RCP	304	14
Wan Chai	Cross Lane RCP	179	10
Wan Chai	Sam Pan Street RCP	480	17
Wan Chai	Luard Road RCP	224	25
Wan Chai	Paterson Street RCP	171	10
Wan Chai	Lockhart Road RCP	167	8
Wan Chai	Star Street RCP	151	2
Wan Chai	Gloucester Road RCP	104	27
Wan Chai	Shiu Fai Terrace RCP	183	8

District	Name	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (tonnes)
Wan Chai	Wing Hing Street RCP	169	12
Eastern	Tanner Road RCP	435	6
Eastern	Tung Hei Road RCP	389	6
Eastern	Hing Man Street RCP	364	14
Eastern	Cheung Lee Street RCP	280	2
Eastern	Sheung On Street RCP	85	2
Eastern	Java Road RCP	170	20
Eastern	Kam Wa Street RCP	104	10
Eastern	Sai Wan Ho Street RCP	98	7
Eastern	Oil Street RCP	83	10
Eastern	Quarry Bay Market RCP	70	6
Eastern	Mansion Street RCP	68	4
Eastern	Marble Road RCP	101	4
Southern	Shek O RCP	385	4
Southern	Tin Wan Close RCP	127	5
Southern	Apleichau Municipal Services Building RCP	110	10
Southern	Stanley Beach Road RCP	85	7
Southern	Repulse Bay RCP	85	1
Southern	Tsung Man Street RCP	78	9
Southern	Lee Nam Road RCP	69	1
Islands	Ngan Shu Street RCP	195	3
Islands	Cheung Tung Road RCP	187	2
Islands	Vehicle Clearance Plaza RCP	485	3
Yau Tsim	Parkes Street RCP	372	35
Yau Tsim	Market Street RCP	280	10
Yau Tsim	Auto Plaza RCP	220	11
Yau Tsim	Kimberley Street RCP	219	40
Yau Tsim	Kwun Chung Street RCP	162	18
Yau Tsim	Man Cheong Street RCP	160	8
Yau Tsim	Minden Row RCP	127	17
Mong Kok	Bedford Road RCP	379	12
Mong Kok	Dundas Street RCP	170	50
Mong Kok	Portland Street RCP	156	18
Mong Kok	Nelson Street RCP	251	16
Mong Kok	Anchor Street RCP	212	13
Mong Kok	Cheung Wong Road RCP	201	8
Mong Kok	Nullah Road RCP	158	16
Mong Kok	Fa Yuen Street Market RCP	75	16
Mong Kok	Yu Chau Street RCP	131	23
Mong Kok	Sai Yee Street (Flower Market Road) RCP	90	15
Mong Kok	Mong Kok Road RCP	334	20
Sham Shui Po	Pei Ho Street RCP	266	31

District	Name	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (tonnes)
Sham Shui Po	Cheung Wah Street RCP	420	21
Sham Shui Po	Un Chau Street RCP	410	24
Sham Shui Po	Fa Po Street RCP	210	2
Sham Shui Po	Yee Kuk Street RCP	250	15
Sham Shui Po	Tai Nan Street RCP	206	16
Sham Shui Po	Cassia Road RCP	129	4
Sham Shui Po	King Lam Street RCP	78	2
Sham Shui Po	Cheung Shun Street RCP	74	3
Sham Shui Po	Lai Wan Market RCP	20	12
Sham Shui Po	Camp Street RCP	742	18
Kowloon City	Ma Tau Kok Road RCP	430	12
Kowloon City	Sung On Street RCP	350	4
Kowloon City	Baptist University Road RCP	299	2
Kowloon City	Tung Tsing Road RCP	197	less than 1
Kowloon City	Hok Yuen Street RCP	228	2
Kowloon City	Kwei Chow Street RCP	222	5
Kowloon City	Lung Kong Road RCP	147	3
Kowloon City	Peace Avenue RCP	207	8
Kowloon City	Kowloon City Road RCP	205	7
Kowloon City	Cheung Ning Street RCP	266	20
Kowloon City	Kowloon City Complex RCP	184	13
Kowloon City	Baker Street RCP	170	17
Kowloon City	Shek Ku Lung Road RCP	100	9
Kowloon City	On Ching Road RCP	130	2
Kowloon City	Broadcast Drive RCP	89	2
Kowloon City	Gillies Avenue RCP	68	6
Kowloon City	Man Wan Road RCP	99	3
Kowloon City	Yan Fung Street RCP	120	less than 1
Kowloon City	Shing Kai Road RCP	331	less than 1
Wong Tai Sin	Yi Lun Street RCP	220	19
Wong Tai Sin	Yan Oi RCP	150	1
Wong Tai Sin	Sheung Fung Street Market RCP	392	10
Wong Tai Sin	Yuk Wah Crescent RCP	154	5
Wong Tai Sin	Ngau Chi Wan Village RCP	193	5
Wong Tai Sin	Tung Tai Lane RCP	97	2
Kwun Tong	Lei Yue Mun RCP	294	3
Kwun Tong	Yuet Wah Street RCP	242	5
Kwun Tong	Kei Yip Lane RCP	185	1
Kwun Tong	Ting On Street RCP	71	4
Kwun Tong	Lai Yip Street RCP	136	1
Kwun Tong	Hong Ning Road RCP	115	2
Kwun Tong	Shung Yan Street RCP	259	10
Kwun Tong	Wan Hon Street RCP	107	2
Kwai Tsing	Hing Shing Road RCP	260	2

District	Name	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (tonnes)
Kwai Tsing	Tai Yuen Street RCP	175	less than 1
Kwai Tsing	Cheung Tat Road RCP	170	2
Kwai Tsing	Kwai Shun Street RCP	140	2
Kwai Tsing	Ta Chuen Ping Street RCP	116	2
Kwai Tsing	Wing Kin Road RCP	118	1
Kwai Tsing	Tai Lin Pai Road RCP	100	1
Tsuen Wan	RCP at Chak Yan Road at Penny's Bay	285	1
Tsuen Wan	Mei Wan Street RCP	374	1
Tsuen Wan	Luen Yan Street RCP	183	20
Tsuen Wan	Tsuen Wan Market Street RCP	170	22
Tsuen Wan	Heung Che Street RCP	168	20
Tsuen Wan	Hoi Hing Road RCP	564	1
Tuen Mun	Tsing Hoi Circuit RCP (Area 37B)	170	10
Tuen Mun	Tseng Choi Street RCP (Area 4B)	170	8
Tuen Mun	Hung Cheung Road RCP (Area 12)	169	1
Tuen Mun	Yan Ching Street RCP	146	14
Tuen Mun	Tat Yan Square RCP (Area 10B)	121	3
Tuen Mun	Tsing Yeung Circuit RCP (Area 9N)	126	1
Tuen Mun	Tseng Choi Street RCP (Area 4C)	118	less than 1
Tuen Mun	Kin Lung Street RCP (Area 9)	229	8
Tuen Mun	Castle Peak Beach RCP	86	less than 1
Tuen Mun	Wu Shan Road RCP (Area 44)	703	1
Yuen Long	Yan Lok Square RCP	170	19
Yuen Long	Tai Tong Road RCP	170	20
Yuen Long	Tai Kiu RCP	170	16
Yuen Long	Kam Cheung Square RCP	170	16
Yuen Long	Tung Tai Street RCP	125	16
Yuen Long	Fung Kwan Street RCP	120	16
Yuen Long	Ping Shun Street RCP	411	11
Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau Control Point RCP	180	5
Yuen Long	RCP at Cargo Area inside Shenzhen Western Corridor Co-location of Boundary Crossing Facilities	140	6
North	Fu Hing Street RCP	298	18
North	Luen Fat Street RCP	246	15
North	On Lok Tsuen RCP	117	8
Tai Po	Plover Cove Road RCP	102	6
Tai Po	Kwong Fuk Square RCP	100	16
Tai Po	Evergreen Court RCP	350	6
Tai Po	Yan Hing Street RCP	165	9
Tai Po	Dai Kwai Street RCP	162	1
Sha Tin	Shing Ho Road RCP	135	7
Sha Tin	Yuen Chau Kok Road RCP	129	1

District	Name	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (tonnes)
Sha Tin	Cheung Lek Mei Street RCP	116	2
Sha Tin	Chik Fai Street Tai Wai RCP	55	4
Sha Tin	Siu Lek Yuen Road RCP	47	2
Sha Tin	Wo Liu Hang Road RCP	147	3
Sai Kung	Yi Chun Street RCP	195	10
Sai Kung	Wan Lung Road permanent RCP	155	1
Sai Kung	Fuk Man Road RCP	150	6
Sai Kung	Tui Min Hoi Road RCP	117	less than 1
Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Second Beach RCP	84	less than 1

Annex 3

List of Village-type Refuse Collection Points

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Islands	At the side of Tai Long Wan Village Public Toilet, Lantau Island	4	33
Islands	Near Bellevue Garden, Peak Road, Cheung Chau	5	182
Islands	Back of Cheung Chau Police Station, Hospital Road, Cheung Chau	5	364
Islands	Outside Cheung Lee Garden, Siu Kwai Wan Road, Cheung Chau	7	73
Islands	Near 4 Chung Hing Pun Shan Road, Cheung Chau	6	73
Islands	Peak Road, Cheung Chau (near Fuk Lee Farm)	8	36
Islands	At the junction of Hillside Road and Peak Road, Cheung Chau	2	182
Islands	Near lamp post no. 26330, Hung Shing Yeh, Yung Shue Wan, Lamma Island	18	364
Islands	Tai Shek Hau Pun Shan Road, Cheung Chau	18	73
Islands	Near Cheung Chau Playgorund, Kwun Yam Wan Road, Cheung Chau	5	109
Islands	Near Lan Yuen, Peak Road, Cheung Chau	8	109
Islands	Opposite to 92 Pak She San Tsuen, Cheung Chau	3	73
Islands	Near Lung Tsai Tsuen Sitting-out Area, Cheung Chau	3	218
Islands	Entrance of Lutheran Village I, Cheung Chau	11	36
Islands	At the side of Pak She Street Public Toilet, Cheung Chau	9	582
Islands	Near 58, Peak Road, Cheung Chau	4	436
Islands	Opposite to Sai Yuen, Sai Wan, Peak Road West, Cheung Chau	8	218
Islands	Near Alliance Bible Seminary, Peak Road, Cheung Chau	5	145
Islands	Near Tinford Garden, Peak Road, Cheung Chau	5	291
Islands	Tsan Tuen Road, Sai Wan, Cheung Chau	16	255

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Islands	Wong Lung Hang, Tung Chung, Lantau Island	12	145
Islands	Near 3 Peak Road, Cheung Chau	3	182
Islands	Opposite to 23D Yung Shue Wan Main Street, Lamma Island	18	873
Islands	Near lamp post no. VA1601, Upper Keung Shan, Lantau Island	8	7
Islands	Near lamp post no. FC1355, Tai Tei Tong, Mui Wo, Lantau Island	9	255
Islands	Near lamp post no. FC1314, Pak Ngan Heung, Mui Wo, Lantau Island	9	109
Islands	Near lamp post no. FC1326, Pak Ngan Heung, Mui Wo, Lantau Island	9	109
Islands	Tung Wan, Shek Pik, Lantau Island	15	33
Islands	At the side of Ngong Ping Bus Terminus Public Toilet (near lamp post no. P12)	9	73
Islands	Near 155A Tong Fuk Village, Lantau Island	12	436
Islands	Near lamp post no. VC2196, Shek Tsai Po Street, Tai O	3	73
Islands	Next to 4 Kiu King Street, Peng Chau	16	218
Islands	Opposite to 484C Nam Wan, Peng Chau	12	218
Islands	Opposite to 19C Nam Wan, Peng Chau	2	218
Islands	Nam Wan Shan Tsuen, Peng Chau	13	145
Islands	Near 5A Wing Lung Street, Peng Chau	13	255
Islands	At the side of Tung Wan Barbecue Area, Peng Chau	13	182
Islands	Near lamp post no. FC2507, Pa Mei, Tung Chung, Lantau Island	20	1 400
Islands	Chung Hing Back Street, Cheung Chau	17	582
Kwai Tsing	San Kwai Street, Kwai Chung	20	1 000
Kwai Tsing	Kau Wa Keng San Tsuen, Lai King Hill Road, Kwai Chung	15	1 300
Kwai Tsing	At the side of Greenknoll Court, Castle Peak Road	15	373
Kwai Tsing	Near Chung Shan Terrace, Castle Peak Road 5.5 m	15	109

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Kwai Tsing	Tam Kon Shan Road, Tsing Yi	15	600
Kwai Tsing	Tsing King Road, Tsing Yi (near Maritime Square)	15	1 000
Kwai Tsing	Tai Wong Ha Resite Village Car Park, Tsing Yi	15	2 300
Kwai Tsing	Near Rife Range Association, Cheung Hang Village	15	109
Kwai Tsing	Near Pump Station, Cheung Hang Village	15	109
Kwai Tsing	Inside Tsing Fai Sun Tsuen Vehicle Parking Space, at the junction of Fung Shue Wo Road and Tsing Sum Street, Tsing Yi	15	1 109
Kwai Tsing	Near Reservoir, Cheung Hang Village	15	36
Kwai Tsing	Chung Mei Lo Uk Village Car Park, Tsing Yi	44	2 300
Kwai Tsing	Tsing Yu Street, Tsing Yi	30	1 100
Kwai Tsing	Tsing Yu New Village Car Park, Tsing Yi	20	900
Kwai Tsing	Shing Mun Road, Kwai Chung	6	373
Kwai Tsing	Near Pump Station, Lower Shing Mun Village	6	109
Kwai Tsing	Near Cheung Hang Road, O Pui Shan Boys' Home	6	173
Tsuen Wan	Castle Peak Road-Ting Kau, Ting Kau (near lamp post no. BC 1137)	12	400
Tsuen Wan	Castle Peak Road-Ting Kau, Ting Kau (near lamp post no. BC0109)	12	500
Tsuen Wan	Route Twisk (near Chuen Lung)	9	964
Tsuen Wan	Fu Yung Shan Road (near Chuk Lam Sim Yuen)	6	600
Tsuen Wan	Castle Peak Road-Tsing Lung Tau, Tsing Lung Tau	9	300
Tsuen Wan	Fu Yung Shan Road Fu Yung Shan San Tsuen	12	400
Tsuen Wan	Hoi Pa Village (near Cheung Pei Shan Road)	9	400
Tsuen Wan	Hoi Pa Village South Terrace, Ma Sim Pai Road	9	300
Tsuen Wan	Ka Loon Tsuen, Castle Peak Road-Tsing Lung Tau, Tsing Lung Tau	12	400
Tsuen Wan	At the junction of Lei Shu Road and Sheung Kwai Chung Tsuen Road	16	482

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Tsuen Wan	Lo Wai, Lo Wai Road (Adjacent to Ming Fat Store)	24	173
Tsuen Wan	Ma Wan Main Street Village East, Ma Wan Rural Committee Road	12	800
Tsuen Wan	Ma Wan Main Street Village North, Ma Wan Rural Committee Road, Ma Wan	12	800
Tsuen Wan	Ma Wan Main Street Village South, Ma Wan	12	400
Tsuen Wan	Ma Sim Pai Road (Opposite Sai Lau Kok Resite Village)	18	300
Tsuen Wan	Muk Min Ha Tsuen, Fu Yung Shan Road (near Car Park)	9	400
Tsuen Wan	Castle Peak Road-Sham Tseng, Sham Tseng (near Anglers' Bay)	9	300
Tsuen Wan	Pak Tin Pa Tsuen, Ma Sim Pai Road	12	600
Tsuen Wan	Hill Top Road	12	136
Tsuen Wan	Sam Tung Uk Resite Village (near Sam Tung Uk Road)	12	400
Tsuen Wan	Tsing Lung Tau (Opposite Sea Crest Villa Phase 4)	12	400
Tsuen Wan	Sham Tseng Village, Sham Tseng Tsuen Road, Sham Tseng	9	400
Tsuen Wan	Wo Yi Hop, Shing Mun Road	9	300
Tsuen Wan	Ting Fung Street	24	800
Tsuen Wan	Ting Kwok Street	24	800
Tsuen Wan	Castle Peak Road-Ting Kau, Ting Kau, (near lamp post no. BC 1168)	9	145
Tsuen Wan	Castle Peak Road - Ting Kau (near lamp post no. BC0143)	9	200
Tsuen Wan	Lo Wai, Lo Wai Road (near lamp post no. BC2134)	9	1 000
Tsuen Wan	Lo Wai, Tung Wo Street (near lamp post no. BC2134)	6	200
Tsuen Wan	Lo Wai, Tung Wo Street (near lamp post no. FB8506)	6	300
Tsuen Wan	Lo Wai, Tung Wo Street (near lamp post no. FB8510)	9	400
Tsuen Wan	Shing Mun Lane, Tsuen Wan (near lamp post no. AC4832)	9	400
Tsuen Wan	Yau Kom Tau Village, Po Fung Road, Yau Kom Tau	9	500
Tsuen Wan	Yau Ma Hom Road, near Fu Uk Road	20	1 000
Tsuen Wan	Lo Wai, Lo Wai Road, Tsuen Wan (near lamp post no. VC0034)	6	145

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Tsuen Wan	Vista Cove, 132 Castle Peak Road-Tsing Lung Tau (near Bayside Villa Substation)	9	500
Tsuen Wan	At the junction of Sheung Kwai Tsuen Road and Tai Pak Tin Tsuen Road	17	273
Tsuen Wan	Lung Yue Road, Tsing Lung Tau (near Toilet at Lung Yue Road)	12	700
Tsuen Wan	Ma Sim Pai Road (near Hoi Pa Northeast Terrace)	18	300
Tuen Mun	Shun Fung Wai	27	782
Tuen Mun	Shui Tong Road (Reservoir Road) near store	18	309
Tuen Mun	Chung Uk Tsuen (1)	18	855
Tuen Mun	Lam Tei Market	18	2 218
Tuen Mun	Hing Ping Road, Fu Tei Chung Tsuen	12	300
Tuen Mun	Fu Tei Sheung Tsuen near Aqua Privy	10	100
Tuen Mun	Chung Wong Toi	17	636
Tuen Mun	Wong Ka Wai, Area 36B	18	600
Tuen Mun	San Hing Tsuen (1), Chung Shan	18	1 145
Tuen Mun	San Sau Street, Leung Tin Tsuen	32	4 091
Tuen Mun	Old Cafeteria Beach	18	600
Tuen Mun	So Kwun Wat Road underneath Tuen Mun Road	18	382
Tuen Mun	So Kwun Wat Tsuen Road	18	409
Tuen Mun	Lee Uk Tsuen, So Kwun Wat Road	18	1 545
Tuen Mun	Kar Wo Lei	18	445
Tuen Mun	Yick Yuen, Castle Peak Road	28	682
Tuen Mun	Siu Lam San Tsuen	18	145
Tuen Mun	Tuen Tsz Wai	28	1 745
Tuen Mun	Near Salted Fish Factory, Siu Lam Tsuen	18	173
Tuen Mun	Luen On San Tsuen (East), Tai Lam Chung	18	418
Tuen Mun	Tai Lam Chung Tsuen	18	136
Tuen Mun	Wong Uk Tsuen.	28	173
Tuen Mun	Luen On San Tsuen (West), Tai Lam Chung	18	564
Tuen Mun	Near Barbecue Area, Tsing Tai Road	18	673
Tuen Mun	Tin Sum San Tsuen, near playground	18	645
Tuen Mun	At the side of river, San Hing Tsuen	18	1 600
Tuen Mun	At the side of Tsz Tin Tsuen playground	18	536

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Tuen Mun	Sai Hang Mei, Tsz Tin Tsuen	18	618
Tuen Mun	Yeung Siu Hang Tsuen	18	645
Tuen Mun	Yip Wong Road RCP, Tsing Shan Kau Hui	18	600
Tuen Mun	Fuk Hang Tsuen near Fuk Yam School	28	100
Tuen Mun	Fuk Hang Tsuen Road near Village Office	28	600
Tuen Mun	Lam Tei Bus Stop, Castle Peak Road	28	1 600
Tuen Mun	To Yuen Wai Fu Hang Road	18	636
Tuen Mun	Nim Wan Tsuen	28	973
Tuen Mun	At the side of Castle Peak Villa, Lok Yi Street	28	873
Tuen Mun	Po Yuen, Castle Peak Road	28	1 255
Tuen Mun	Kei Lun Wai	28	1 073
Tuen Mun	Wong Yin Street near Shek Pai Tau Road	28	509
Tuen Mun	Tsing Shan Tsuen, Hing Choi Street	28	309
Tuen Mun	Tsing Chuen Wai	18	2 700
Tuen Mun	Siu Sau Tsuen, Castle Peak Road	18	218
Tuen Mun	Entrance of Headquarters, Marine West Division, Siu Lam	28	600
Tuen Mun	Tsz Tin Road	18	745
Yuen Long	Tai To Tsuen Road, Hung Shui Kiu	8	36
Yuen Long	Beside Shek Po Road Car Park, Hung Shui Kiu (near lamp post no. FA1053)	12	955
Yuen Long	Hung Shui Kiu Main Street, Hung Shui Kiu (near lamp post no. FA4192)	12	700
Yuen Long	Tan Kwai Tsuen Road, Hung Shui Kiu (near lamp post no. GD0595)	16	1 991
Yuen Long	Coronet Court, Hung Shui Kiu (near lamp post no. FB 0535)	20	1 991
Yuen Long	Tseung Kong Wai, Ha Tsuen (near lamp post no. VD 4198)	12	1 000
Yuen Long	Ha Mei Road, Ha Tsuen (near lamp post no. FA8792)	12	1 000
Yuen Long	Sha Chau Lei Tsuen Refuse Collection Point, Ping Ha Road, Hung Shui Kiu (near lamp post no. VA5950)	12	600
Yuen Long	Fui Sha Wai, Hung Shui Kiu, Castle Peak Road - Ping Shan (near lamp post no. VA5652)	12	982

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Yuen Long	Tai To Tsuen, Fui Sha Wai South Road, Hung Shui Kiu (near lamp post no. FB5411)	12	436
Yuen Long	Tan Kwai Tsuen Road, Hung Shui Kiu (near lamp post no. VG1804)	12	982
Yuen Long	San Sang Tsuen Inner RCP, Tin Ha Road (near lamp post no. V0229)	12	300
Yuen Long	Entrance of San Sang Tsuen, Tin Ha Road (near lamp post no. FB9105)	10	1 082
Yuen Long	Beside Ha Mei San Tsuen Public Toilet, Ping Shan (near lamp post no. FC0176)	12	1 145
Yuen Long	Beside Ping Shan San Tsuen Public Toilet, Ping Shan (near lamp post no. FB0330)	16	1 800
Yuen Long	Hang Tau Tsuen, Ping Shan (near Aqua Privy)(near lamp post no. V6298)	20	1 655
Yuen Long	Beside Tong Fong Tsuen Public Toilet, Ping Shan (near lamp post no. FB9220)	20	1 100
Yuen Long	Ping Hing Lane, Ping Shan (near lamp post no. FA8972)	12	945
Yuen Long	Ping Shan Chuk Lam Road, Ping Shan (near lamp post no. V6307)	12	809
Yuen Long	Deep Bay Road, Lau Fau Shan (near Pak Nai Village Office)(near lamp post no.H1835)	12	273
Yuen Long	Ngau Hom Tsuen, Lau Fau Shan (near lamp post no. FA6975)	12	800
Yuen Long	San Hing Tsuen, Lau Fau Shan (near lamp post no. FB9188)	12	309
Yuen Long	Fung Kong Tsuen, Lau Fau Shan (near lamp post no. BD2055)	12	600
Yuen Long	Nim Wan Road, Ha Pak Nai (near lamp post no. FA0889)	20	409
Yuen Long	Fu Tso Tsuen, Lau Fau Shan (near lamp post no. H2840)	12	145
Yuen Long	Yeung Uk Tsuen, Yuen Long (near lamp post no. FC0853)	12	600
Yuen Long	Tsz Tong Tsuen, Yuen Long (near lamp post no. U8313)	12	1 073
Yuen Long	Tai Hong Wai, Kam Tin Road, Kam Tin (near lamp post no. FB5702)	40	445

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Yuen Long	Tung Wui Road, Kam Tin (near lamp post no. AD7086)	32	473
Yuen Long	Shek Tong Tsuen, Yau Shin Street (near lamp post no. FC0628)	25	609
Yuen Long	Shan Pui Chung Hau Tsuen, Shan Pui Ho East Road	15	673
Yuen Long	Shing Uk Tsuen, Wang Chau	8	600
Yuen Long	Hung Mo Kiu, Castle Peak Road	12	400
Yuen Long	Shan Pui Hung Tin Tsuen	20	745
Yuen Long	Chui Tung Lane, Shan Pui Tsuen	20	800
Yuen Long	Beside Nam Bin Wai Public Toilet (YL-35A&B), Yuen Long Kau Hui Road	18	945
Yuen Long	Opposite to Fuk Tak Tong, Nam Bin Wai	8	600
Yuen Long	Opposite to 8D Tsoi Uk Tsuen	8	409
Yuen Long	Beside Aqua Privy YL-41, Wong Uk Tsuen	8	873
Yuen Long	Shui Tsiu San Tsuen (1)	8	1 200
Yuen Long	Shui Tsiu San Tsuen (2)	8	373
Yuen Long	Hung Tso Tin Tsuen	8	673
Yuen Long	Nam Hang Pai	10	873
Yuen Long	Tai Tong Garden, Nam Hang Pai	12	945
Yuen Long	Wong Nai Tun Tsuen	12	945
Yuen Long	Beside Tai Shu Ha Road West Public Toilet	8	400
Yuen Long	Tai Kei Leng Po Chu Yuen	10	600
Yuen Long	Tai Tong Road Roundabout, Tai Tong Tsuen	10	873
Yuen Long	Ha Yau Tin Tsuen	10	873
Yuen Long	Muk Kiu Tau Tsuen	14	673
Yuen Long	Shan Ha Road (Lam Hau Yuen)	8	1 182
Yuen Long	Pak Sha Tsuen, Kung Um Road	8	673
Yuen Long	Shan Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long	14	873
Yuen Long	Tin Liu Tsuen Yuen Long	10	673
Yuen Long	Ma Tin Pok, Yuen Long	18	1 218
Yuen Long	Chuk Yau Road, Ngau Tam Mei, near lamp post no. FA8539 (Sai Wah Sheung Road)	5	436
Yuen Long	Shek Wu Tong, Kam Sheung Road (near lamp post no. U8365)	15	2 045

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Yuen Long	Opposite to Red Penny Restaurant, Kam Sheung Road (near lamp post no. U8395) Wing Lok Yuen	15	645
Yuen Long	Opposite to Kam Shui South Road, Kam Sheung Road (near lamp post no. U8408) Shui Tsan Tin Tsuen)	20	1 309
Yuen Long	Opposite to Timber Factory at Kong Ha Wai, Kam Sheung Road (near lamp post no. U8341)	20	745
Yuen Long	Shui Tau Tsuen Public Toilet, Shui Tau Tsuen (near lamp post no. V0037)	12	800
Yuen Long	Fan Kam Road, near lamp post no. FB3588	9	800
Yuen Long	Wai Tsai Tsuen, Ngau Tam Mei	15	873
Yuen Long	Yau Mei San Tsuen, Castle Peak Road - Tam Mi	12	873
Yuen Long	Entrance of Tai Sang Wai Tsuen	20	500
Yuen Long	Low San Wai Tsuen, Castle Peak Road - Tam Mi	20	400
Yuen Long	Mai Po Tsuen, Castle Peak Road - Mai Po	12	800
Yuen Long	Merry Garden, Castle Peak Road - Tam Mi	20	700
Yuen Long	San Tam Road, Fung Kat Heung Road	20	400
Yuen Long	Castle Peak Road - San Tam, near lamp post no. FB9542	15	300
Yuen Long	San Tam Road, near lamp post no. FA8429	20	700
Yuen Long	Sam Tam Road, near Mission Hills, near lamp post no. FA8294	20	600
Yuen Long	San Tam Road, near lamp post no. FA9278	15	1 000
Yuen Long	Opposite to Hong Kong Fire Services Department Fire Services Training School, Fan Kam Road (near lamp post no. FB3637 & P/YL-13)	25	173
Yuen Long	Wing Ning Lei, Fan Kam Road	20	2 100
Yuen Long	Kam Sheung Road, near lamp post no. U8415	20	1 900
Yuen Long	Kam Sheung Road, near lamp post no. U8424	15	1 400
Yuen Long	Kam Sheung Road, near lamp post no. U8462	20	700

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Yuen Long	Kam Sheung Road, near lamp post no. FB4746	20	200
Yuen Long	Castle Peak Road - San Tin, San Tin (near Post Office)	10	945
Yuen Long	Tsing Lung Tsuen	10	673
Yuen Long	Near Mei Shing Kui, Pak Shek Au	10	273
Yuen Long	Near Wo Hing Yuen, Pak Shek Au	12	409
Yuen Long	Castle Peak Road - Chau Tau, Pak Shek Au	10	273
Yuen Long	Castle Peak Road - Chau Tau, San Tin	15	1 145
Yuen Long	Kam Shek Road, Kam Tin	20	500
North	Tong Kung Leng Road III	26	336
North	Tong Kung Leng Road I	26	400
North	Lin Ma Hang Tsuen	20	136
North	Fu Tei Pai I	26	345
North	Kwan Tei Village, Sha Tau Kok Road	20	891
North	Ng Uk Tsuen	17	500
North	Ping Kong San Tsuen	18	836
North	Tong Hang II	15	355
North	Ping Yeung San Tsuen near School	17	409
North	New RCP, San Uk Tsuen, Sha Tau Kok	20	400
North	Hak Pai Chai	17	300
North	Queen's Hill	26	1 109
North	Kwai Tei North III	20	200
North	Ping Che Vegetable Station	20	545
North	San Uk Ling, Man Kam To Road	24	573
North	Hung Leng Bus Stop, Sha Tau Kok	20	473
North	Ping Che Road Hung Leng Bridge, Hung Leng North	20	436
North	Hung Leng, Sha Tau Kok Road	20	1 200
North	Ha Shan Kai Wat	24	300
North	Yuen Ha Tsuen	20	591
North	Lee Uk Tsuen II	17	473
North	Ta Kwu Ling, San Tsuen	12	345
North	Chow Tin Tsuen I	7	318
North	Chuk Yuen Tsuen I	42	236
North	Ling Shan Tsuen I	17	309
North	Ling Shan Tsuen II	17	273
North	Sheung Shui Wai Wai Noi Tsuen	26	500
North	Sheung Shui Wai, Po Sheung Tsuen near the Carpark	20	300

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
North	Man Kok Village (1), Sheung Shui Wai	20	1 100
North	Man Kok Village (2), Sheung Shui Wai	20	673
North	Po Lau Road, Shek Tsai Leng	21	273
North	New RCP, Kwu Tung Tin Sum Area	38	773
North	Lee Wah San Tsuen II, Hang Tau	12	473
North	Wu Kau Tang	3	245
North	Luk Keng Bridge	5	245
North	Nam Chung Primary School	7	245
North	Baptist Garden	28	764
North	Ta Kwu Ling Government Building	28	1 364
North	At the side of Biside Fay Lai Sailingboat Factory	20	300
North	Fanling Wai (North)	17	600
North	Fanling Wai (Middle)	20	1 600
North	Ho Ka Yuen	20	600
North	Shek Chung Au	6	273
North	Tsoi Yuen Kok, Lin Ma Hang Road	14	1 236
North	Wo Hop Shek San Tsuen	20	1 500
North	No. 2 Carpark, Wo Hing Tsuen, Wo Hing Road, Wo Hop Shek	20	1 500
North	Yin Kong Tsuen	18	500
North	RCP at the entrance of Tsung Pak Long	11	400
North	Tai Tau Leng	26	800
North	Lung Yeuk Tau, San Wai	12	673
North	San Wai Barracks	20	336
North	Entrance of Lau Shui Heung Tsuen, Lau Shui Heung Road	18	445
North	Po Kat Tsai	26	482
North	Tung Kok Wai	15	655
North	Ma Wat Tsuen I	20	545
North	Wing Ling Wai	49	1 091
North	Kam Tsin Tsuen North	20	1 500
North	Kam Tsin Tsuen South	20	600
North	Kwu Tung Tung Tong Farm	19	600
North	Kwu Tung Vegetable Station	20	200
North	Lung Tang Court, Kwu Tung	26	500
North	Cheung Po Tau Tsuen (1), Ma Kam To	18	200
North	Cheung Po Tau Tsuen (2), Ma Kam To	18	300
North	Sandy Ridge Vegetable Station	38	109
North	Ho Sheung Heung Old Village (near tofu factory)	20	673

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
North	Ho Sheung Heung Old Village (near Hung Shing Temple)	21	300
North	Hung Kiu San Tsuen	18	400
North	Sandy Ridge Cemetery/ Man Kam To Road	6	209
North	Near Ping Yuen River, Chow Tin Tsuen, Ta Kwu Ling	18	73
North	Sheung Shui Wai, Sheung Pak Tsuen	11	500
North	Tsung Pak Long Tsuen (North)	11	236
North	Fung Kong Tsuen	21	273
North	Ho Sheung Heung San Tsuen	11	200
North	Tin Kwong Po	10	300
North	Lo Wu Station Road	6	200
North	Opposite to Sheung Shui Wai Ming Tak Tong	20	1 073
North	Tai Yuen Tsuen Playground, Sheung Shui Wai	20	1 073
North	Pak Fuk Tsuen	20	1 000
North	Tsiu Keng Market	11	145
North	Chuk Tsai Hang, Tsiu Keng Ying Pun Tsuen	16	291
North	Hang Tau Luen On Bridge	20	145
North	Lung Yeuk Tau Bridge No. 1	7	400
North	Wah Ming Lane near Wah Mei Shan Village	20	300
Tai Po	Tai Po Road, Tai Po Kau (at the side of lamp post no. CE2388)	18	709
Tai Po	Tai Po Wong Yi Au Road (inside Car Park and at the side of lamp post no. BE1039)	17	636
Tai Po	Tai Po Road,Tai Po Kau (at the side of lamp post no. CE1318)	17	600
Tai Po	68 Pan Chung Road (at the side of lamp post no. EA7555)	28	2 545
Tai Po	122 Kam Shan Road (at the side of lamp post no. N6188)	28	1 200
Tai Po	Opposite to 8 Ting Lai Road	30	782
Tai Po	Opposite to Yue Kok Village Public Toliet	18	500
Tai Po	Opposite to Ha Hang Government Quarter	19	673
Tai Po	At the side of Sam Mun Tsai 74K bus stop	19	1 000
Tai Po	At the side of Sam Mun Tsai Pier	18	745
Tai Po	San Tau Kok Village. Tung Tsz Road (At the side of lamp post no. GE0249)	58	1 864

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Tai Po	Po Sam Pai, Ting Kok Road (opposite side of lamp post no. AE0643)	23	1 473
Tai Po	Ting Kok Village (opposite side of lamp post no. V1240)	18	836
Tai Po	Tai Po Tau Drive (at the side of lamp post no. EA7207)	36	1 373
Tai Po	Tai Po Tau Shui Wai Road (opposite to lamp post no. EB4750)	28	736
Tai Po	At the side of lamp post no. N4542)	17	2 145
Tai Po	opposite to lamp post no. VA9212	21	200
Tai Po	Hang Ha Po Village (at the side of lamp post no. VE1237)	18	536
Tai Po	Chung Uk Tsuen (at the side of lamp post no. EB0517)	18	955
Tai Po	Tong Sheung Tsuen, Lam Kam Road, Lam Tsuen Valley, Tai Po (at Lam Kam Road)	18	1 873
Tai Po	Tong Sheung Tsuen, Lam Kam Road, Lam Tsuen Valley, Tai Po (opposite to Tong Min Tsuen Public Toilet)	18	500
Tai Po	San Tong, Lam Kam Road, Lam Tsuen Valley, Tai Po (at Lam Kam Road)	18	955
Tai Po	Ping Long, Lam Kam Road, Lam Tsuen Valley, Tai Po	18	391
Tai Po	Ma Po Mei, Lam Kam Road, Lam Tsuen Valley, Tai Po	18	418
Tai Po	Tai Po Lai Chi Shan	18	1 100
Tai Po	Shek Kwu Lung Village(at the side of lamp post no. EA7880)	18	1 455
Tai Po	Shan Tong New Village, Shan Tong Road, Tai Po (near lamp post no. EA7150)	18	200
Tai Po	Lo Tsz Tin, Ting Kok Road (opposite side of lamp post no. AE0701)	11	1 145
Tai Po	Tai Po Road, Tai Po Kau, Cheung Shue Tan (opposite to lamp post no. EB3689)	18	300
Tai Po	Tai Mei Tuk Road (at the side of lamp post no. EA8280)	36	600
Tai Po	11 Ma Wo Road (at the side of lamp post no. EA7788)	28	400
Tai Po	Opposite to Ha Hang Village Public Toliet	20	673

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Tai Po	Tung Tsz Shan Road (opposite side of lamp post no. EA9983)	17	300
Tai Po	Tai Po Tau Shui Wai Road (at the side of lamp post no. EB4750)	46	400
Tai Po	Tung Tsz Shan Road (at the side of lamp post no. EA9990)	17	200
Tai Po	At the side of lamp post no. EB1913	18	200
Tai Po	San Wai Tsai Road (at the side of lamp post no. GE1558)	30	1 145
Tai Po	Fong Ma Po Village (at the side of lamp post no. VE2560)	42	2 145
Tai Po	Tai Po Road,Tai Po Kau, Tsung Tsai Yuen (opposite to Tai Po Kau Garden)	9	236
Tai Po	Tai Po Road,Tai Po Kau, Lookout Link (opposite to lamp post no. EB8429)	11	100
Tai Po	At the side of lamp post no. EB2810	9	200
Tai Po	Mei Wu Road (at the side of lamp post no. GE1457)	16	100
Tai Po	At the side of lamp post no. N7085	6	600
Tai Po	Yin Tse Lane, Tai Po Road, Tai Po Kau (at the side of lamp post no. EC0689)	6	200
Tai Po	Sai Sha Road (at the side of lamp post no. VE8206)	32	1 255
Tai Po	Sai Sha Road (at the side of lamp post no. N2468)	17	536
Tai Po	Hoi Ha Road (Opposite to lamp post no. EA0925)	17	100
Tai Po	Ko Tong Tsuen (at the side of lamp post no. N2505)	23	300
Tai Po	Cheung Tai Road (Opposite to lamp post no. GE0200)	9	345
Sha Tin	Tin Sam Street, Sha Tin	18	2 500
Sha Tin	Hin Tin Street, Sheung Keng Hau, Sha Tin	33	800
Sha Tin	Fu Kin Street, Ha Keng Hau, Sha Tin	33	3 109
Sha Tin	Hin Kwai Lane, Hin Tin, Sha Tin	33	900
Sha Tin	Chung Ling Road, Sha Tin	51	2 864
Sha Tin	Kwei Tei New Village, Sha Tin	18	373
Sha Tin	Pat Tsz Wo Village, Pat Tsz Wo Street, Fo Tan	18	400

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Sha Tin	Seaview Villa, 5800 Tai Po Road (Ma Liu Shui), Kau To Shan, Sha Tin	10	73
Sha Tin	Siu Lek Yuen South Yeuk, Kwong Sin Street, Sha Tin (Siu Lek Yuen Village)	18	1 000
Sha Tin	Ngau Pei Sha, Ngau Pei Sha Street, Sha Tin (near Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet)	32	1 109
Sha Tin	Tsok Pok Hang San Tsuen, Tsok Pok Hang Road, Sha Tin	18	300
Sha Tin	Heung Fan Liu New Village, Heung Fan Liu Street, Sha Tin	18	300
Sha Tin	San Tin Village, Chui Tin Street, Sha Tin	18	1 500
Sha Tin	Fo Tan Village, Shan Mei Street, Fo Tan	18	800
Sha Tin	Tai Wai New Village, Lower Shing Mun Road, Tai Wai, Sha Tin	18	1 164
Sha Tin	Sheung Wo Che Tsuen, Sha Tin	12	182
Sha Tin	A Kung Kok Fisherman's New Village, A Kung Kok Street, Sha Tin	8	1 145
Sha Tin	Wo Liu Hang, Wo Liu Hang Road, Fo Tan, Sha Tin	8	100
Sha Tin	Lei Uk Tsuen, Sha Tin	18	500
Sha Tin	Ha Wo Che Tsuen, Sha Tin	12	182
Sha Tin	To Shek Street, Sha Tin	32	1 345
Sha Tin	Man Lam Road, Sha Tin (Near Caritas Institute of Community Education – Shatin)	23	1 500
Sha Tin	Tung Lo Wan Road, Sha Tin	83	1 400
Sha Tin	Ha Kak Tin Village, Sha Tin	18	1 573
Sha Tin	Fung Shek Street, Sha Tin	18	482
Sha Tin	Tai Shui Hang Village, Sha Tin	28	2 500
Sha Tin	Chap Wai Kon, To Shek Street, Sha Tin (near Car Park)	32	1 418
Sha Tin	Tsang Tai Uk New Village, Sha Tin	18	945
Sha Tin	Siu Lek Yuen South Yeuk, Kwong Sin Street, Sha Tin [Siu Lek Yuen Village (Opposite to Kwong Yuen Estate)]	18	945
Sha Tin	Tolo Highway, Ma Liu Shui, Sha Tin (Near Sewage Pump No.3 at Pak Shek Kok)	32	73

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Sha Tin	Lok Lo Ha, Lok Shun Path, Fo Tan, Sha Tin	18	982
Sha Tin	The Red Bridge Bungalows, Hung Kiu Lane, Kau To Shan, Sha Tin	12	145
Sha Tin	Kau To Shan Village, Sha Tin	18	491
Sha Tin	Chek Nai Ping, Tai Po Road-Ma Liu Shui, Ma Liu Shui, Sha Tin (near House No. 93)	32	1 164
Sha Tin	Chek Nai Ping, Tai Po Road-Ma Liu Shui, Ma Liu Shui, Sha Tin (near House No. 32A)	12	200
Sha Tin	Ma Lok Path, Kau Tau Shan, Sha Tin	18	291
Sai Kung	Tung Ah Village	6	600
Sai Kung	Mau Wu Tsai Village, near lamp post no. EB 2006	18	600
Sai Kung	Po Lam Road (Opposite to Ma Yau Tong Village)	18	800
Sai Kung	Ma Yau Tong Village, at the side of lamp post no. N9074	18	600
Sai Kung	At the junction of Fei Ngo Shan Road and Fei Ha Road	18	800
Sai Kung	At the junction of Fei Ngo Shan Road and Fei Wan Road	18	800
Sai Kung	Fei Ngo Shan (near Hong Kong Bank Quarters)	18	818
Sai Kung	Tseng Lan Shue car park	17	1 018
Sai Kung	Pak Shek Wo Village	25	691
Sai Kung	Pak Shek Toi, at the entrance of Chung Yin Lane	13	318
Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Road, Tai Po Tsai	18	2 564
Sai Kung	Tai Po Tsai Village	18	100
Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Road Rock Cliff	9	200
Sai Kung	Silver Terrace Road	18	500
Sai Kung	Silver Crest Road	20	500
Sai Kung	Silverstrand Beach Car Park	24	600
Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Road (Lot 328) (near Sussex Lodge)	9	300
Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Road, opposite to PARKnSHOP	11	500
Sai Kung	Pik Sha Road	16	500
Sai Kung	Pik Sha Road	11	600
Sai Kung	Mang Kung Uk Lower Village	18	964
Sai Kung	Mang Kung Uk Upper Village	18	718
Sai Kung	28 Wing Lung Road	24	500

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Sai Kung	Wing Lung Road at Lot 533	7	500
Sai Kung	Bay View, Clear Water Bay Road, near lamp post no. EB5792	6	300
Sai Kung	Pan Long Wan Village, near lamp post no. EB3589	23	518
Sai Kung	Sheung Yeung Village, near lamp post no. EB4820	8	418
Sai Kung	Ha Yeung San Tsuen Road	18	300
Sai Kung	At the junction of Sheung Sze Wan Road and Clear Water Bay Road, near lamp post no. EB5860	12	1 291
Sai Kung	Sheung Sze Wan Road	18	882
Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Road, near lamp post no. EB5506	23	873
Sai Kung	Lung Ha Wan	12	400
Sai Kung	Outside 54 Tai Hang Hau Village	23	582
Sai Kung	Pik Shui Sun Tsuen Mutual Help Committee Centre, near lamp post no. VA3494-9	18	418
Sai Kung	97A Nam Wai Road	8	300
Sai Kung	Nam Pin Wai Village near lamp post no. VA3542	6	500
Sai Kung	At the junction of Pak Wan Village and Hiram's Highway	18	673
Sai Kung	Pak Sha Wan Car park, at the side of Old Hoi Pa Restaurant	18	673
Sai Kung	Mang Kung Wo Road	18	500
Sai Kung	Sun On Tsuen near lamp post no. V8020	18	600
Sai Kung	Pak Kong Village, opposite to lamp post no. EB 3165-1	23	491
Sai Kung	Opposite to Po Lo Che San Tsuen No.5, near lamp post no. M2950-7	11	300
Sai Kung	Po Lo Che Road, near lamp post no. N2961	22	400
Sai Kung	Po Lo Che Road, near lamp post no. N2975-3	77	500
Sai Kung	Liu Ka Che, Po Tung Road, near lamp post no. EB5566-5	7	345
Sai Kung	Wong Chuk Wan, Sai Sha Road near lamp post no. N8829	6	300
Sai Kung	Tso Wo Hang, near lamp post no. 5595-7	8	200
Sai Kung	At the junction of Mo Ying Road and Yan Yee Road	8	145

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Sai Kung	Liu Ka Che, Po Tung Road, near lamp post no. EB5558-1	5	145
Sai Kung	13 Hung Fa Tsuen, at the side of Aqua Privy SK-54	17	200
Sai Kung	At the junction of Kau Sai San Tsuen and Hiram's Highway	40	736
Sai Kung	Luk Mei Lane, near lamp post no. N9102	18	864
Sai Kung	Yau Yue Wan Village, at the side of lamp post no. EA 0753,	18	673
Sai Kung	Ting Wo Lane car park, near lamp post no. EA1220	150	673
Sai Kung	Sam Long, Tseng Lan Shue, Sai Kung near lamp post no. V7816	9	600
Sai Kung	At the junction of Lung Wo Tsuen and Clear Water Bay Road	18	273
Sai Kung	Tui Min Hoi	32	673
Sai Kung	Tin Chau Road, near lamp post no. EA1500	18	782
Sai Kung	Pak Kong New Village, near lamp post no. EA1029-9	18	782
Sai Kung	Opposite to House No. 32, Tin Ha Wan Village	18	600
Sai Kung	Fui Yiu Lane near lamp post no. EB1640-3	18	1 200
Sai Kung	Wong Chuk Shan (near House No. 13), near lamp post no. V2151-4	7	400
Sai Kung	Little Palm Beach, Wing Lung Road, Hang Hau	20	773
Sai Kung	151 Che Keng Tuk Road, opposite to lamp post no. EA0077-8,	7	182
Sai Kung	Man Sau Sun Tsuen, near lamp post no. V8007-4	5	336
Sai Kung	Tum Fat, Yan Yee Road	7	300
Sai Kung	Po Lo Che Road, opposite to lamp post no. N2975-3	13	500
Sai Kung	Tseung Kwan O Village at Wing Lai Road Car Park	14	473
Sai Kung	Tsak Yue Wu, near lamp post no. EA0897	23	800
Sai Kung	Tan Cheung Upper Village, near lamp post no. VA80376	9	404

Annex 4

Existing Street Cleansing Service Contractors

District	Name of contractor	Contract commencement date	Contract expiry date
Central & Western	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1 July 2019	30 June 2020
	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1 March 2020	28 February 2022
	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1 March 2020	28 February 2022
Wan Chai	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1 January 2020	31 December 2021
	Lapco Service Limited	1 January 2020	31 December 2021
Eastern	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1 June 2019	31 May 2021
	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1 June 2019	31 May 2021
Southern	Lapco Service Limited	1 November 2019	31 October 2021
Islands	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1 April 2019	31 March 2021
	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1 July 2019	30 June 2020
Yau Tsim	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1 May 2018	30 April 2020
	Law's Cleaning Services Limited	1 May 2018	30 April 2020
Mong Kok	Man Shing Cleansing Service Company Limited	1 September 2018	31 August 2020
	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1 September 2018	31 August 2020
Sham Shui Po	Man Shing Cleansing Service Company Limited	1 June 2019	31 May 2021
	Man Shing Cleansing Service Company Limited	1 June 2019	31 May 2021
Kowloon City	Man Shing Cleansing Service Company Limited	1 October 2019	30 September 2021
	Man Shing Cleansing Service Company Limited	1 October 2019	30 September 2021
Wong Tai Sin	Man Shing Cleansing Service Company Limited	1 March 2020	28 February 2022
	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1 March 2020	28 February 2022
Kwun Tong	Lapco Service Limited	1 November 2019	31 October 2021
	Lapco Service Limited	1 November 2019	31 October 2021

District	Name of contractor	Contract commencement date	Contract expiry date
Kwai Tsing	Law's Cleaning Services Limited	1 November 2018	31 October 2020
Tsuen Wan	Man Shing Cleansing Service Company Limited	1 May 2019	30 April 2021
Tuen Mun	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1 December 2019	30 November 2021
Yuen Long	Law's Cleaning Services Limited	1 July 2018	30 June 2020
	Law's Cleaning Services Limited	1 July 2018	30 June 2020
North	Lapco Service Limited	1 October 2019	30 September 2021
	Lapco Service Limited	1 October 2019	30 September 2021
Tai Po	Law's Cleaning Services Limited	1 November 2018	31 October 2020
Sha Tin	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1 July 2019	30 June 2020
	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1 July 2019	30 June 2020
Sai Kung	Law's Cleaning Services Limited	1 September 2018	31 August 2020
	Lapco Service Limited	1 July 2019	30 June 2020

Annex 5

List of Permanent Off-street Refuse Collection Points (RCPs) with Workmen II as Attendants

District	Name	Number of Workman II
Central & Western	Third Street RCP	2
Central & Western	Sai Ying Pun Market RCP	1
Central & Western	Sheung Wan Municipal Services Building RCP	2
Central &Western	Peak Galleria RCP	1
Wan Chai	Shiu Fai Terrace RCP	1
Eastern	Oil Street RCP	2
Southern	Shek O RCP	1
Southern	Stanley Beach Road RCP	1
Islands	Ngan Shu Street RCP	1
Yau Tsim	Market Street RCP	1
Mong Kok	Yu Chau Street RCP	2
Mong Kok	Mong Kok Road RCP	3
Sham Shui Po	Camp Street RCP	2
Kowloon City	Sung On Street RCP	2
Kowloon City	Hok Yuen Street RCP	2
Kowloon City	Gillies Avenue RCP	2
Wong Tai Sin	Yan Oi RCP	1
Kwun Tong	Lai Yip Street RCP	2
Kwai Tsing	Tai Yuen Street RCP	1
Sha Tin	Yuen Chau Kok Road RCP	1

Annex 6

Reprovisioning of Permanent Off-street Refuse Collection Points (RCPs) Under Planning

District	Name	Project	Relocation site	Anticipated completion date
Sham Shui Po	Wing Hong Street Temporary RCP	In-situ reprovisioning	N/A	Second quarter of 2020
Kwun Tong	Hip Wo Street Interim RCP	Non in-situ reprovisioning	Hip Wo Street	Fourth quarter of 2021
Yau Tsim	Shanghai Street Temporary RCP	Non in-situ reprovisioning	Hau Cheung Street	Fourth quarter of 2020

Note: These are projects with funding approved and timetables established.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2803)

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:

Regarding the general non-recurrent expenditure on "providing efficient and effective public cleansing services, including street cleansing and household waste collection, and management of public cleansing facilities such as public toilets and refuse collection points" under Environmental Hygiene and Related Services, please advise on the following in respect of street cleansing, household waste collection and management of public cleansing facilities such as public toilets and refuse collection points:

(i) the respective areas served by outsourced and non-outsourced workers (to be shown on a map) and the numbers of these workers (with a breakdown by rank);

(ii) the monthly expenditures for the provision of personal protective clothing and equipment (such as face masks and goggles) and cleansing tools (such as leaf blowers, walk-behind mini-street sweepers and pressure washer surface cleaners) to cleansing workers, drivers and supervisors as stipulated in the outsourced service contracts for each of the 18 districts in the territory;

(iii) the number of personal protective clothing and equipment (such as face masks and goggles) distributed to Workmen II employed by the Department on a monthly basis and the cleansing tools (such as leaf blowers, walk-behind mini-street sweepers and pressure washer surface cleaners) provided to each team in each of the 18 districts in the territory.

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 5006)

Reply:

(i) The numbers of supervisory staff and cleansing workers employed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and its contractors for the provision of street cleansing services (as at 31 December 2019) are tabulated as follows:

	Street cleansing services provided by in-house staff		Street cleansing services provided by street cleansing service contractors		
	Supervisory staff	Cleansing workers	Supervisory staff		Contractors' cleansing workers
	Foremen*		The Department's in-house Senior Foremen[@]	Contractors' supervisors[#]	
Total	244	1 311	264	708	7 970

Note: The above figures are the numbers of functional posts.

* The Department's in-house Foremen are responsible for direct supervision of the cleansing work carried out by in-house cleansing workers through regular and surprise inspections of respective areas, as well as personnel management. They are also required to manage relevant cleansing facilities (including liaising with the relevant departments to follow up repair works and handling matters related to maintenance), investigate complaints and take enforcement actions against public cleanliness offenders.

[@] The Department's in-house Senior Foremen are responsible for carrying out regular and surprise inspections of respective areas to check whether the street cleansing service contractors comply with the contract terms in the provision of cleansing services. They are also required to manage cleansing facilities (including liaising with the relevant departments to follow up repair works and handling matters related to maintenance), investigate complaints and take enforcement actions against public cleanliness offenders.

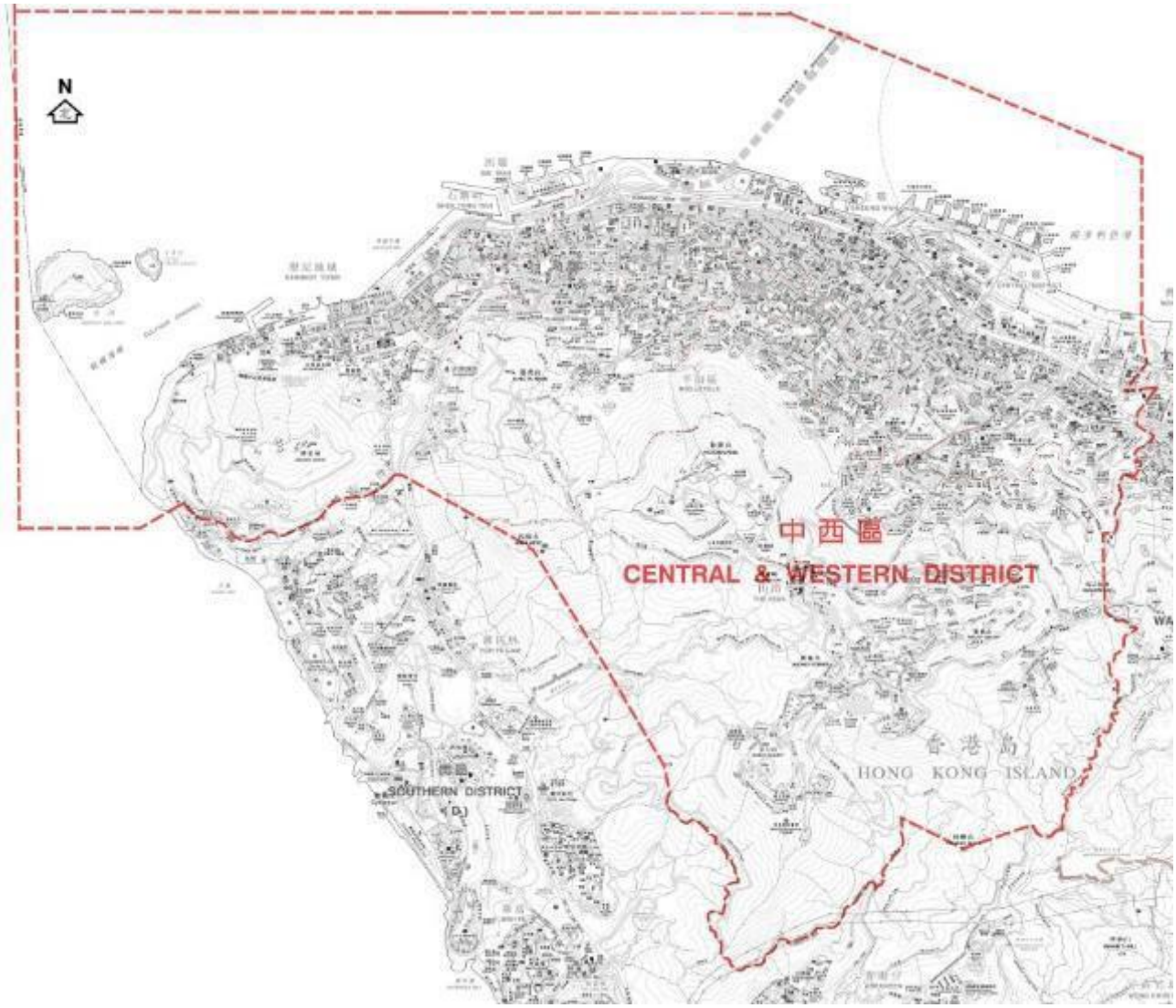
[#] Contractors' supervisors are mainly responsible for supervising the cleansing work carried out by the cleansing workers employed by the contractors in accordance with the contract terms.

The maps showing the service areas of the street cleansing contracts and the non-outsourced service areas (the areas that fall outside the contract areas as shown in the district maps) for various districts are provided at the Annex.

(ii) The Department does not keep a separate breakdown on the expenditure in this regard.

(iii) The Department will provide its in-house staff with sufficient and appropriate personal protective equipment and tools according to the work environments and conditions. There is no separate breakdown in this regard.

Attachment 1

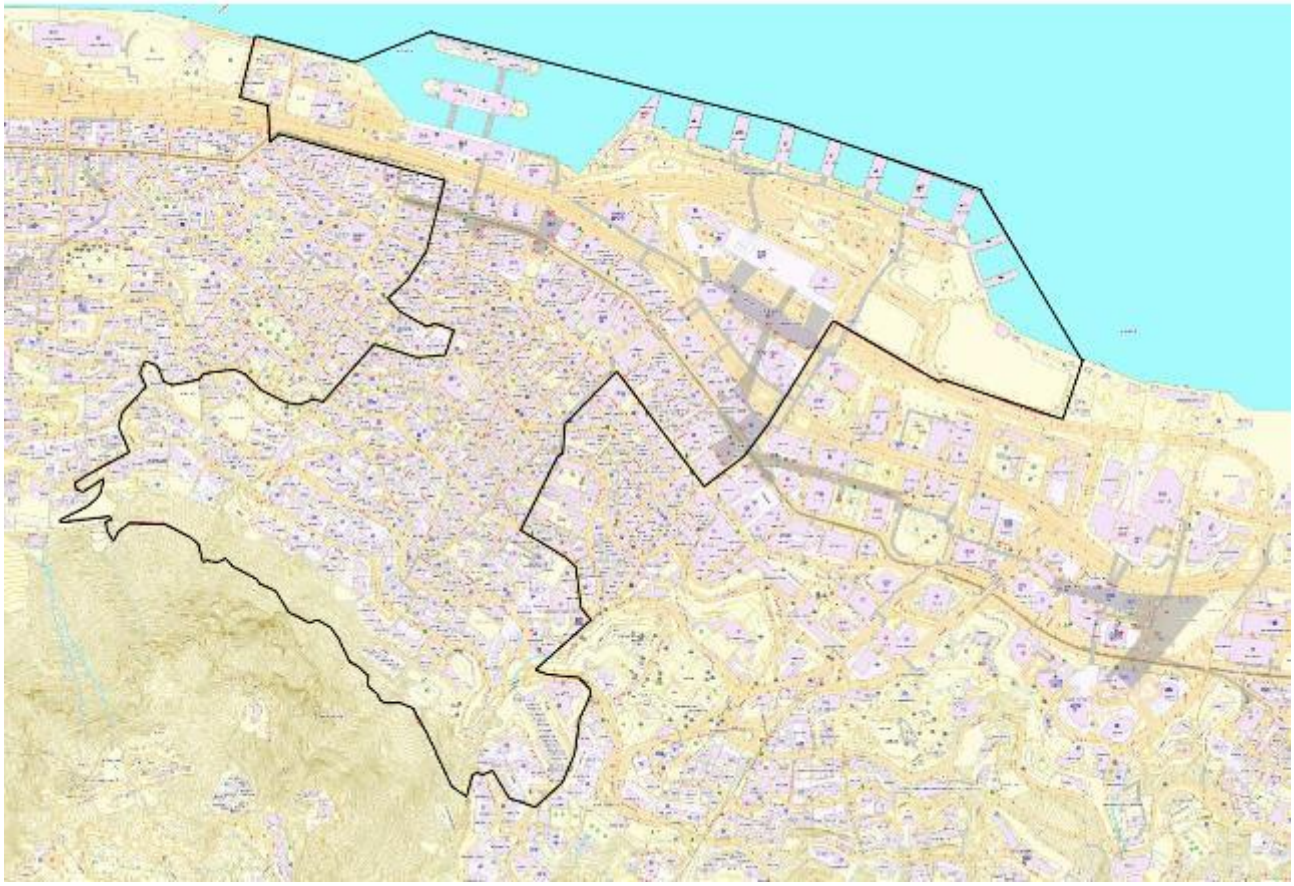


LEGEND:

District Boundary

Boundary of Central/ Western District

Attachment 2

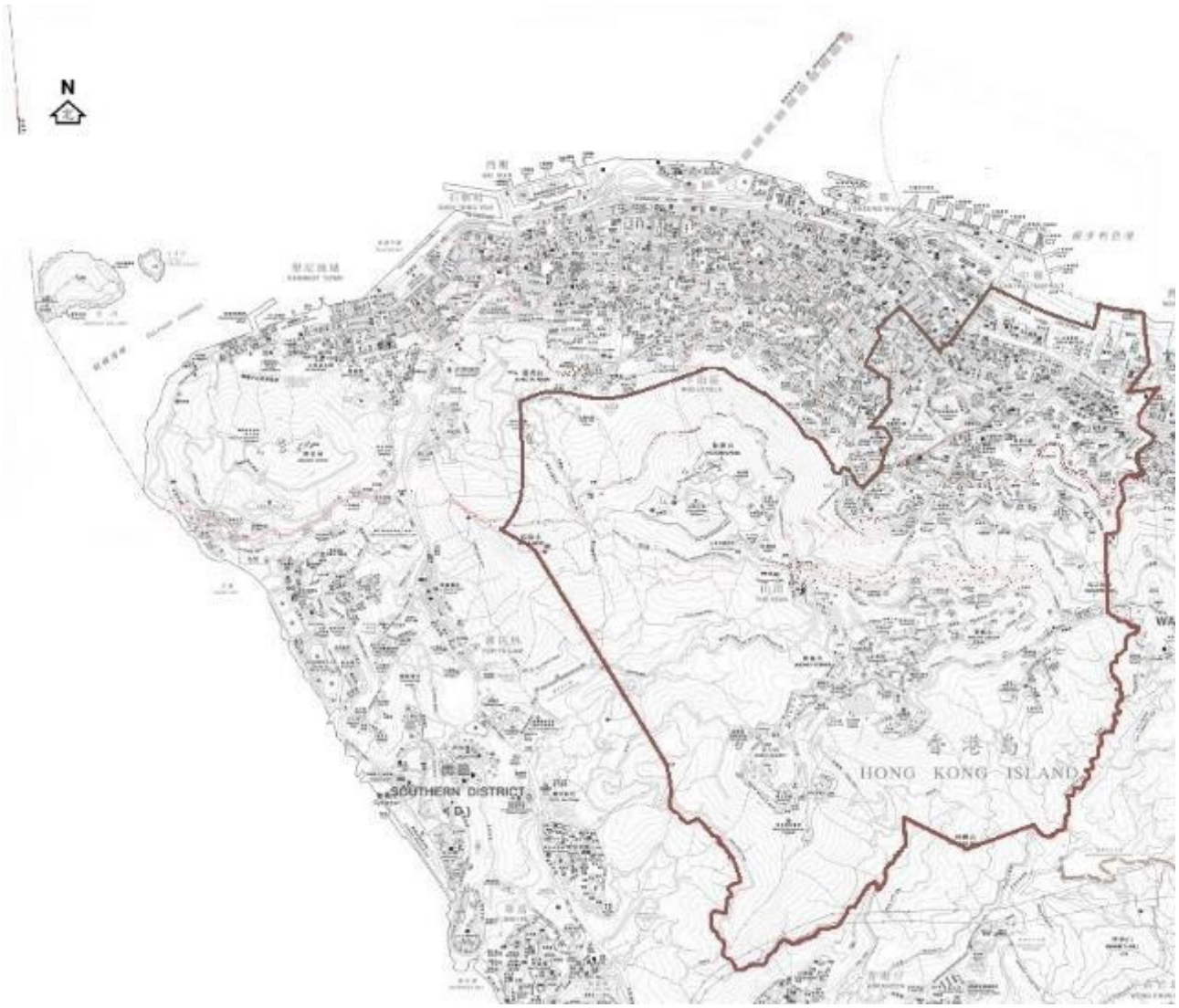


Boundary of Contract Area

Legend:

Contract Area – Central (West) and Portion of Mid-Levels Area

Attachment 2

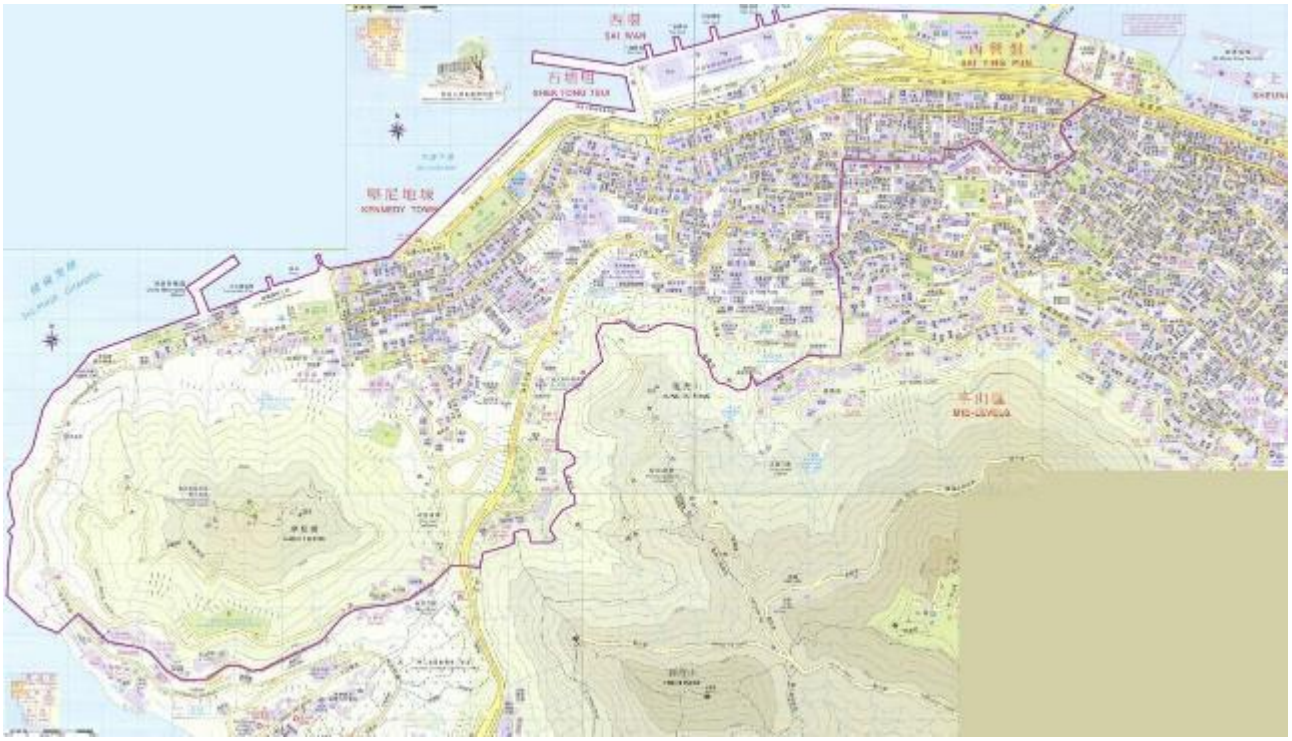


LEGEND:

Contract Area –Central (East), Admiralty and Portion of Mid-levels Area

Boundary of Contract Area

Attachment 2



Legend:

Contract Area A1 – Western (including Sai Ying Pun, Shek Tong Tsui and Kennedy Town)

Boundary of Contract Area A1 for the whole Contract Period

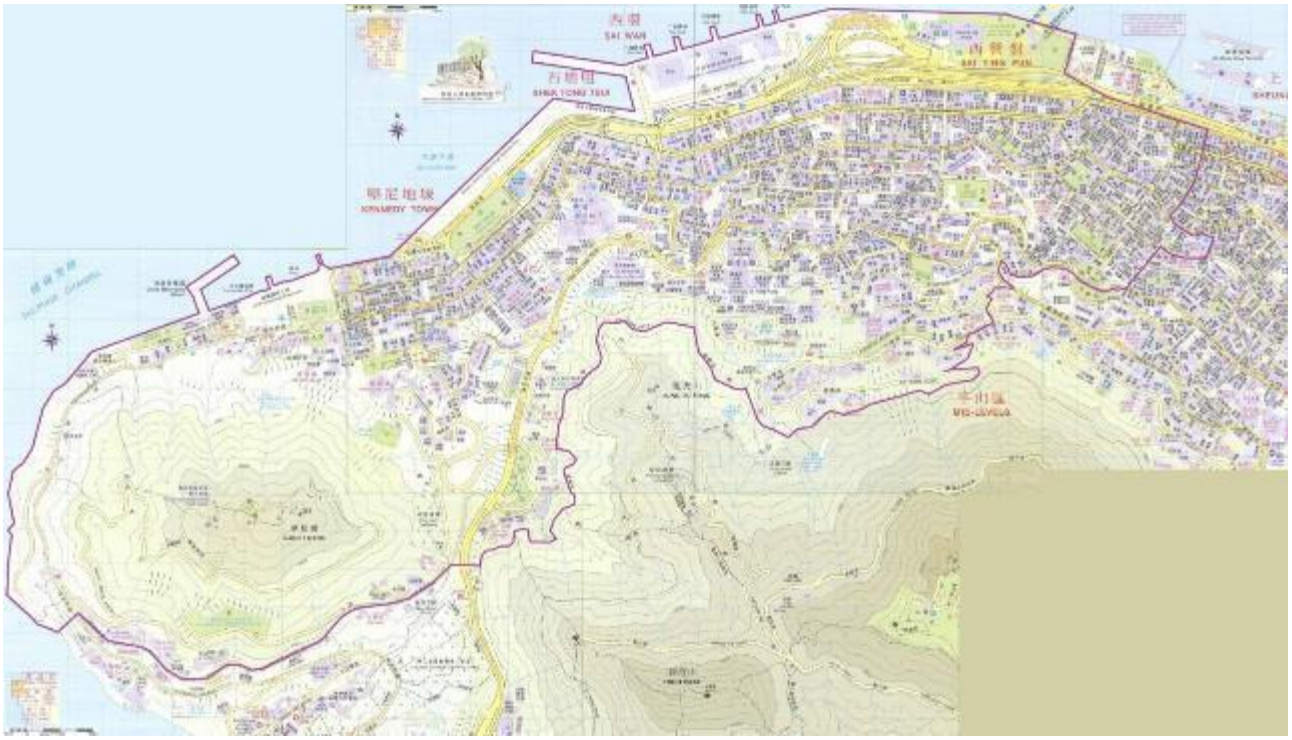
Attachment 3

LEGEND:

Contract Area A2 – Sheung Wan

Boundary of Contract Area A2 (with effect from 1.3.2020 to 30.6.2020)

Attachment 4

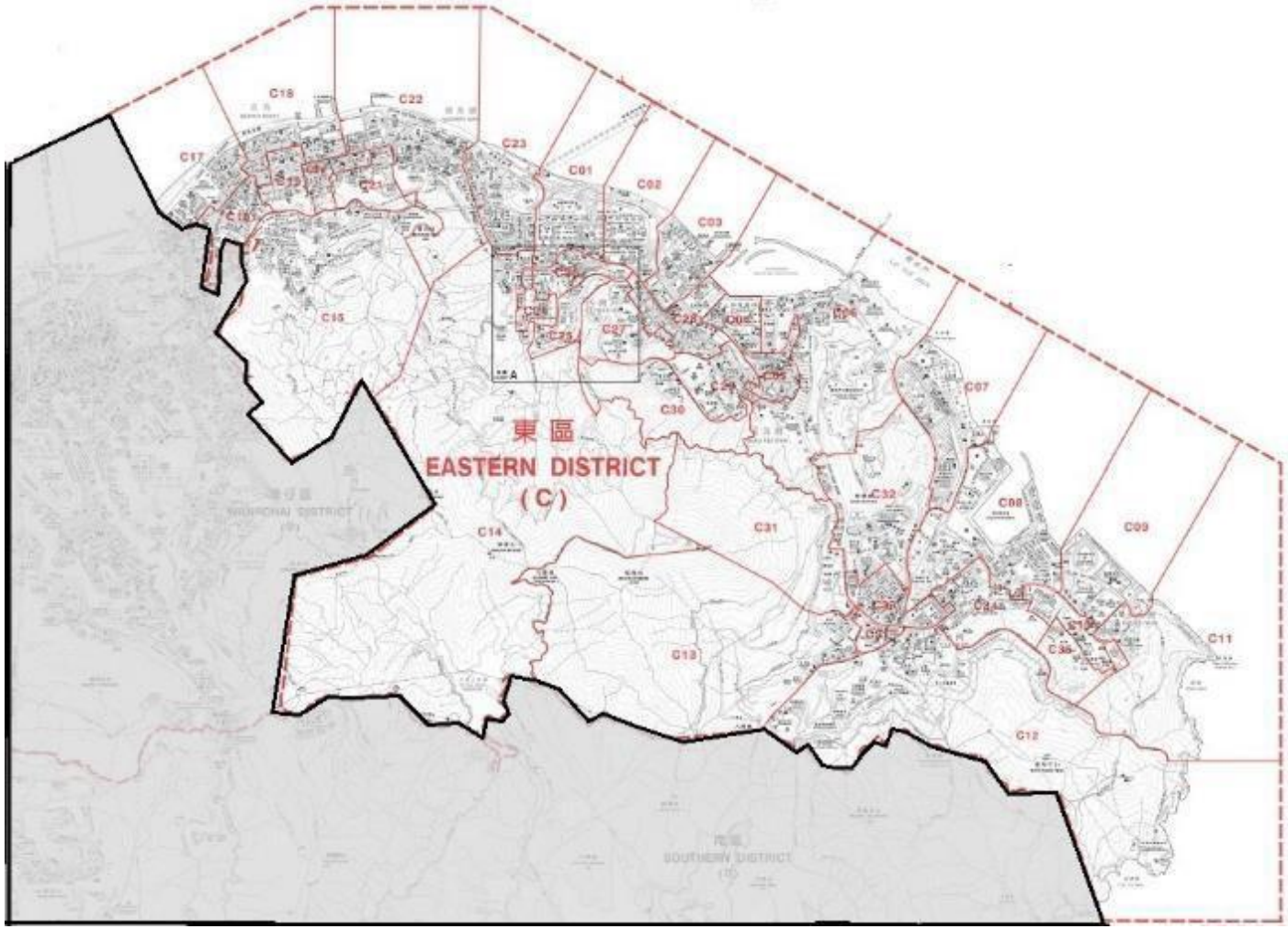


LEGEND:

Contract Area – Western & Sheung Wan

Boundary of Contract Area comprising Contract Area A1 and Contract Area A2 (with effect from 1.3.2020 to 30.6.2020)

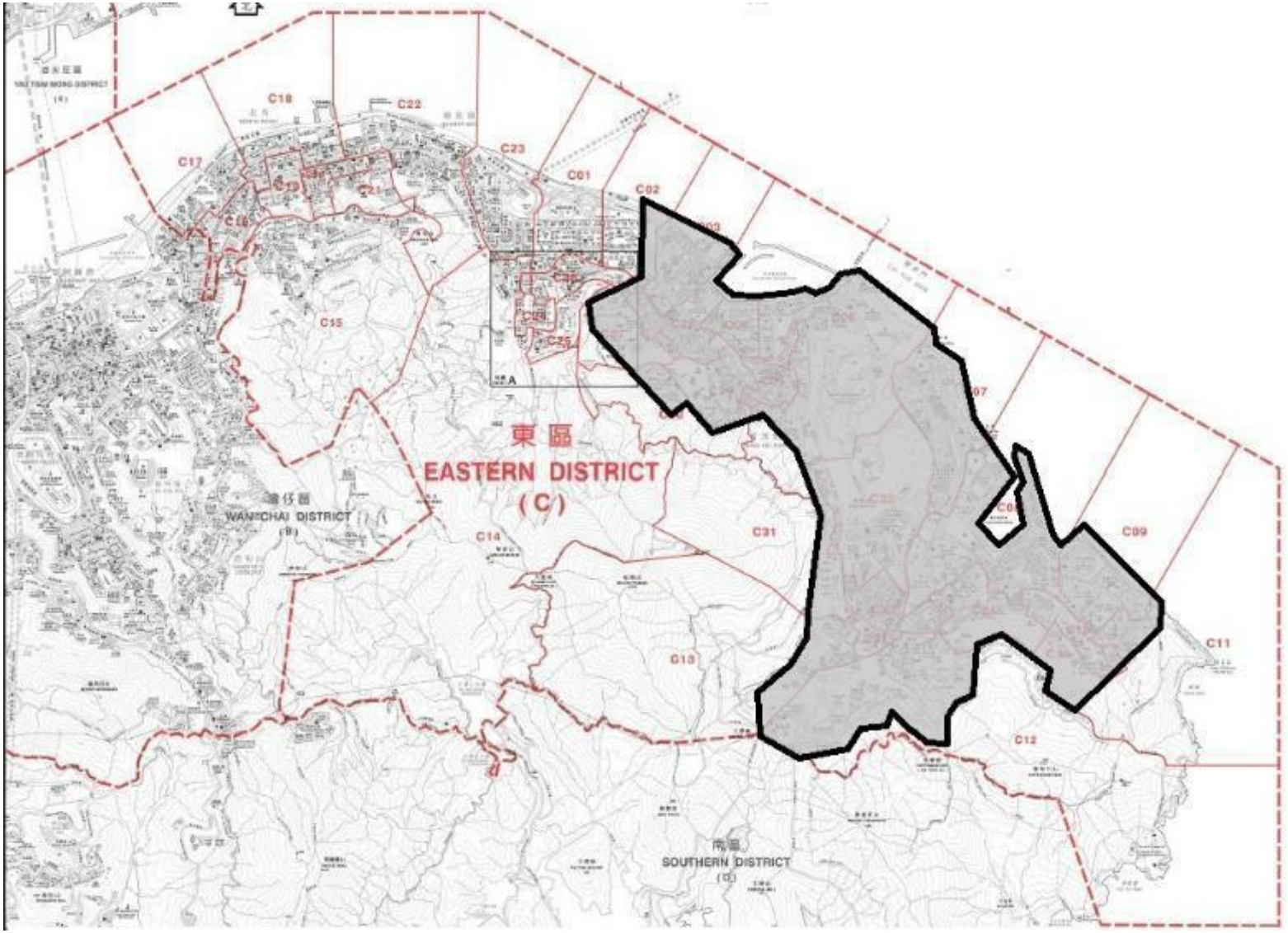
Attachment 1



Boundary of Eastern District

Legend: **Boundary of Eastern District**

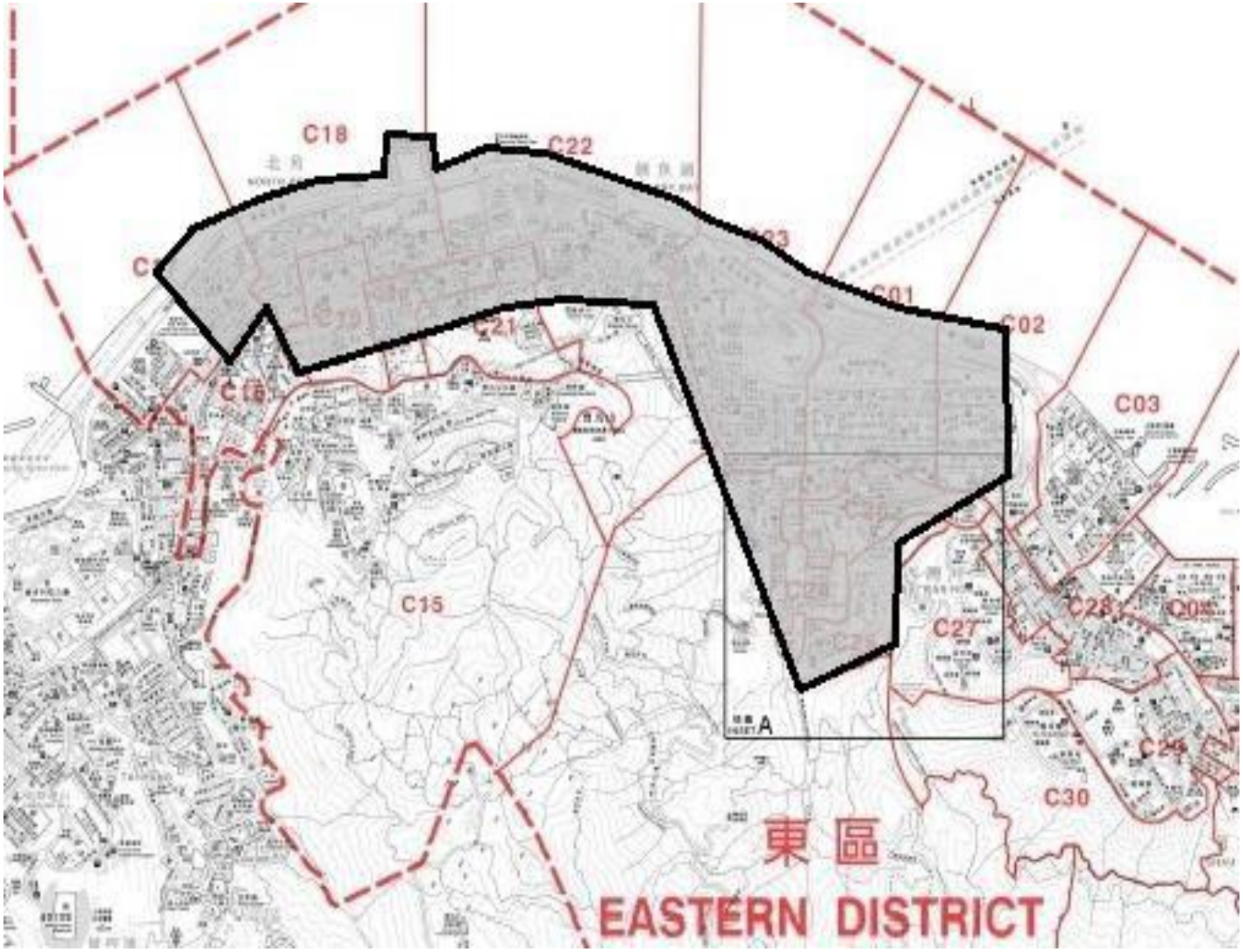
Attachment 2



Boundary of Contract Area in Eastern District (East)

Legend : **Contract Area**

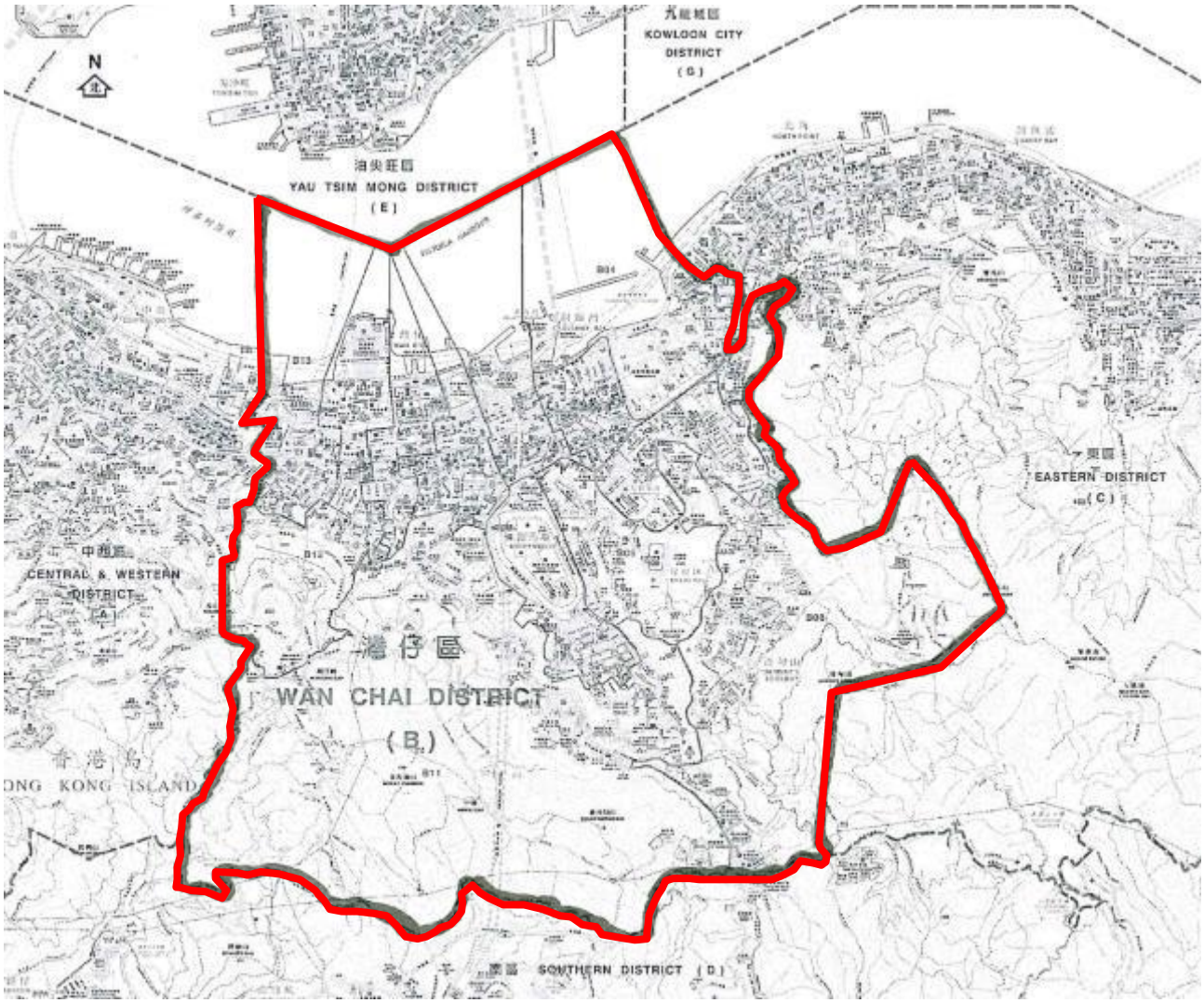
Attachment 2



Boundary of Contract Area in Eastern District (West)

Legend : **Contract Area**

Attachment 1



Legend

Boundary of District

Boundary of Wan Chai District

Attachment 2

Legend

Boundary of Contract Area

Boundary of Contract Area – Causeway Bay Area in Wan Chai District

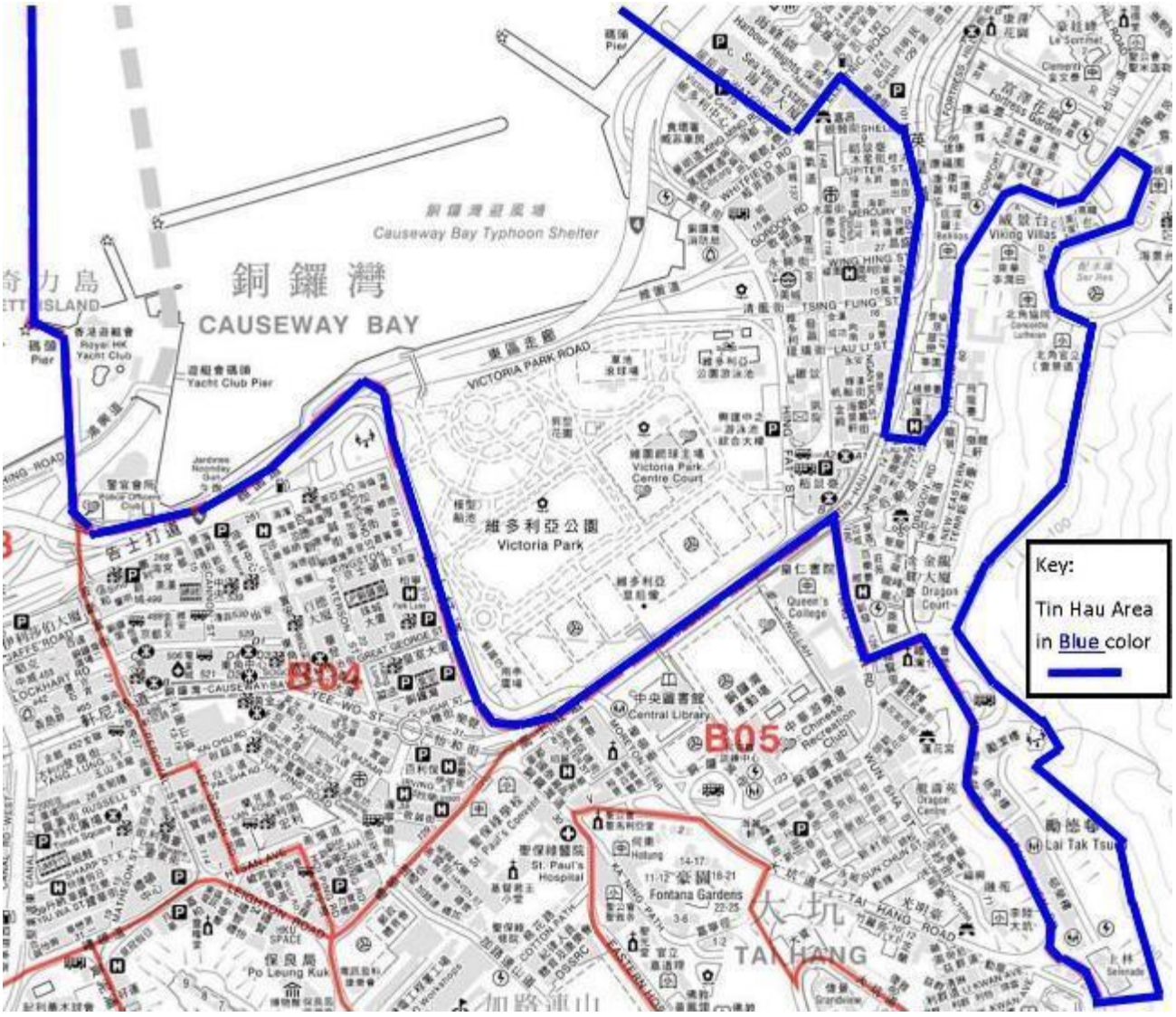
Attachment 3

Legend

Boundary of Contract Area

Boundary of Contract Area – Happy Valley Area in Wan Chai District

Attachment 4

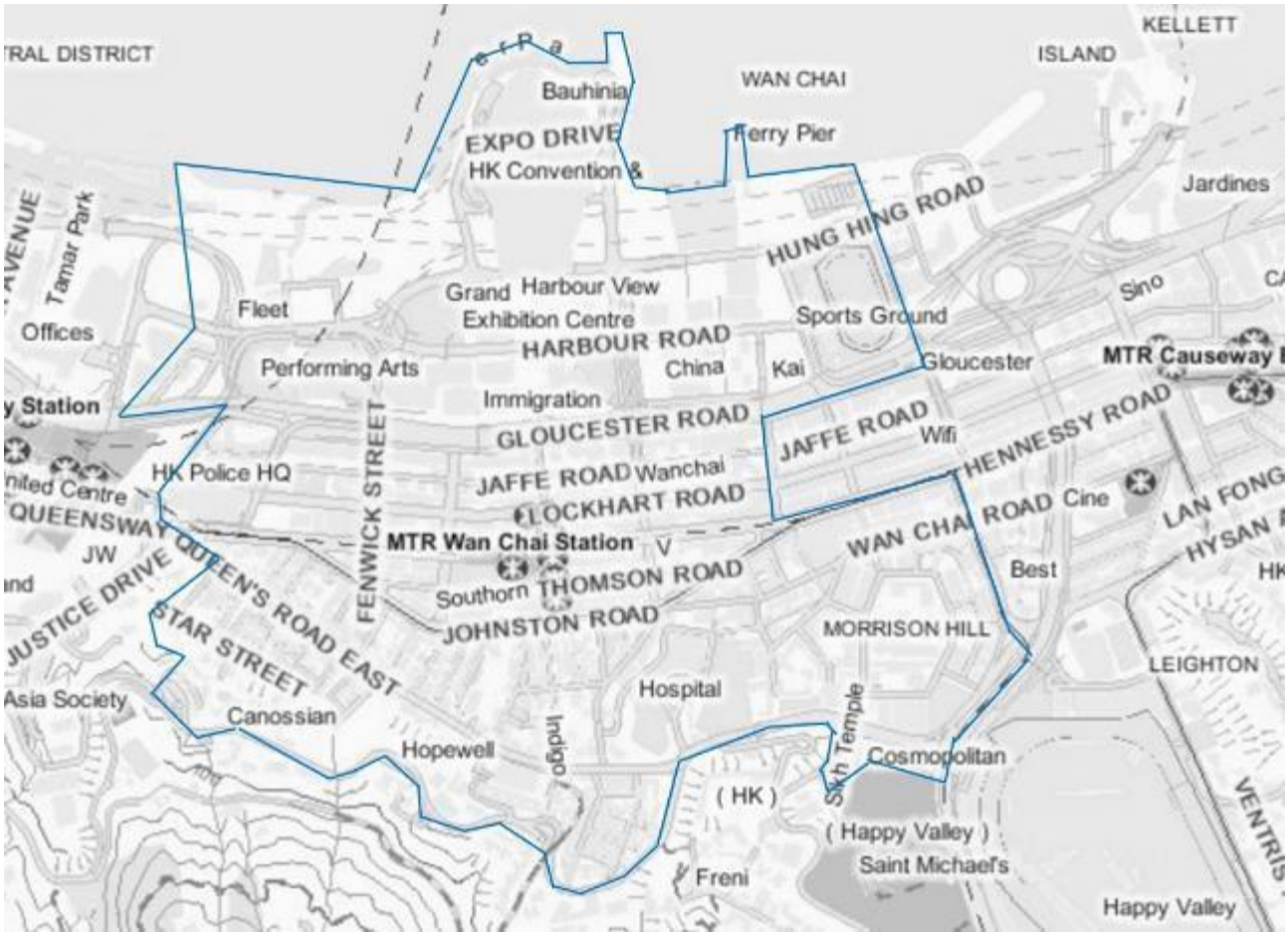


Legend

Boundary of Contract Area

Boundary of Contract Area – Tin Hau Area in Wan Chai District

Attachment 2



Legend

Boundary of Contract Area

Boundary of Contract Area – Wan Chai District (West)

Attachment 1

Boundary of Southern District

LEGEND:

Boundary of Southern District

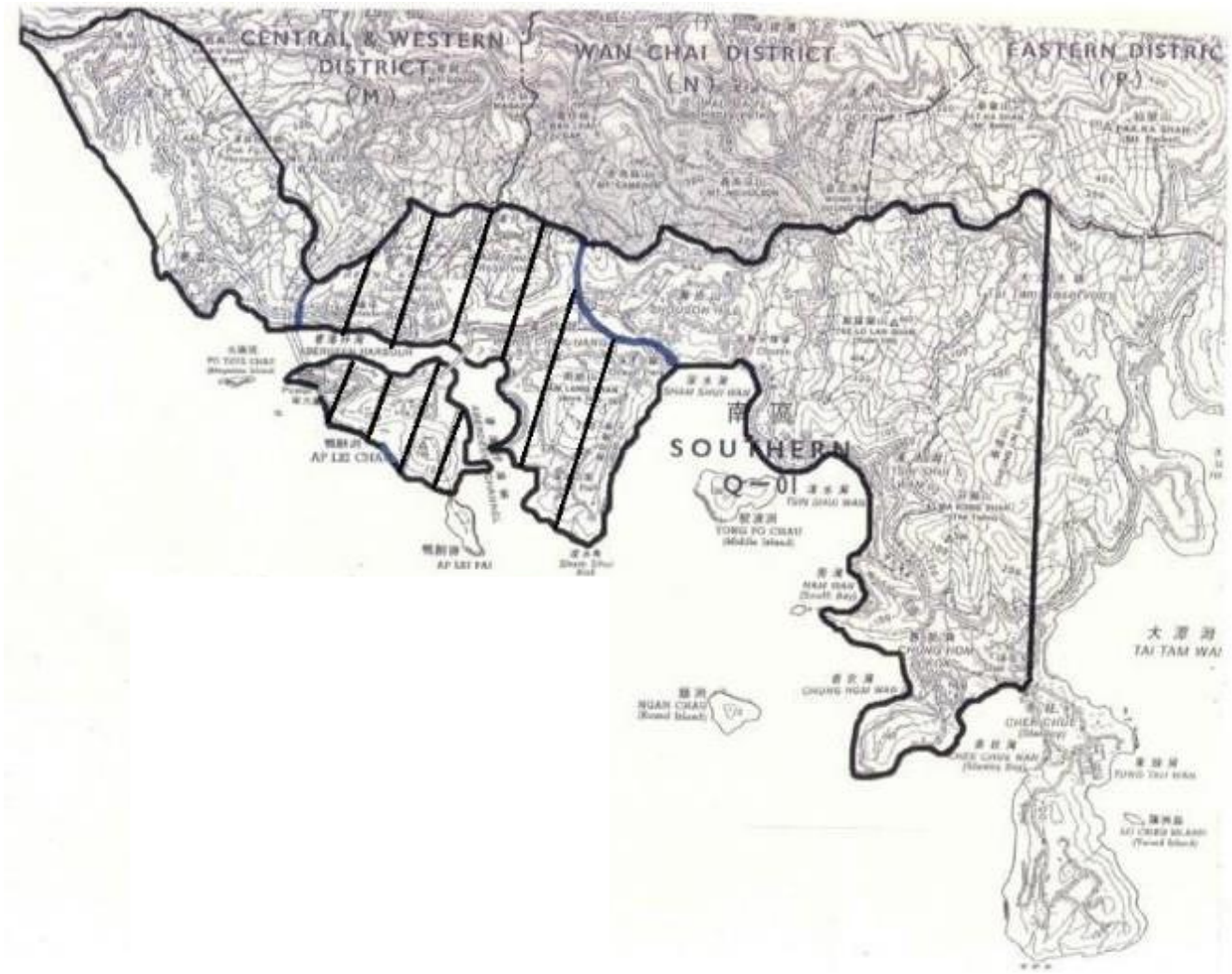
Attachment 2

Boundary of Contract Area A in Southern District

LEGEND:

Contract Area A

Attachment 3



Boundaries of Town Area and Remote Area in Contract Area

LEGEND:

Boundary of Remote Area

Boundary of Town Area

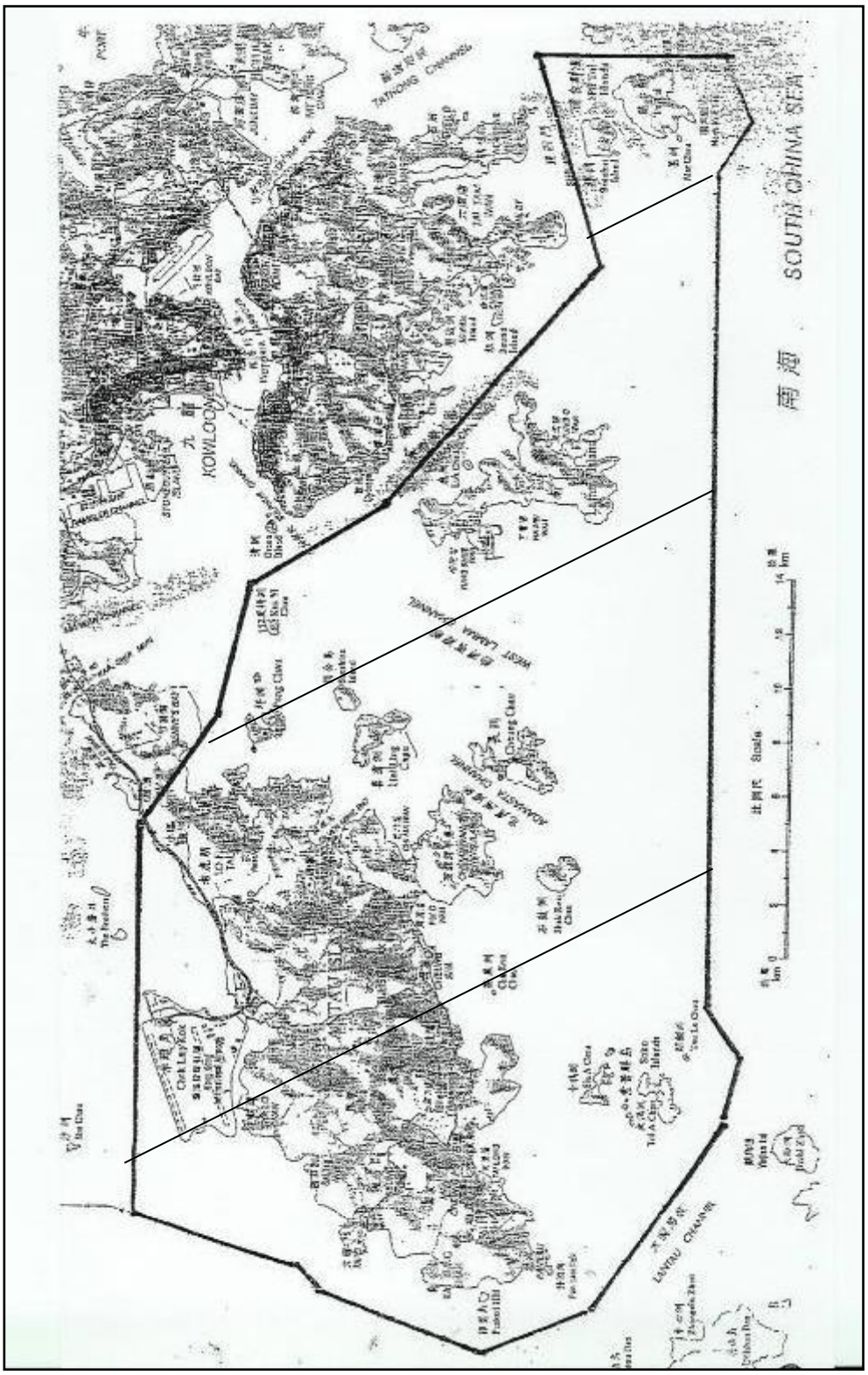
Attachment 4

Boundary of Contract Area B in Southern District

LEGEND:

Contract Area B

Attachment 1



Boundary of the District

Legend

District Boundary

Attachment 2

Boundary of Tung Chung, South Lantau, Ngong Ping, HZMB HKP and Tai O

Legend

Contract Area

Attachment 3

Boundary of Mui Wo (Town Area)

Legend

Contract Area

Attachment 4

HZMB HKP

Legend

Area required for provision of Street Cleansing Service

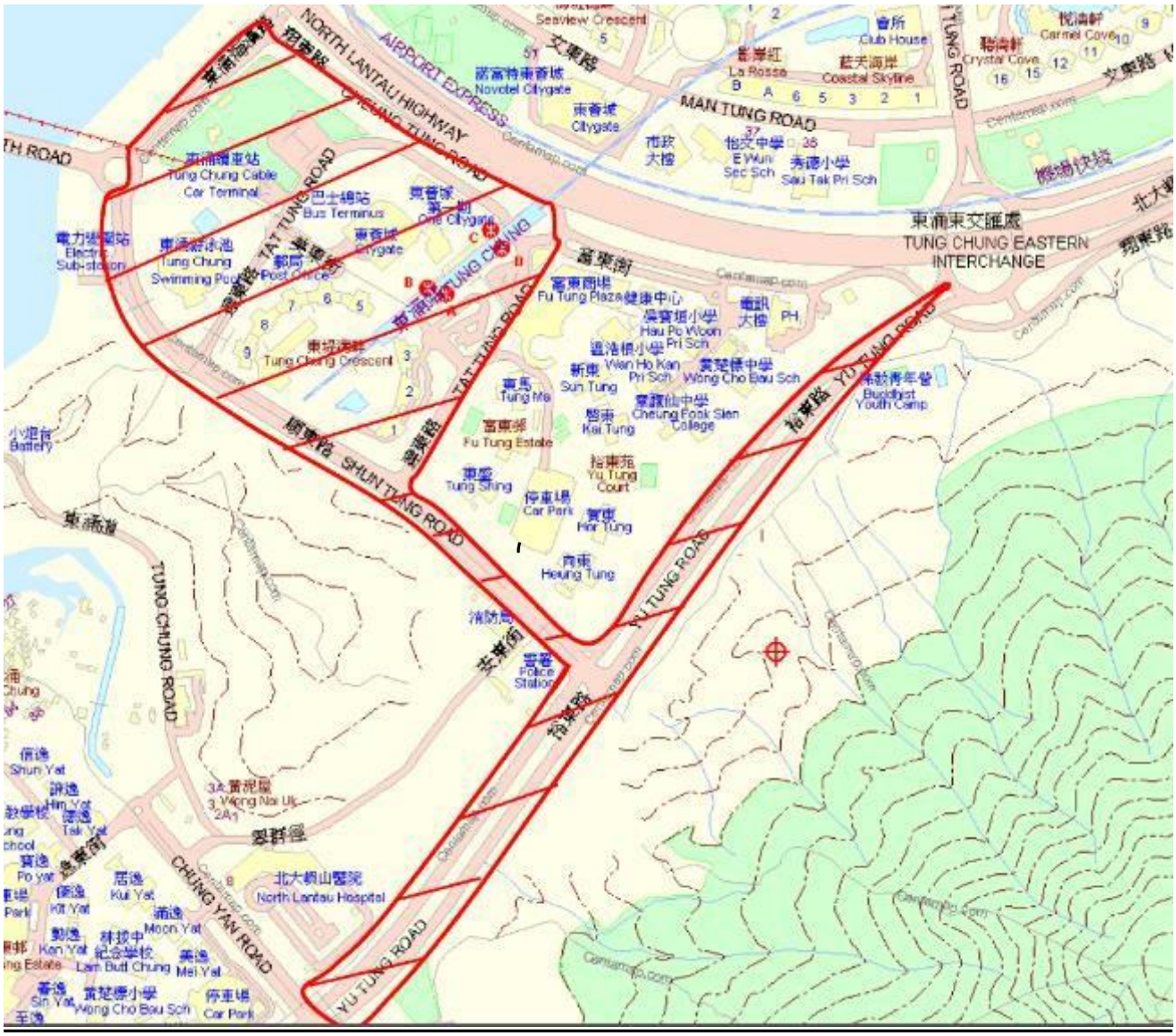
Attachment 5

HZMB HKP

Legend

Designated spot

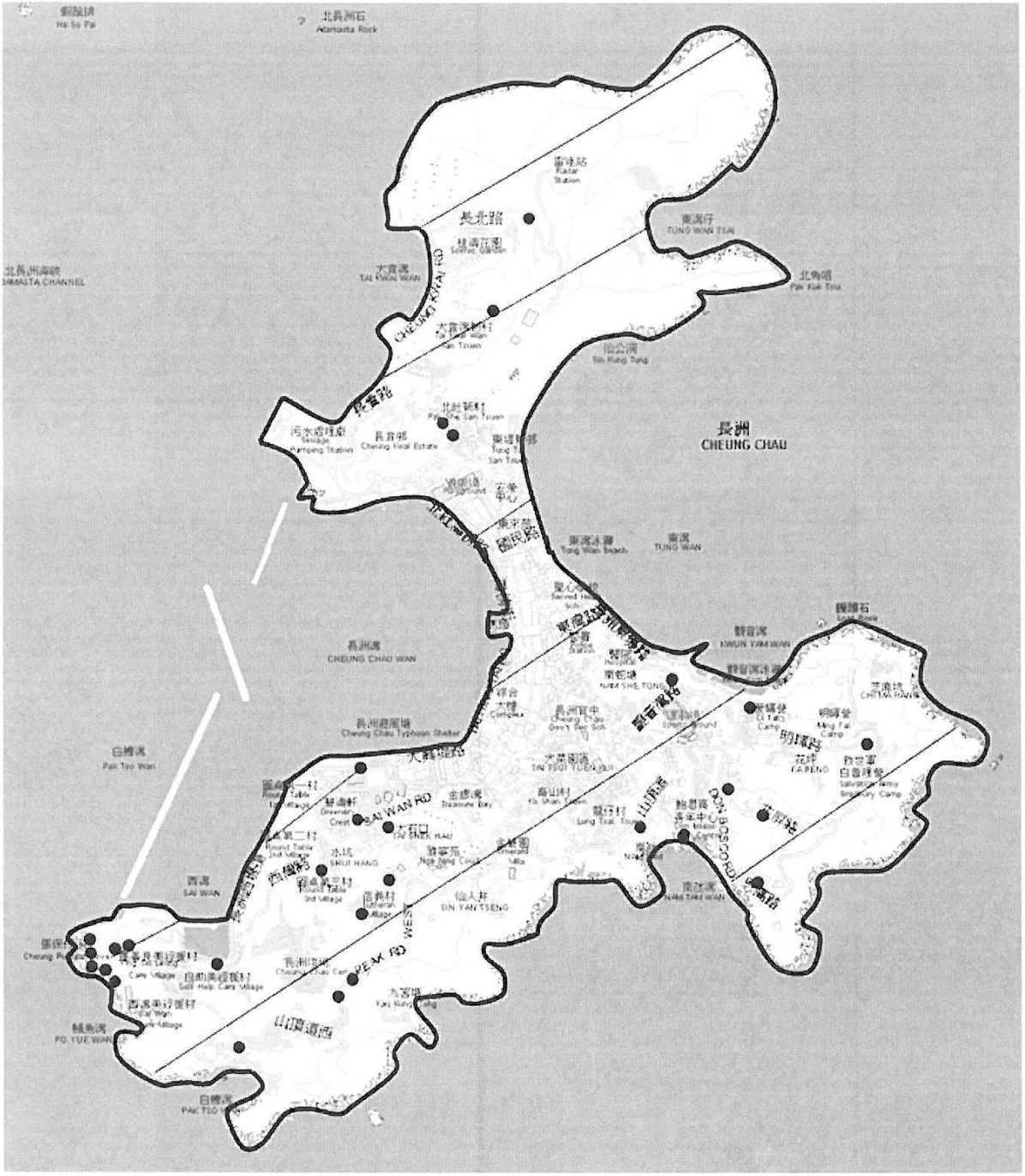
Attachment 6



Tung Chung

Legend

Designated Spot

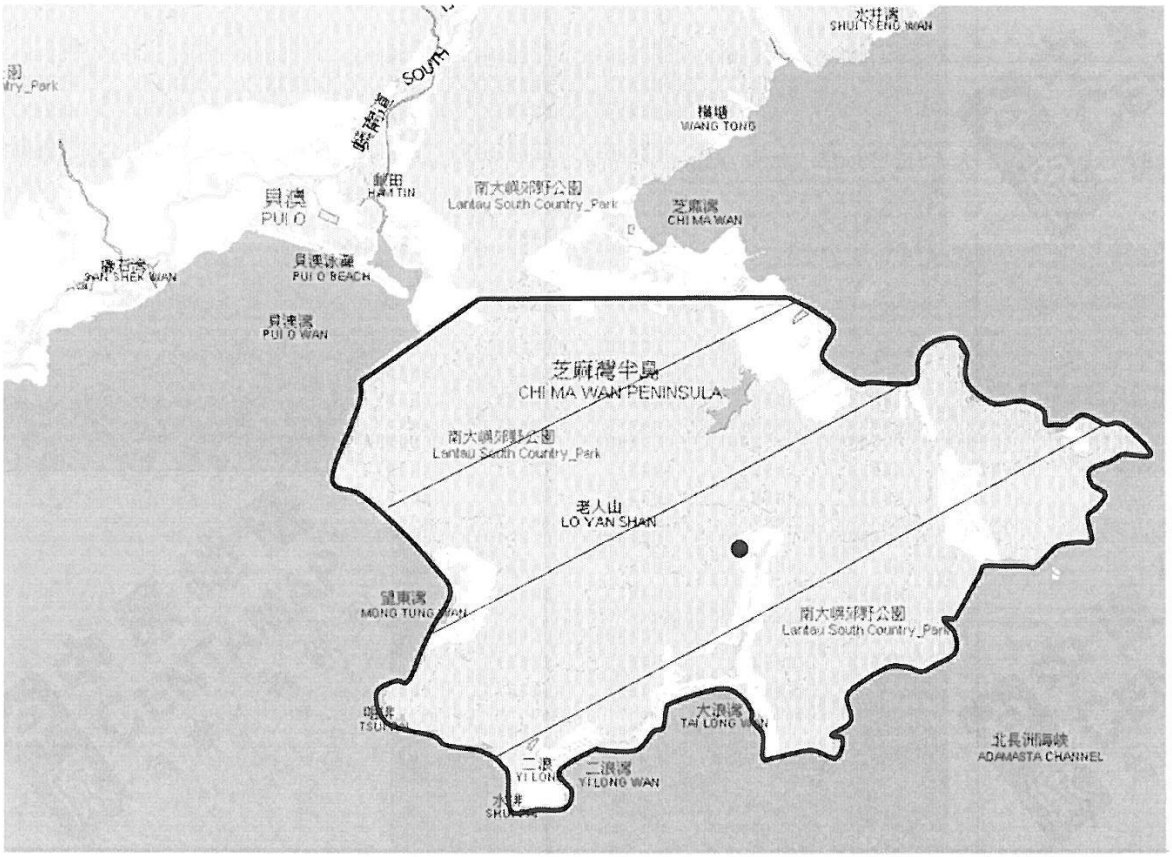


LEGEND:

Contract Area in Cheung Chau

Location of Bin Sites on Cheung Chau (The locations of bin sites are for reference only)

Attachment 3

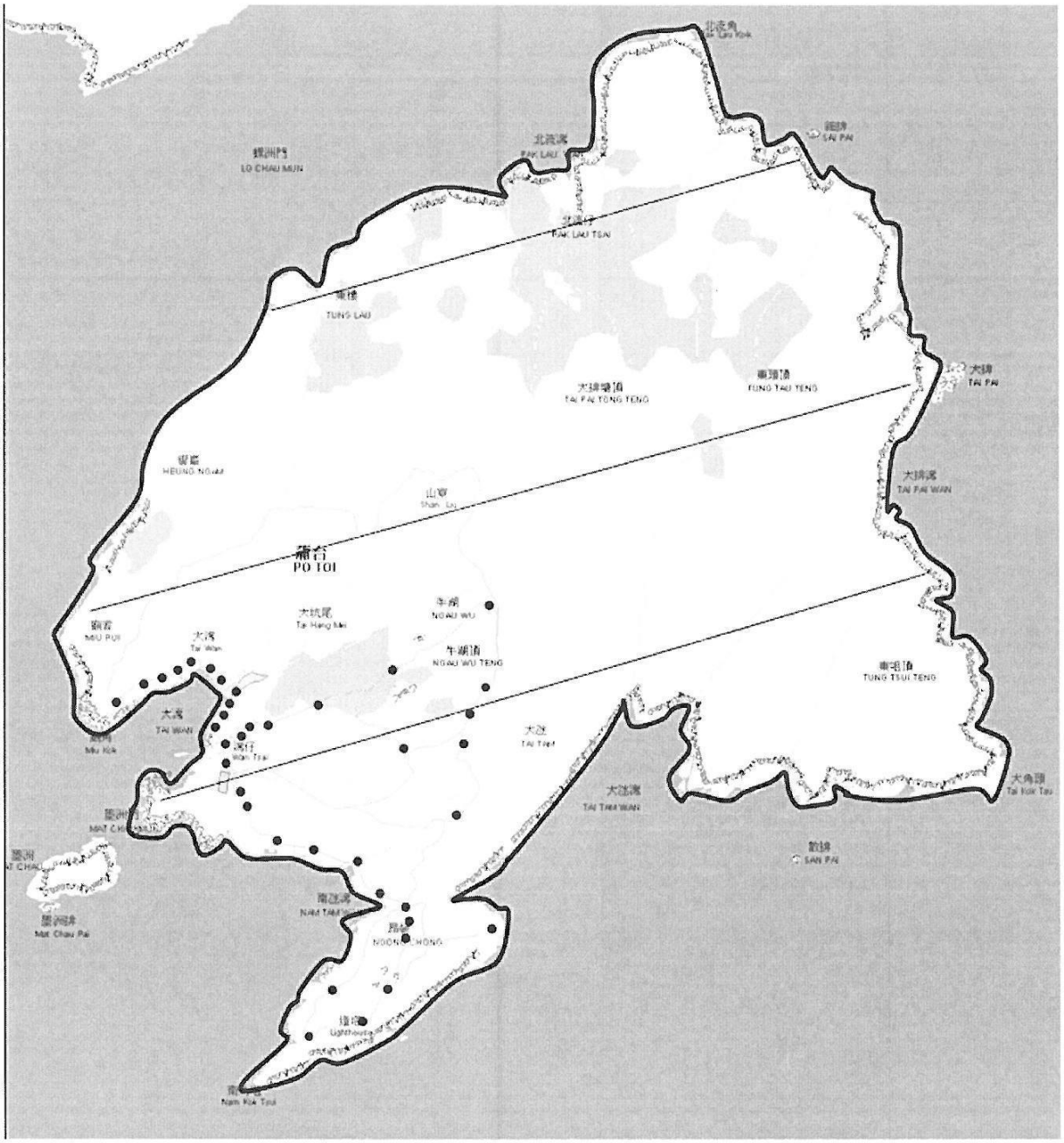


LEGEND:

Contract Area in Chi Ma Wan

Location of Bin Site in Chi Ma Wan (The location of bin site is for reference only)

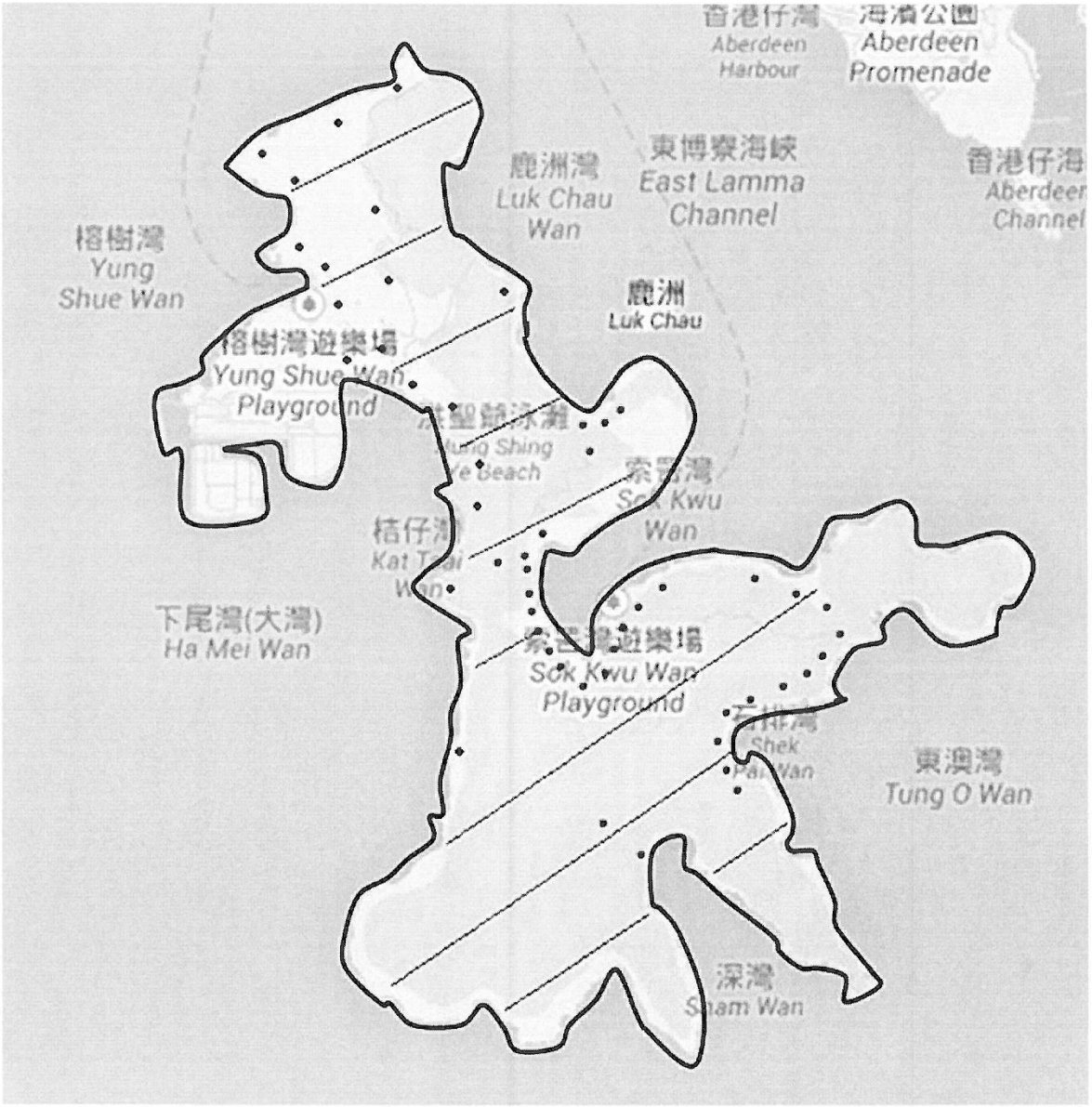
Attachment 4



LEGEND:

Contract Area in Po Toi

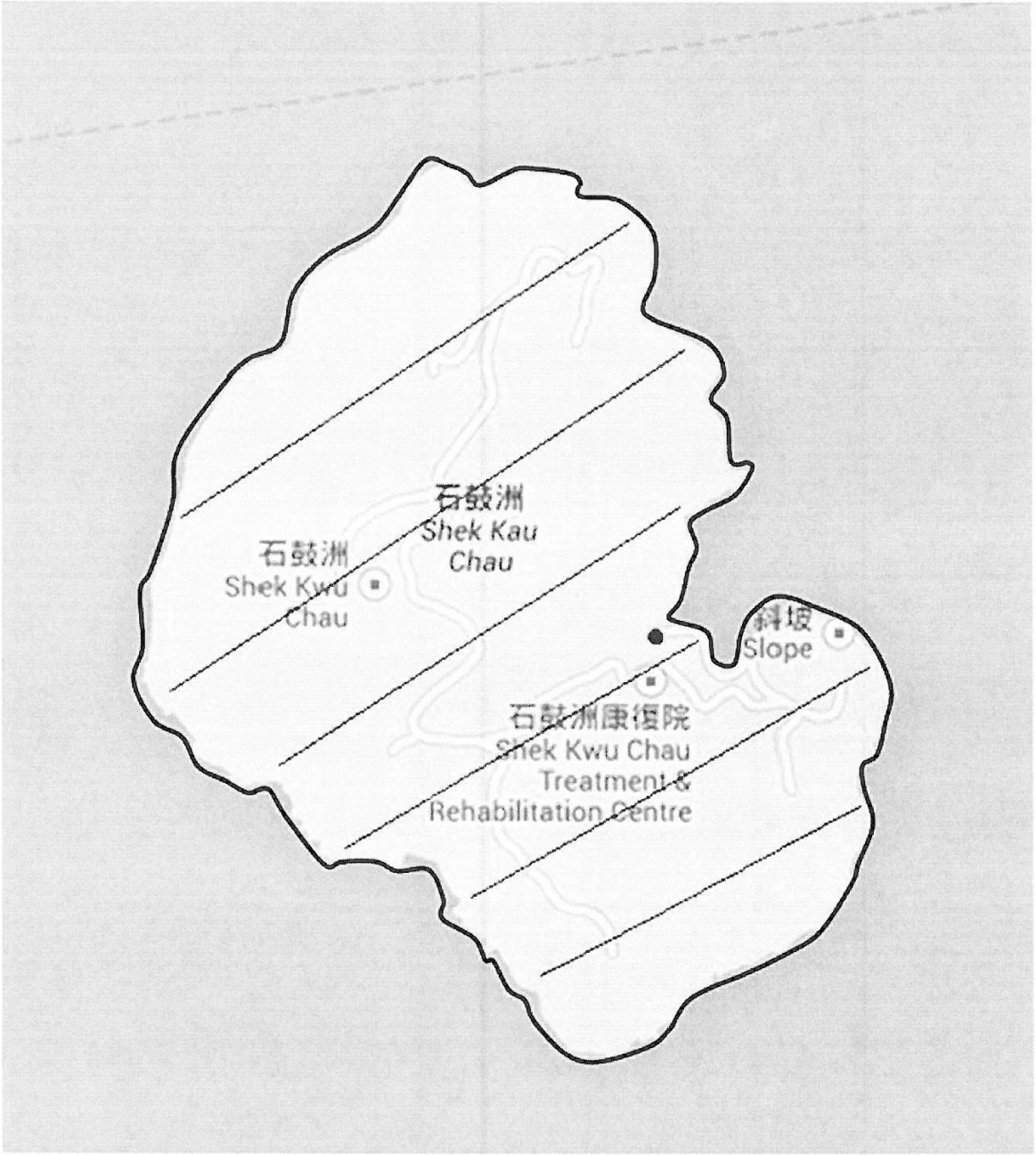
Location of Bin Sites in Po Toi (The locations of bin sites are for reference only)



LEGEND:

Contract Area in Lamma Island

Location of Bin Sites in Lamma Island (The locations of bin sites are for reference only)

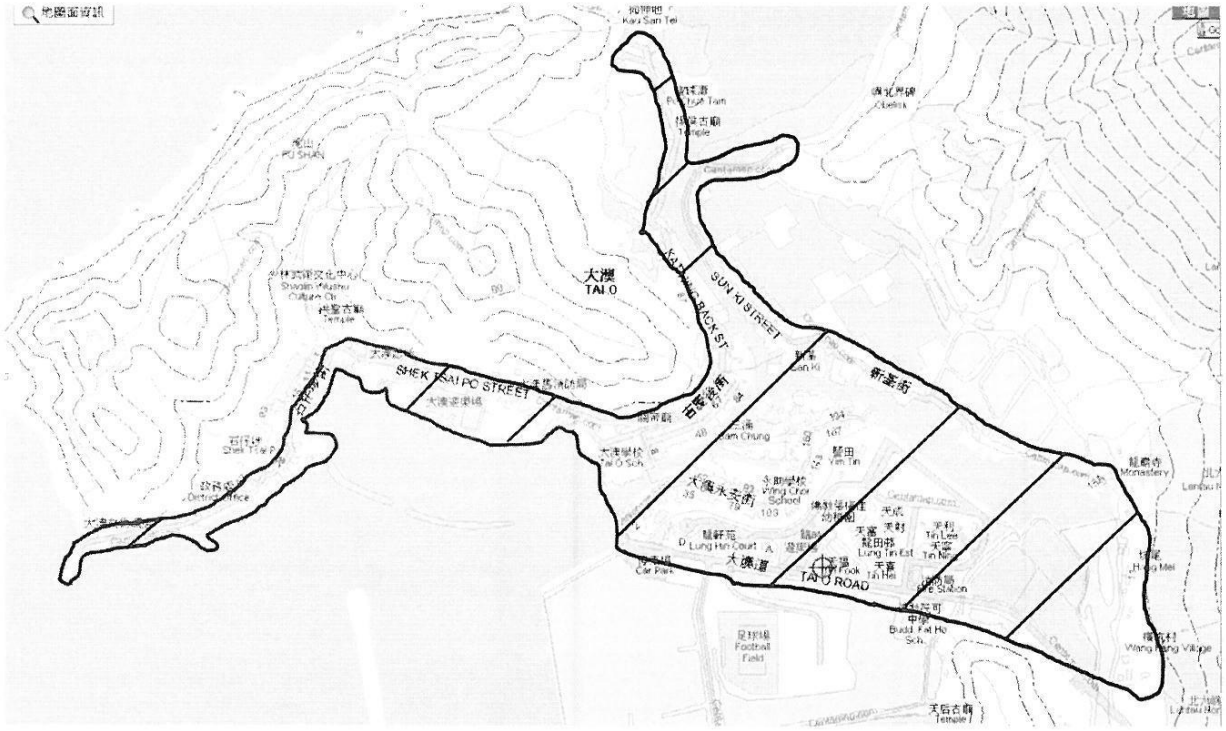


LEGEND:

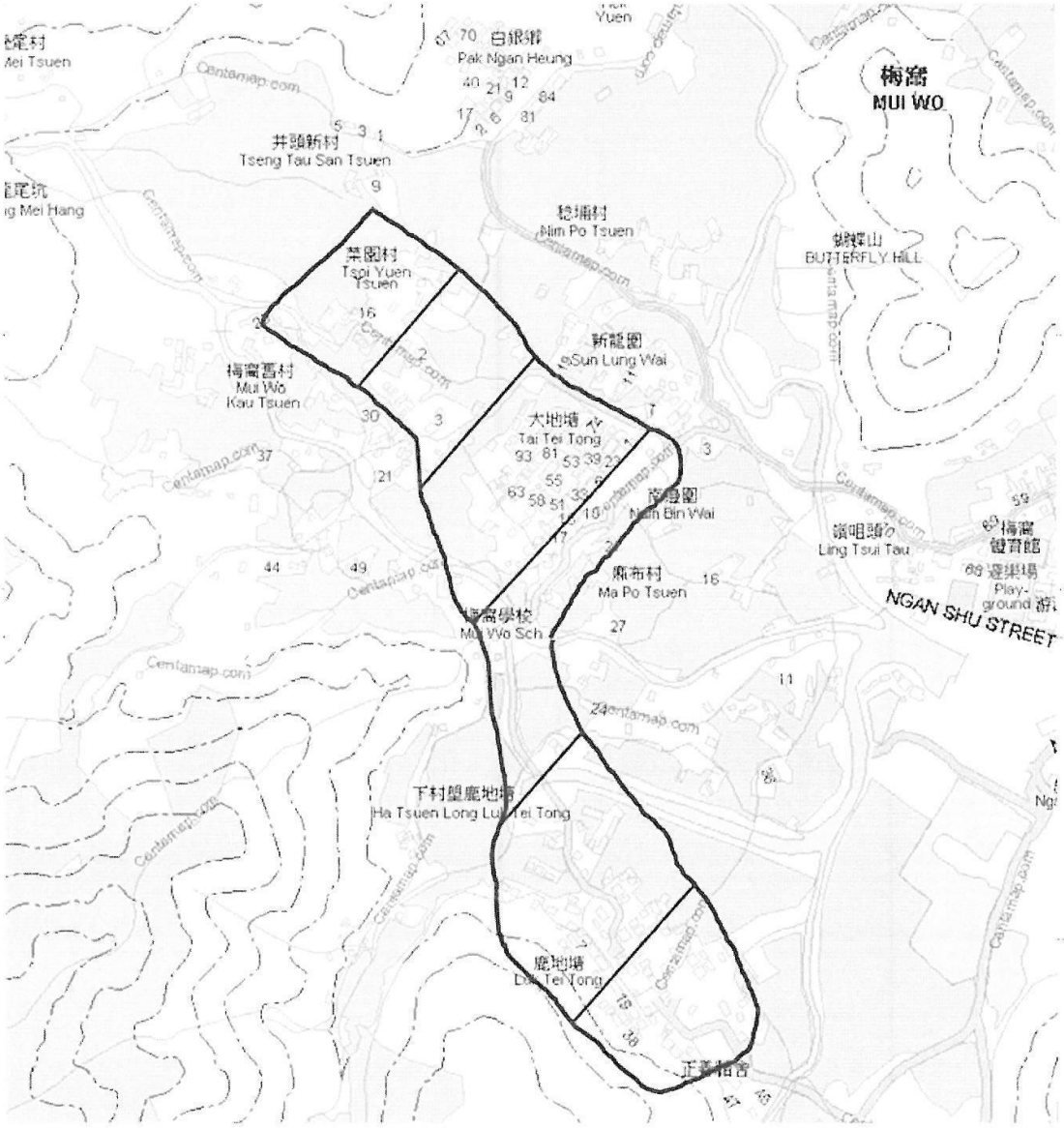
Contract Area in Shek Kwu Chau

Location of Bin Site in Shek Kwu Chau (The location of bin site is for reference only)

Attachment 7


大澳
TAI O
SHEK KAI PO STREET
SUN KI STREET
TAI O ROAD
Tai O Police Station
Tai O Public Car Park
Tai O Fire Station
Tai O Sch
Wing Chor School
Lung Hin Court
Lung Tin Estate
Tin Hau Temple
Hau Tin Temple
Tin Hau Temple
Tin Kau
Yan Chung
Yin Tin
Tin Lee
Tin Nga
Tin Hei
Tin Yat
Tin Yiu
Tin Ho
Tin Hau
Tin Kwong
Tin Yuet
Tin Yee
Tin Yuk
Tin Yeung
Tin Yue
Tin Yuen

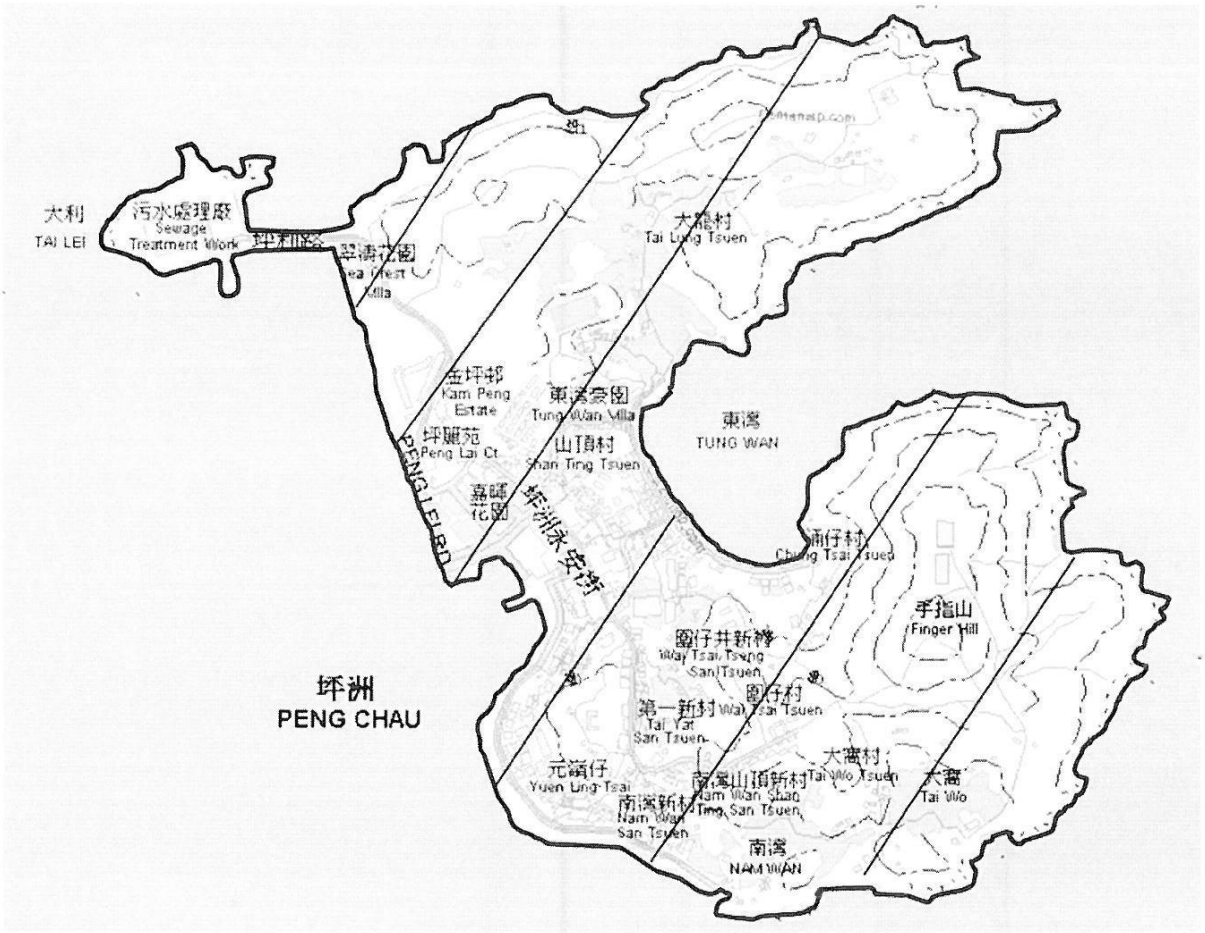
Attachment 8



LEGEND:

Contract Area in Mui Wo

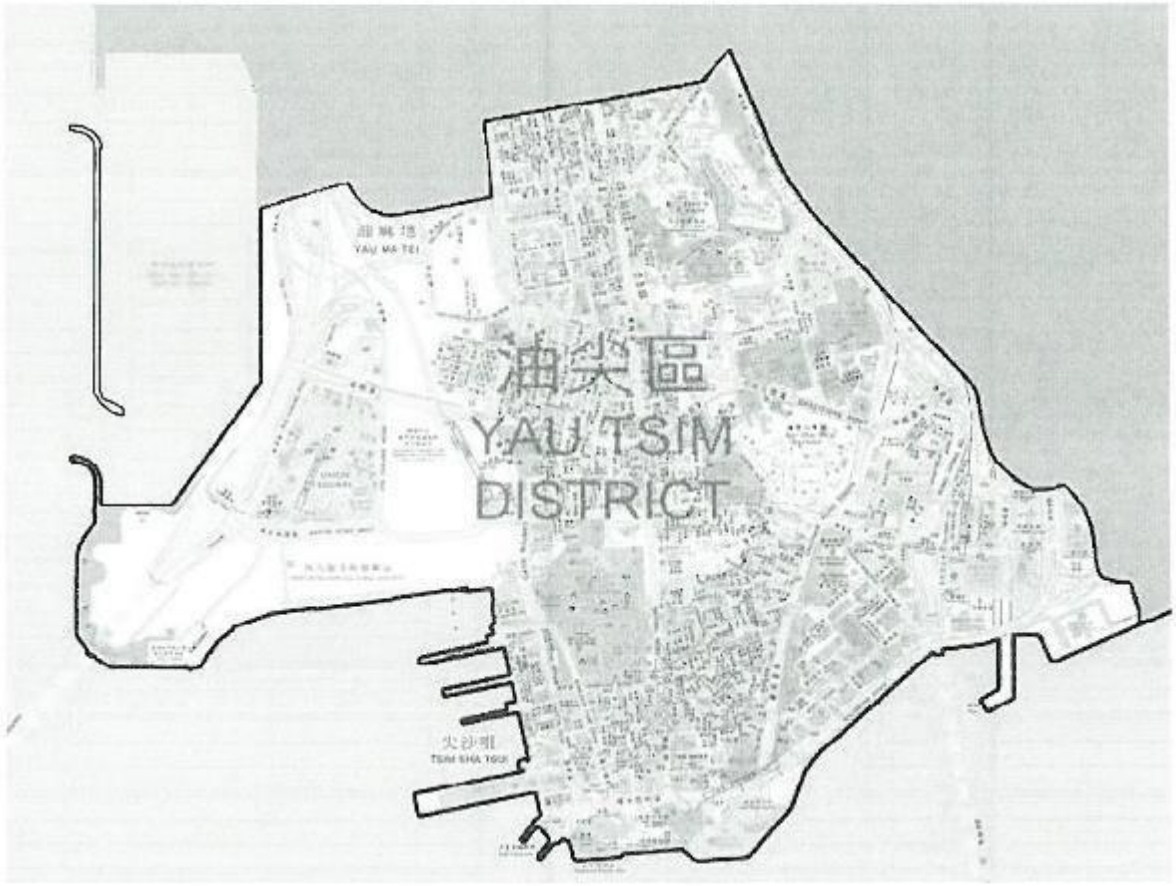
Attachment 9



LEGEND:

Contract Area in Peng Chau

Attachment 1

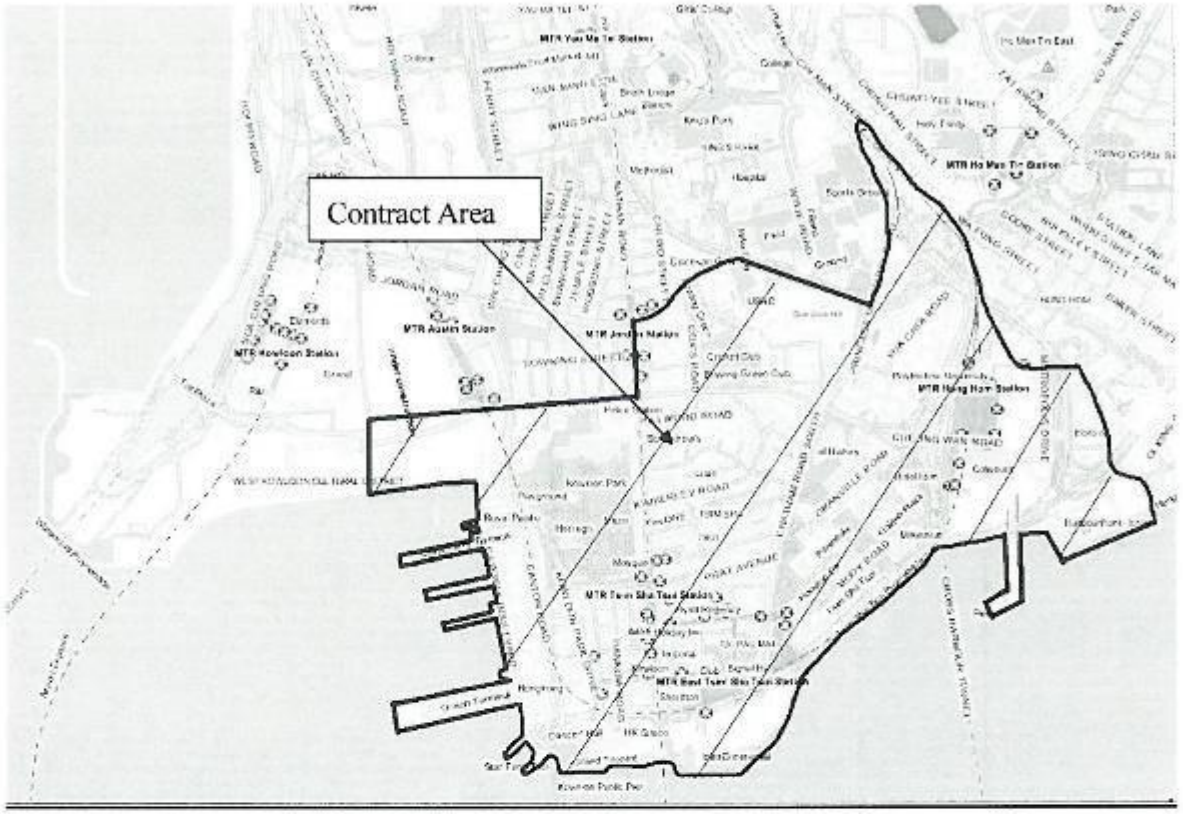


Legend

Boundary of Yau Tsim District

Boundary of Yau Tsim District

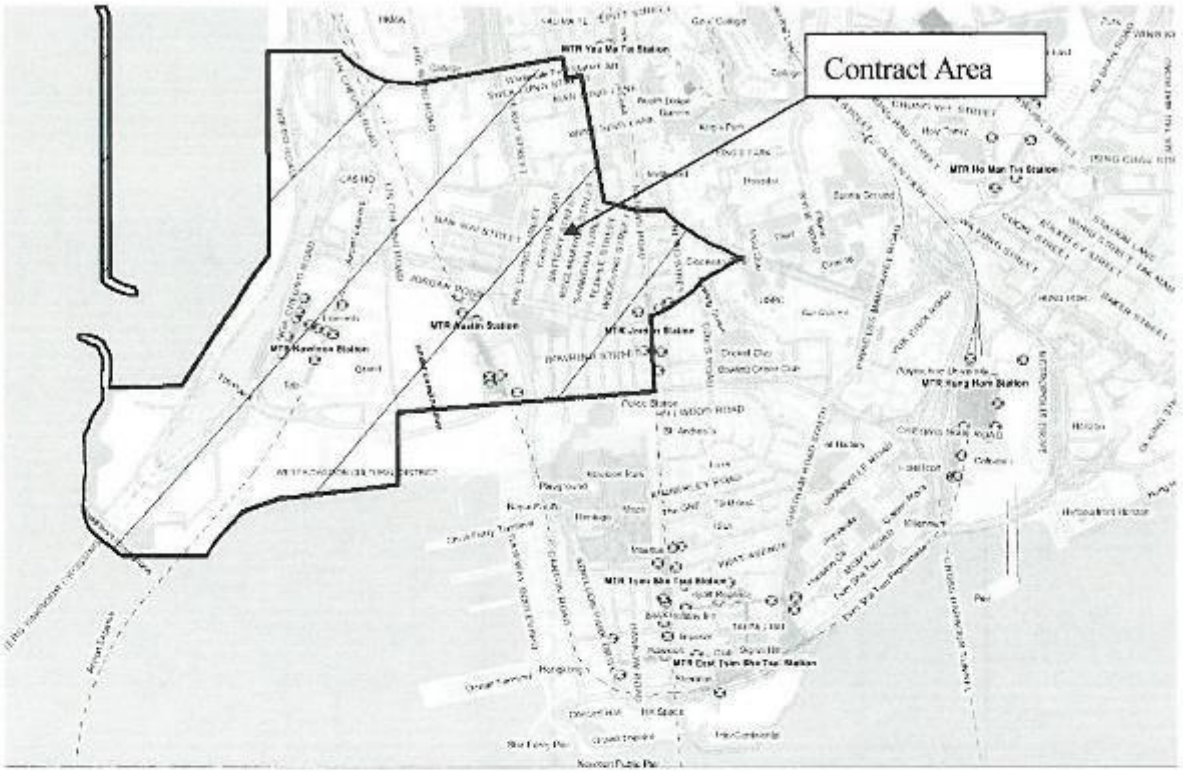
Attachment 2



Legend

Contract Area

Boundary of Contract Area in Yau Tsim District (South)

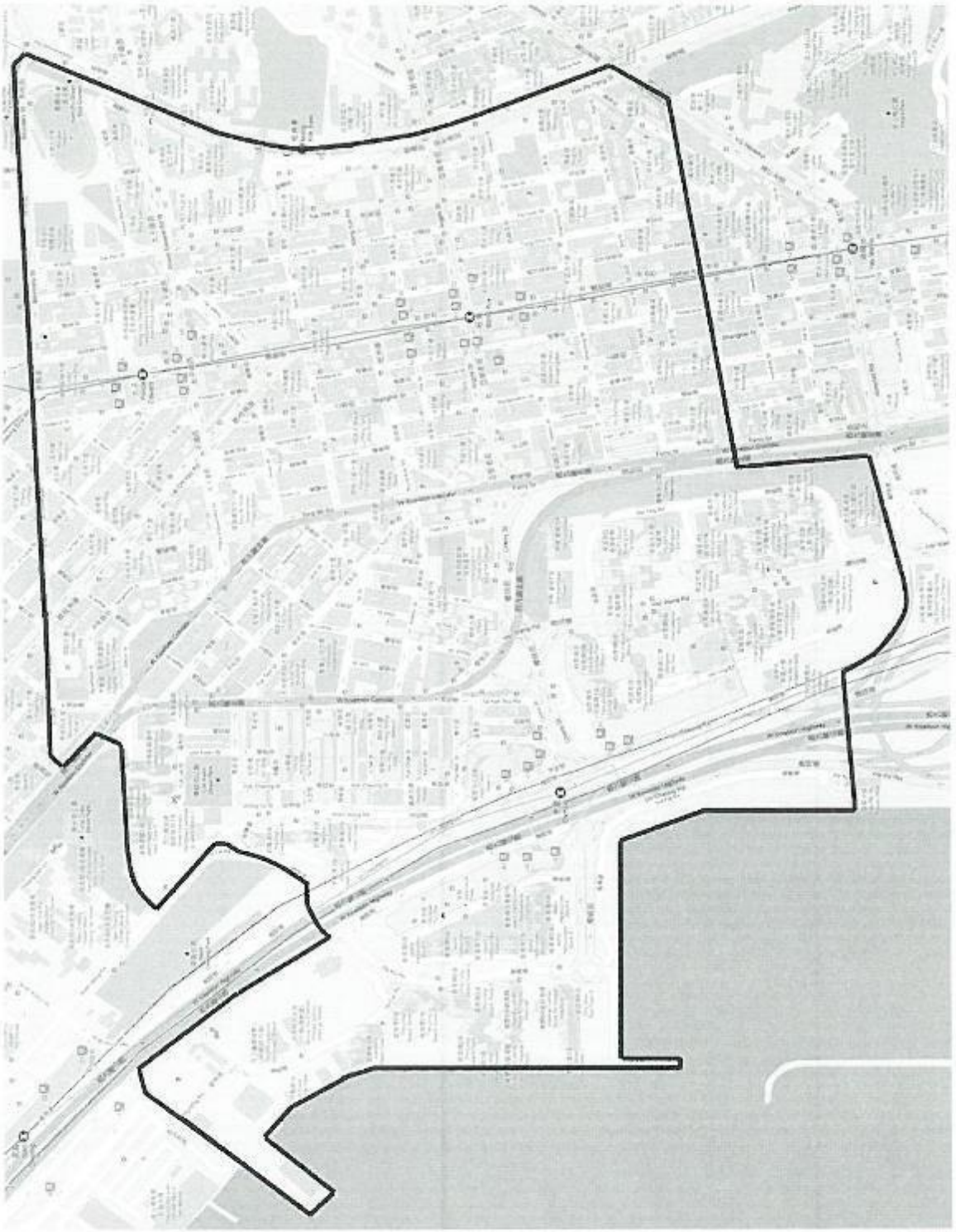


Legend

Contract Area

Boundary of Contract Area in Yau Tsim District (North)

Attachment 1

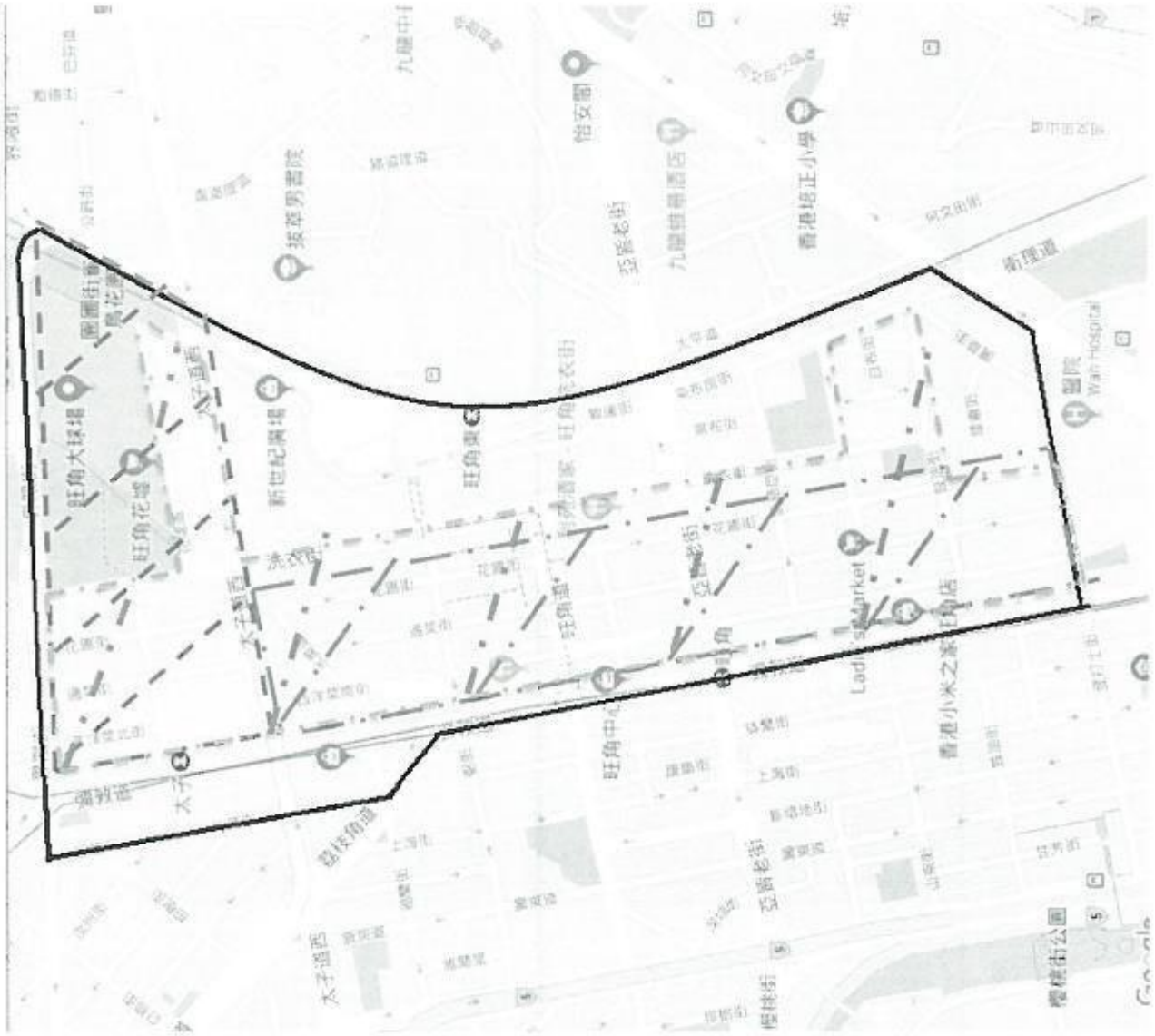


Legend

Boundary of Mong Kok District

Boundary of Mong Kok District

Attachment 2



Boundary of Contract Area in Mong Kok District (East)

LEGEND:

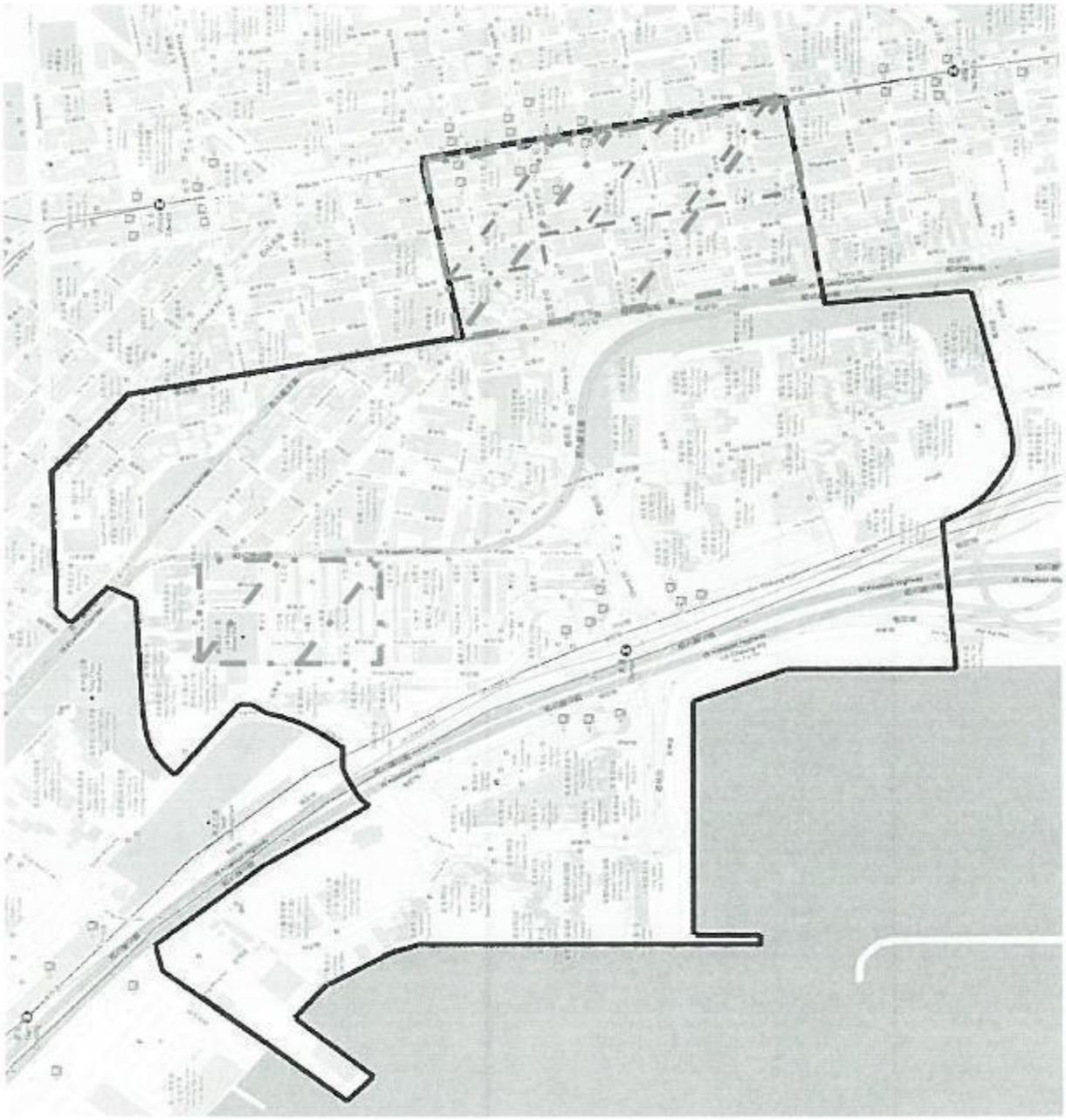
Contract Area

Area requires special cleansing services for the Lunar New Year Period

Specified area requires mid-night cleansing services

Designated area requires enhanced cleansing services

Attachment 2



Boundary of Contract Area in Mong Kok District (West)

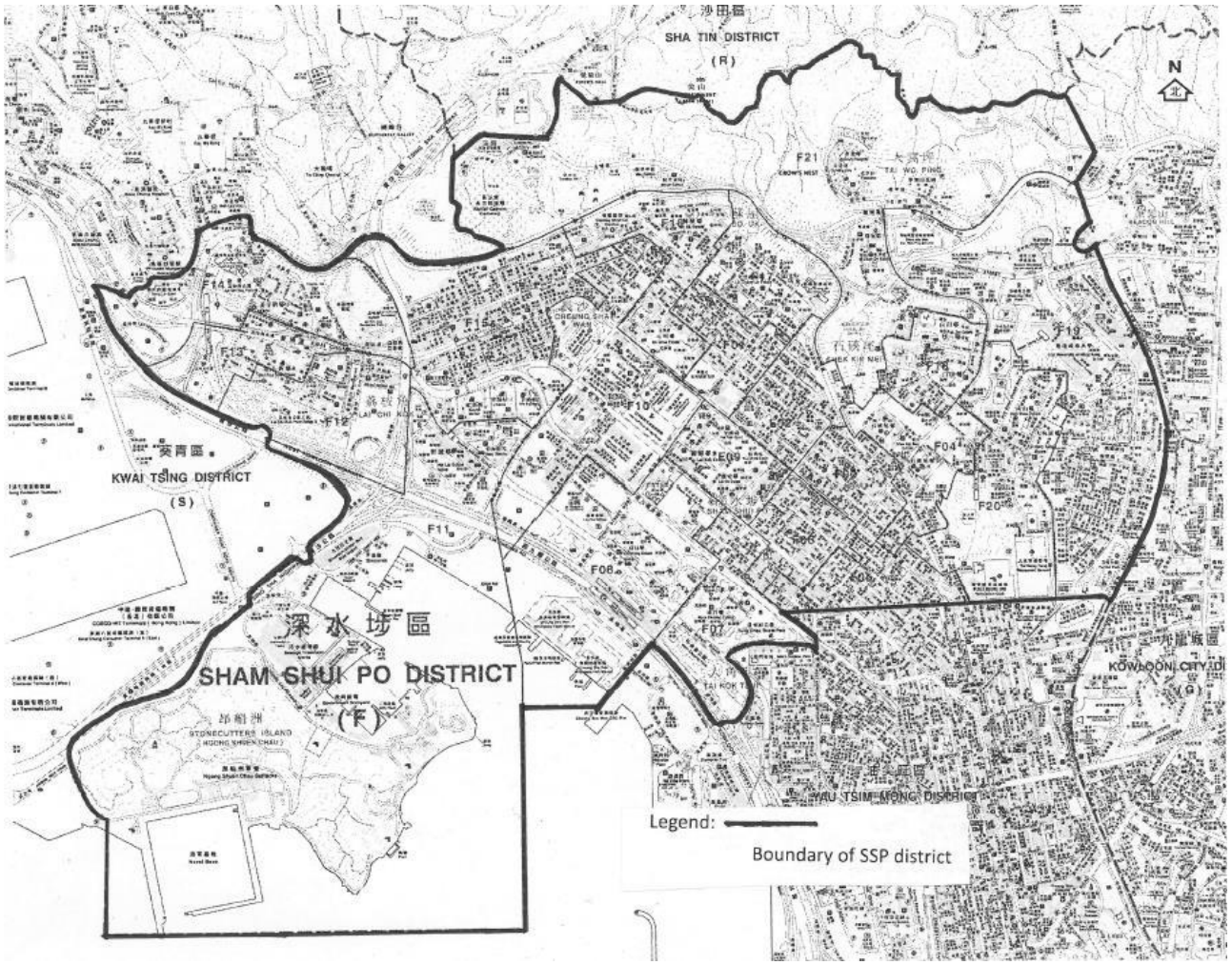
LEGEND:

Contract Area

Specified area requires mid-night cleansing services

Designated area requires enhanced cleansing services

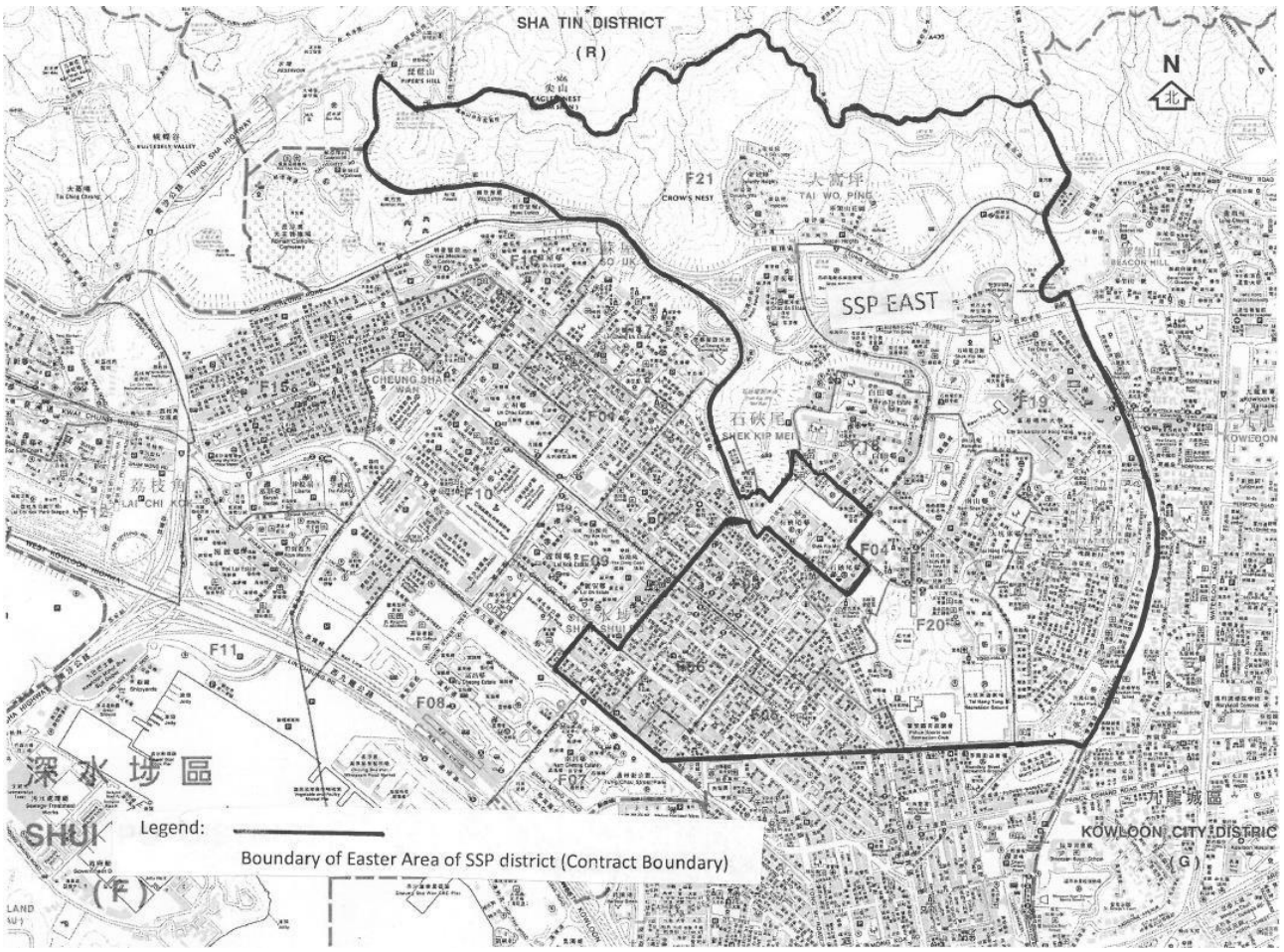
Attachment



District Boundary

Boundary of Sham Shui Po District

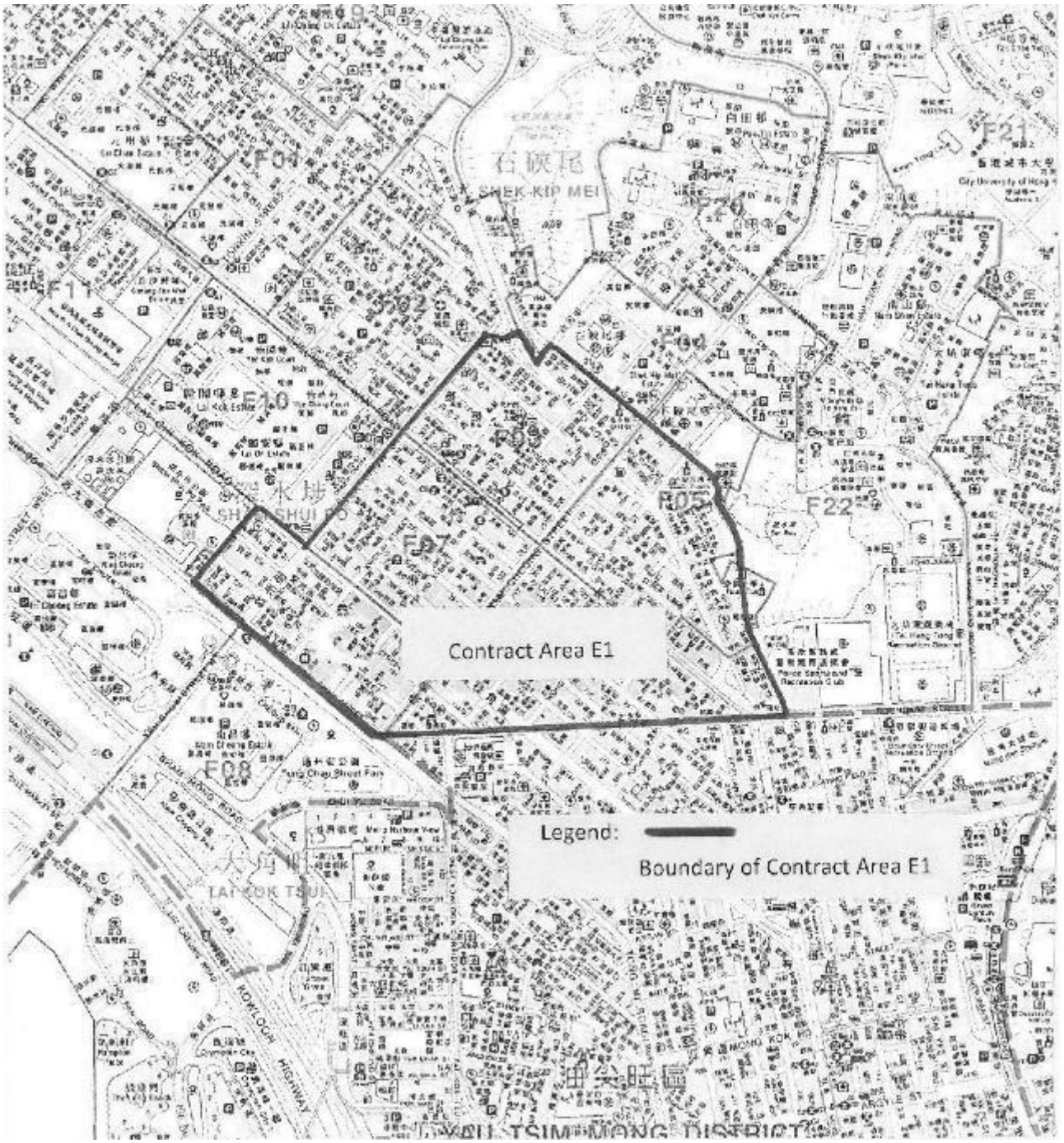
Attachment



Boundary of Contract Area

Boundary of Contract Area in Sham Shui Po District

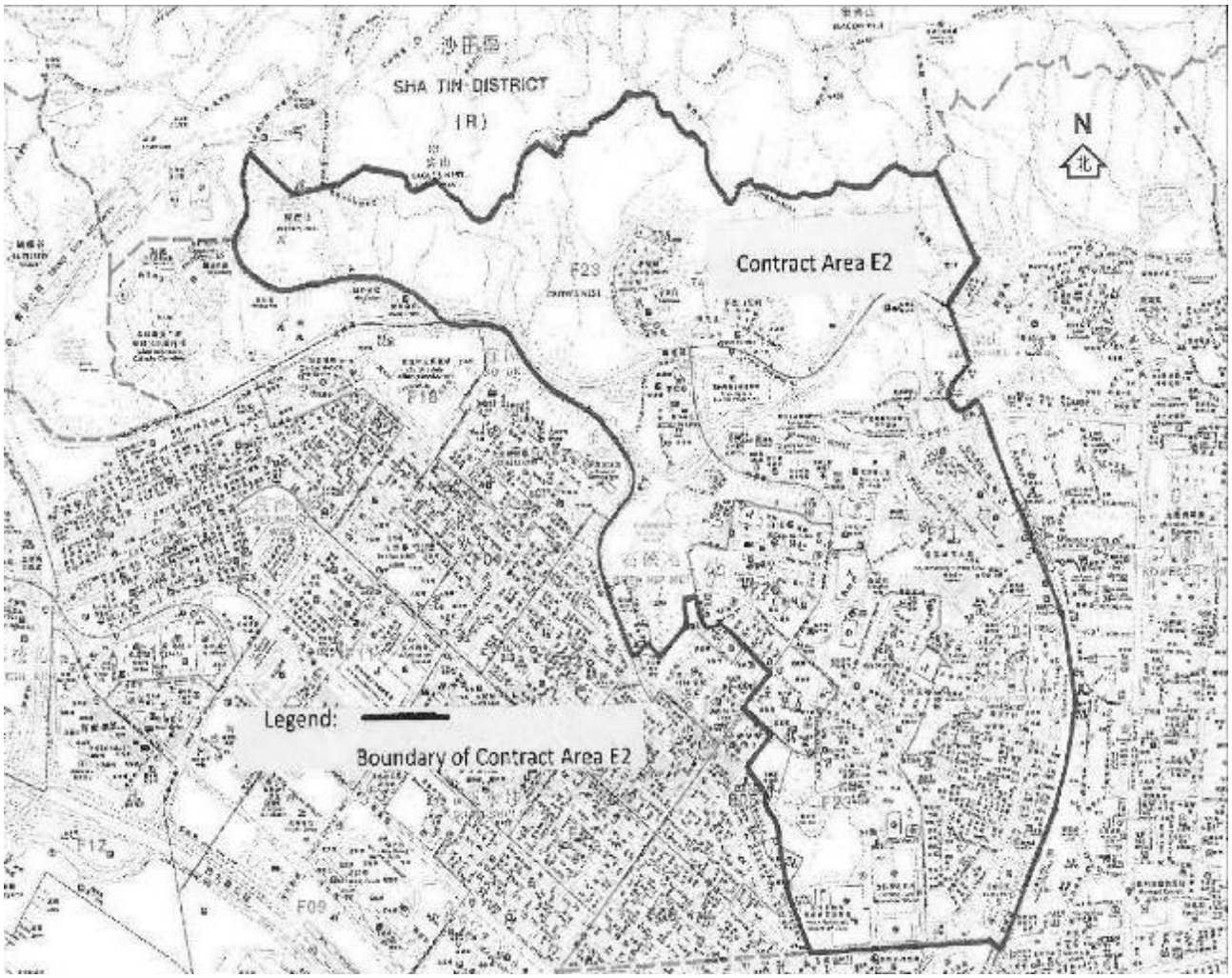
Attachment



Boundary of Contract Area E1

Boundary of Contract Area E1 in Sham Shui Po District

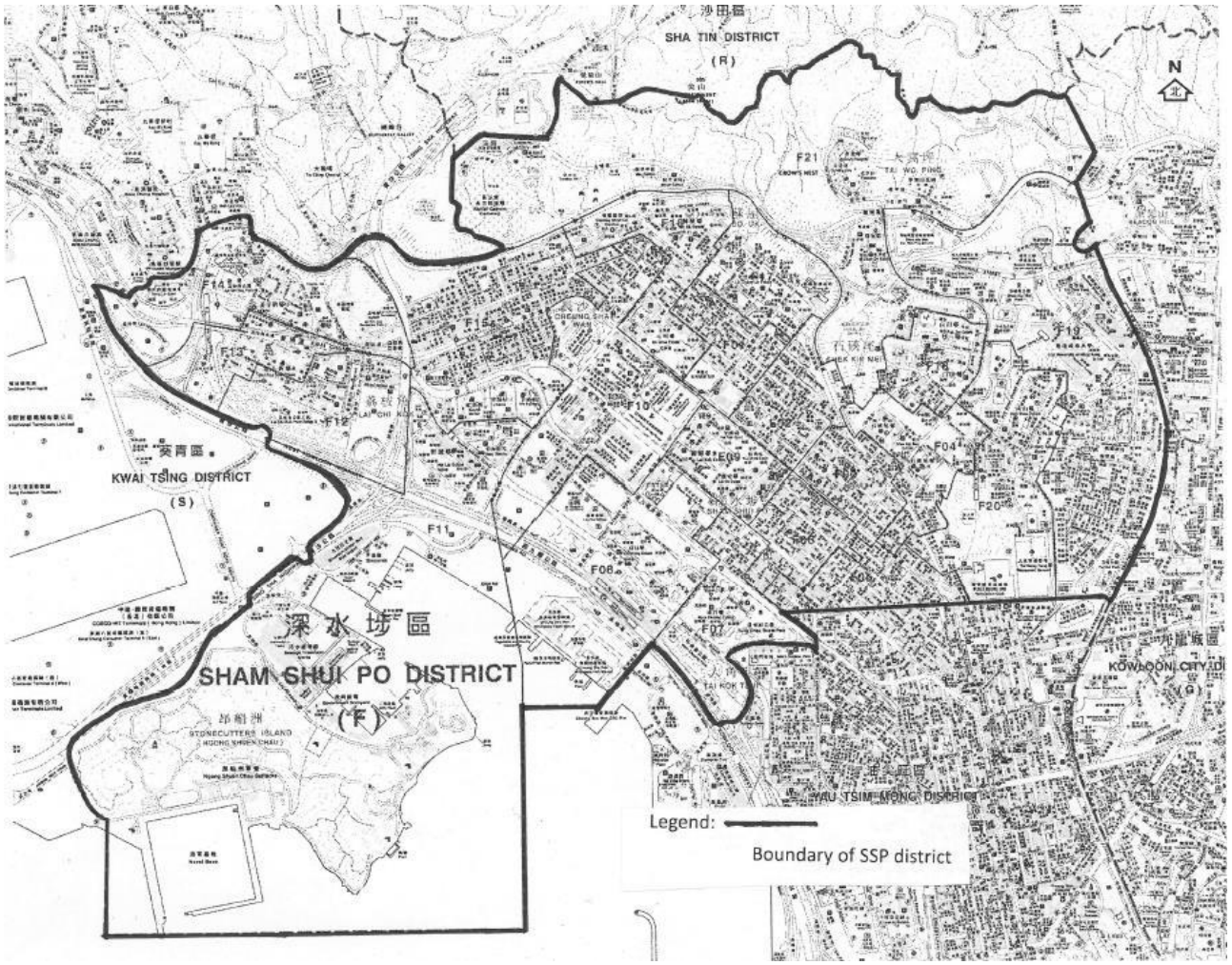
Attachment



Boundary of Contract Area

Boundary of Contract Area E2 in Sham Shui Po District

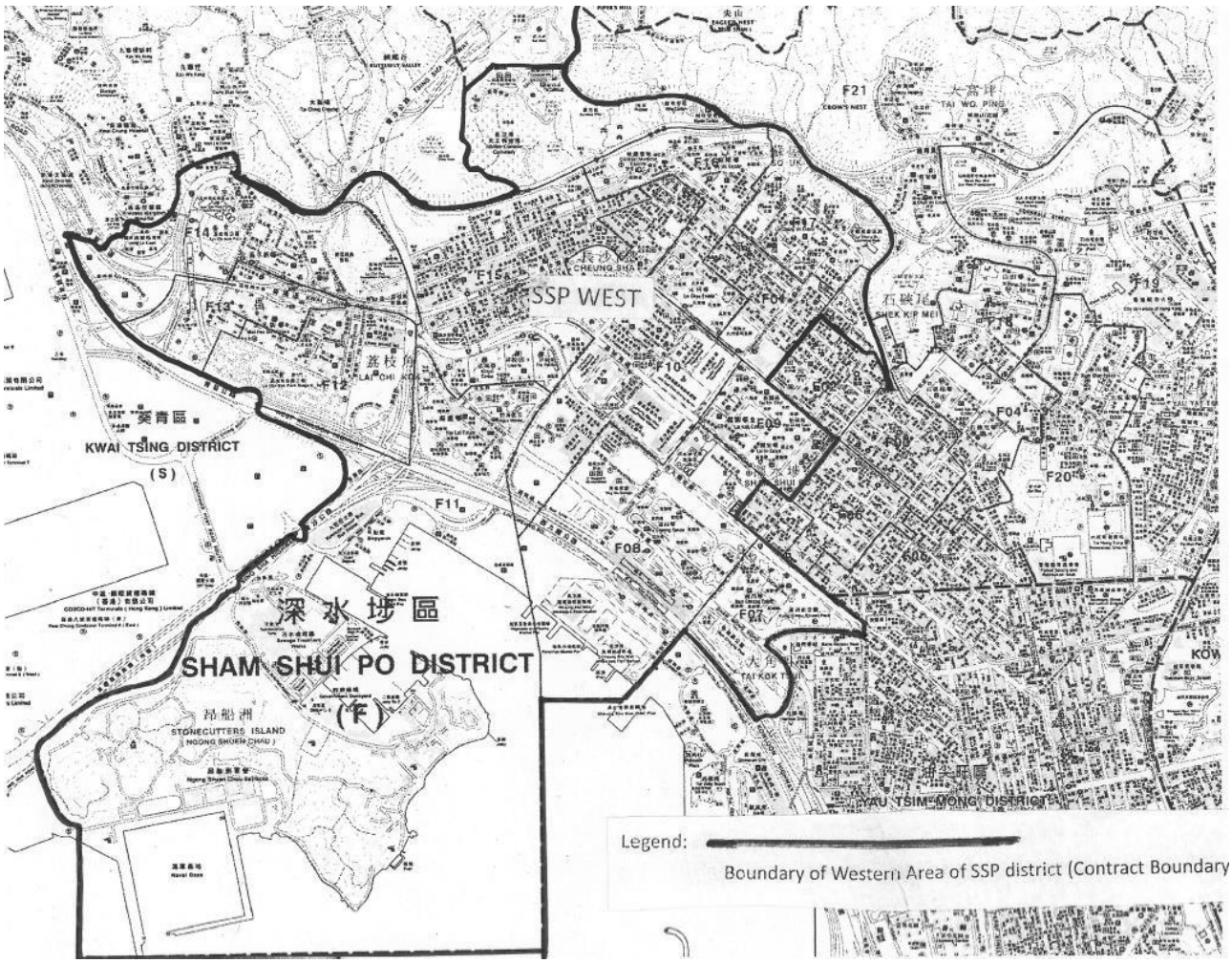
Attachment



District Boundary

Boundary of Sham Shui Po District

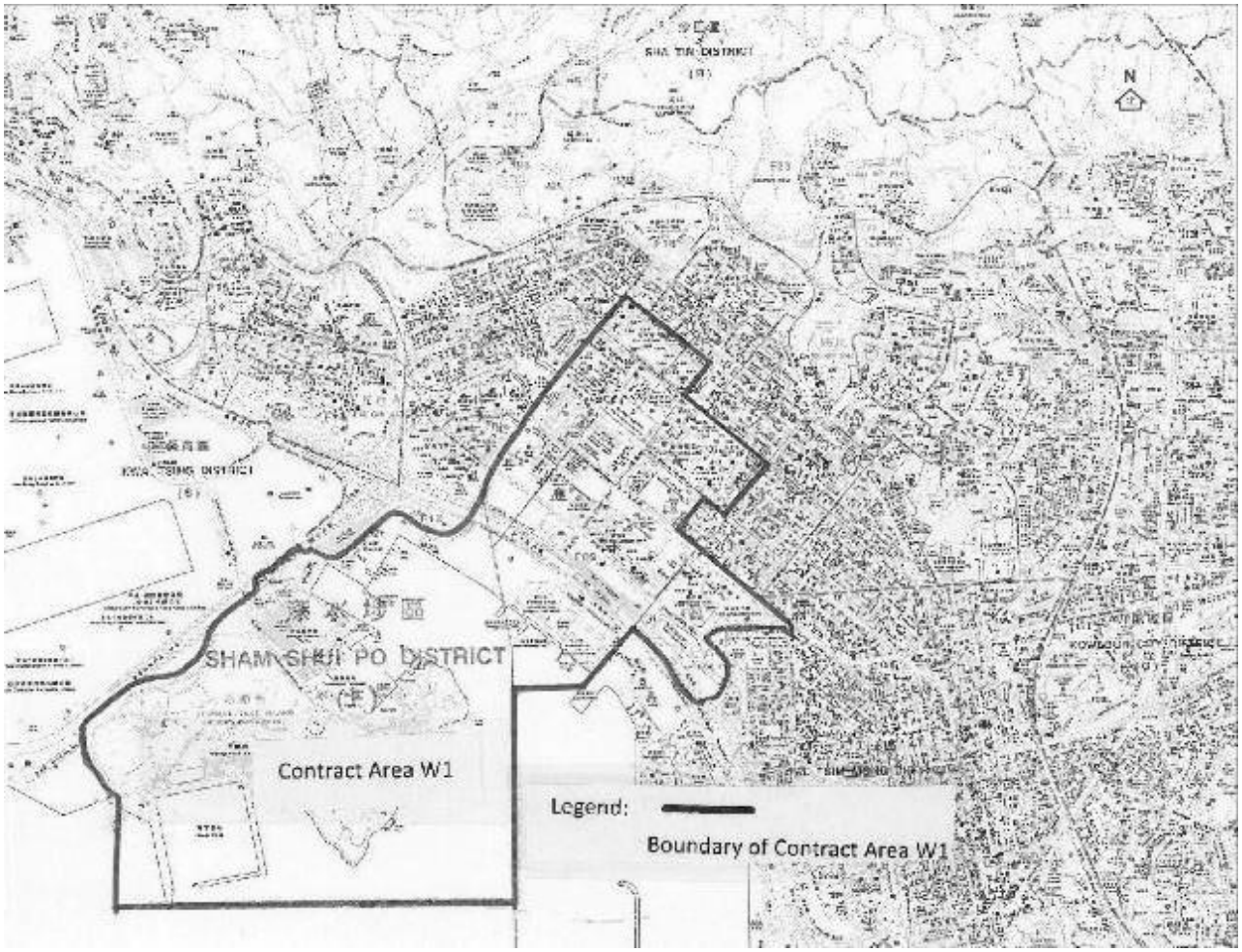
Attachment



Boundary of Contract Area

Boundary of Contract Area in Sham Shui Po District

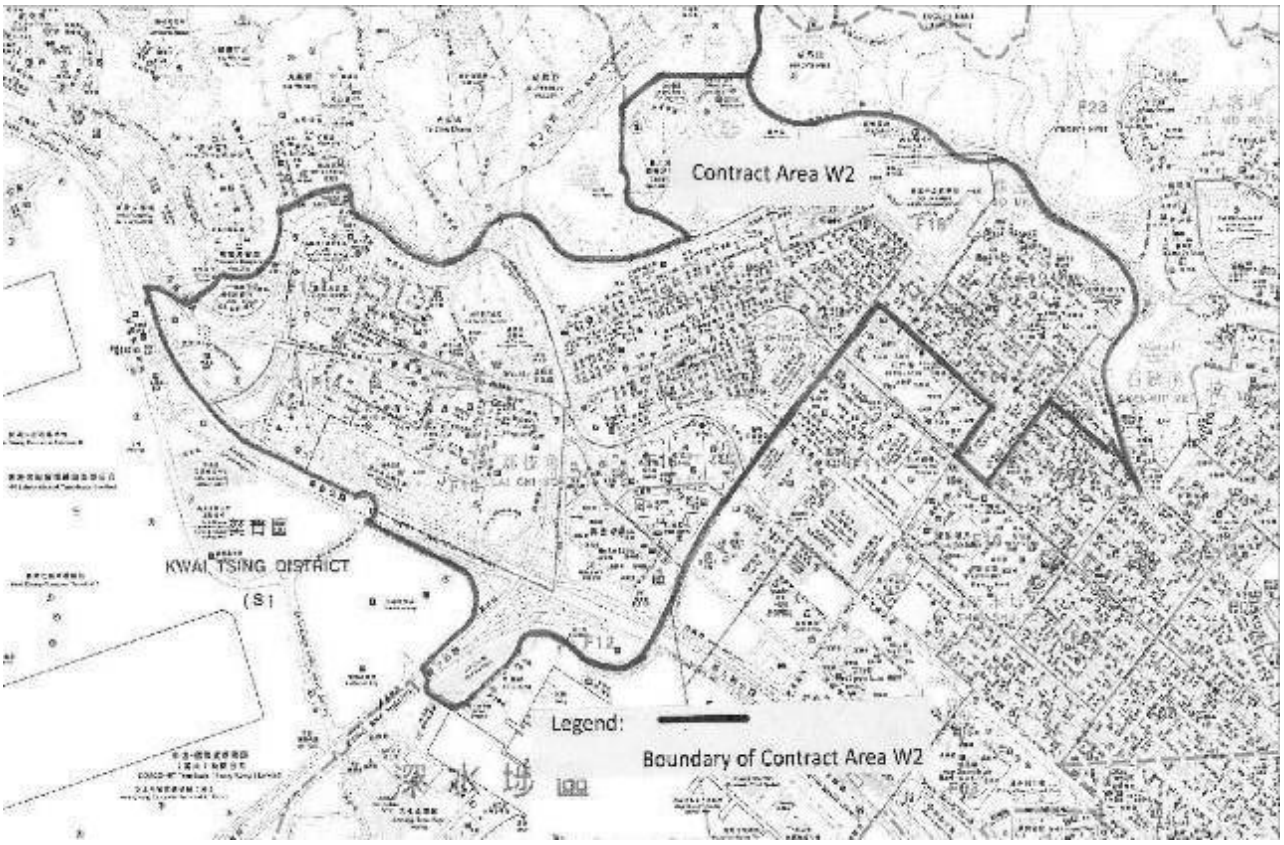
Attachment



Boundary of Contract Area W1

Boundary of Contract Area W1 in Sham Shui Po District

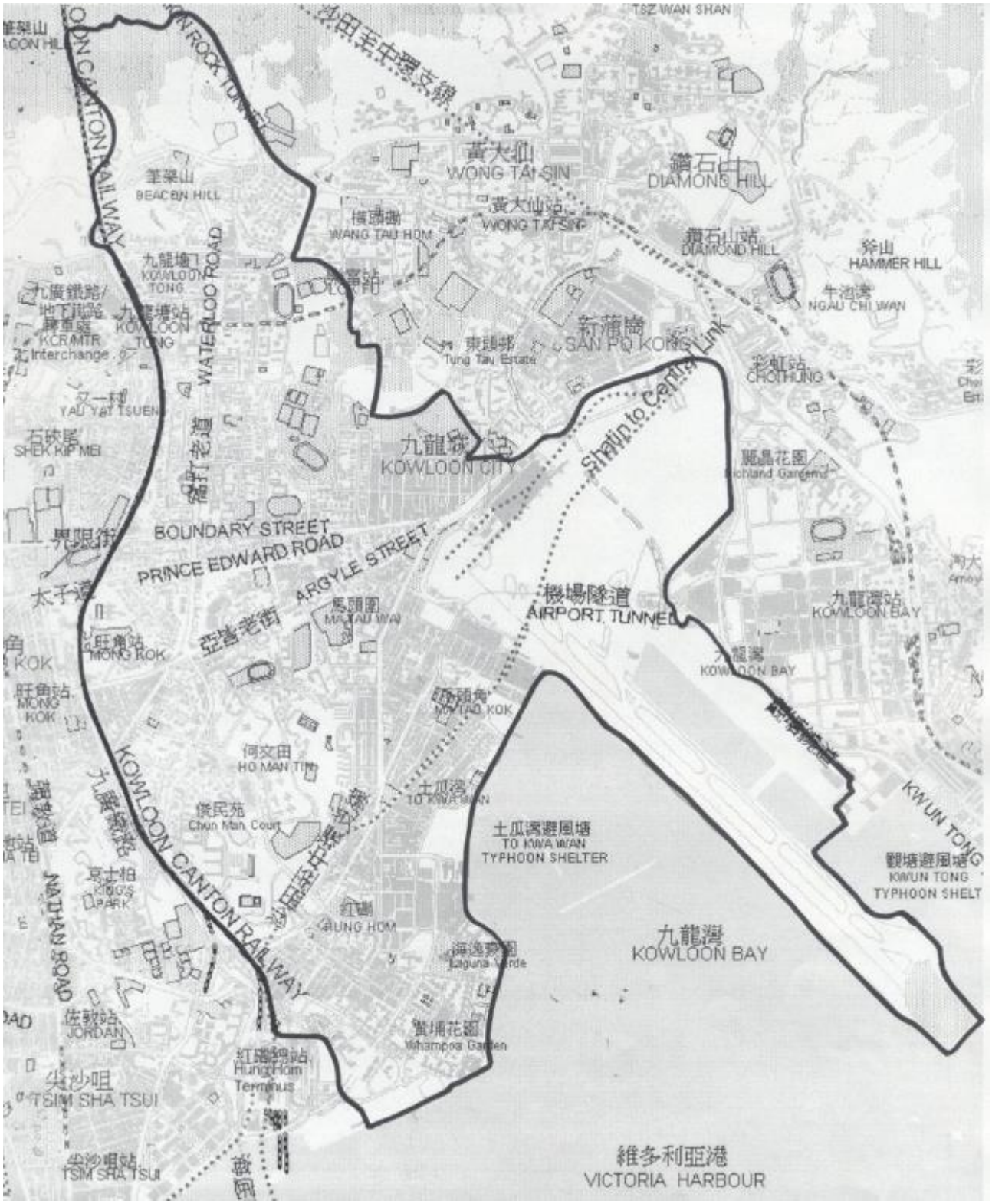
Attachment



☐ Boundary of Contract Area W2

Boundary of Contract Area W2 in Sham Shui Po District

Attachment 1

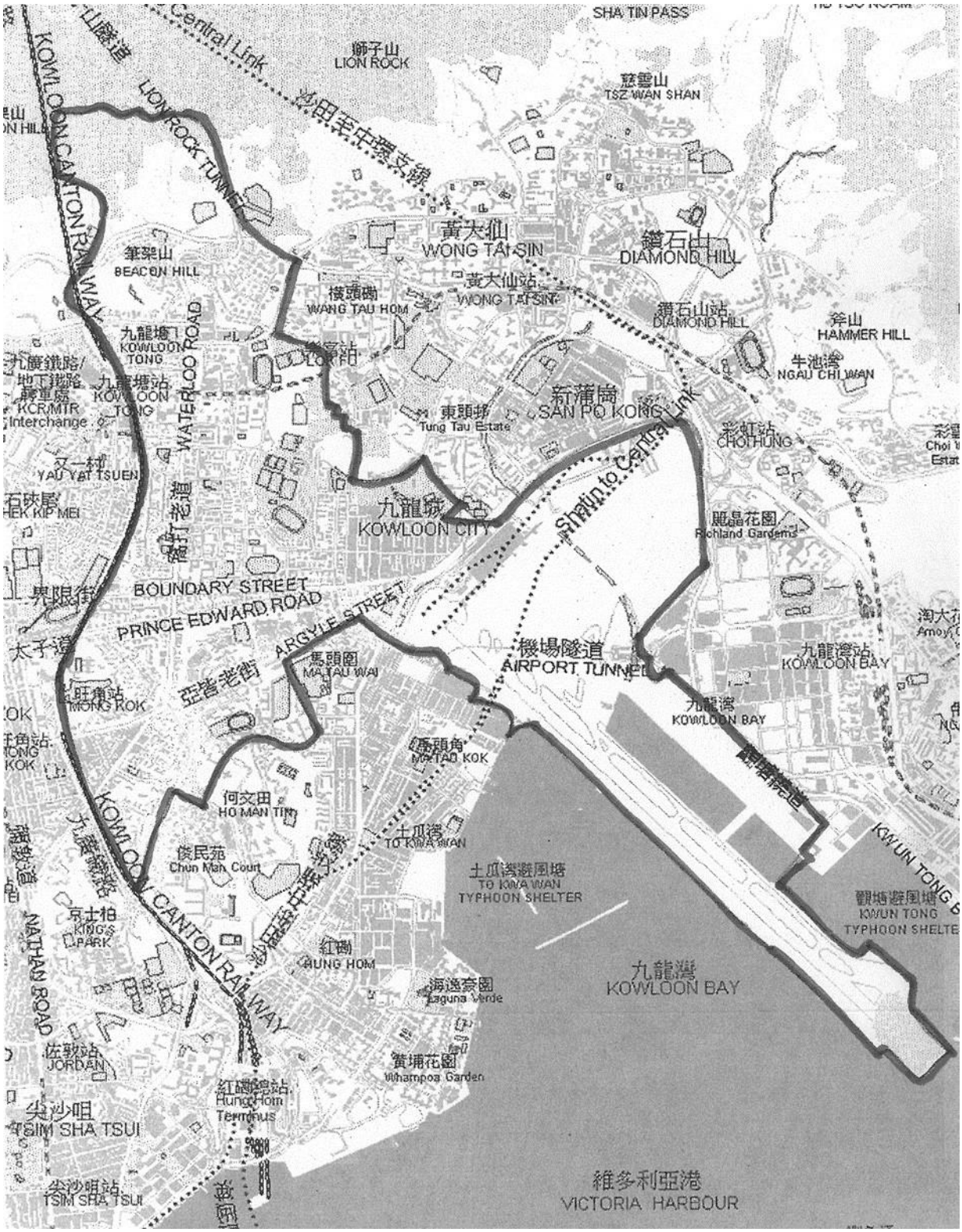


Boundary of Kowloon City District

LEGEND:

District Boundary

Attachment 2

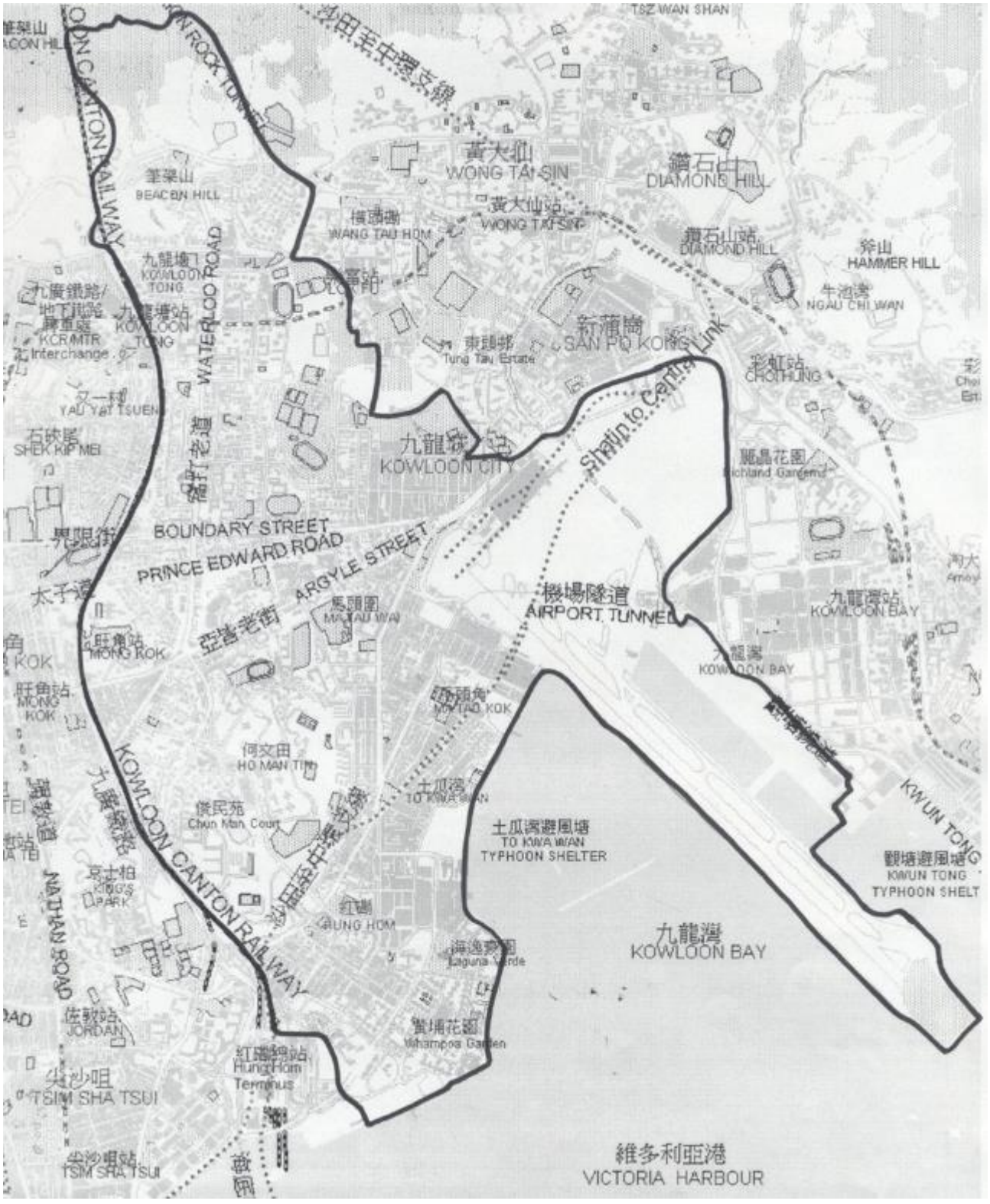


Map Showing the Boundary of Contract Area in Kowloon City District (North)

LEGEND:

Contract Area

Attachment 1

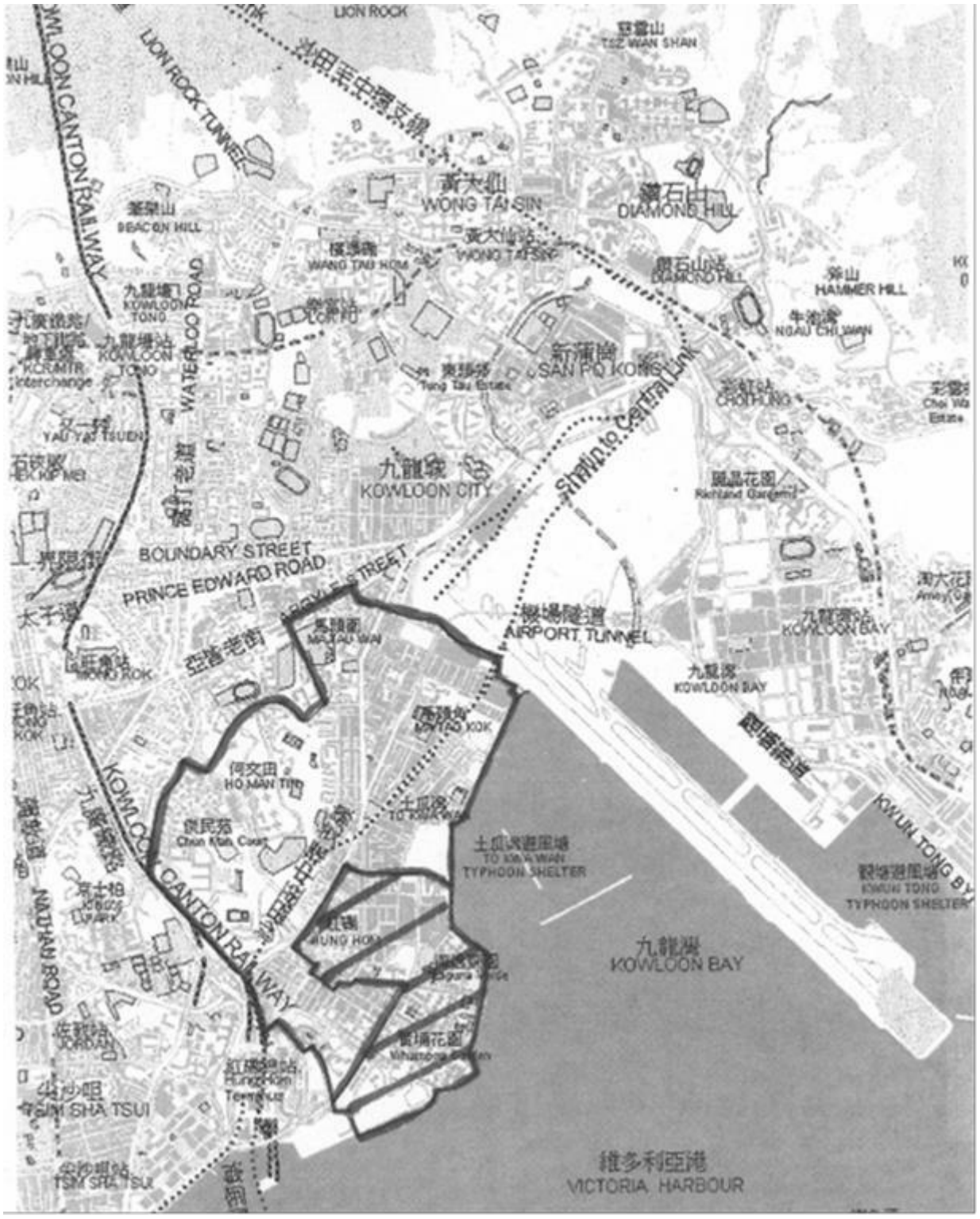


Boundary of Kowloon City District

LEGEND:

District Boundary

Attachment 2



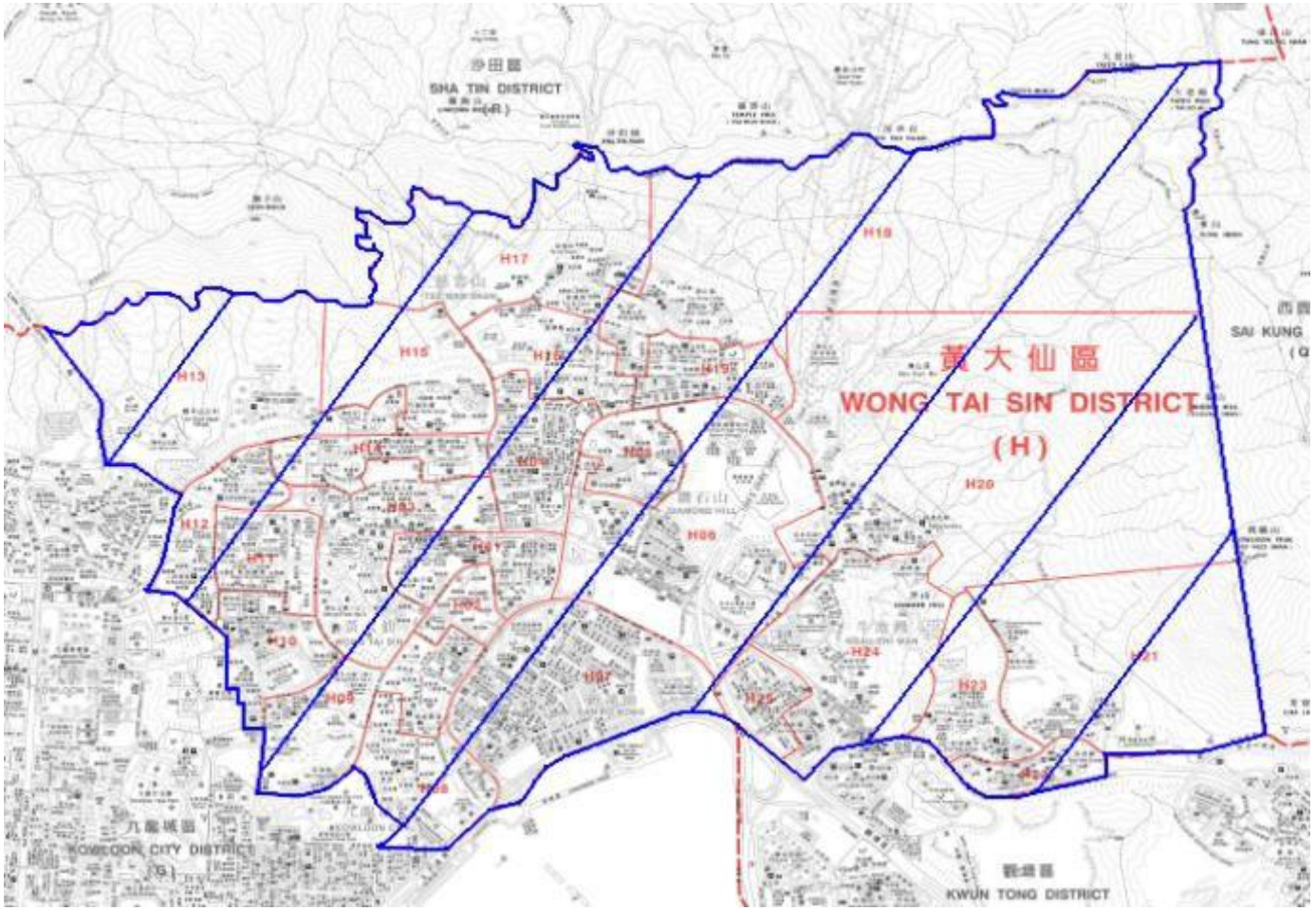
Map Showing the Boundary of Contract Area in Kowloon City District (South)

LEGEND:

Contract Area

Non-contracted out Area in Hung Hom

Attachment 1

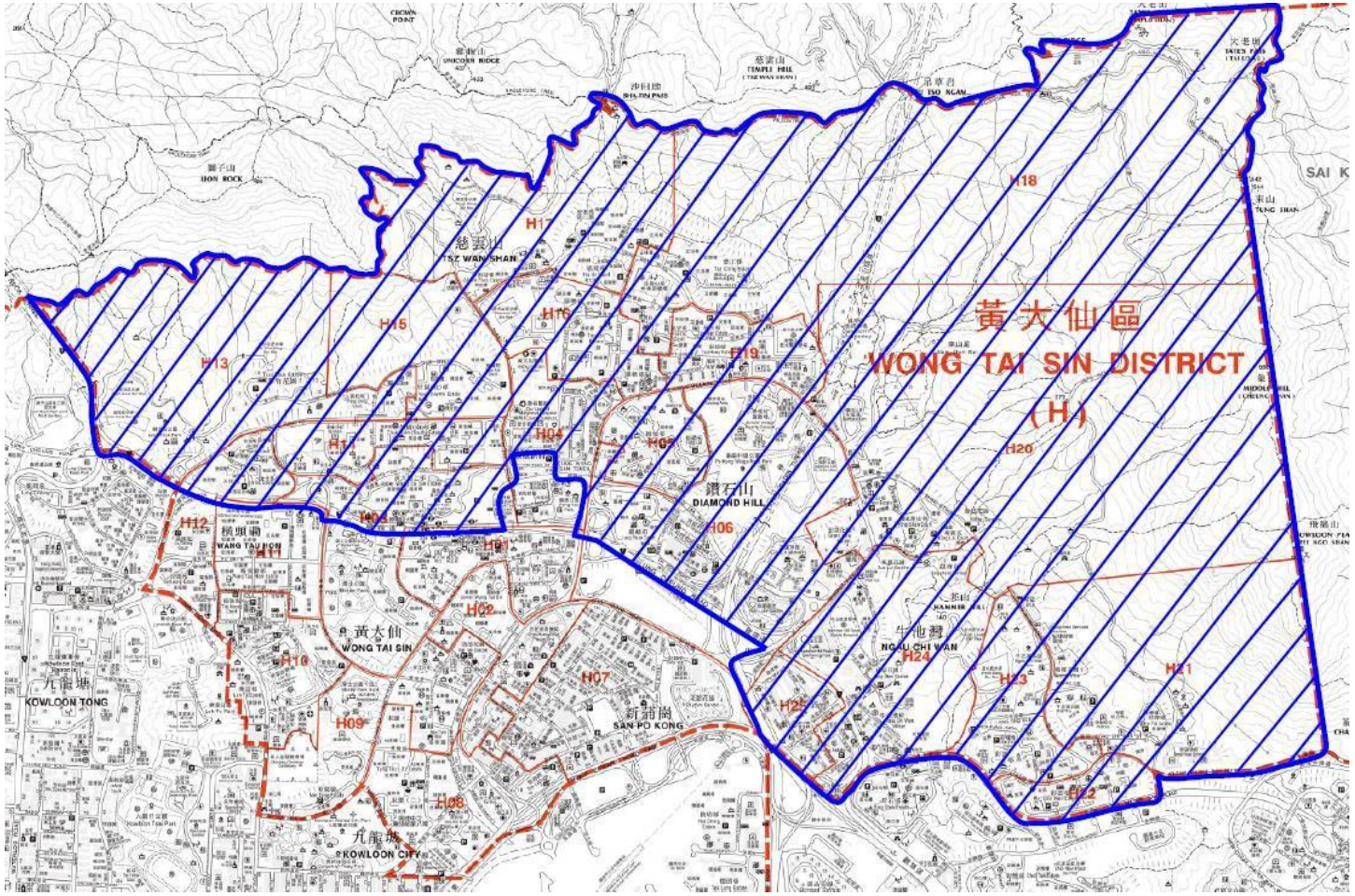


Boundary of Wong Tai Sin District

Legend:

Boundary of the District

Attachment 2

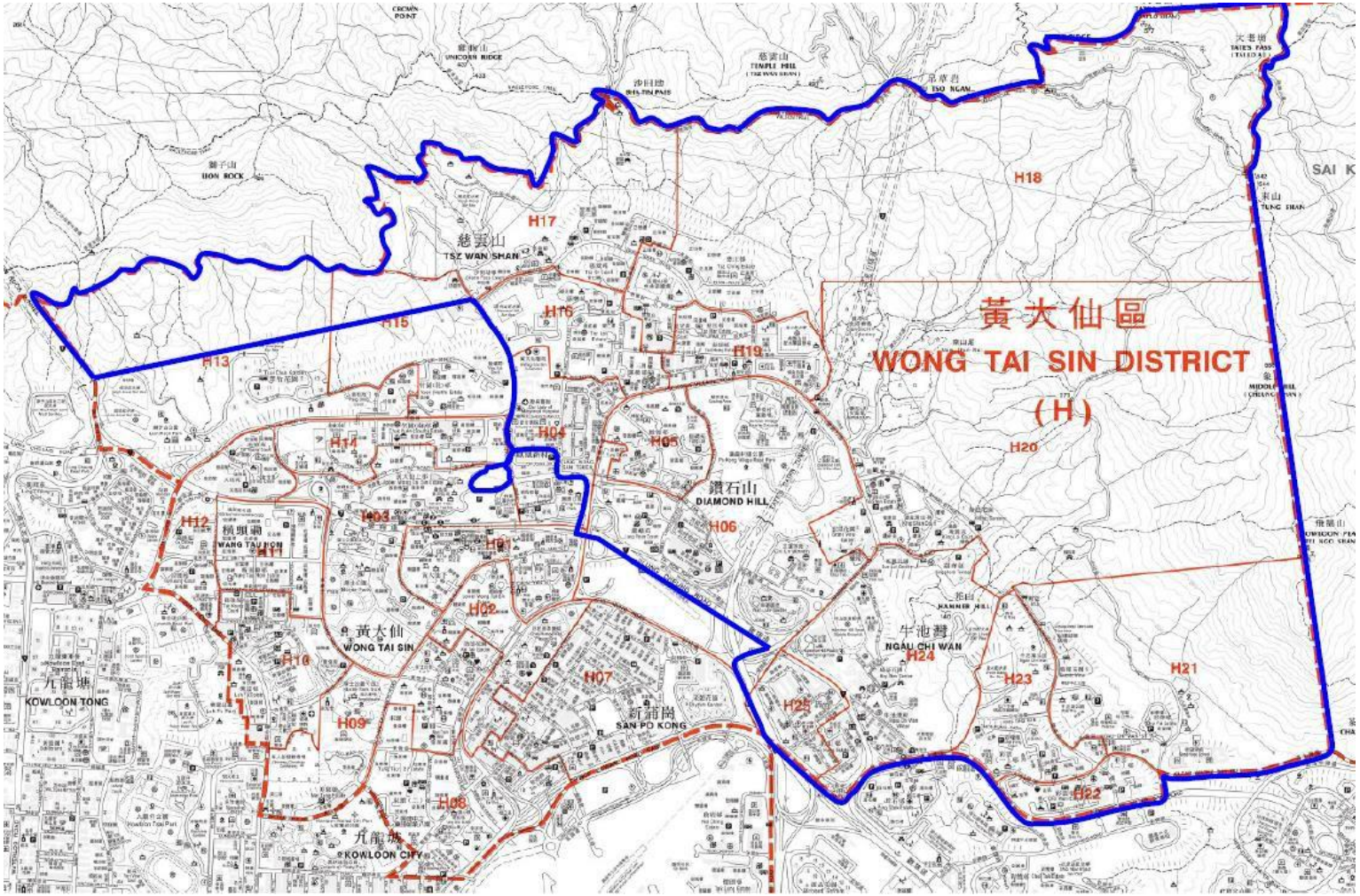


Boundary Requiring Street Washing Services within Wong Tai Sin District

Legend:

Boundary Requiring Street Washing Services within Wong Tai Sin District

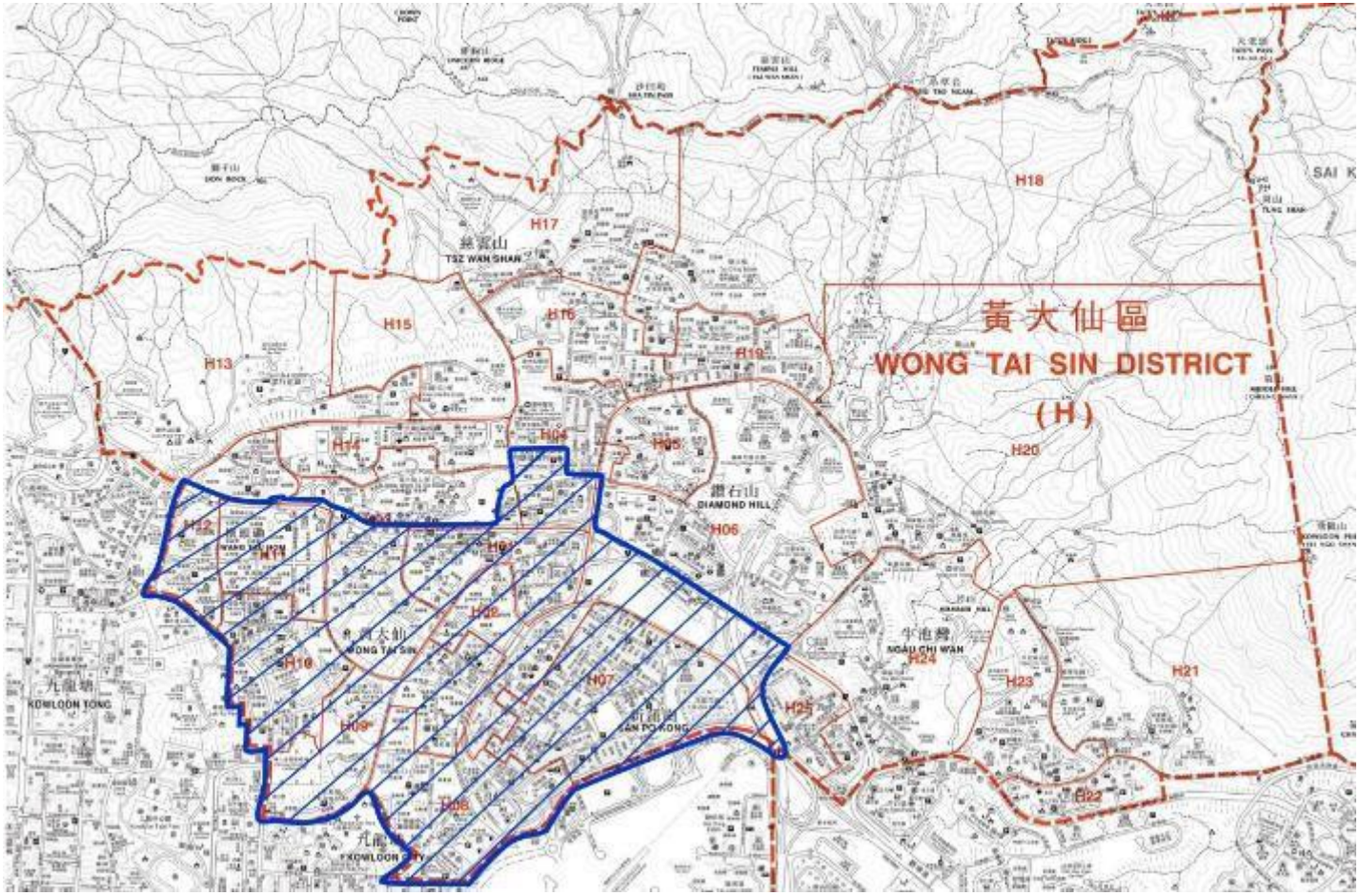
Attachment 3



Legend:

Contract Area

Attachment 2

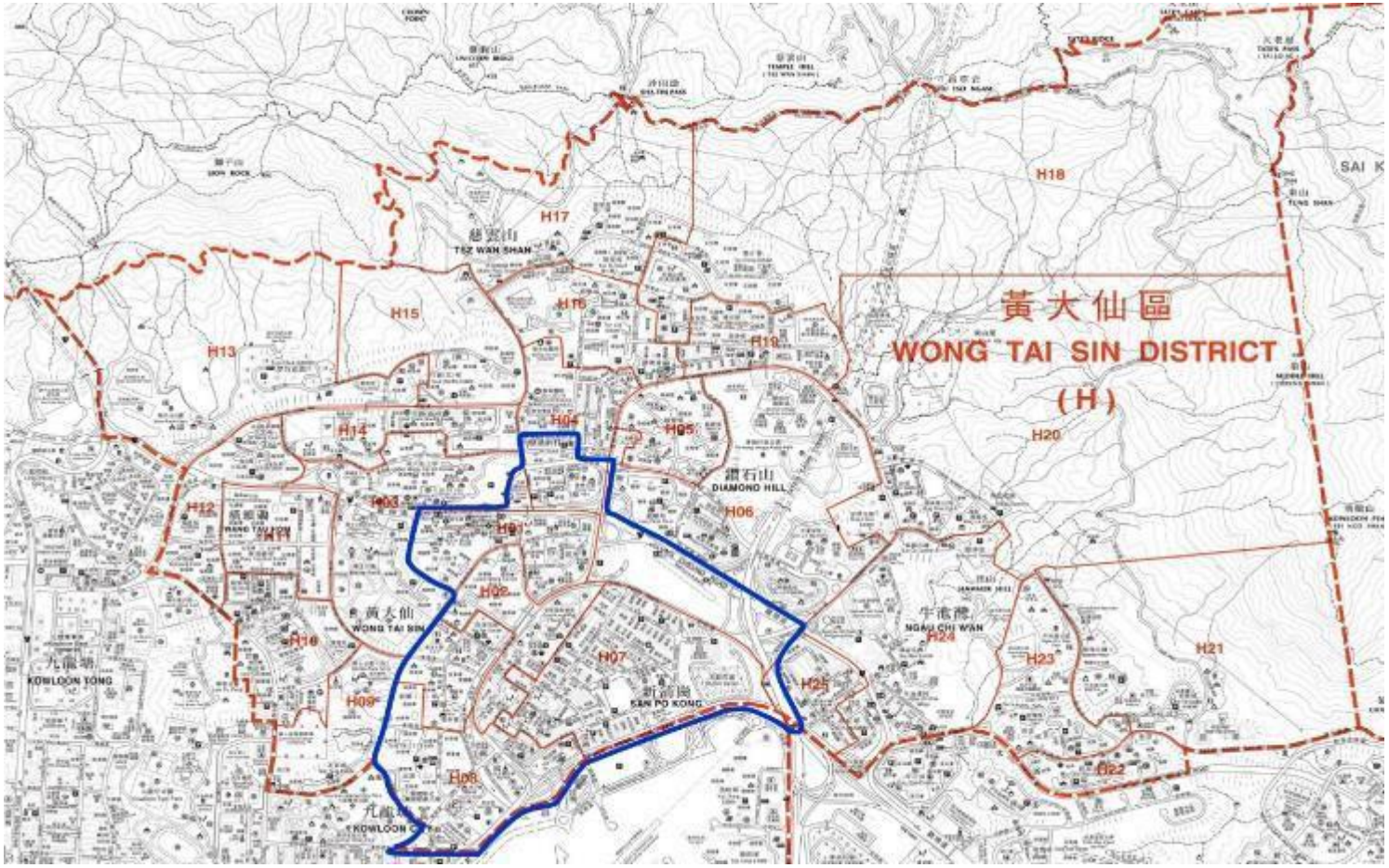


Boundary Requiring Street Washing Services within Wong Tai Sin District

Legend:

Boundary Requiring Street Washing Services within Wong Tai Sin District

Attachment 3

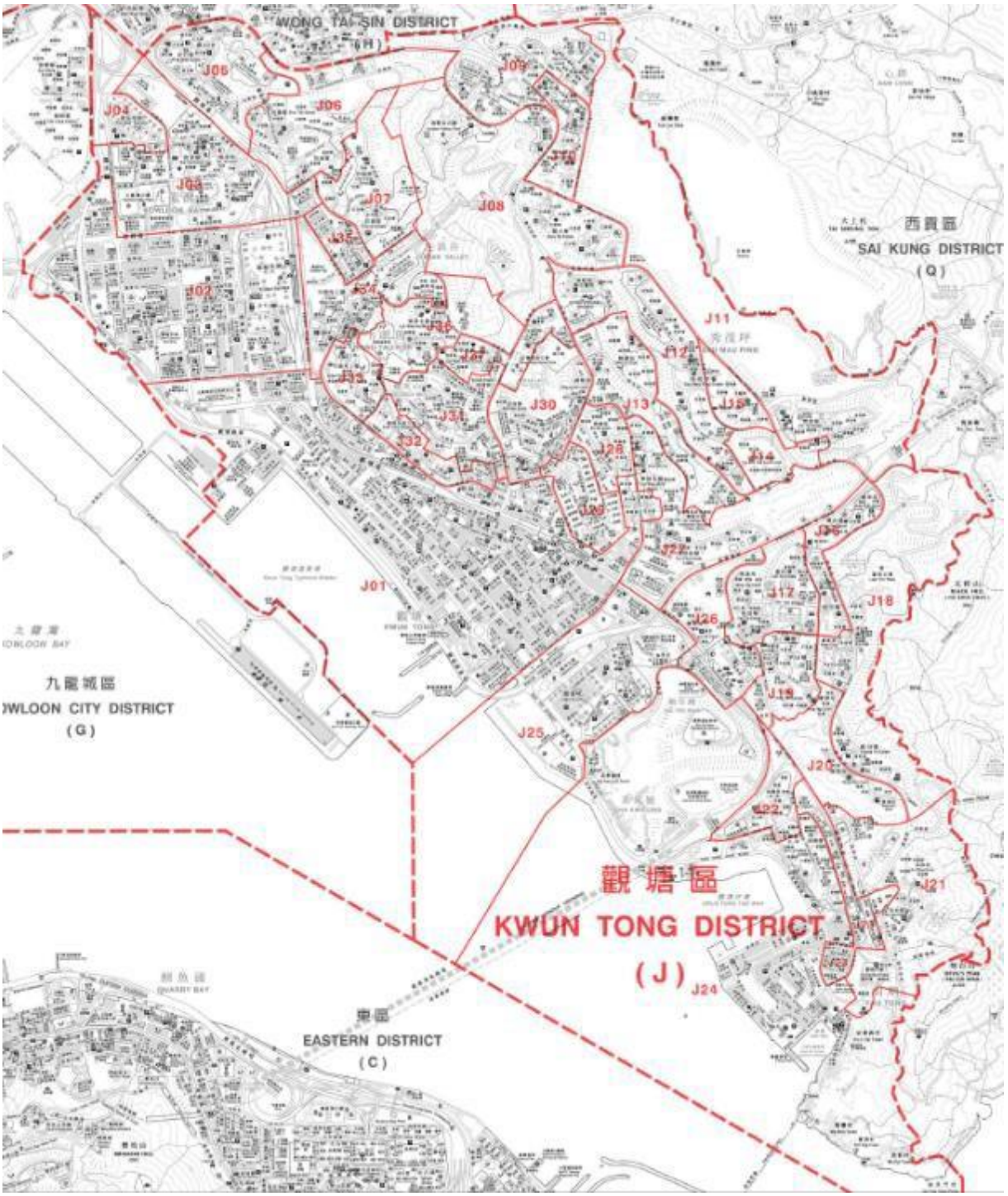


Boundary of Contract Area

Legend:

Contract Area

Attachment 1

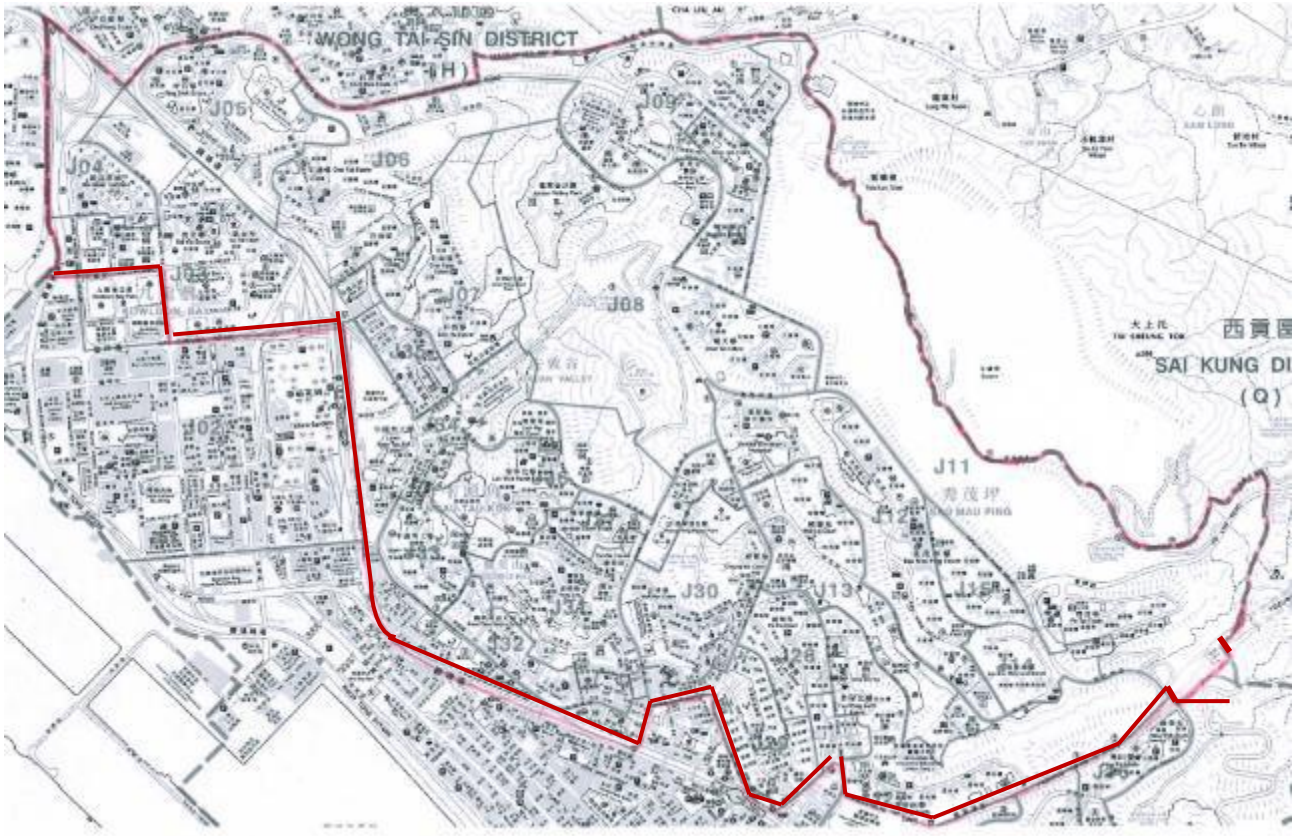


Boundary of Kwun Tong District

LEGEND:

District Boundary

Attachment 2



Boundary of Contract Area A

LEGEND:

Contract Area A

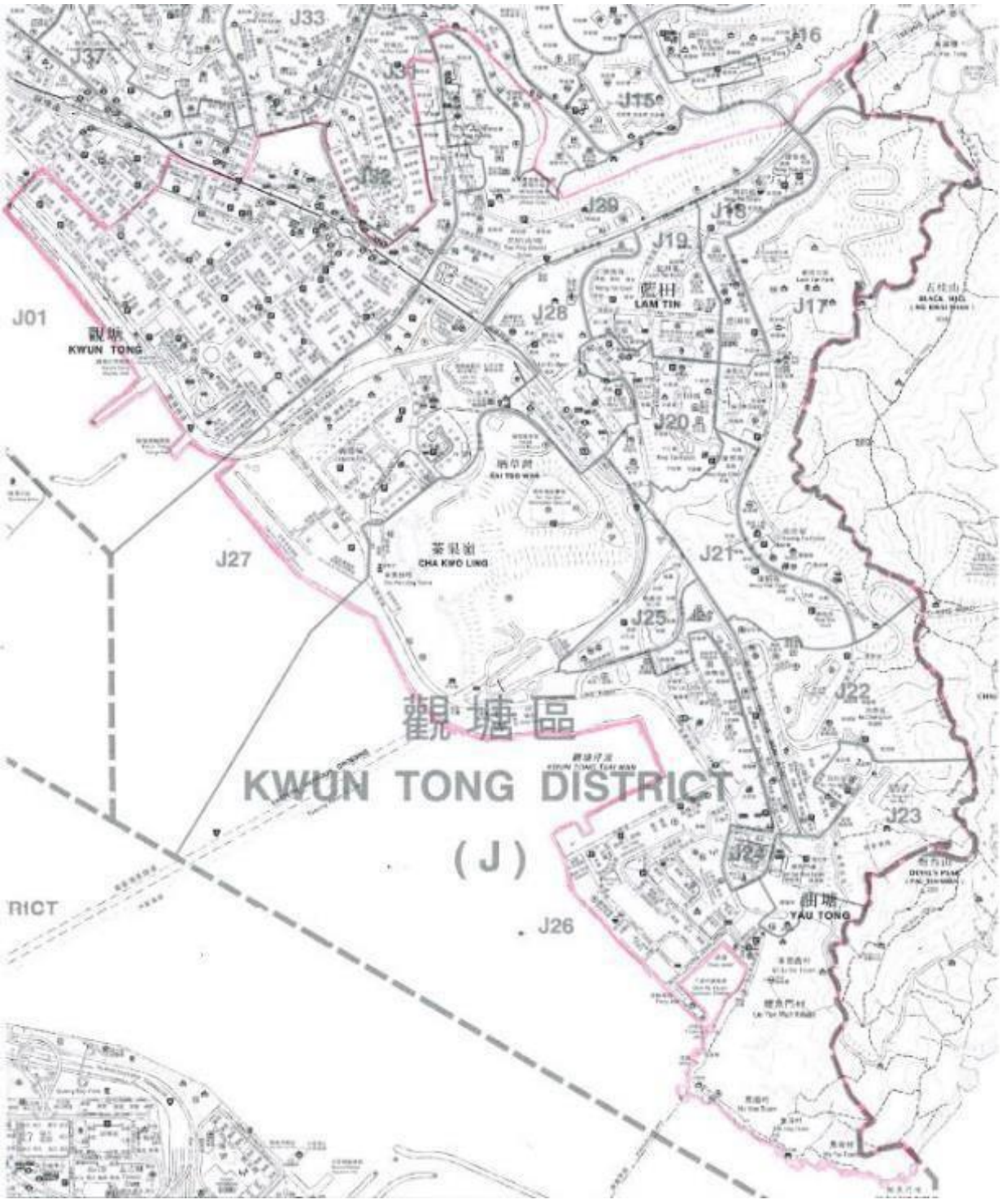
Attachment 3

Boundary of Contract Area B

LEGEND:

Contract Area B

Attachment 2

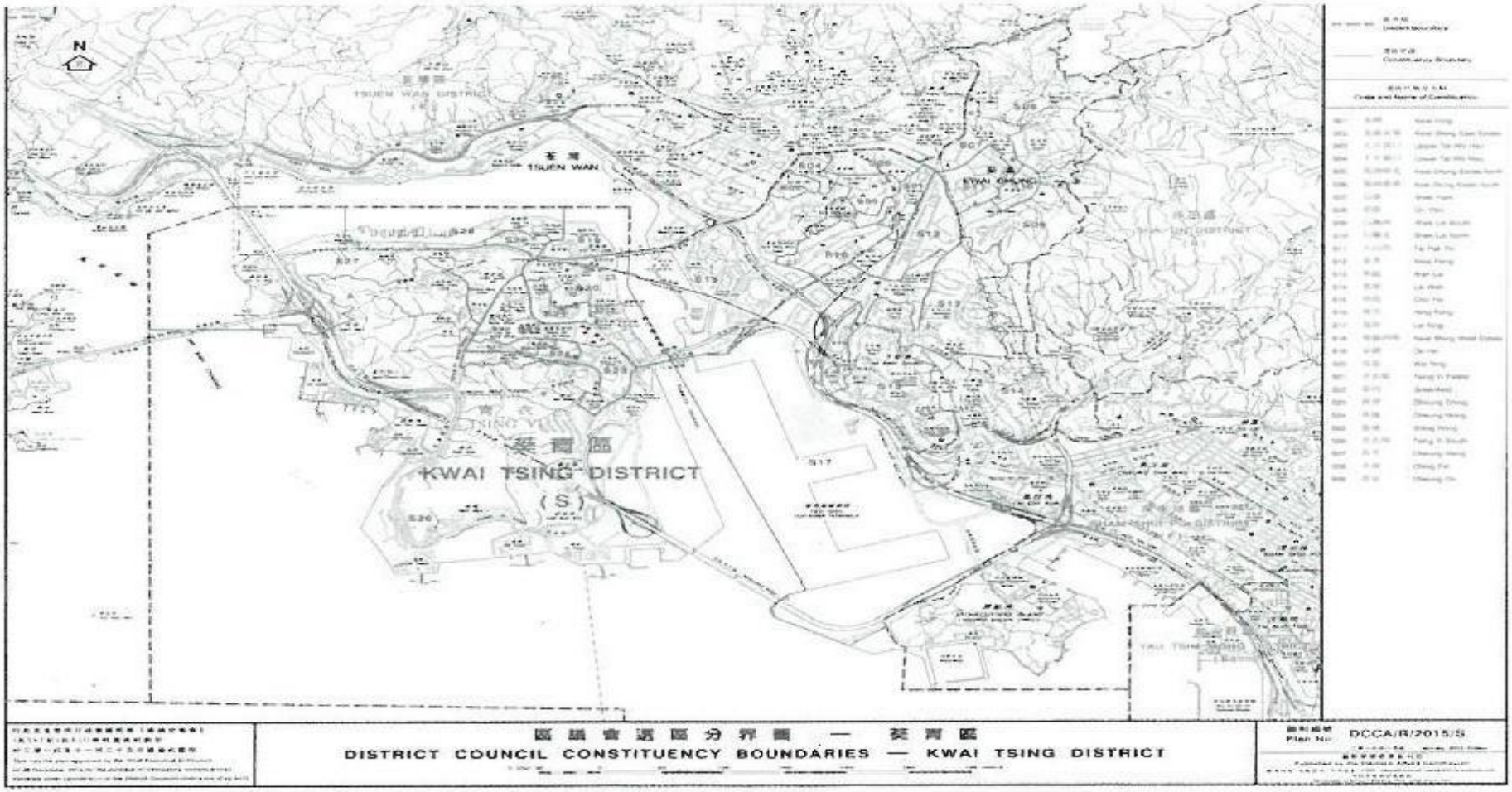


Boundary of Contract Area

LEGEND:

Contract Area

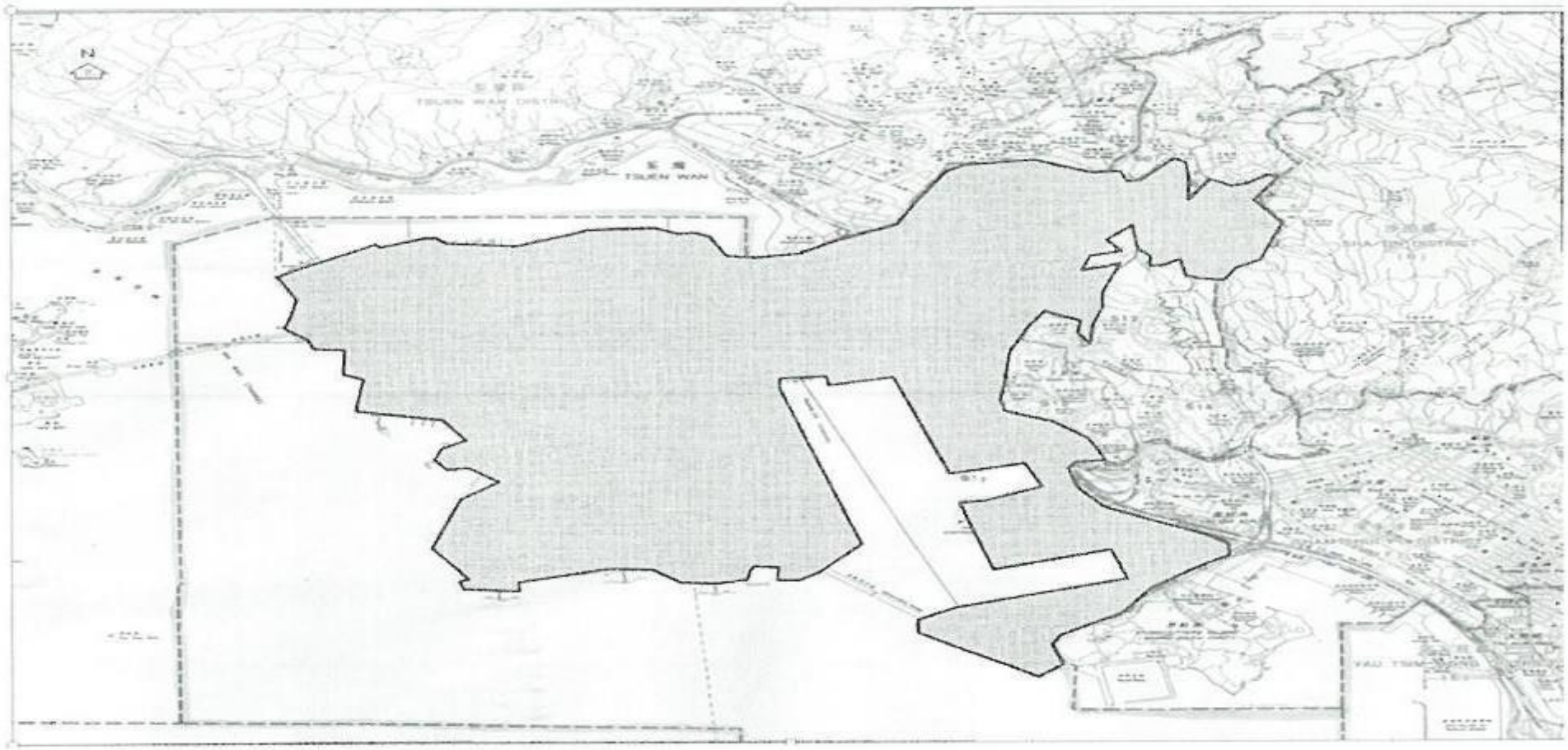
Attachment 1



Boundary of Kwai Tsing District

Legend: **Boundary of Kwai Tsing District**

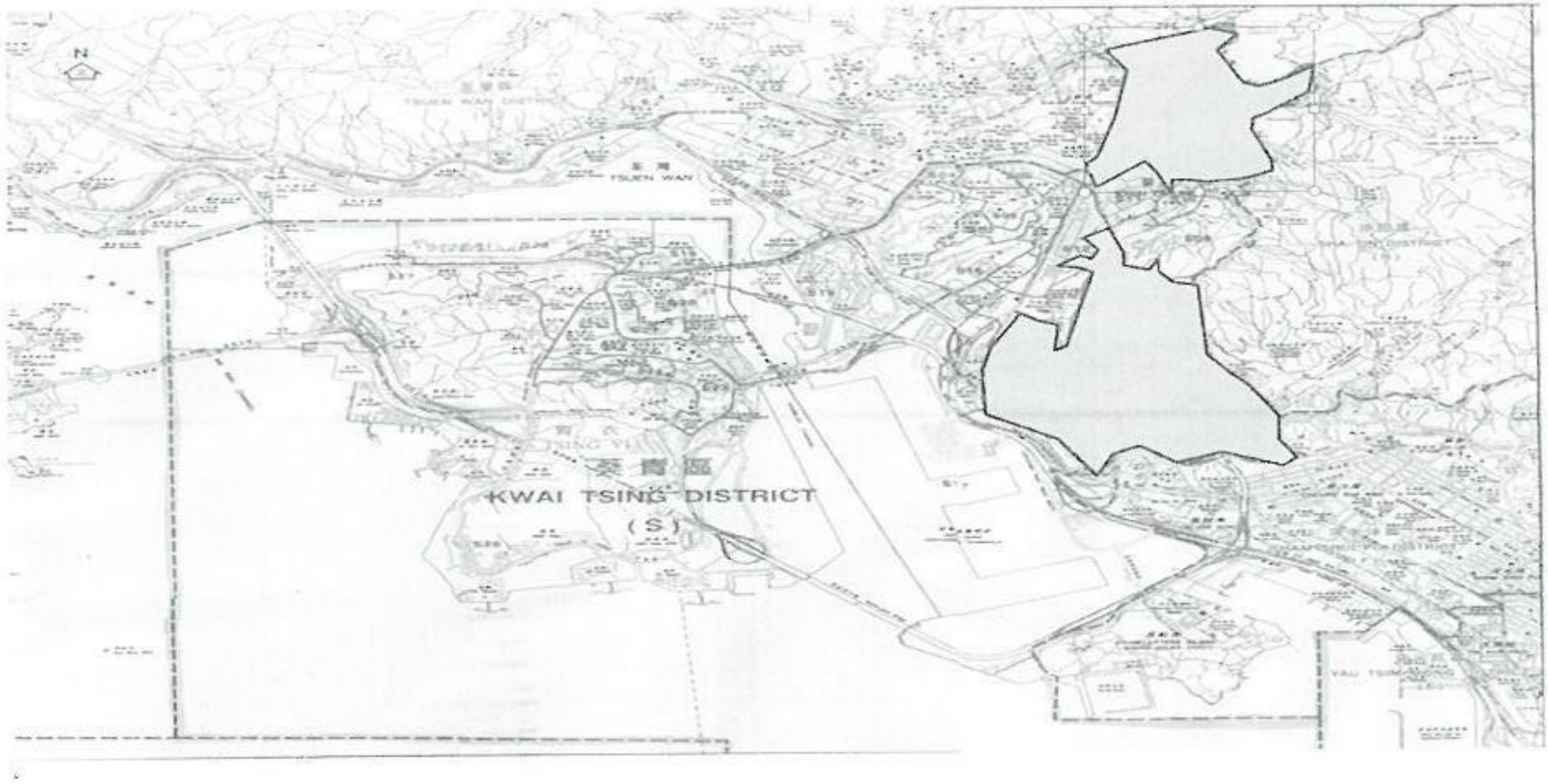
Attachment 2



Boundary of Contract Area A in Kwai Tsing District

Legend : **Contract Area A**

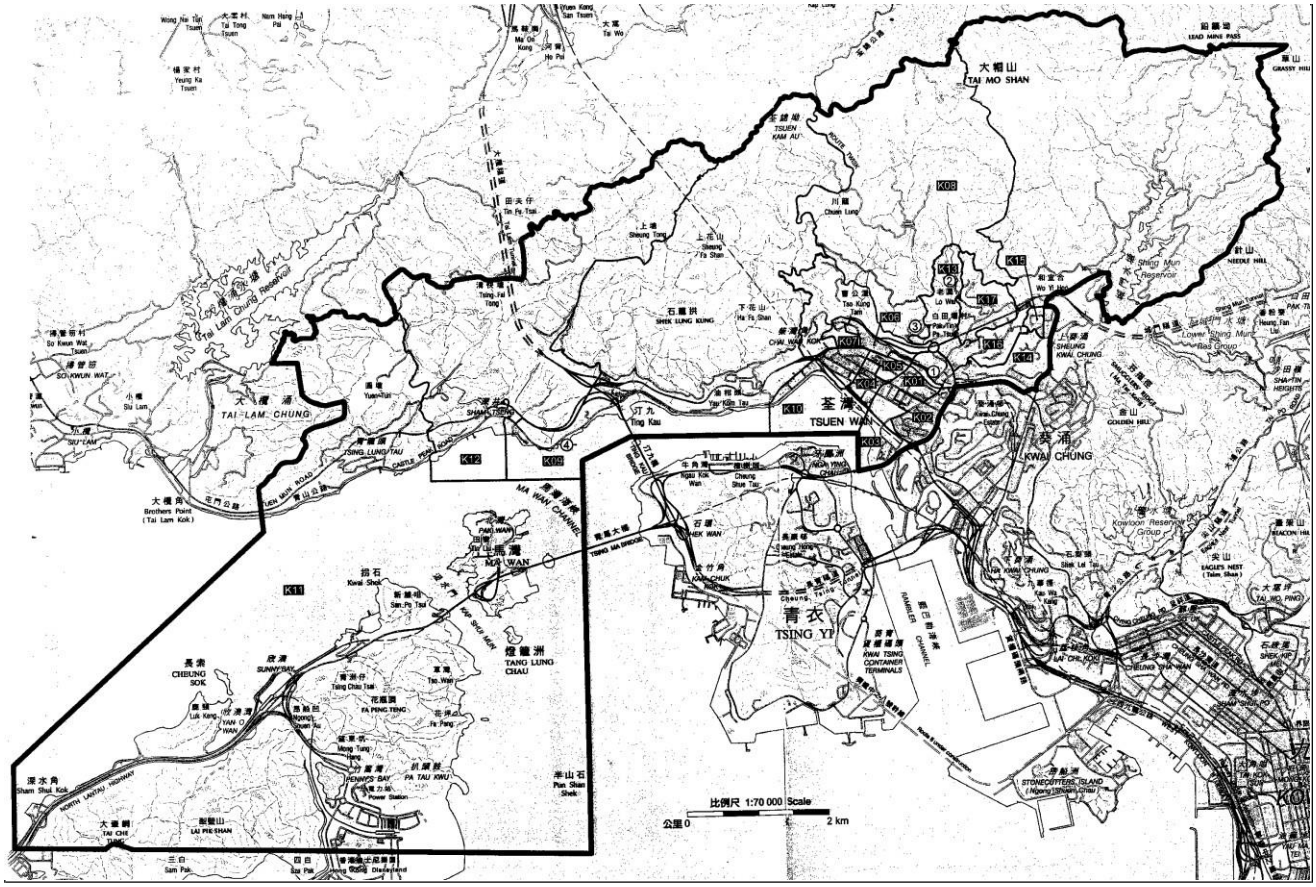
Attachment 3



Boundary of Contract Area B in Kwai Tsing District

Legend: **Contract Area**

Attachment

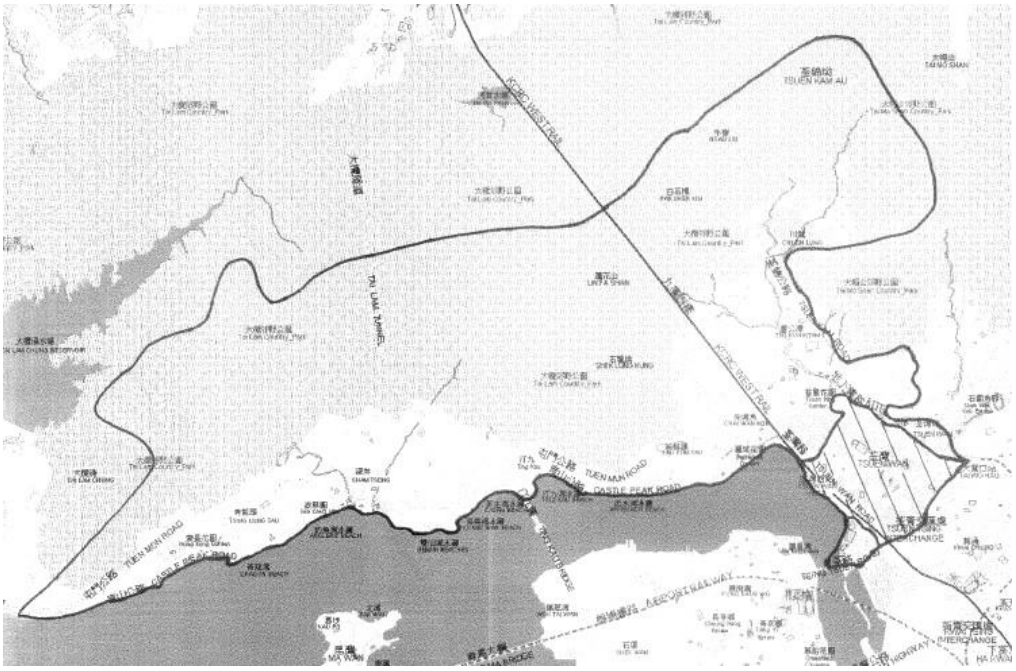


Boundary of Tsuen Wan District

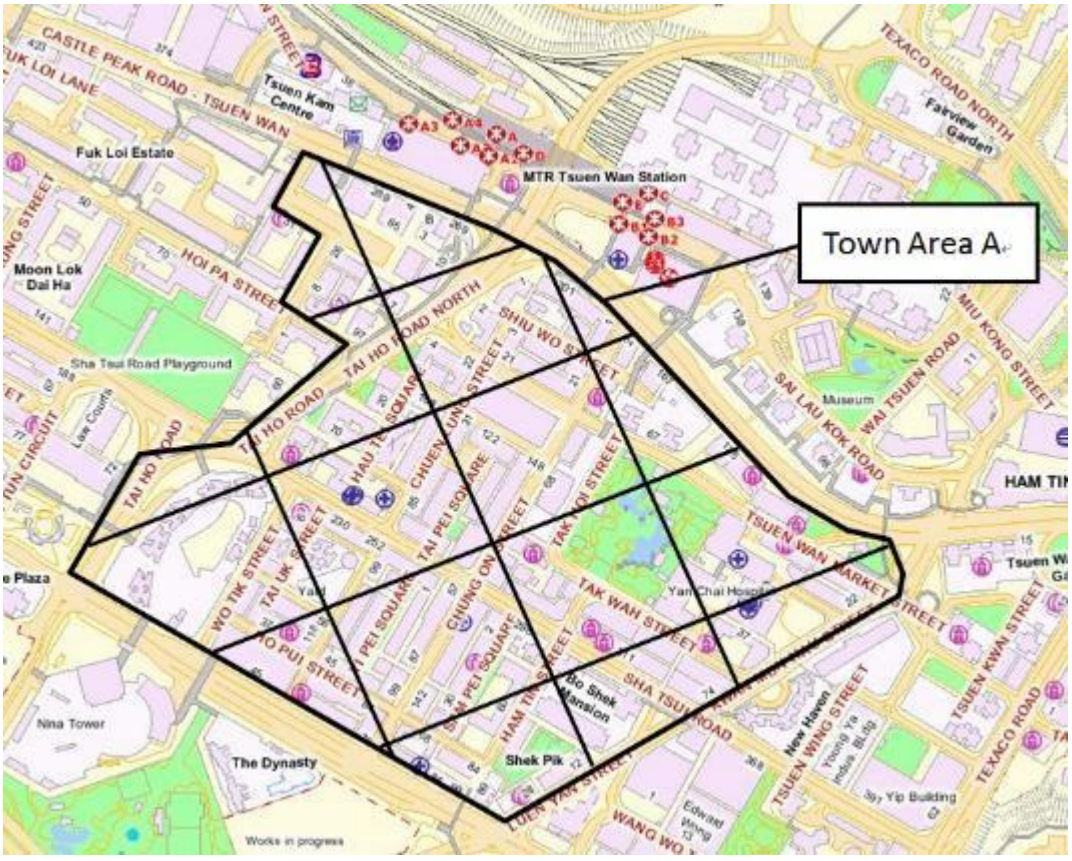
Legend

District Boundary

Attachment



Boundary of Contract Areas for Tsuen Wan Township and Remote Area



Boundary of Contract Areas for Tsuen Wan Township (Town area A)

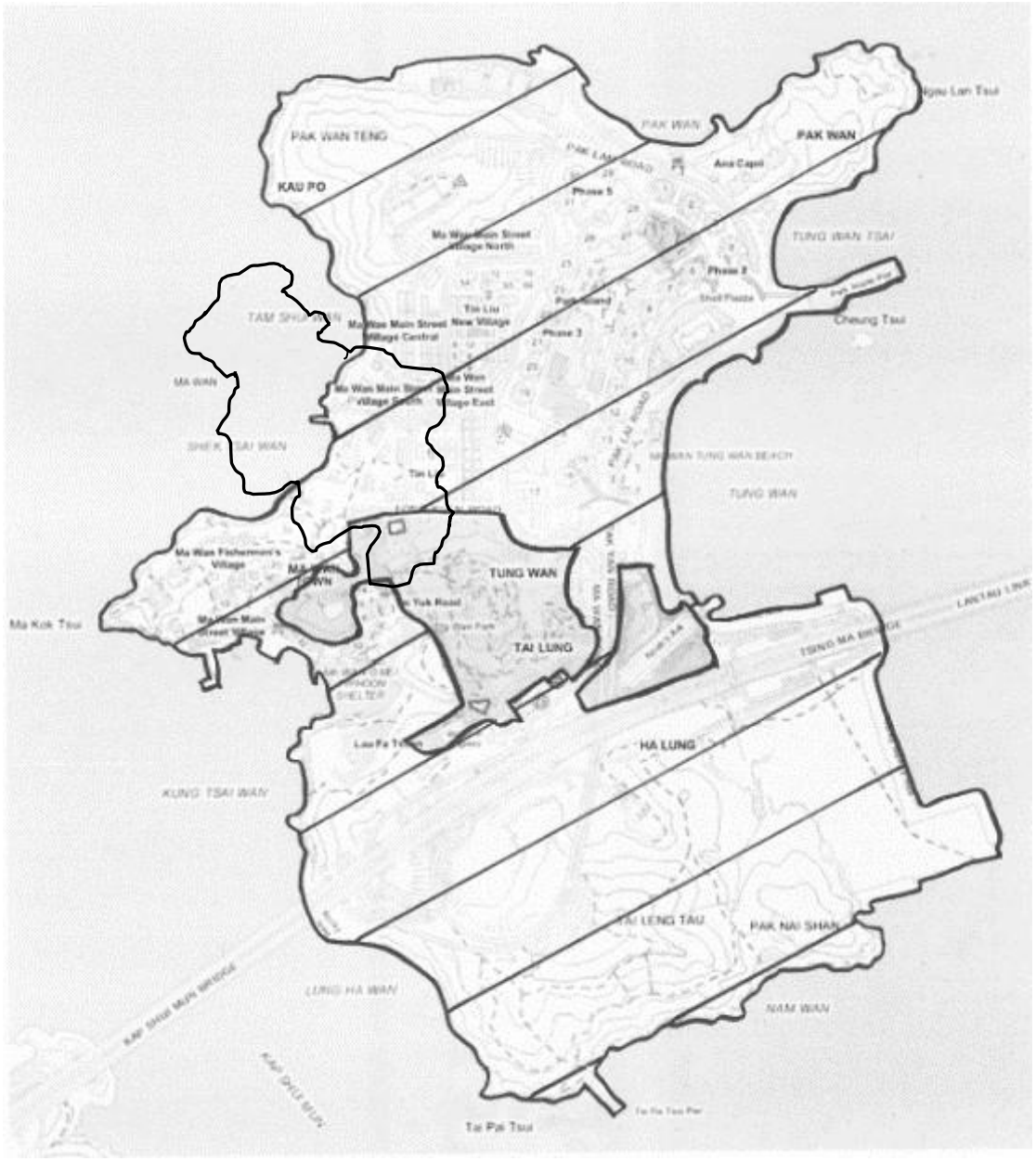
Legend

Contract Area (Town Area A)

Contract Area (Town Area)

Contract Area (Remote Area)

Attachment

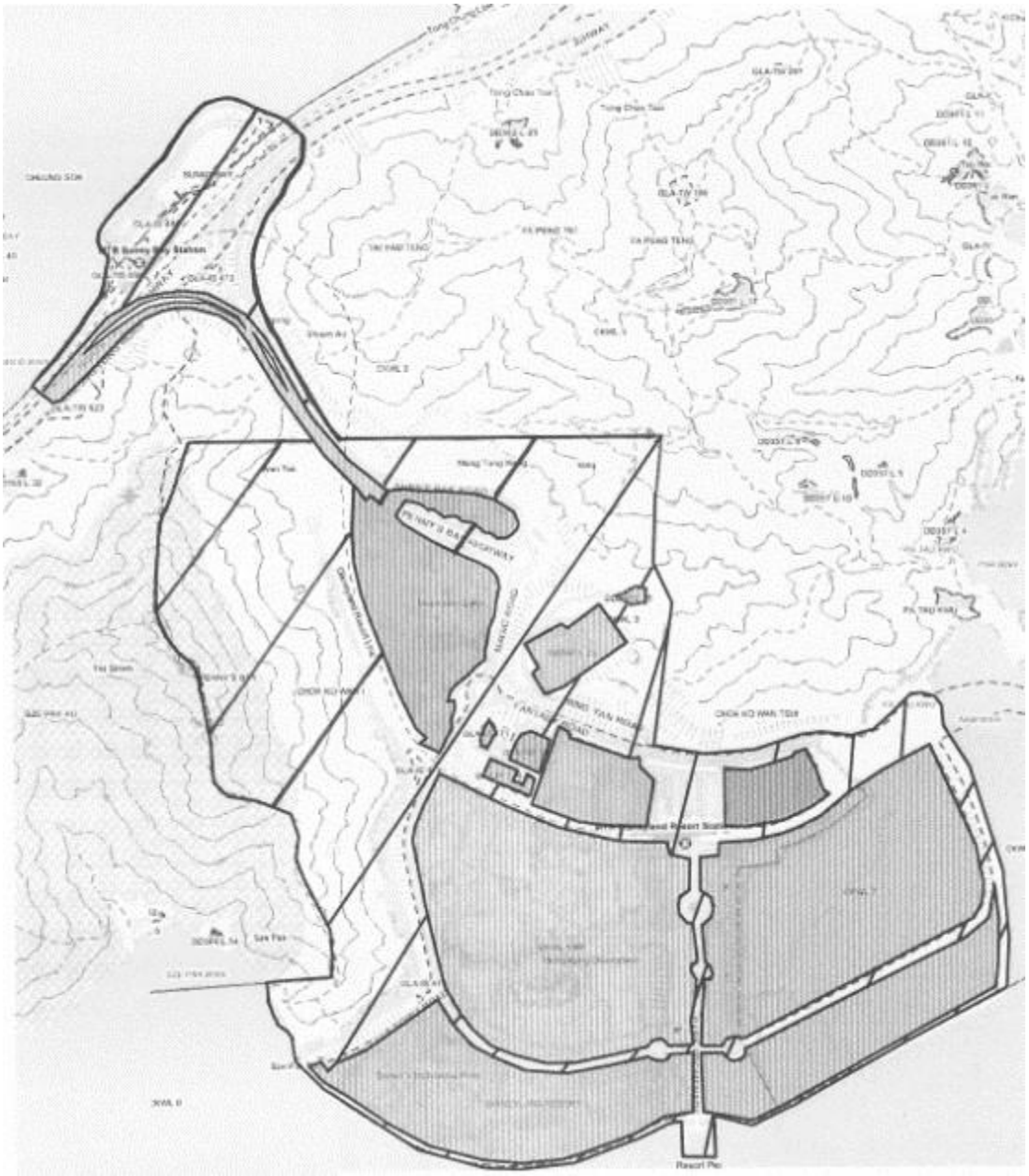


Boundary of Contract Area for Ma Wan

Legend

Contract Area

Attachment

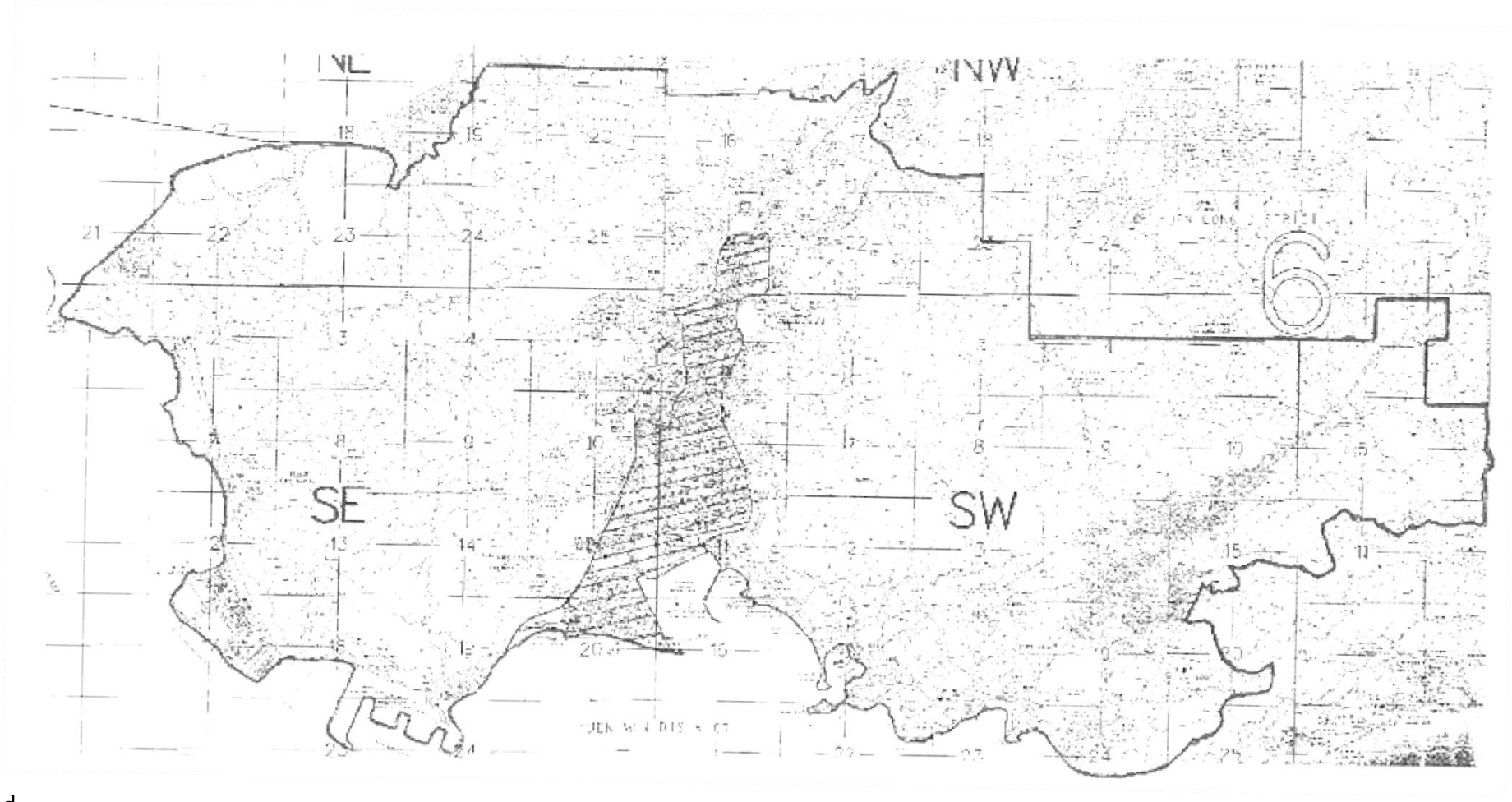


Boundary of Contract Area for Penny's Bay and Sunny Bay

Legend

Contract Area

Attachment 1



Legend

District

Map showing the District Boundary of Tuen Mun District

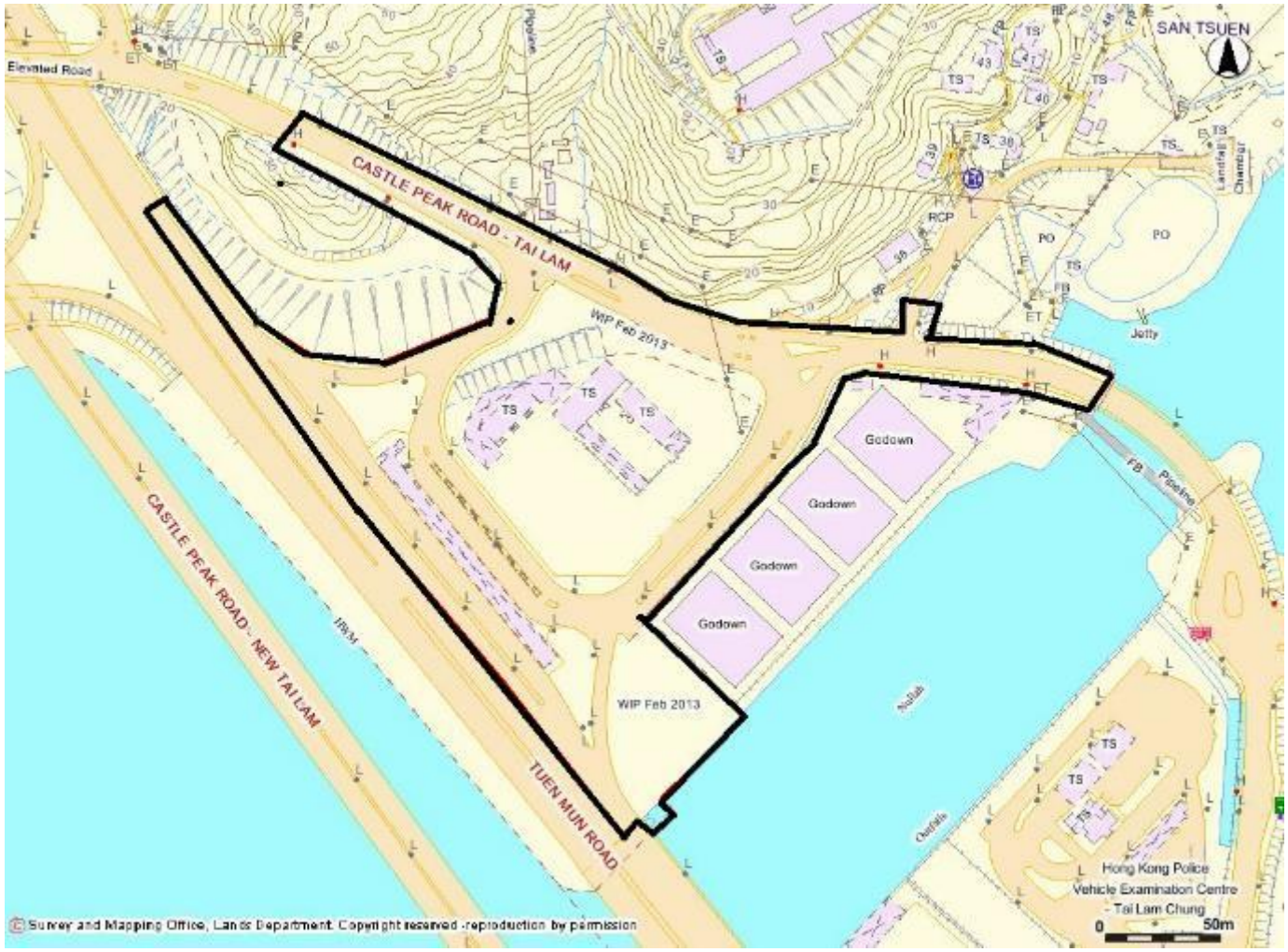
Attachment 2

Legend

Contract Area A (including breakwater in Castle Peak

Map showing the boundary of Contract Area A of Tuen Mun District

Attachment 3



Legend

Contract Area B

Map showing the boundary of Contract Area B of Tuen Mun District

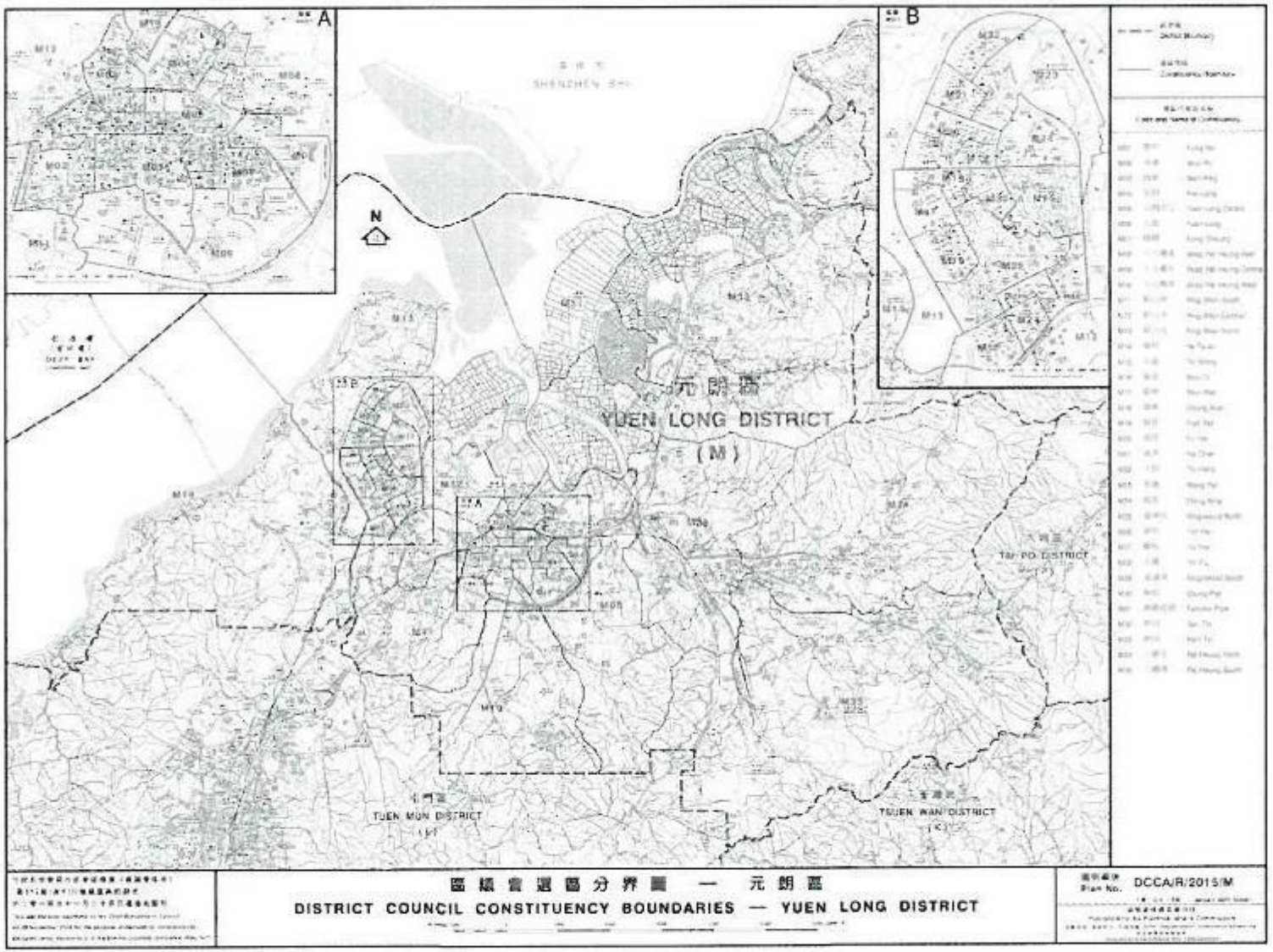
Attachment 4

Legend

Contract Area C

Map showing the boundary of Contract Area C of Tuen Mun District

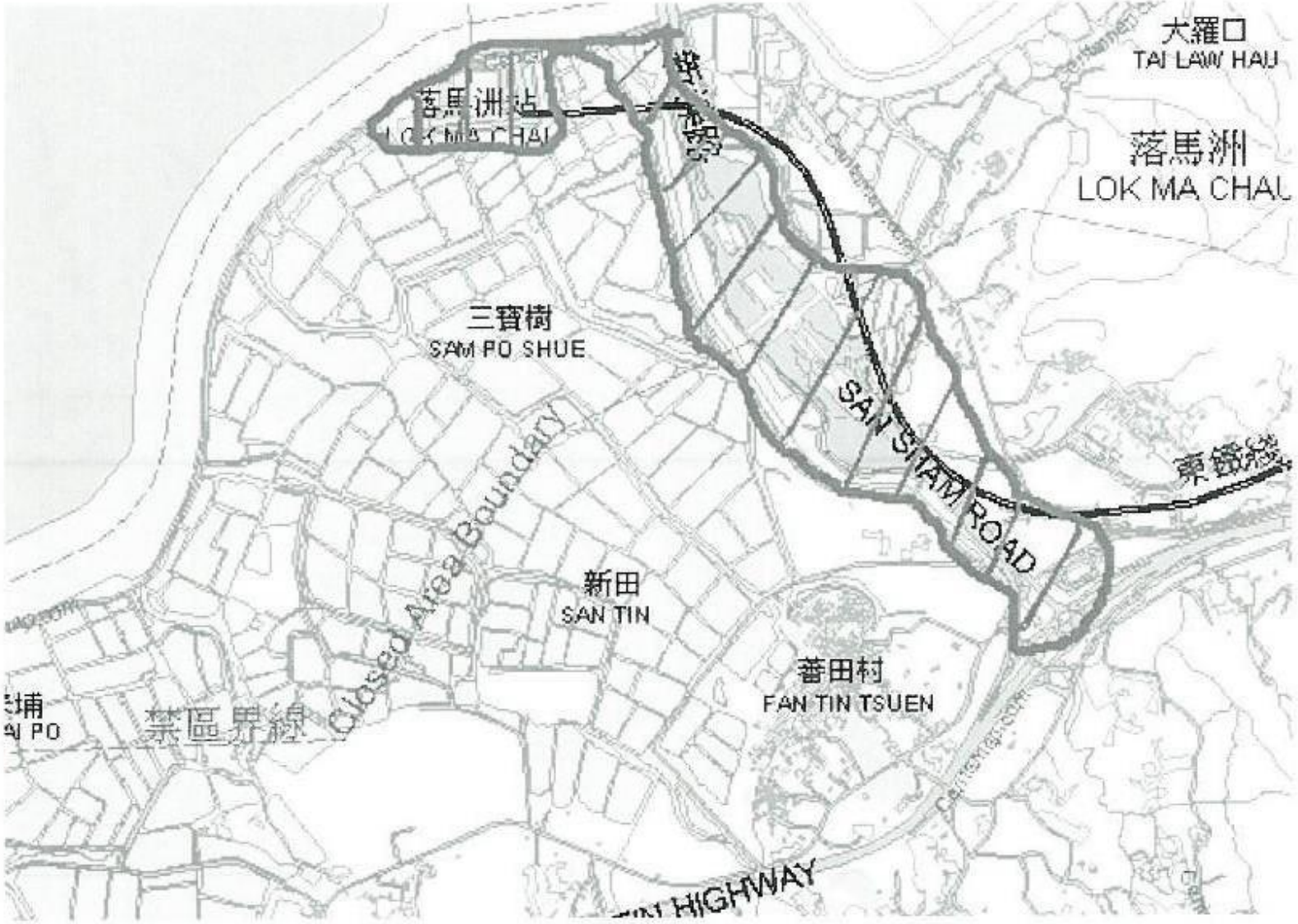
Attachment 1



Boundary of Yuen Long District

Legend: Boundary of Yuen Long District

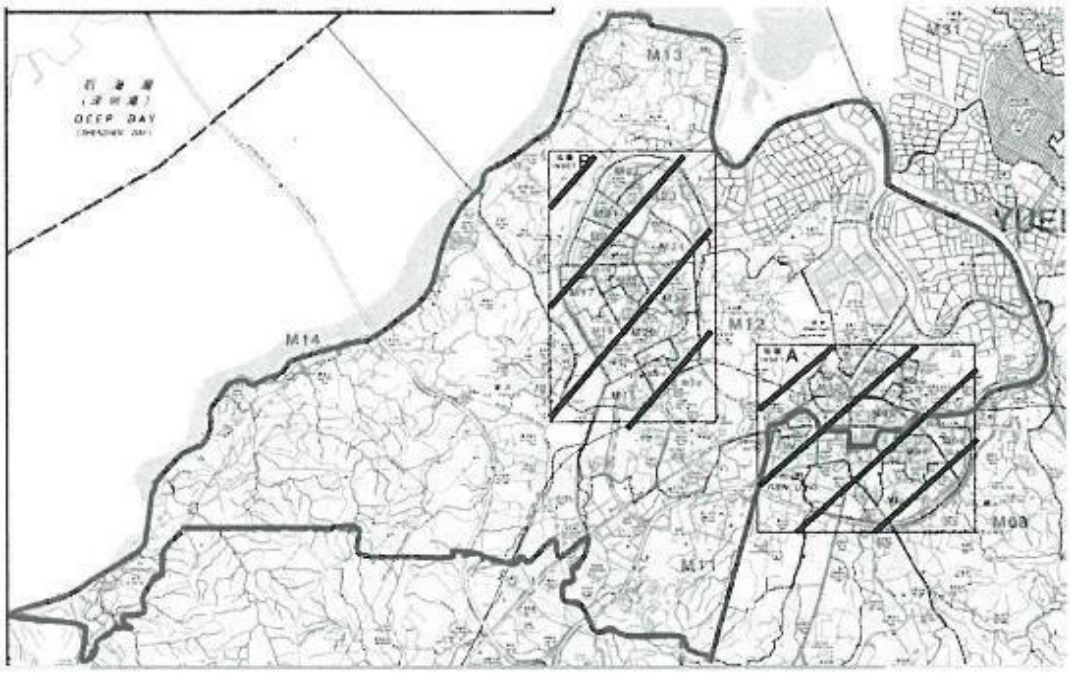
Attachment 3



Legend: Contract Area B

Boundary of Contract Area B in Yuen Long District (East)

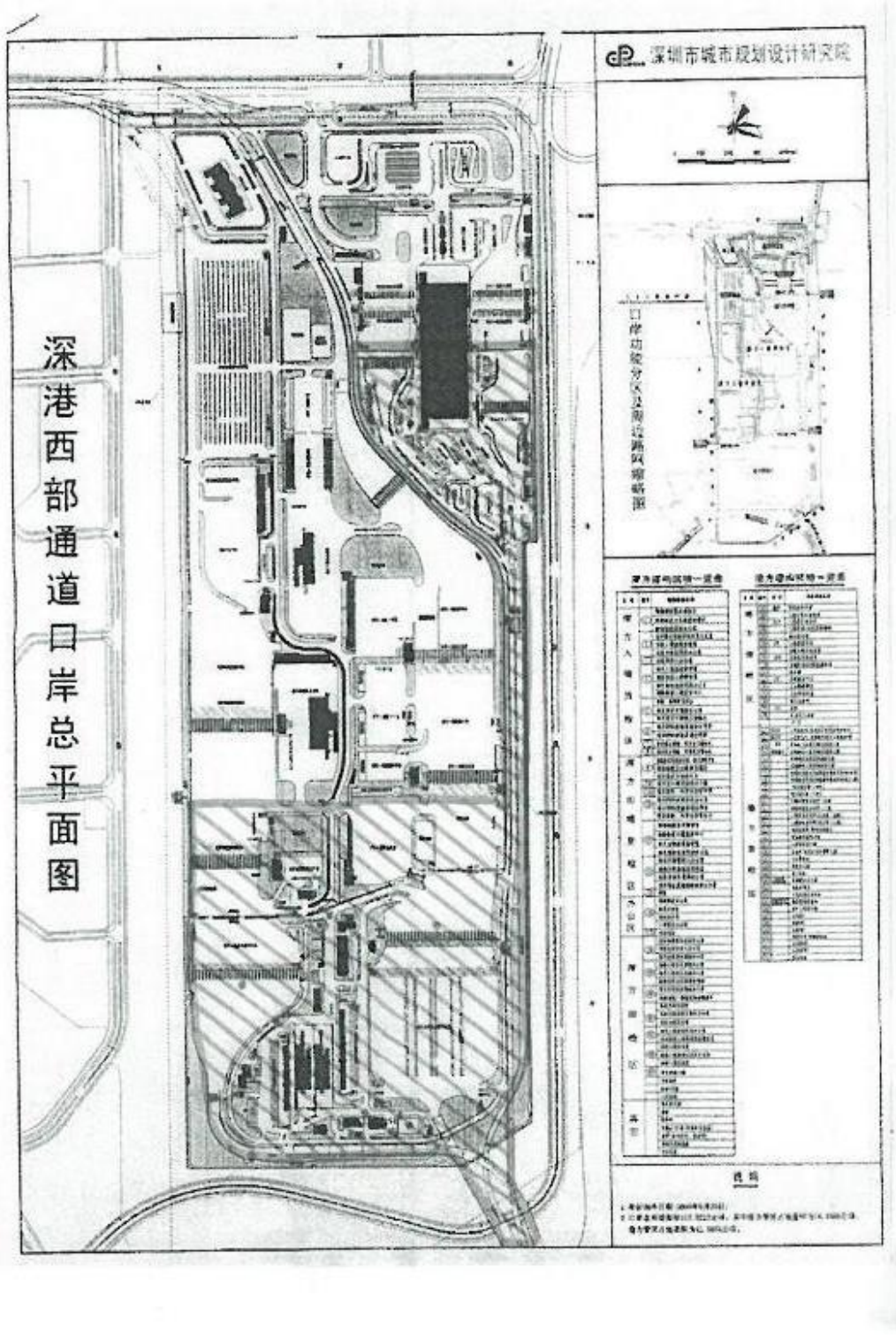
Attachment 2



Legend: Contract Area A

Boundary of Contract Area A in Yuen Long District (West)

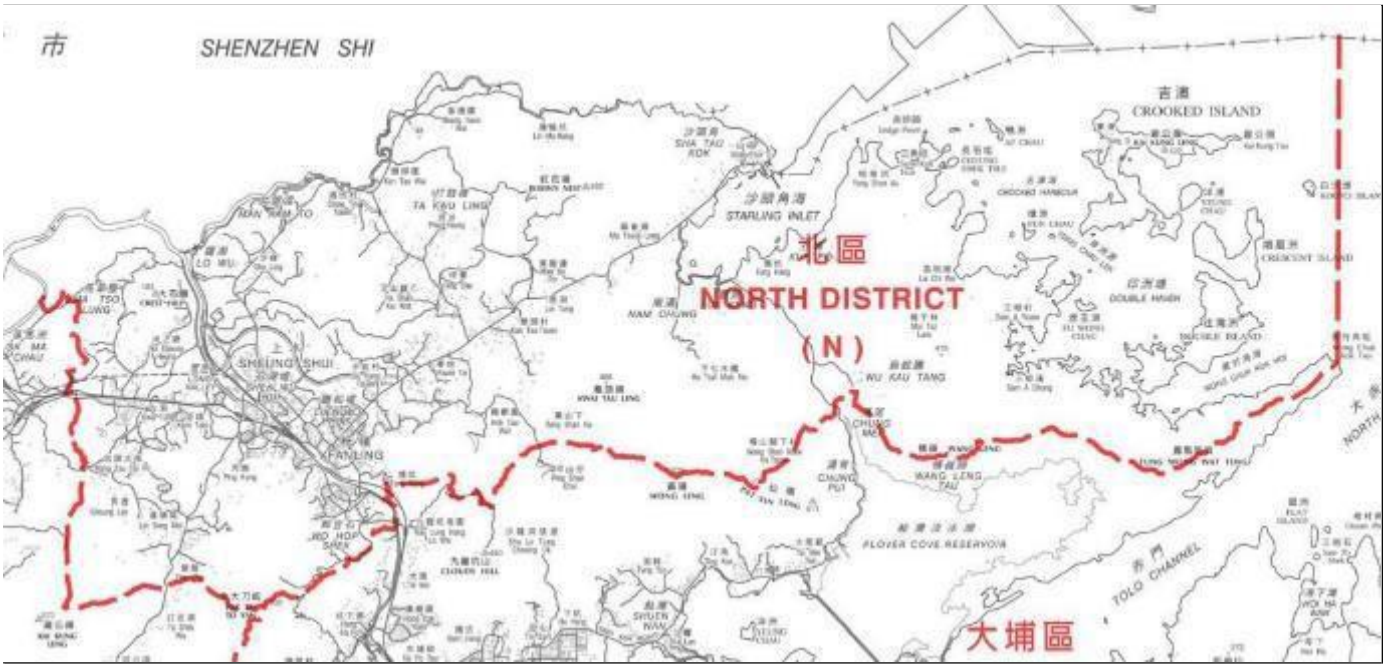
Attachment 3



Legend: Contract Area B

Boundary of Contract Area B in Yuen Long District (West)

Attachment 1



Boundary of North District

Legend

District

Attachment 2

Boundary of Contract Area

Legend:

Contract Area

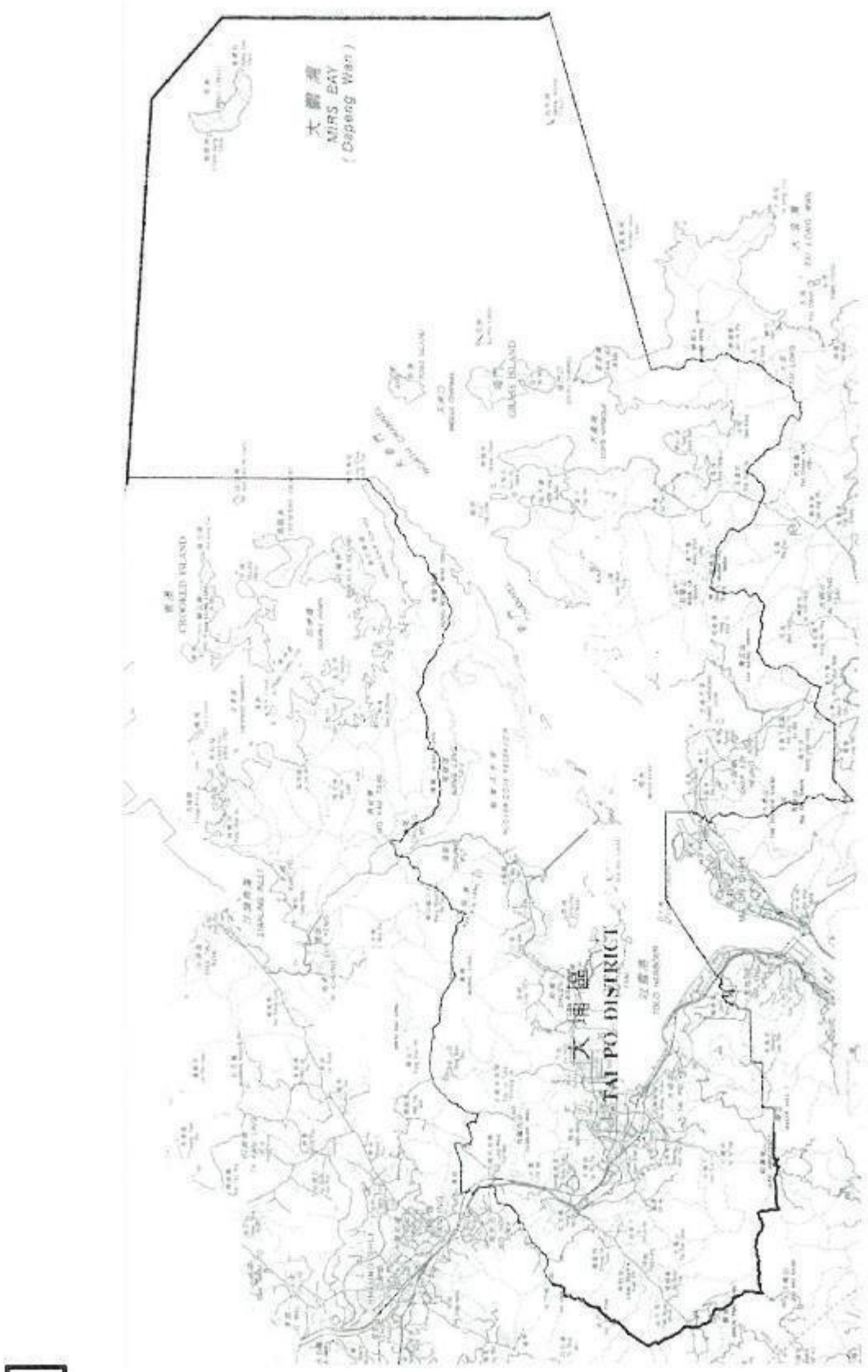
Attachment 2

Boundary of Contract Area

Legend:

Contract Area

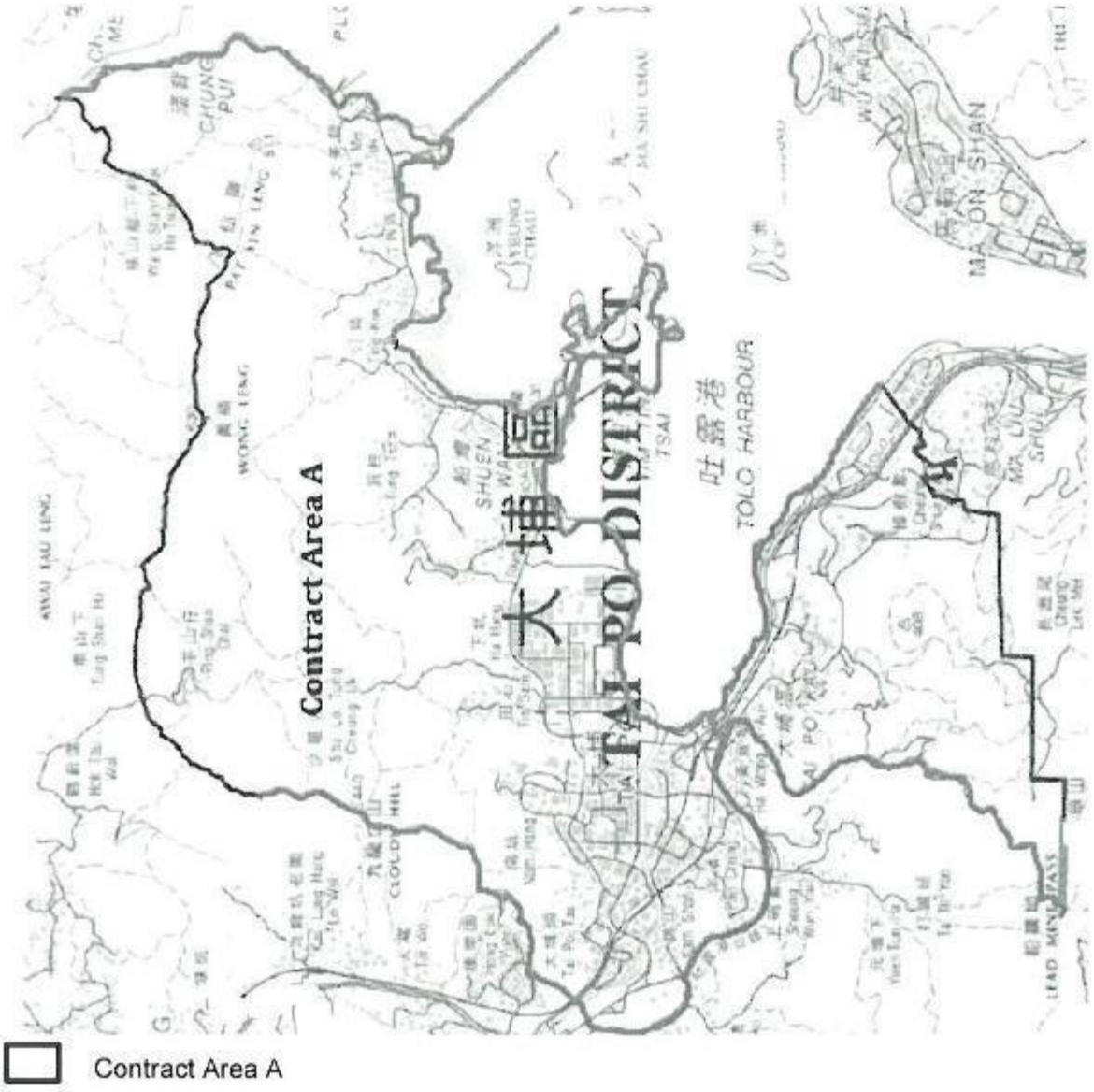
Attachment 1



Boundary of Tai Po District

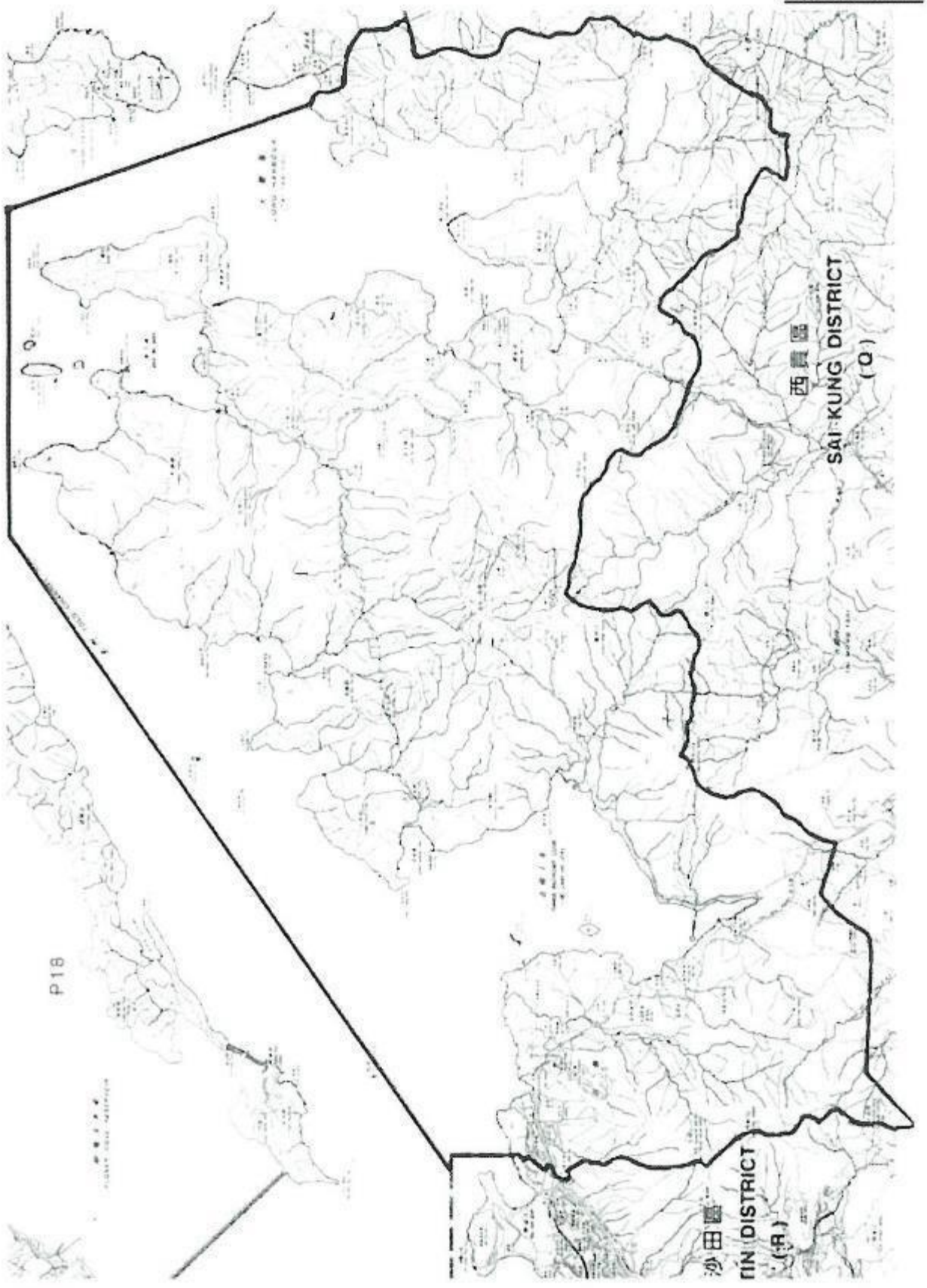
Boundary of Tai Po District

Attachment 3



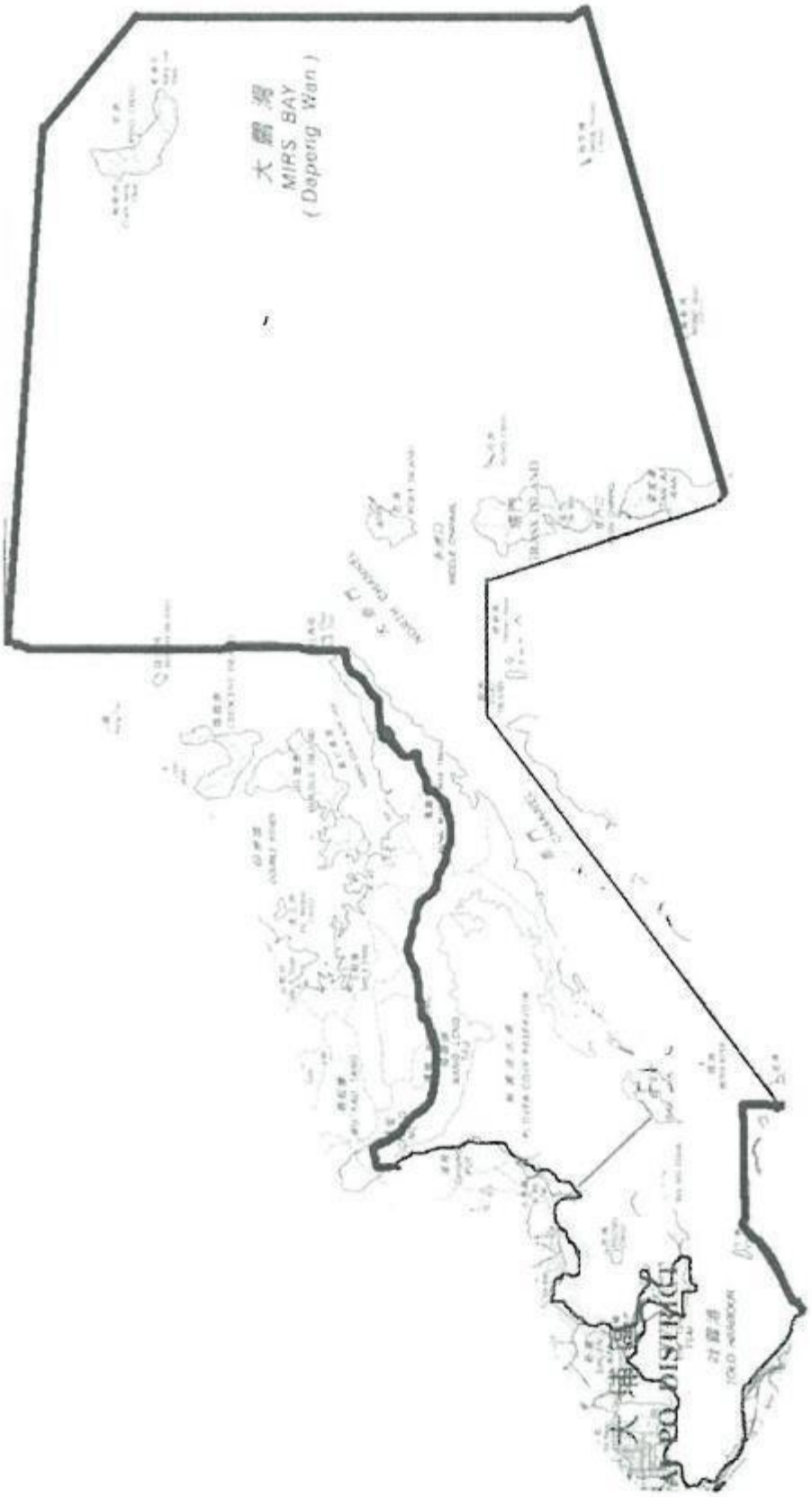
Map Showing Contract Area A in Tai Po District

Attachment 4



Map showing Contract Area B in Tai Po District

Attachment 5



Contract Area C

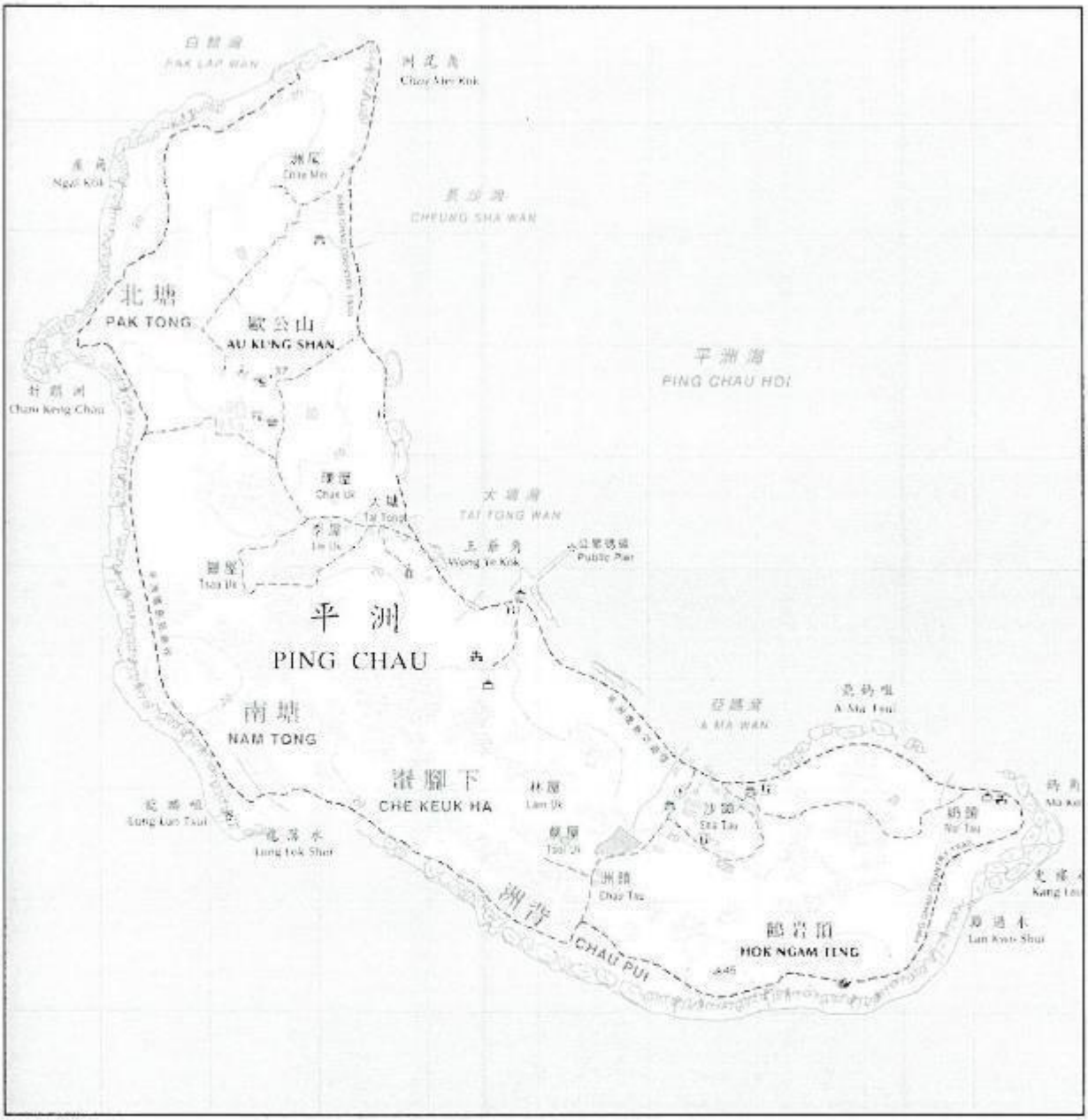
Map showing Contract Area C in Tai Po District

Attachment 6

Location Map showing Tap Mun

Contract Area shall include all footpaths to villages that located outside the boundary of country and marine park of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, piers / jetties, refuse collection points, public toilets in Tap Mun.

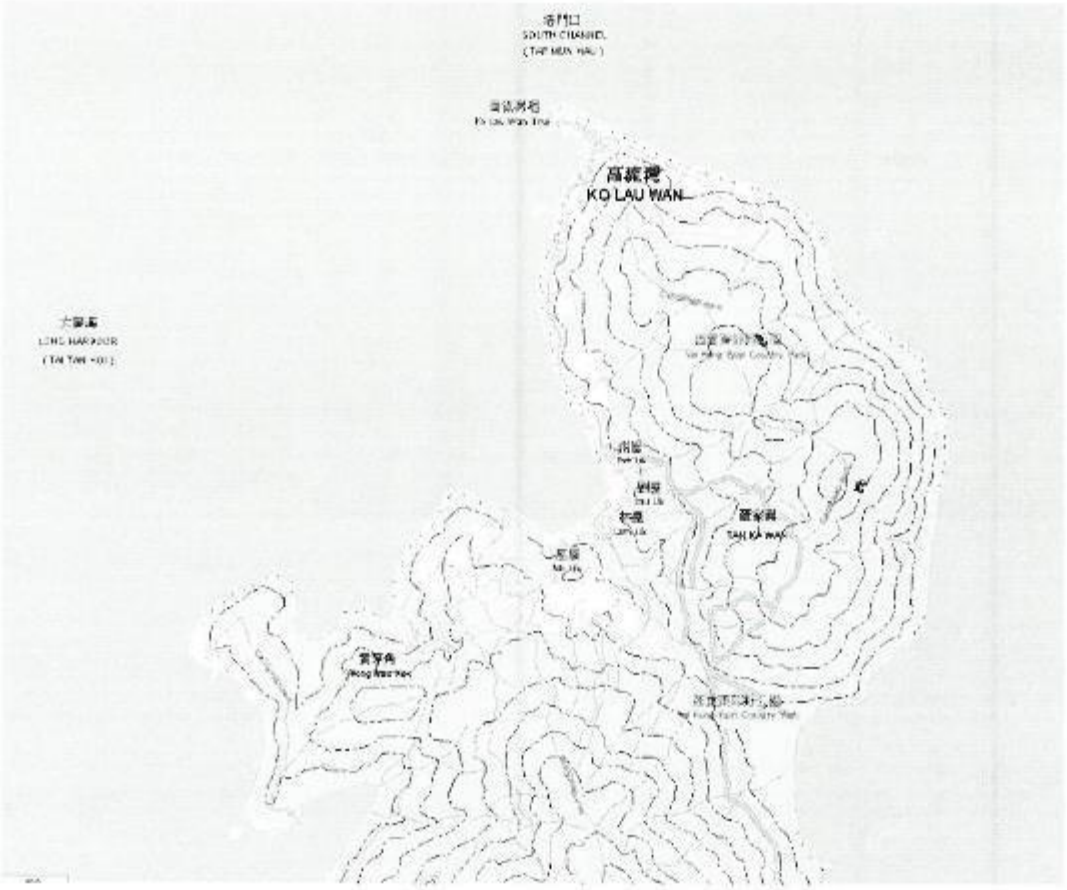
Attachment 7



Location Map showing Tung Ping Chau

Contract Area shall include all footpaths to the seven (7) villages namely Chan Uk, Tai Tong, Lei Uk, Lam Uk, Tsoi Uk, Chau Tau and Sha Tau that located outside the boundary of country and marine park of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, pier, aqua privies and public toilet and the footpaths connected thereat in Tung Ping Chau.

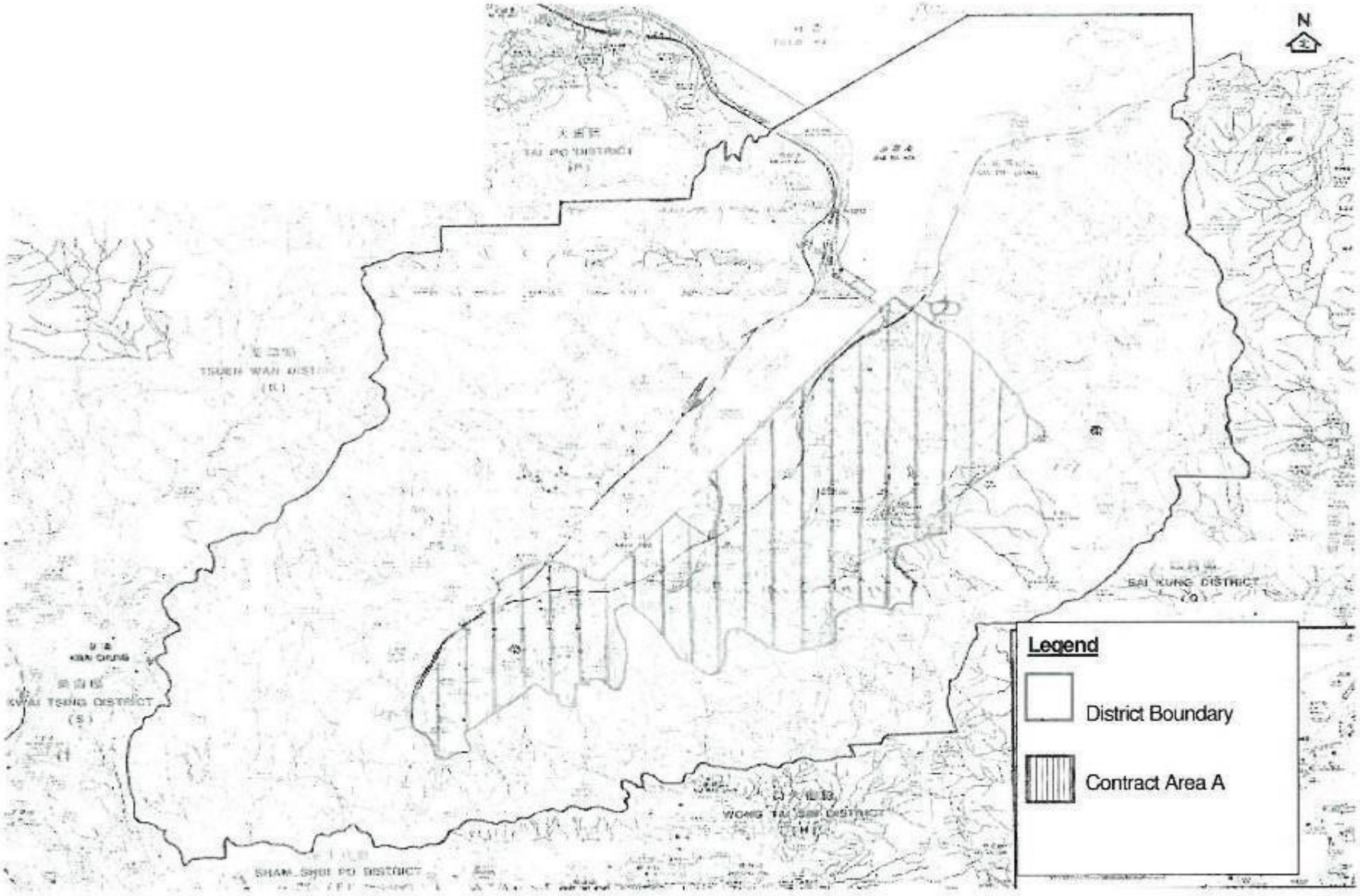
Attachment 8



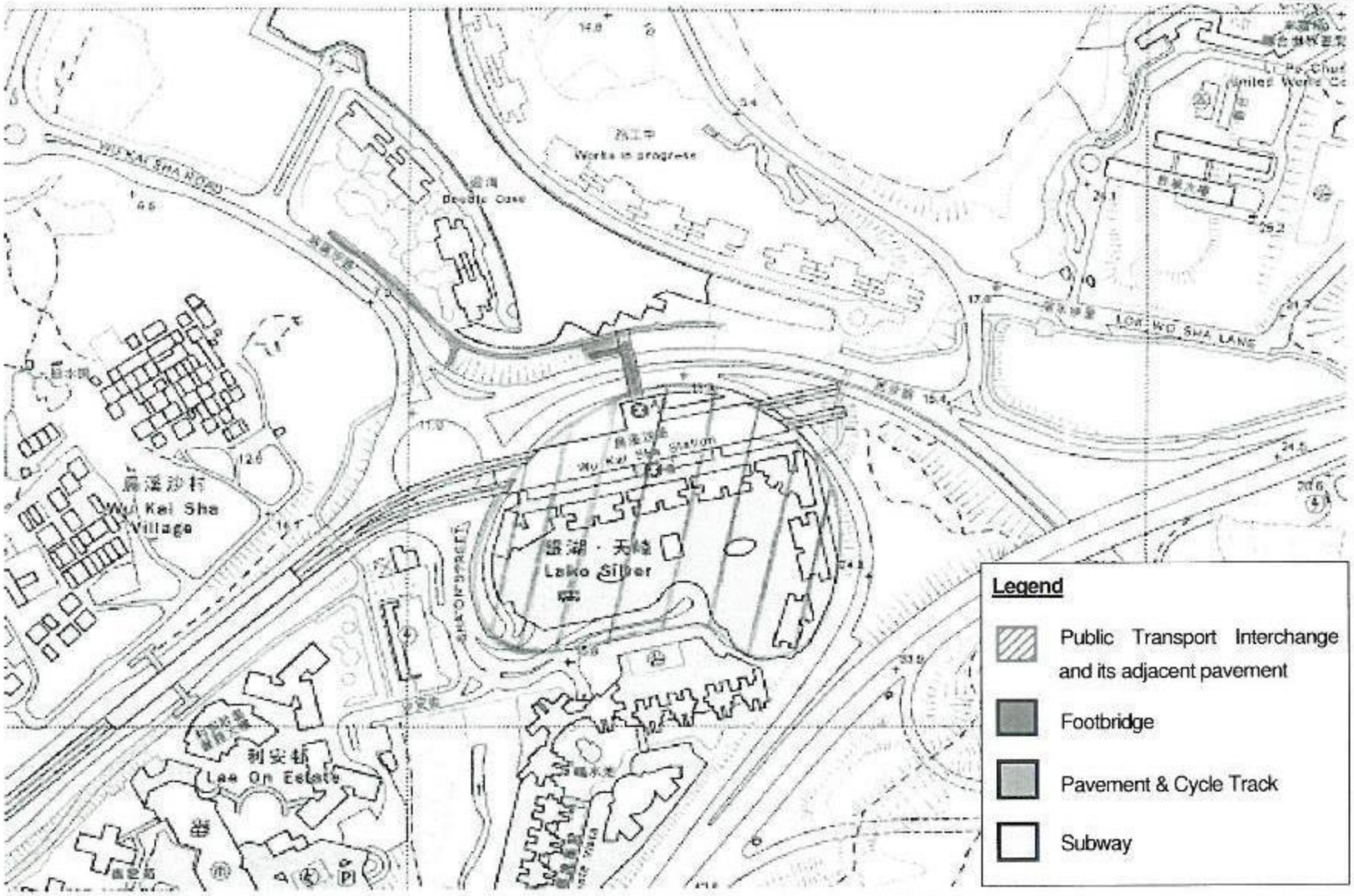
Location Map showing Ko Lau Wan and Tan Ka Wan

Contract Area shall include all footpaths to the four (4) villages namely Mo Uk, Lam Uk, Lau Uk and Tse Uk that located outside the boundary of country and marine park of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, piers / jetties, refuse collection points, public toilets in Ko Lau Wan and Tan Ka Wan.

Attachment 1

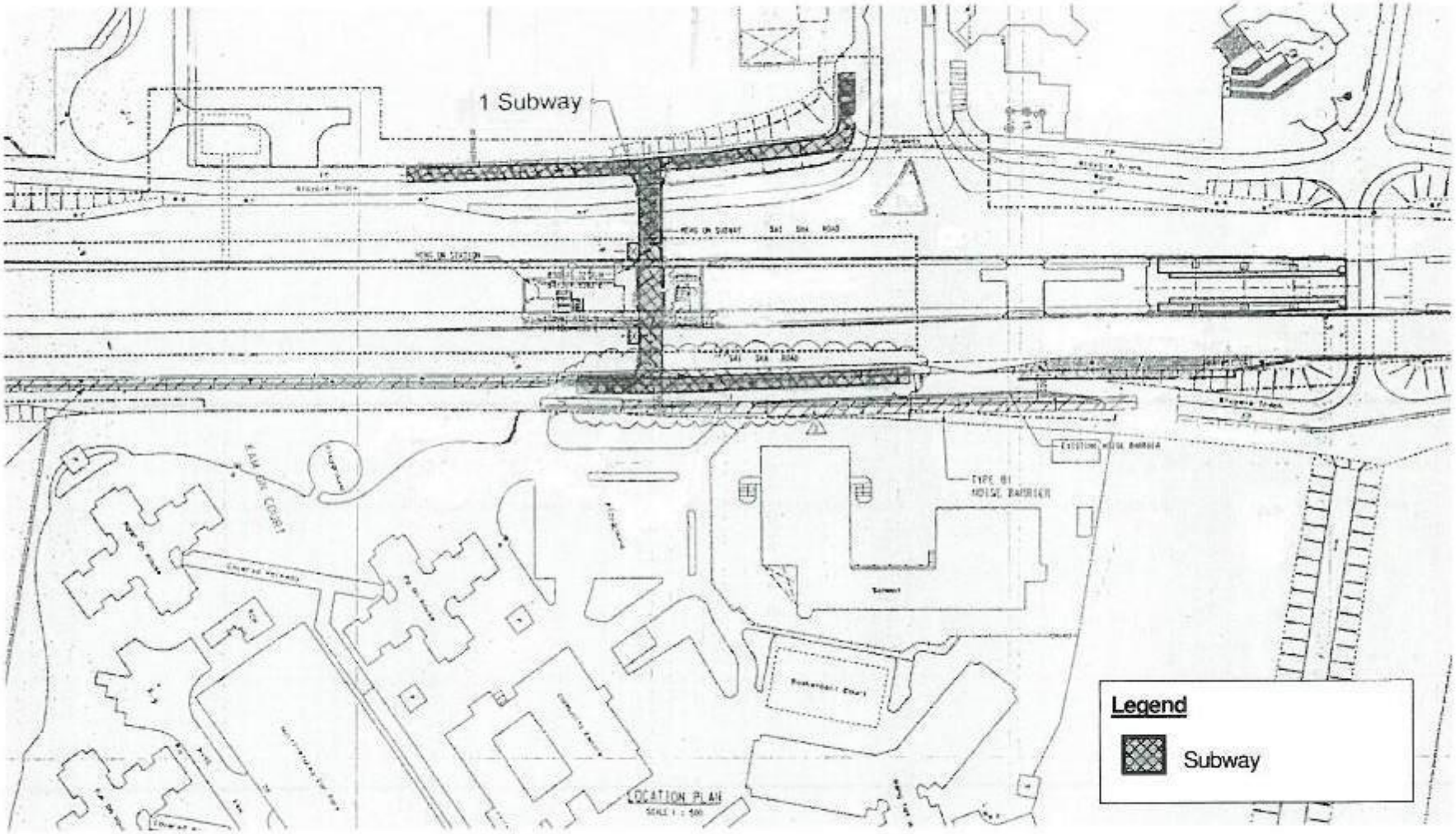


Attachment 2(1)



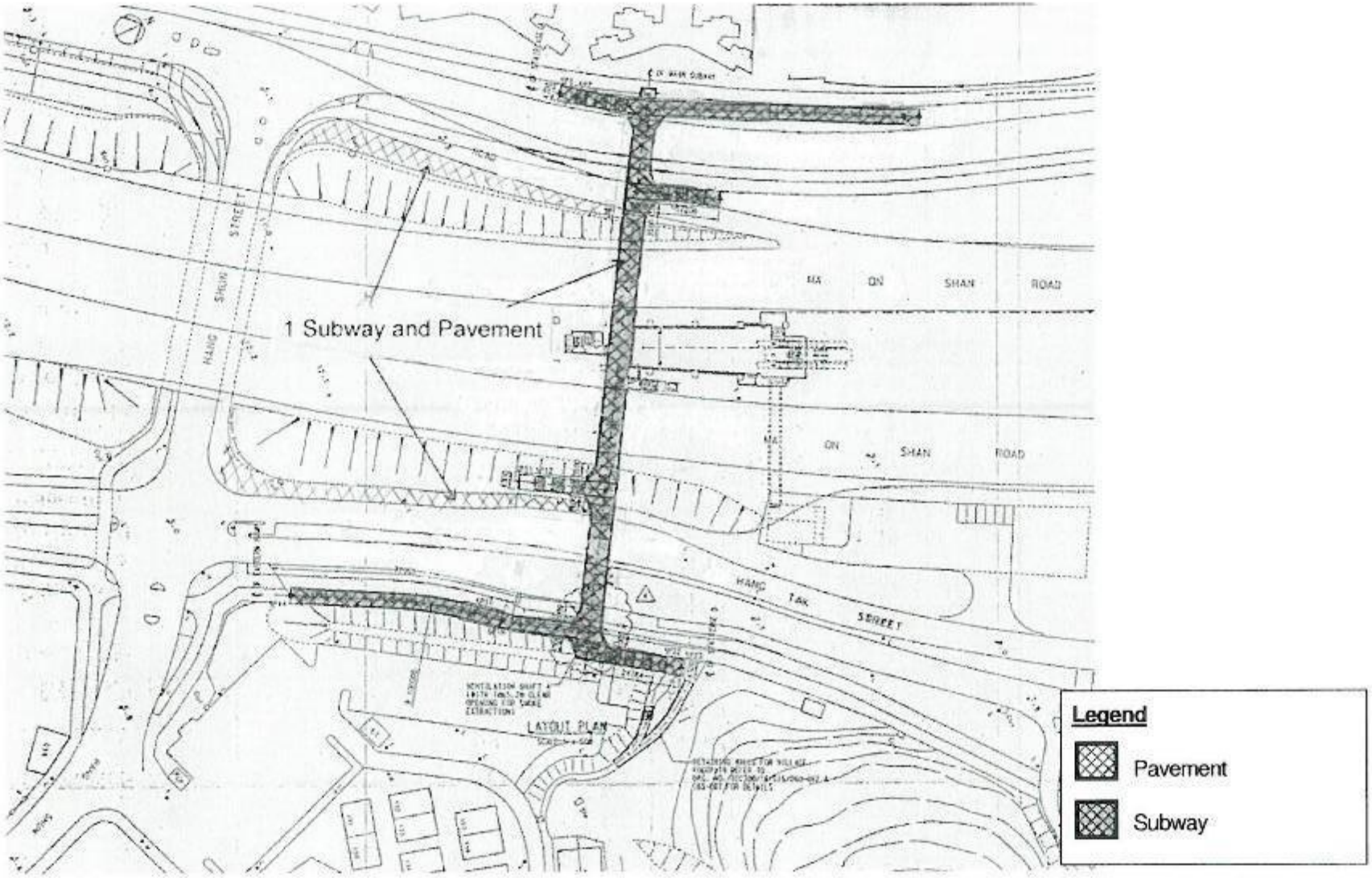
Contract Area B - Location 1 – Wu Kai Sha Station of Ma On Shan MTR (Sai Sha Road and Sha On Street)

Attachment 2(2)



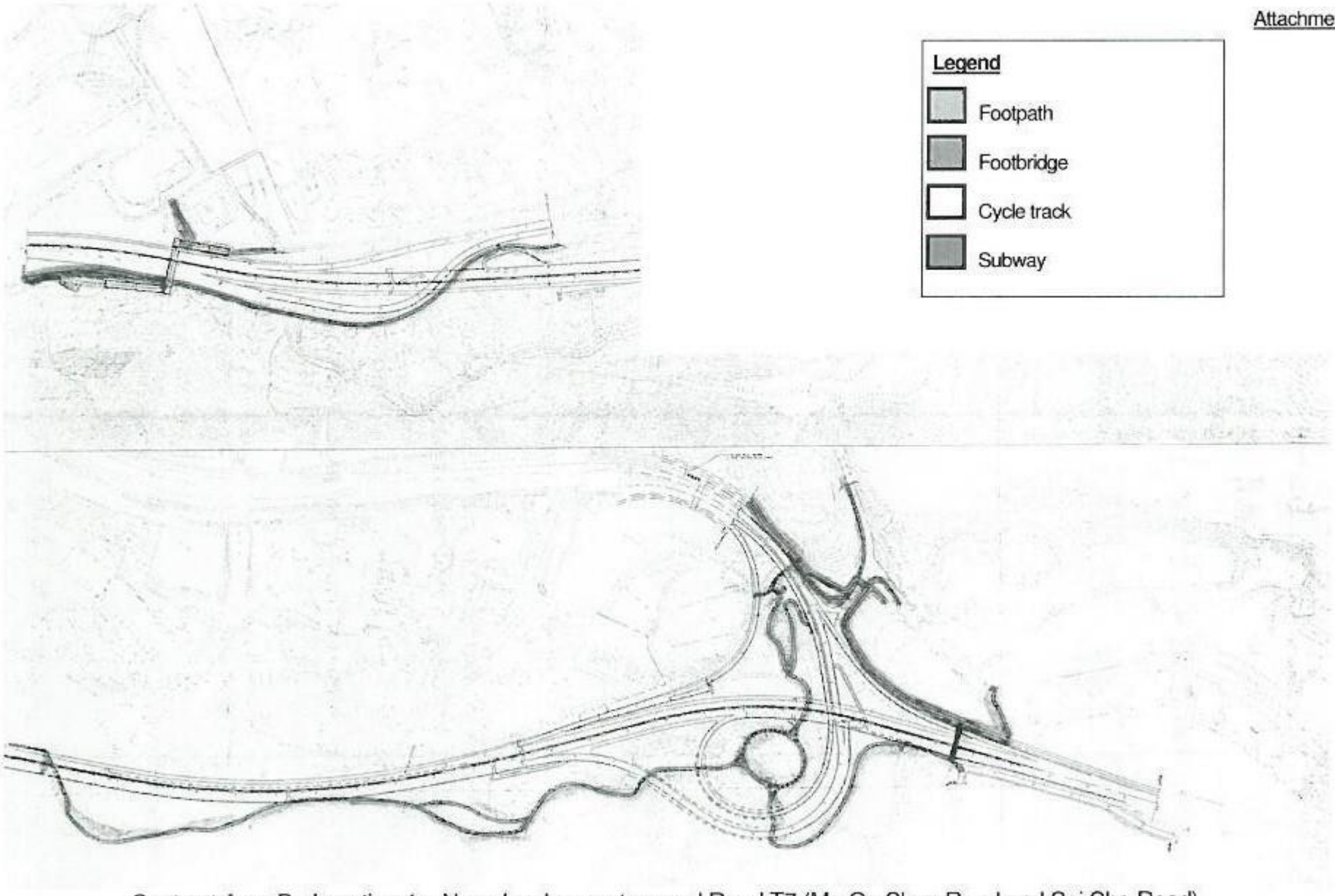
Contract Area B - Location 2 – Hang On Station of Ma On Shan MTR (Sai Sha Road)

Attachment 2(3)



Contract Area B - Location 3 – Tai Shui Hang Station of Ma On Shan MTR (Hang Tak Street and Hang Tai Street)

Attachment 2(4)

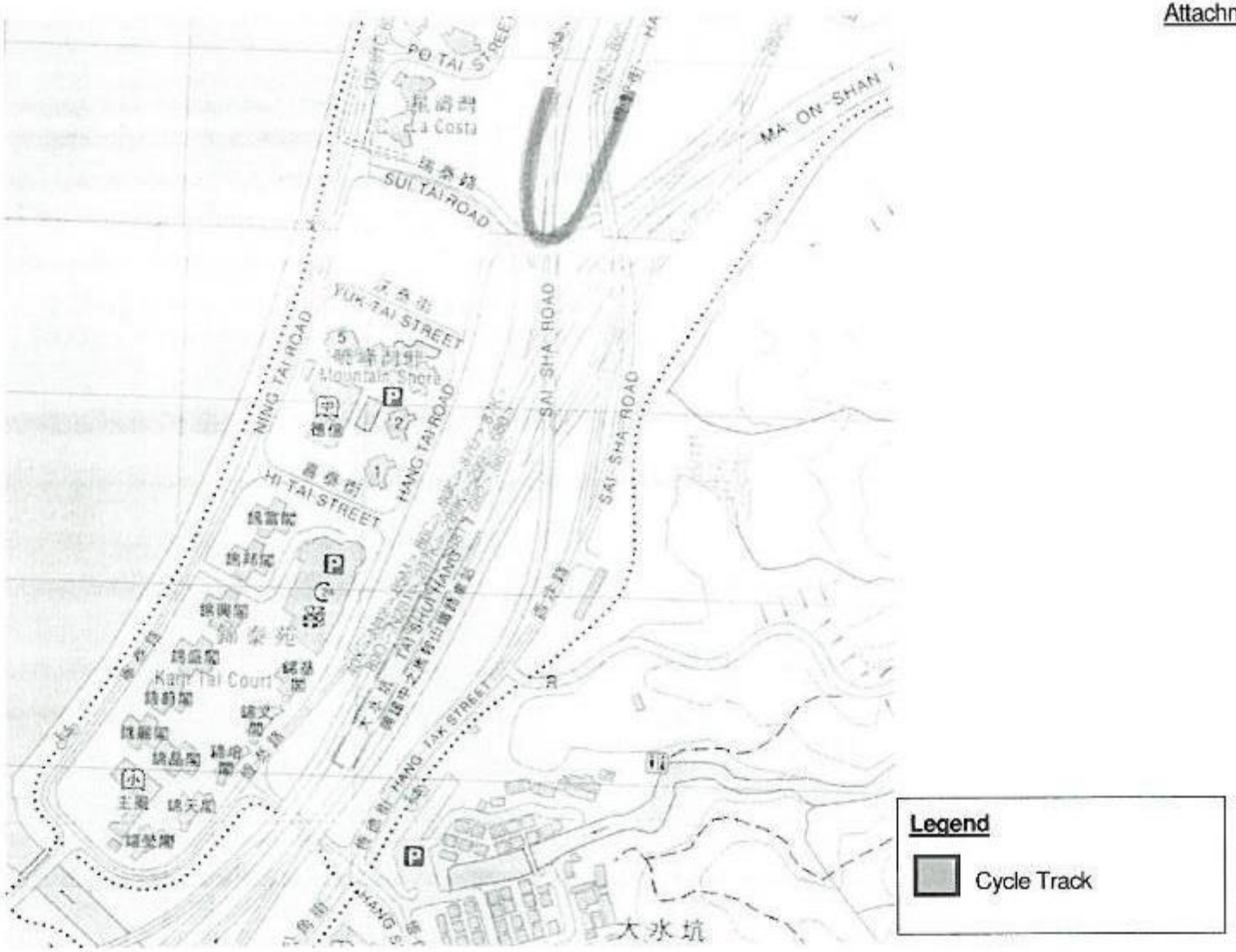


Contract Area B - Location 4 – New development around Road T7 (Ma On Shan Road and Sai Sha Road)

Attachment 2(5)

Contract Area B - Location 5 – New roads and cycle track from Vista Paradiso to Villa Oceania

Attachment 2(6)

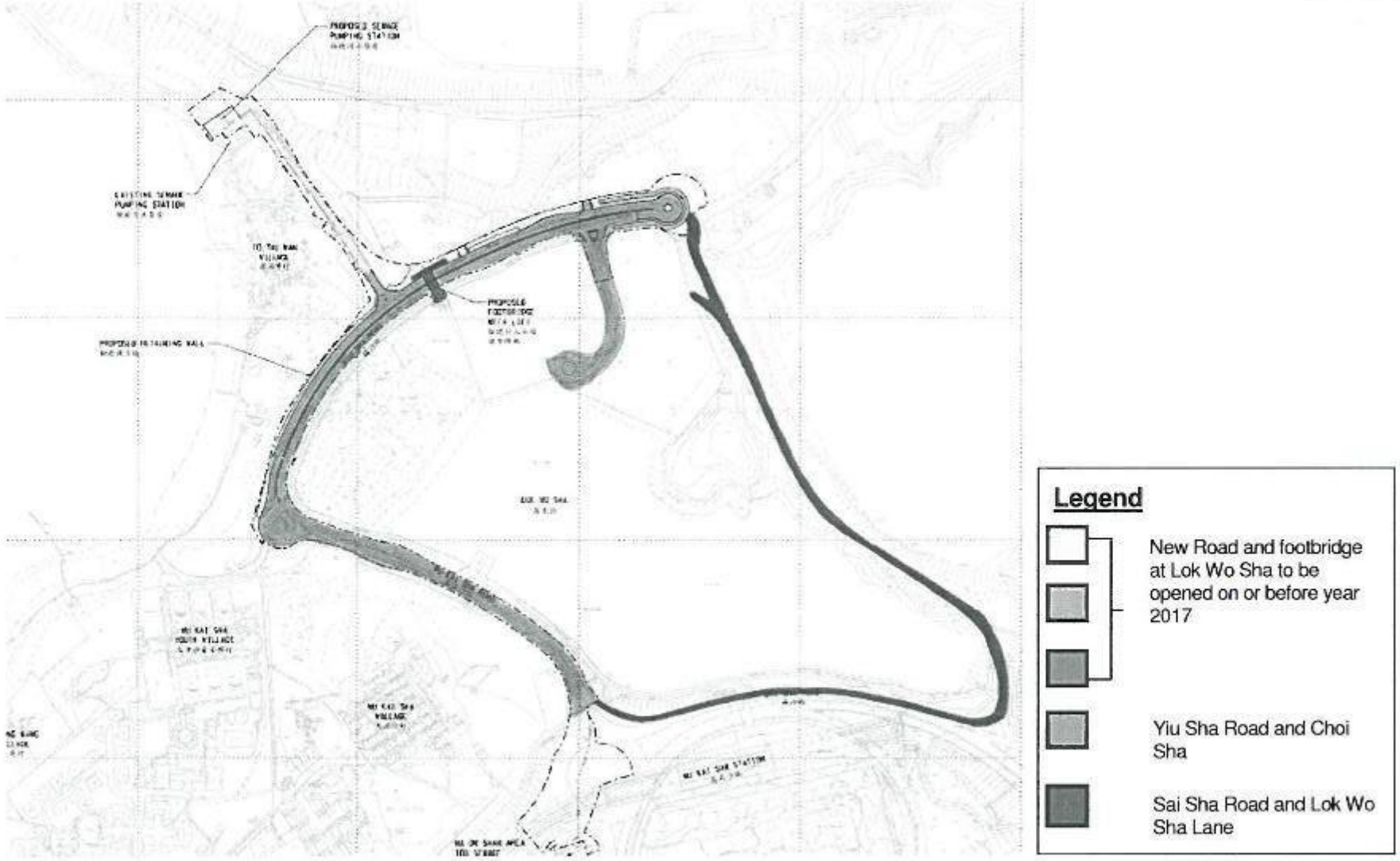


Contract Area B - Location 6 – Sui Tai Road

Attachment 2(7)

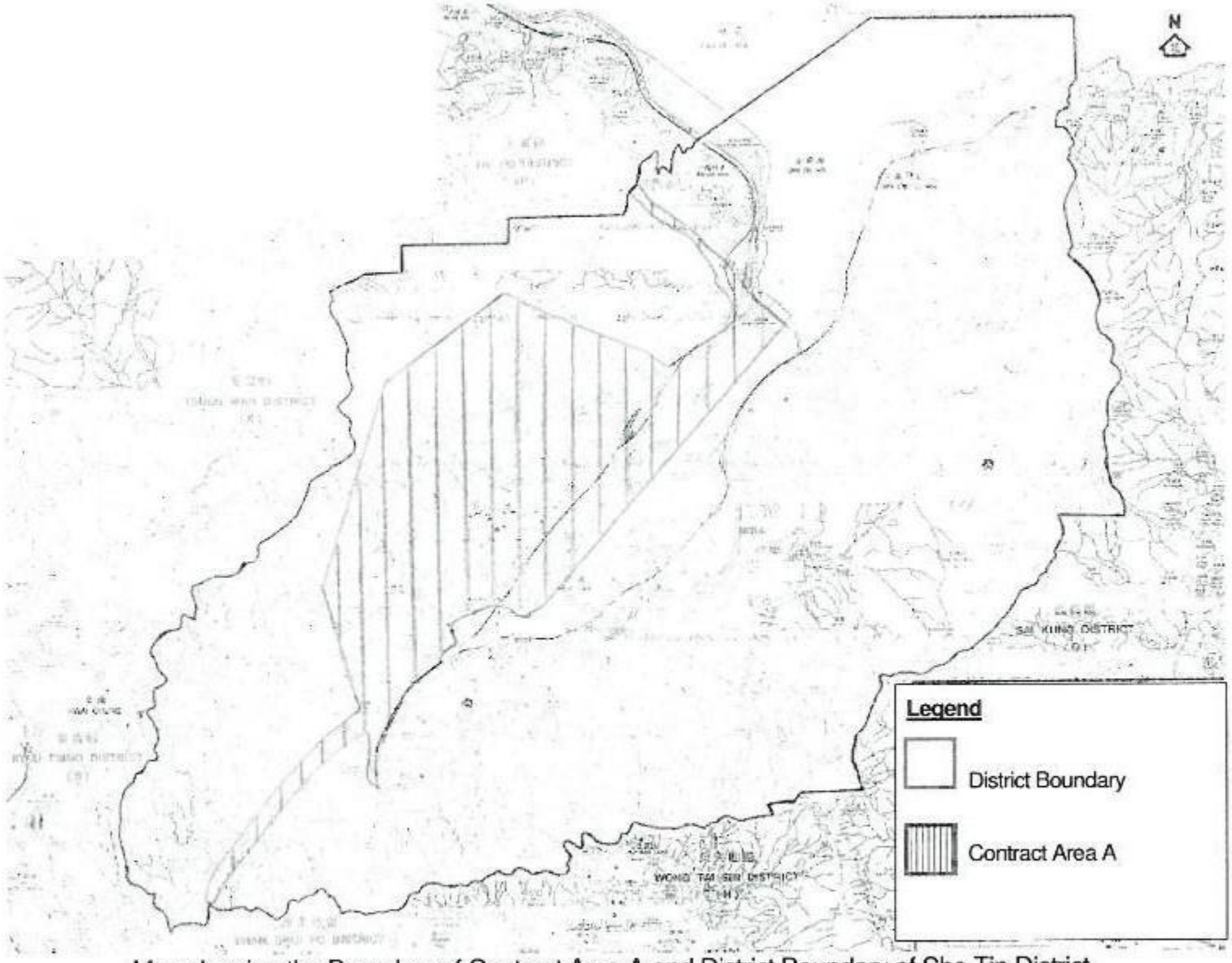
Contract Area B - Location 7 – Ma On Shan Town Centre (On Chun Street, On Yuen Street and On Chiu Street)

Attachment 2(8)



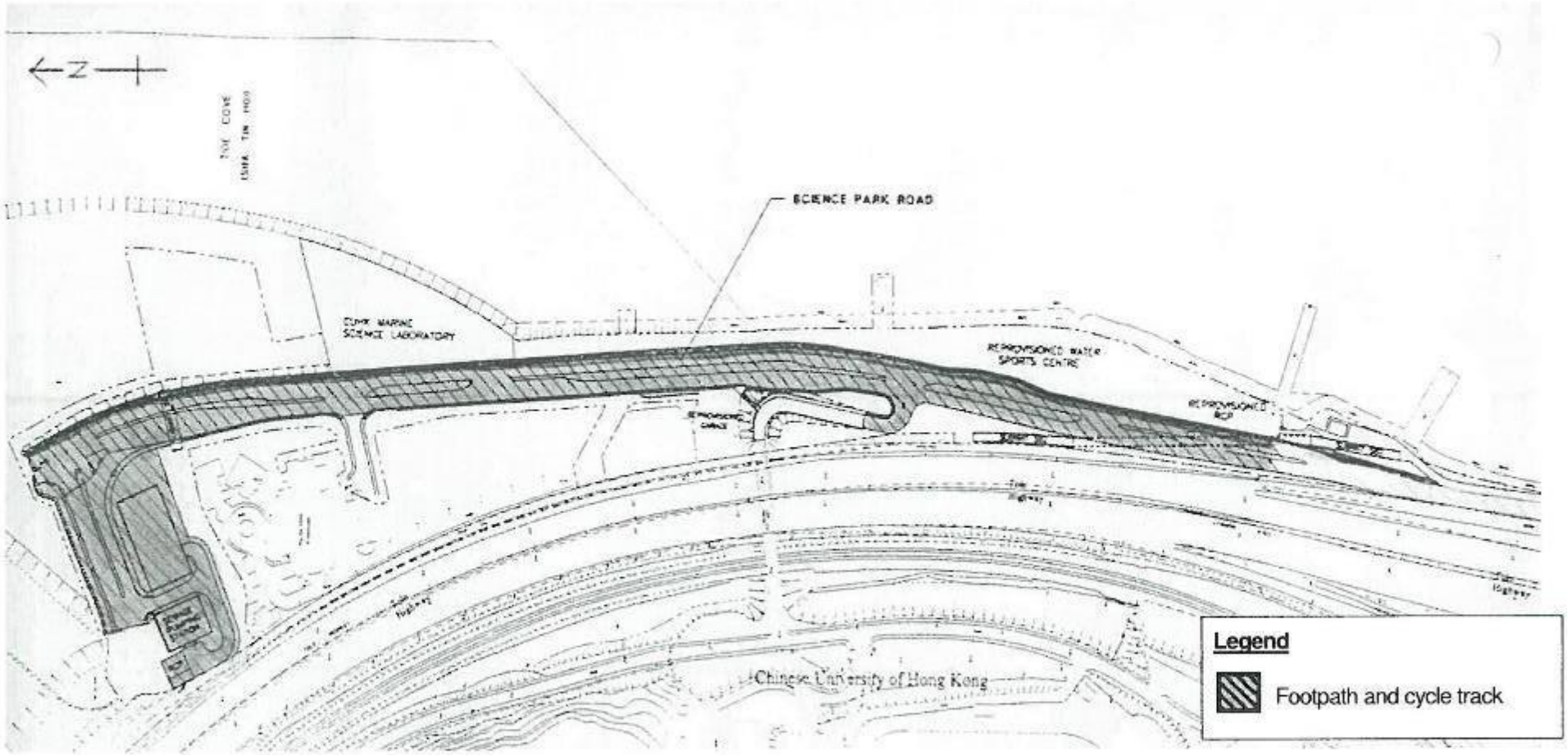
Contract Area B - Location 8 – New Roads at Lok Wo Sha, Ma On Shan

Attachment 1



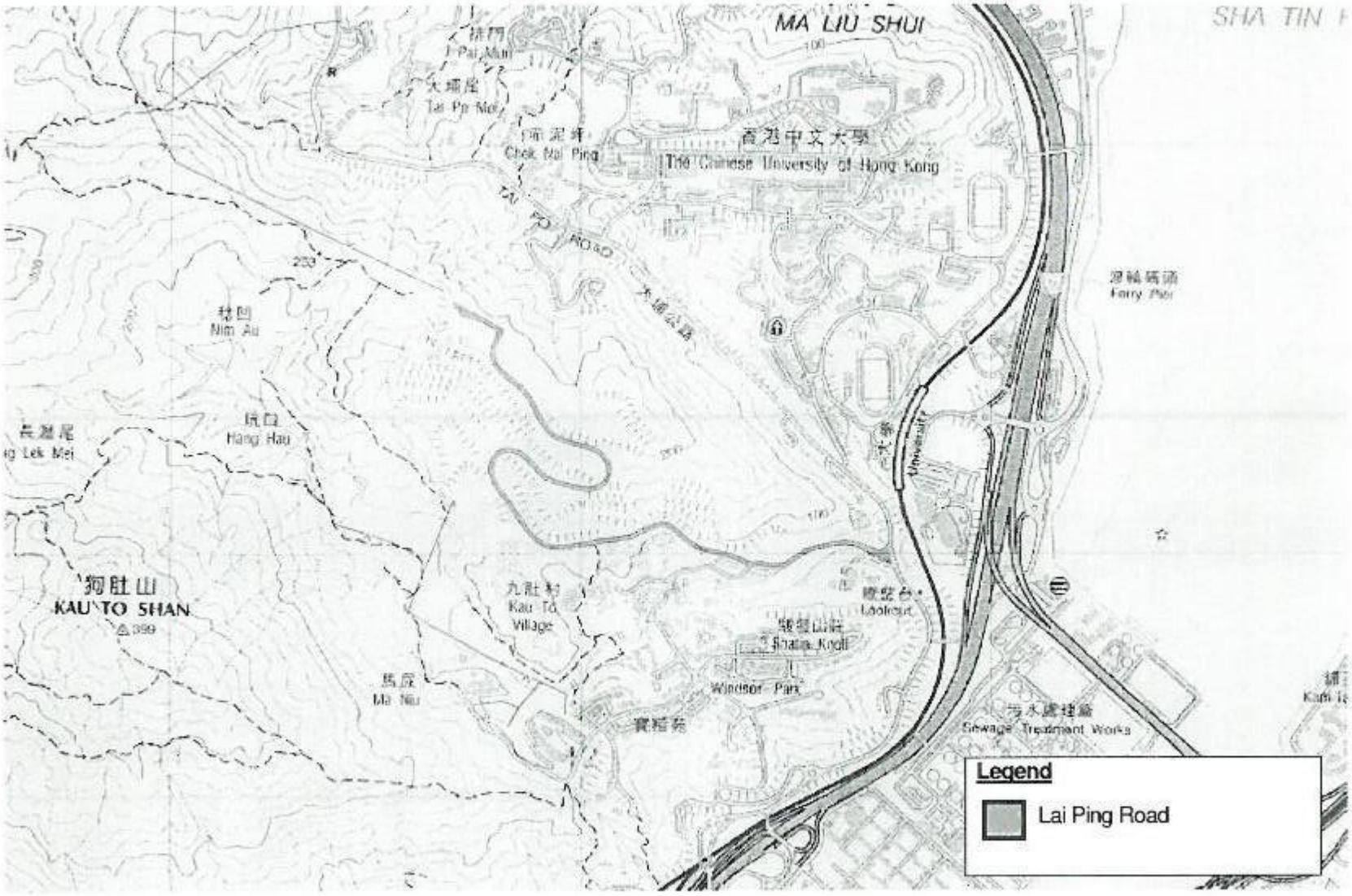
Map showing the Boundary of Contract Area A and District Boundary of Sha Tin District

Attachment 2(1)



Contract Area B - Location 1 – Science Park Road

Attachment 2(2)

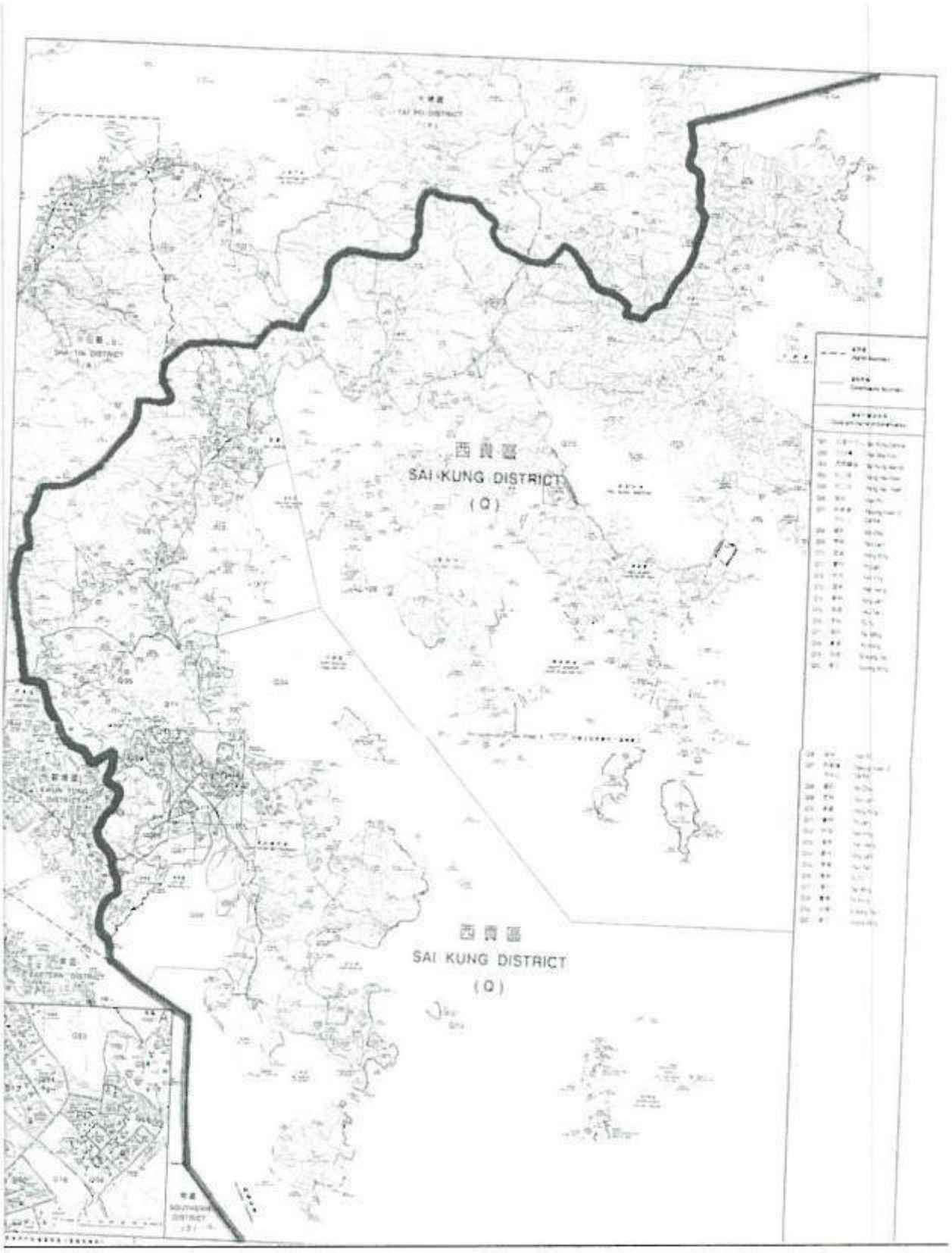


Contract Area B - Location 2 –Lai Ping Road, Kau To

Attachment 2(3)

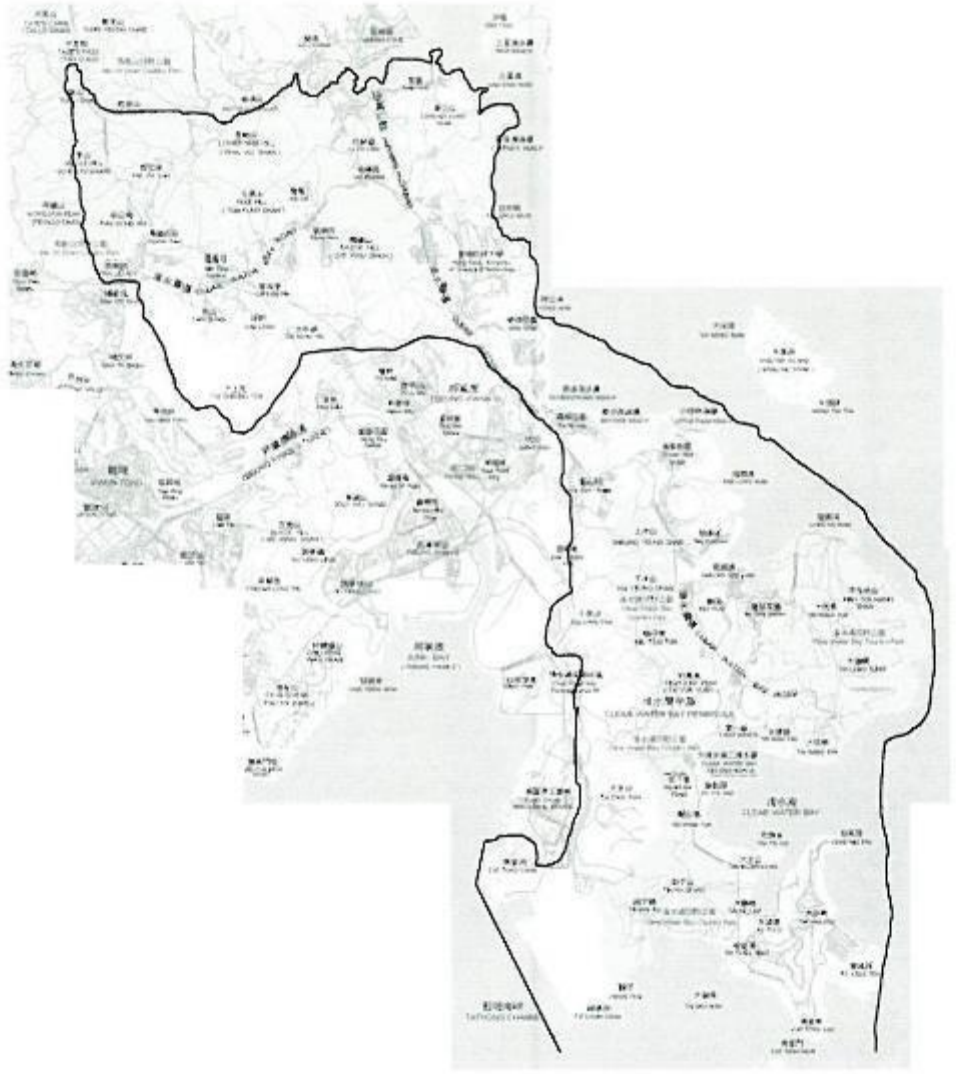
Contract Area B - Location 3 –Sui Cheung Street

Attachment 1



Boundary of Sai Kung District

Attachment 2

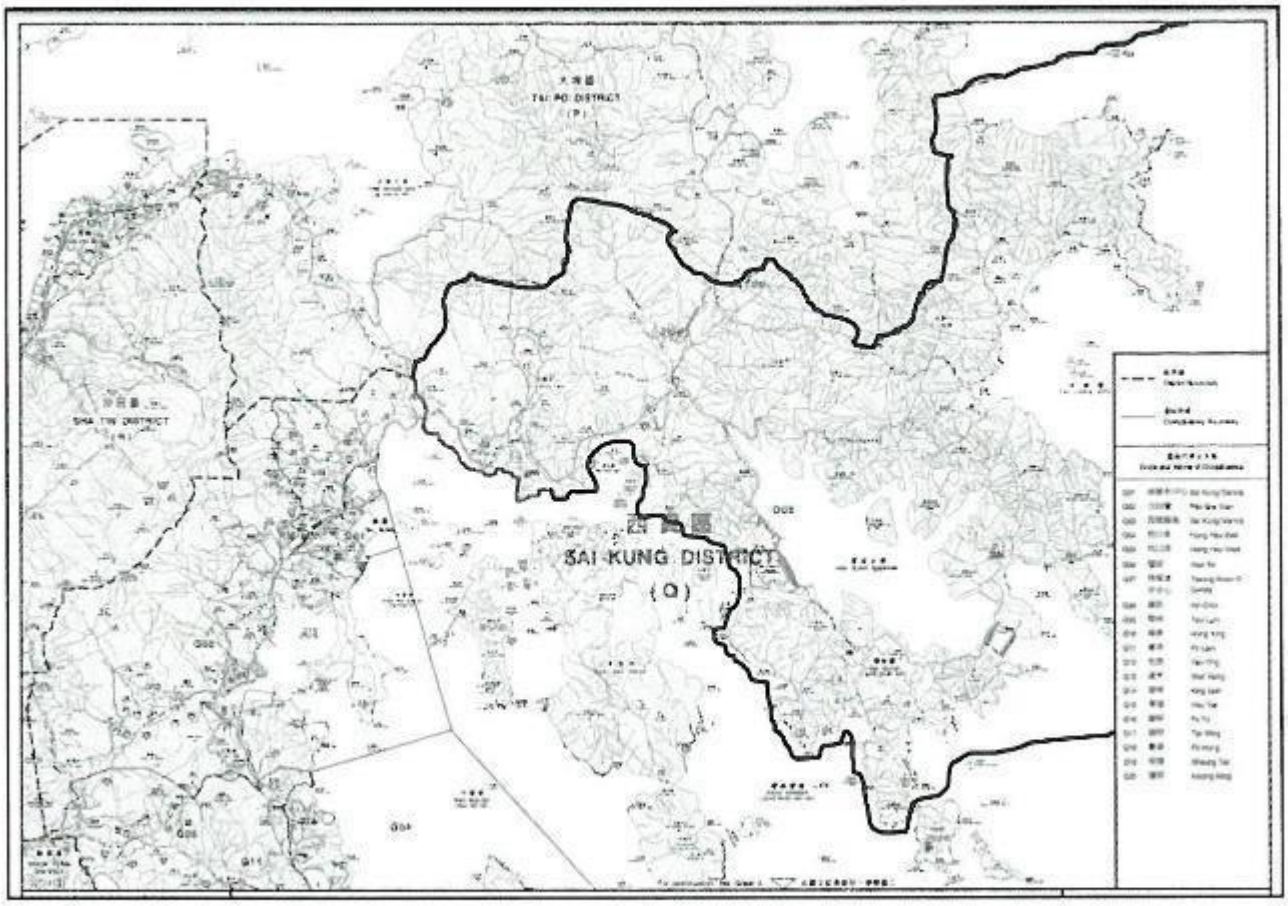


☐ Boundary of Sai Kung Remote Area
[Area along Clear Water Bay Road and Tai Au Mun Road in Sai Kung District
(Boundary line of Northern Portion is at Attachment 3)]

Attachment 3

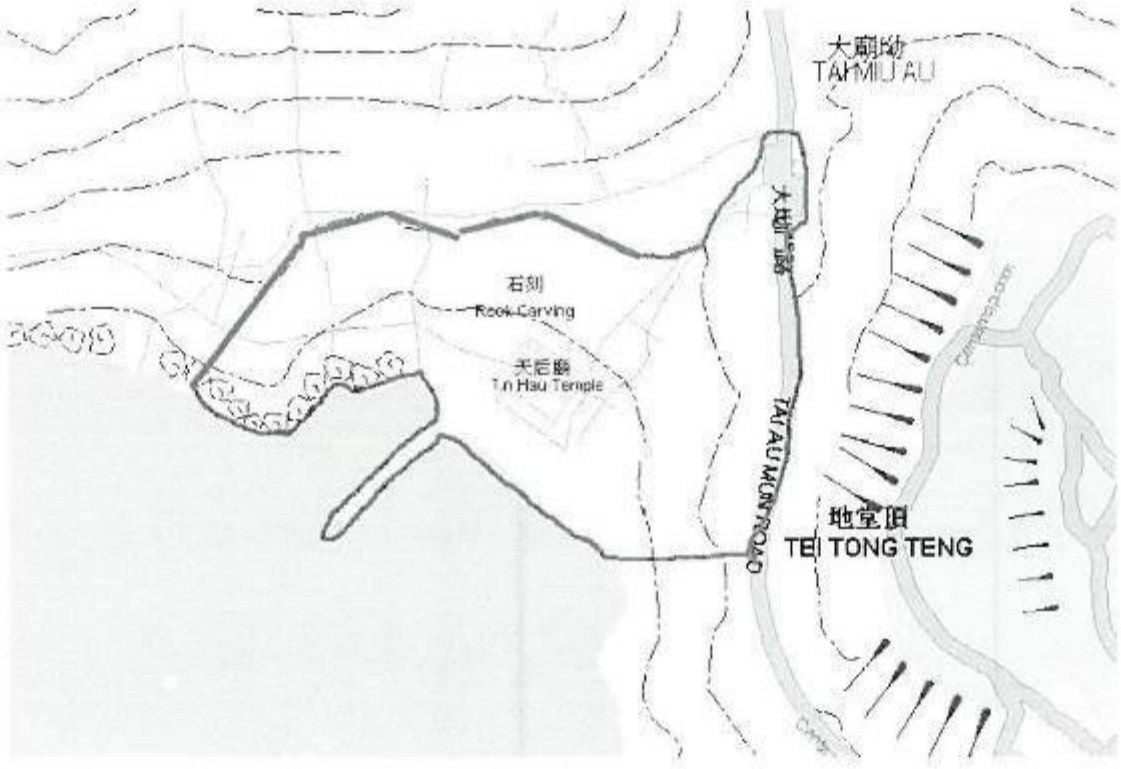
——— Boundary line of the Northern Portion of Sai Kung Remote Area
(Area along Clearwater Bay Road, Hiram's Highway and Tai

Attachment 4



☐ Boundary of Sai Kung Remote Area
(Area along Sai Sha Road, Sai Kung East and West Country Park)

Attachment 5

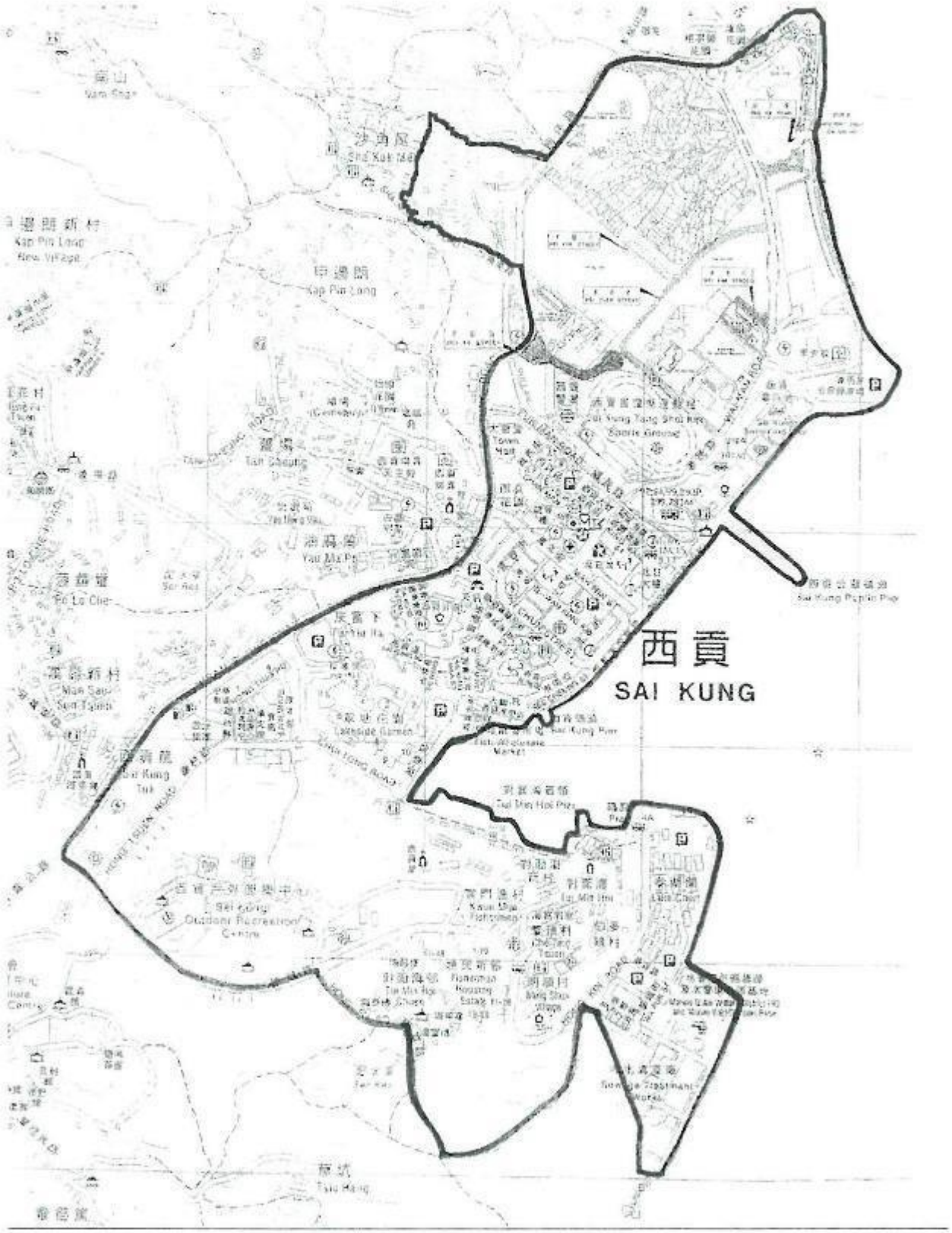


Location of Tai Miu

Attachment 6

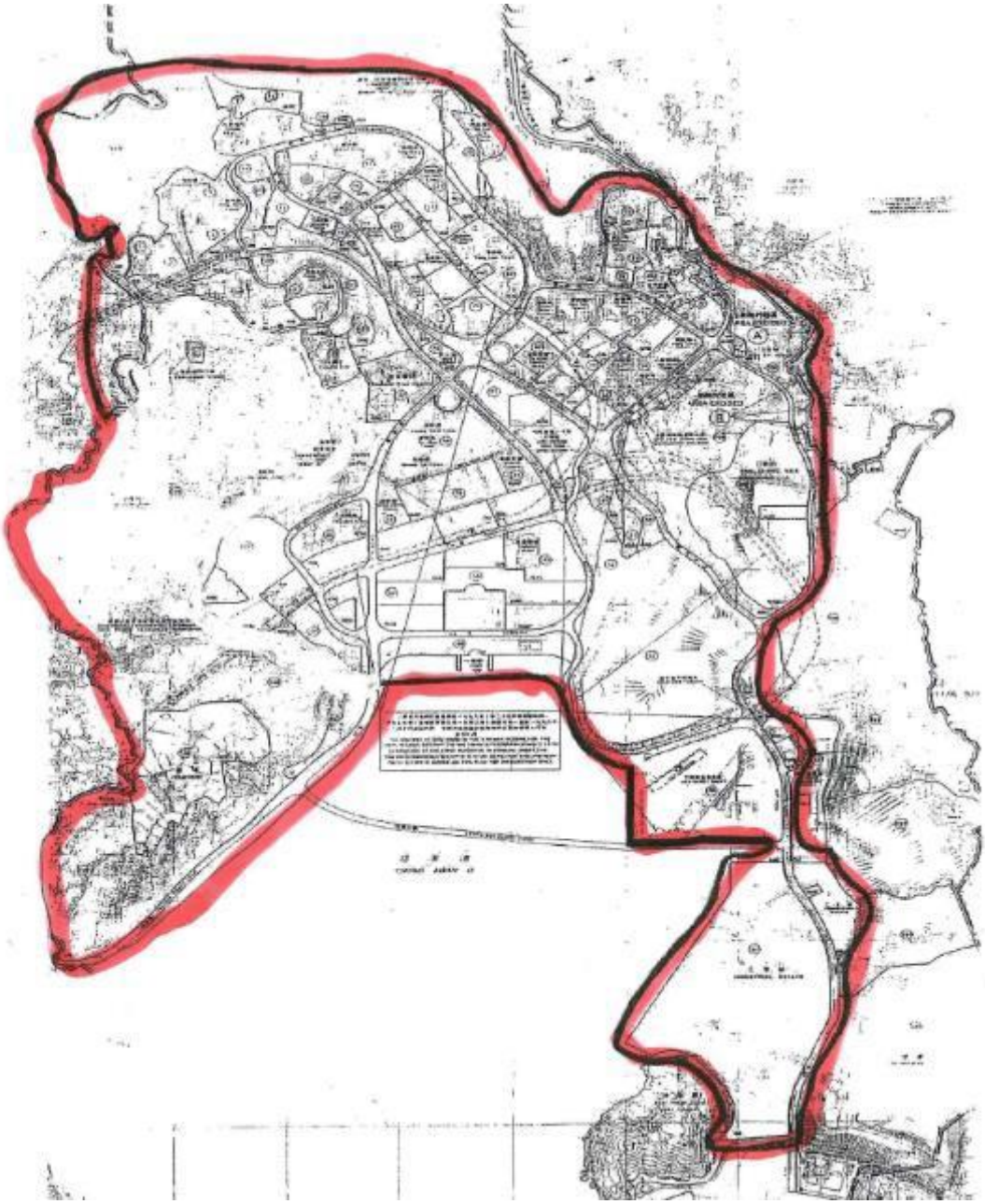
Location of High Island (Leung Shuen Wan)

Attachment 7



Boundary of Sai Kung Town Centre

Attachment



Contract

Boundary of Contract Area – Tseung Kwan O in Sai Kung District

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 | Reply Serial No. **FHB(FE)094**

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2813)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) has been sending officers to conduct site visits to places of food exports as part of its risk assessment on imported foods. As Mainland China is the only place supplying live pigs to Hong Kong, please advise this Committee on the details of the visits conducted by the CFS on Mainland pig farms.

(a) Please provide the provinces with pig farms visited by the CFS and the frequency of visit in 2017, 2018 and 2019, with a breakdown by month.

(b) Have the regulatory regimes of different provinces, their implementation at farms and disease control and prevention been covered in the visits? If yes, please provide the details.

(c) Have any public health or food safety incidents, whether serious or not, been identified during site visits in the past? If yes, please provide the provinces with such incidents recorded, the dates and details of the incidents and the rectifications made.

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 2033)

Reply:

(a) The respective number of pig farms visited by the Centre for Food Safety (CFS), with a breakdown by month and province, in 2017, 2018 and 2019 is listed below:

	2017	**2018**	**2019**
April	-	2 (Hubei)	-
May	-	-	2 (Shandong and Gansu)
June	1 (Hainan)	3 (Jiangxi)	2 (Guangdong and Hainan)

July	-	-	3 (Guangdong)
August	1 (Henan)	-	1 (Hubei)
September	1 (Guangdong)	-	-
October	1 (Hunan)	-	1 (Hubei)
November	3 (Guangdong)	1 (Guangdong)	2 (Hunan)
December	1 (Guangdong)	1 (Guangdong)	-
Total	8	7	11

Note: Site visits usually start in the second quarter of the year.

(b) The main items of CFS visits to Mainland farms supplying food to Hong Kong include production management of the farms, farm hygiene and biosecurity measures adopted, use and storage of veterinary drugs, surveillance test results and traceability of farm production records.

(c) The overall results of visits to Mainland farms supplying foods to Hong Kong from 2017 to 2019 were satisfactory.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2814)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

At present, live pigs imported from the Mainland must go through customs clearance at the Man Kam To Control Point and undergo inspection at the Man Kam To Animal Inspection Station. In this regard, please advise this Committee on:

(a) the number of permits that the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) issued to importers or import agencies of live pigs under the Rabies Ordinance (Cap. 421A) as at the end of 2019; and

(b) the conditions for compliance by importers or import agencies of live pigs for issuance of such permits.

With respect to quarantine of live pigs,

(c) what are the procedures for verifying an original Animal Health Certificate issued by the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) and how its authenticity can be confirmed?

(d) does the Department verify with GACC on a regular basis the admission record of live pigs, such as the complete record from their departure from Mainland farms to their arrival to Hong Kong?

(e) were there any cases with the lead seals on live pig conveying vehicles found not intact in the past 3 years (please provide the information with a breakdown by month)? What will the Department do with a pig consignment if the lead seal on its conveying vehicle is not found intact?

(f) did the Department spot any irregularities concerning the tattoo marks on pigs in the past 3 years? If yes, please provide the information with a breakdown by month. How does the Department verify the authenticity of the tattoo marks?

(g) please provide a list of clinical signs of diseases that must be checked.

(h) what were the number of pigs imported from the Mainland and detected with clinical signs of diseases, the number of samples sent to AFCD laboratory for post-mortem examination and the relevant test results in the past 3 years? Please provide the information with a breakdown by month.

(i) please set out the staff establishment and salaries involved in the work mentioned in (h) above, with a breakdown by department (AFCD and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department);

(j) what were the expenditures incurred in quarantine of live pigs in the past 3 years apart from salaries?

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 2034)

Reply:

(a) In 2019, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) issued 37 permits to importers or import agencies of live pigs under the Rabies Ordinance (Cap. 421A) for import of live pigs from the Mainland.

(b) To import breeding pigs, an importer or import agency must obtain a valid farm licence issued by AFCD for keeping of pigs. The pig farm concerned must be assessed by AFCD and confirmed with the provision of suitable quarantine facilities before a permit for import of breeding pigs can be granted. As for Mainland pigs imported for slaughter, at present the 3 import agencies appointed by the Ministry of Commerce for importing live pigs to Hong Kong are issued with the permit by AFCD.

(c) to (h)

All live pigs supplied to Hong Kong must originate from registered farms approved by the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China and undergo inspection by the Mainland quarantine authorities for the provision of animal health certificates before they are delivered from the farm. The pigs will be transported to the Qingshuihe transfer house for monitoring and inspection by the Shenzhen Customs before release to Hong Kong.

Officers of the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will inspect live pigs imported from the Mainland at the Man Kam To Animal Inspection Station (MKTAIS). Every pig consignment must be accompanied by a valid animal health certificate issued by the Mainland authorities attesting that the pigs are clinically healthy and originate from a registered farm. Each animal health certificate is individually numbered and contains information of the registered farm supplying live pigs to Hong Kong, the official stamp and the signature of a veterinary officer. In inspecting a pig consignment, CFS officers will check whether the animal health certificate provides full particulars of the above and whether the tattoo marks on pigs are identical with the information of the registered farm shown on the certificate. The intactness of the lead seal of the conveying vehicle will also be inspected. If the origin of a pig consignment and the information in the documents cannot be ascertained, CFS officers will immediately seek clarification with the Mainland

authorities prior to the release of the consignment. In the past 3 years, no impairment of intactness of lead seals or irregularities of tattoo marks of pigs were identified.

In addition, veterinary officers of CFS will monitor the health conditions of each pig consignment delivered to Hong Kong. CFS found two dead pigs in two pig consignments arriving at MKTAIS in December 2018 and June 2019 respectively. The pig carcasses were tested for African Swine Fever virus by AFCD and the test results were negative.

(i) to (j)

In 2017-18 and 2018-19, the expenditure on quarantine of live food animals at the boundary control points was $13.4 million and $15.0 million respectively. The revised estimate for 2019-20 was $16.5 million, involving the expenditure for 42 staff. The expenditure for handling pigs as food animals cannot be separately quantified.

AFCD does not have a separate breakdown on the staff establishment and expenditure for the related testing work. The quarantine of pigs imported not as food animals at the Man Kam To Control Point is part of AFCD's quarantine work for import control at the border. Therefore, we do not have a separate breakdown on the staff establishment and expenditure incurred.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2815)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

After customs clearance followed by inspection at Man Kam To Animal Inspection Station, Mainland live pigs are admitted to Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse (SSSH) or Tsuen Wan Slaughterhouse (TWSH).

(a) Please provide the organisation structures and staff establishments of SSSH and TWSH. What is the distribution of responsibilities between the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) at the 2 slaughterhouses?

(b) Urine samples are collected for testing of chemical residues from each consignment of pigs admitted to the slaughterhouse. Please provide the total number of Mainland live pigs admitted to the slaughterhouses and the number of samples collected in each of the past 3 years with a breakdown by month.

(c) Further to (b), please provide the corresponding number of local live pigs tested for chemical residues at the slaughterhouses.

(d) What are the types of chemicals tested, the testing methods adopted, the time normally required for obtaining results of each test and the expenditure for conducting such tests (excluding staff cost) in each of the past 3 years?

(e) How many urine samples collected from Mainland and local live pigs were tested positive in each of the past 3 years?

(f) Mainland live pigs will undergo further inspection by veterinary surgeons to see if their condition, behaviour and actions are normal so as to screen out suspected diseased or injured pigs. In this regard, please provide the number of these suspected diseased or injured pigs in the past 3 years with a breakdown by month.

(g) Further to (f), please provide the corresponding number of local live pigs.

(h) How many samples were taken from SSSH and TWSH to the AFCD laboratory for testing each month over the past 3 years? Is there any record of the figures? If no, what are the reasons and will the Department consider maintaining such record?

(i) Please provide the number of dead pigs found in SSSH and TWSH each month over the past 3 years.

(j) Has the Department made any comparison between the management and quarantine procedures of local slaughterhouses and those of similar facilities in foreign countries? Have any experts been engaged to review the standard in this respect?

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 2035)

Reply:

(a) The work of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the 2 licensed slaughterhouses (Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse (SSSH) and Tsuen Wan Slaughterhouse (TWSH)) mainly include inspecting the health condition of live food animals and providing meat inspection services. To ensure that meat supplied to the market is fit for consumption, all imported and local food animals have to undergo stringent ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections in the slaughterhouses. The veterinary officers and field officers of the Slaughterhouse (Veterinary) Section of the Department are responsible for monitoring the health condition of food animals, sample collection for testing of agricultural chemical and veterinary drug residues, performing ante-mortem inspections, providing professional support for meat inspection and collecting food animal samples for disease surveillance. The staff establishment of the slaughterhouses was 92 in 2019-20. The health inspectors of the Department's Meat Inspection Unit are mainly responsible for performing post-mortem inspections. The establishment of the unit was 52 in 2019-20.

(b)&(c) The number of live pigs admitted to the slaughterhouses and the number of pig urine samples collected for testing agricultural chemical and veterinary drug residues in the past 3 years are as follows:

	2017		2018		2019	
	Local	**Mainland**	**Local**	**Mainland**	**Local**	**Mainland**
Number of live pigs admitted to the slaughterhouses	104 248	1 455 379	105 981	1 468 150	109 260	843 421
Number of pig urine samples collected for testing agricultural chemical and veterinary drug residues	13 509	31 392	13 797	30 506	15 870	14 147

(d) At present, routine tests of urine samples of pigs are carried out by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD). Prohibited and restricted chemicals such as antibiotics, beta-agonists, hormones and anti-parasitic agents are tested. The testing methods adopted are enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), radioimmunoassay (RIA) and high performance liquid chromatography with tandem mass spectrometer. The time for obtaining test results varies depending on the types of chemicals tested and the testing methods adopted. In 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20, the expenditure incurred by AFCD for conducting such tests were $9.94 million, $10.47 million and $9.51 million respectively.

(e) In the past 3 years, only 1 urine sample taken in 2017 was tested positive for prohibited chemicals.

(f)&(g) The number of Mainland pigs and local pigs which were screened out as suspected diseased or injured pigs after inspection in slaughterhouses in the past 3 years is as follows:

	2017	**2018**	**2019**
Mainland pigs	321	203	30
Local pigs	2	3	3

(h) The number of samples taken from SSSH and TWSH to AFCD's veterinary laboratory for disease surveillance in each of the past 3 years was 2 770, 3 830 and 4 110 respectively.

(i) The number of dead pigs found in SSSH and TWSH over the past 3 years is as follows:

	Monthly average number of dead pigs	
	SSSH	**TWSH**
2017	86	8

2018	76	6
2019	31	2

(j) The management and operation of slaughterhouses are undertaken by licensees while the Department is responsible for examining the health of live food animals as well as the supervision, inspection and enforcement of meat hygiene. Qualified and specialised staff are stationed at the licensed slaughterhouses to carry out stringent ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections and monitor the operation of slaughterhouses to ensure good hygiene practices. The Department also liaises with overseas controlling authorities and keeps in view the development of the management, quarantine and hygiene of slaughterhouses in other countries so as to improve the service quality of local slaughterhouses.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0682)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the wholesale of live pigs, please advise on:

(a) the total number, the average daily number, as well as the highest and the lowest daily wholesale numbers of live pigs supplied to Hong Kong in each of the past 3 years (i.e. from 2017-18 to 2019-20);

(b) the monthly average, the highest and the lowest prices of live pigs supplied to Hong Kong in each of the past 3 years (i.e. from 2017-18 to 2019-20);

(c) the total expenditure and average expenditure per head of pig by the Government in handling live pigs (such as the arrangements for slaughterhouses and quarantine management), as well as the manpower involved;

(d) the number of registered Mainland pig farms supplying live pigs to Hong Kong, the change in that number and the up-to-date list of the farms, in each quarter since August last year;

(e) (i) the total quantity of import of chilled and frozen pork, (ii) the top 10 regions that supplied the largest quantities of chilled and frozen pork to Hong Kong, (iii) the changes in the number of fresh provision shops eligible for selling chilled and frozen pork, and (iv) the number of cases uncovered by the Department pertaining to these shops selling chilled and frozen pork disguised as fresh pork, in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2017-18 to 2019-20).

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

(a) The number of live pigs imported in the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Total number of live pigs imported	Daily number of live pigs imported		
		Average	Highest	Lowest
2017	1 455 379	3 987	5 747	1 930
2018	1 468 150	4 022	7 049	1 188
2019	843 422	2 311	5 586	805

(b) All imported live pigs are sold through auctions. The auction prices of live pigs imported in the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Auction prices per picul of imported live pigs (HK$)		
	Average	Average Highest	Average Lowest
2017	1,302	1,534	1,166
2018	1,211	1,571	1,053
2019	2,387	2,897*	1,953

* The auction prices of live pigs increased substantially in the second half of 2019 due to lower supply of imported live pigs following the outbreak of African Swine Fever. The maximum auction price of a pig consignment reached HK$4,711 per picul on 20 August 2019.

(c) The revised estimate of expenditure on inspection of live food animals in slaughterhouses in 2019-20 was $47.4 million, which included the expenditure incurred for 92 staff posts of the Centre for Food Safety of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. In the year, the average expenditure on inspection of live food animals (including pigs, cattle and goats) admitted for slaughtering was about $48.9 per head. The cost for handling live pigs cannot be separately quantified.

(d) Quarterly changes in the number of Mainland pig farms supplying live pigs to Hong Kong (registered pig farms) since August 2019 are tabulated below:

Quarter	Number of registered pig farms	Number of newly added registered pig farms (compared with the previous quarter)	Number of registered pig farms removed (compared with the previous quarter)
2019 3rd quarter	127	-	-
2019 4th quarter	120	2	9
2020 1st quarter (as at 29 February)	123	10	7

The updated list of registered pig farms is available on the website of the General Administration of Customs of the Mainland.

(e) (i) According to the figures provided by the Census and Statistics Department, in 2017, 2018 and 2019, the total quantities of imported chilled pork were about 10 751 tonnes, 9 809 tonnes and 15 850 tonnes respectively, and those of imported frozen pork were about 348 621 tonnes, 240 581 tonnes and 184 760 tonnes respectively.

(ii) In 2017, 2018 and 2019, the top ten regions that supplied chilled pork to Hong Kong were Mainland China, Brazil, Thailand, Australia, Canada, Spain, the United States, the Netherlands, Japan and the United Kingdom. As for imported frozen pork, the top ten regions were Brazil, the United States, Mainland China, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, Vietnam, Spain, Italy and Canada.

(iii) The number of fresh provision shops eligible for selling chilled and frozen pork in the past 3 years is as follows:

Year	**Number**
2017	794
2018	790
2019	848

(iv) In the past 3 years (from 2017 to 2019), there was 1 case of cancellation of licence by the Department pertaining to sale of chilled and frozen pork disguised as fresh pork.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0696)

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 the performance of environmental hygiene duties between June and December 2019, please advise on:

(a) the number of obstructions and assaults encountered in the performance of cleansing duties from June to December 2019; and

(b) the additional manpower and expenditure incurred for the performance of cleansing duties from June to December 2019.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

(a) There were a total of 7 cases of obstructions or assaults encountered by staff of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the performance of cleansing duties from June to December 2019.

(b) The revised estimated expenditure of the Department in providing public cleansing services in 2019-20 is $3,703.5 million, representing an increase of about 19.6% when compared to the actual expenditure in 2018-19. As at 31 December 2019, a total of 12 642 in-house staff were involved in providing public cleansing services, representing an increase of about 7.1% as compared to 2018.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)099

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3231)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
(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 the fresh provision shop (FPS) licence and market stall, please advise on:

(a) the number of FPS licences with permission for selling live poultry/poultry stalls in markets, with a breakdown by district, in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2017-18 to 2019-20);

(b) the number of FPS licences with permission for selling pork/pork stalls in markets, with a breakdown by district, in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2017-18 to 2019-20);

(c) the number of FPS licences with permission for selling beef and mutton/beef and mutton stalls in markets, with a breakdown by district, in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2017-18 to 2019-20); and

(d) the number of FPS licences with permission for selling live fish/live fish stalls in markets, with a breakdown by district, in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2017-18 to 2019-20).

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 57)

Reply:

The information sought at (a) to (d) is provided at Annexes I to IV respectively.

Fresh provision shop licences with permission for selling live poultry

As at year end / District	2017	2018	2019
Central and Western	2	2	2
Wan Chai	3	3	2
Eastern	2	2	2
Southern	0	0	0
Islands	1	1	1
Yau Tsim Mong	9	9	9
Sham Shui Po	2	2	2
Kowloon City	1	1	1
Wong Tai Sin	3	3	3
Kwun Tong	4	4	4
Kwai Tsing	1	1	1
Tsuen Wan	0	0	0
Tuen Mun	1	1	1
Yuen Long	4	4	4
North	0	0	0
Tai Po	2	2	2
Sha Tin	7	7	7
Sai Kung	3	3	3
Total	**45**	**45**	**44**

Live poultry stalls in public markets

As at year end / District	2017	2018	2019
Central and Western	7	7	7
Wan Chai	7	7	7
Eastern	6	6	6
Southern	1	1	1
Islands	0	0	0
Yau Tsim Mong	6	6	6
Sham Shui Po	11	11	11
Kowloon City	5	5	5
Wong Tai Sin	4	4	4
Kwun Tong	4	4	4
Kwai Tsing	2	2	2
Tsuen Wan	9	9	9
Tuen Mun	4	4	4
Yuen Long	5	5	5
North	5	5	5
Tai Po	5	5	5
Sha Tin	4	4	4
Sai Kung	0	0	0
Total	**85**	**85**	**85**

Fresh provision shop licences with permission for selling fresh pork

As at year end / District	2017	2018	2019
Central and Western	90	97	93
Wan Chai	66	70	71
Eastern	134	138	134
Southern	66	67	68
Islands	38	41	43
Yau Tsim Mong	150	150	147
Sham Shui Po	114	111	122
Kowloon City	109	115	116
Wong Tai Sin	104	93	94
Kwun Tong	159	157	144
Kwai Tsing	122	116	116
Tsuen Wan	93	87	85
Tuen Mun	125	123	124
Yuen Long	137	148	150
North	50	48	48
Tai Po	72	74	71
Sha Tin	174	158	159
Sai Kung	89	89	99
Total	**1 892**	**1 882**	**1 884**

Stalls selling fresh pork in public markets

As at year end / District	2017	2018	2019
Central and Western	52	52	50
Wan Chai	23	23	20
Eastern	48	47	46
Southern	22	21	21
Islands	30	30	30
Yau Tsim Mong	39	33	31
Sham Shui Po	15	14	14
Kowloon City	51	50	38
Wong Tai Sin	48	44	43
Kwun Tong	25	24	20
Kwai Tsing	12	12	12
Tsuen Wan	47	39	37
Tuen Mun	25	25	25
Yuen Long	74	71	68
North	60	61	60
Tai Po	31	31	30
Sha Tin	19	19	19
Sai Kung	12	12	12
Total	**633**	**608**	**576**

Fresh provision shop licences with permission for selling fresh beef/mutton

As at year end / District	2017	2018	2019
Central and Western	86	89	86
Wan Chai	61	64	65
Eastern	108	110	105
Southern	58	60	60
Islands	32	31	32
Yau Tsim Mong	126	121	124
Sham Shui Po	91	87	90
Kowloon City	91	96	96
Wong Tai Sin	83	73	71
Kwun Tong	114	113	104
Kwai Tsing	84	85	86
Tsuen Wan	74	67	68
Tuen Mun	102	96	99
Yuen Long	113	115	116
North	44	37	41
Tai Po	50	52	52
Sha Tin	126	112	119
Sai Kung	66	66	77
Total	**1 509**	**1 474**	**1 491**

Stalls selling fresh beef/mutton in public markets

As at year end / District	2017	2018	2019
Central and Western	25	25	24
Wan Chai	10	10	9
Eastern	21	20	20
Southern	6	5	5
Islands	5	5	5
Yau Tsim Mong	27	23	35
Sham Shui Po	5	4	4
Kowloon City	37	36	23
Wong Tai Sin	26	22	22
Kwun Tong	7	6	4
Kwai Tsing	5	5	5
Tsuen Wan	19	16	13
Tuen Mun	10	10	10
Yuen Long	74	71	68
North	22	23	22
Tai Po	31	31	30
Sha Tin	5	5	4
Sai Kung	6	6	6
Total	**341**	**323**	**309**

Fresh provision shop licences with permission for selling aquatic products*

As at year end / District	2017	2018	2019
Central and Western	89	90	87
Wan Chai	68	69	66
Eastern	145	151	144
Southern	70	71	67
Islands	37	40	42
Yau Tsim Mong	153	152	150
Sham Shui Po	104	99	106
Kowloon City	94	104	101
Wong Tai Sin	95	86	85
Kwun Tong	195	198	186
Kwai Tsing	102	97	98
Tsuen Wan	66	60	62
Tuen Mun	115	113	110
Yuen Long	103	117	114
North	47	42	45
Tai Po	63	62	62
Sha Tin	164	143	154
Sai Kung	103	93	101
Total	**1 813**	**1 787**	**1 780**

* The figures denote the numbers of fresh provision shop licences which may sell fresh fish and/or other aquatic products. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not have a breakdown on licences that are only permitted for selling fresh fish.

Stalls selling aquatic products in public markets#

As at year end / District	2017	2018	2019
Central and Western	107	105	104
Wan Chai	56	56	56
Eastern	85	80	80
Southern	65	64	64
Islands	91	94	91
Yau Tsim Mong	120	113	106
Sham Shui Po	60	60	60
Kowloon City	88	87	87
Wong Tai Sin	87	87	86
Kwun Tong	34	33	31
Kwai Tsing	37	37	36
Tsuen Wan	103	101	100
Tuen Mun	48	48	48
Yuen Long	139	148	142
North	101	101	101
Tai Po	69	68	68
Sha Tin	45	46	46
Sai Kung	38	37	37
Total	**1 373**	**1 365**	**1 343**

The figures denote the number of public market stalls which may sell fresh fish and/or other aquatic products. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not have a breakdown on stalls which only sell fresh fish.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)100

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0551)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the indicators "poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks", "number of rodent trappings" and "rodent control surveys conducted", please advise on the "poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks", "number of rodent trappings", "rodent control surveys conducted" and "Rodent Infestation Rate" in various districts below and in the territory in each of the past 3 years (from 2017 to 2019).

2017 / 2018 / 2019

Districts	Poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	Number of rodent trappings	Rodent control surveys conducted	Rodent Infestation Rate
Central and Western				
Eastern				
Southern				
Wan Chai				
Kowloon City				
Kwun Tong				
Wong Tai Sin				
Sham Shui Po				
Mong Kok				
Yau Tsim				
Sha Tin				
Tai Po				
North				
Kwai Tsing				
Tsuen Wan				
Tuen Mun				
Yuen Long				

Sai Kung				
Islands				
Whole territory				

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 2)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at the Annex.

Annex

District	2017			
	Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	**Number of rodent trappings**	**Number of rodent control surveys**	**Rodent Infestation Rate(RIR)**
Central and Western	4 306	4 881	27	3.6%
Eastern	7 430	2 450	47	6.0%
Southern	2 762	936	42	2.7%
Wan Chai	4 900	3 668	20	5.6%
Kowloon City	4 368	11 867	45	2.3%
Kwun Tong	6 390	1 291	42	4.3%
Wong Tai Sin	948	244	42	1.0%
Sham Shui Po	404	1 786	29	6.2%
Mong Kok	254	5 080	25	6.6%
Yau Tsim	133	3 047	25	2.8%
Sha Tin	2 308	8 810	45	2.6%
Tai Po	10 476	376	25	1.8%
North	2 257	360	47	1.9%
Kwai Tsing	1 545	138	45	3.6%
Tsuen Wan	3 624	3 265	45	4.7%
Tuen Mun	4 938	1 811	45	1.3%
Yuen Long	6 492	637	45	3.5%
Sai Kung	6 238	1 189	45	1.8%
Islands	348	2 602	25	3.3%
Overall	70 121	54 438	711*	3.5%

* Only surveys conducted in relation to Rodent Infestation Survey and Rat-flea Survey are listed. Other rodent surveys (1 258) are not included in the breakdown.

District	2018			
	Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	**Number of rodent trappings**	**Number of rodent control surveys**	**Rodent Infestation Rate(RIR)**
Central and Western	4 432	4 772	45	3.6%
Eastern	18 699	2 480	45	2.1%
Southern	3 394	935	25	0.5%
Wan Chai	8 446	3 760	40	2.8%
Kowloon City	4 608	11 309	29	6.1%
Kwun Tong	6 587	1 876	42	5.8%
Wong Tai Sin	950	333	25	1.0%
Sham Shui Po	308	5 522	45	6.7%
Mong Kok	1 309	5 115	45	6.0%
Yau Tsim	201	3 216	25	2.4%
Sha Tin	4 548	9 167	25	4.7%
Tai Po	13 560	384	40	2.7%
North	3 232	424	42	2.5%
Kwai Tsing	1 457	569	42	1.0%
Tsuen Wan	3 182	4 176	42	5.1%
Tuen Mun	4 703	1 927	45	2.1%
Yuen Long	6 585	664	42	3.9%
Sai Kung	6 966	1 201	30	2.2%
Islands	648	2 602	25	1.4%
Overall	93 815	60 432	699#	3.4%

Only surveys conducted in relation to Rodent Infestation Survey and Rat-flea Survey are listed. Other rodent surveys (1 334) are not included in the breakdown.

District	2019			
	Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	**Number of rodent trappings**	**Number of rodent control surveys**	**Rodent Infestation Rate(RIR)**
Central and Western	4 594	4 912	23	1.6%
Eastern	21 771	2 483	40	3.2%
Southern	3 815	1 117	25	2.2%
Wan Chai	12 544	3 569	42	11.7%
Kowloon City	4 640	11 196	28	6.2%
Kwun Tong	6 302	2 927	42	9.1%
Wong Tai Sin	960	1 210	25	4.9%
Sham Shui Po	284	5 286	34	5.3%
Mong Kok	1 295	7 486	25	3.0%
Yau Tsim	187	2 848	25	6.0%
Sha Tin	4 693	9 608	25	3.4%
Tai Po	13 500	389	40	4.5%
North	1 667	449	35	1.6%
Kwai Tsing	1 305	2 672	42	4.6%
Tsuen Wan	3 009	4 716	42	5.2%
Tuen Mun	4 811	2 015	38	1.7%
Yuen Long	4 685	1 767	42	4.8%
Sai Kung	7 580	1 239	30	2.3%
Islands	680	2 601	30	5.3%
Overall	98 322	68 490	633^	4.2%

^ Only surveys conducted in relation to Rodent Infestation Survey and Rat-flea Survey are listed. Other rodent surveys (1 325) are not included in the breakdown.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0554)

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:

Regarding the indicators for licensed hawkers, please provide information on:

the number of fixed pitch hawkers, itinerant hawkers and registered hawker assistants, as well as the estimated number of unlicensed hawkers, in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2017 to 2019), with a breakdown by district and trade category.

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

No. of Licensed Fixed Pitch and Itinerant Hawkers, Registered Assistants and Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers (Position as at 31.12.2017)

		Hong Kong Island & Kowloon									New Territories & Islands									Total
		Central & Western	Wan Chai	Eastern	Southern	Yau Tsim Mong	Sham Shui Po	Kowloon City	Wong Tai Sin	Kwun Tong	Kwai Tsing	Tsuen Wan	Tuen Mun	Yuen Long	North	Tai Po	Sha Tin	Sai Kung	Islands	
Fixed Pitch Hawker Licence	Barber	2	4	0	1	11	8	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**29**
	Bootblack	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**7**
	Cooked Food/Light Refreshment	10	2	0	2	30	22	4	7	17	13	9	7	0	0	0	21	0	1	**145**
	Newspaper	60	47	32	4	103	23	20	14	36	9	17	8	14	6	6	1	2	1	**403**
	Tradesman	75	15	13	0	50	2	2	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	**161**
	Wall Stall	28	20	11	14	131	49	27	2	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**302**
	Other Classes	392	333	266	28	2 100	910	46	0	123	0	93	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	**4 294**
Itinerant Hawker Licence	Frozen Confectionary	34									30									**64**
	Mobile Van	9									6									**15**
	Newspaper	2									0									**2**
	Other Classes	146									172									**318**
Registered Hawker Assistants		540	576	378	57	2 091	1 165	109	31	209	20	149	23	20	14	7	23	1	3	**5 416**
Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers		141	39	48	33	301	460	61	16	63	63	2	45	28	62	23	52	10	18	**1 474#** **(1 465+9)**

The figure includes 9 unlicensed hawkers in housing estates as provided by the Housing Department.

No. of Licensed Fixed Pitch and Itinerant Hawkers, Registered Assistants and Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers (Position as at 31.12.2018)

		Hong Kong Island & Kowloon									New Territories & Islands									Total
		Central & Western	Wan Chai	Eastern	Southern	Yau Tsim Mong	Sham Shui Po	Kowloon City	Wong Tai Sin	Kwun Tong	Kwai Tsing	Tsuen Wan	Tuen Mun	Yuen Long	North	Tai Po	Sha Tin	Sai Kung	Islands	
Fixed Pitch Hawker Licence	Barber	2	4	0	1	11	8	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**29**
	Bootblack	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**6**
	Cooked Food/Light Refreshment	10	2	0	2	19	20	2	3	14	12	9	5	0	0	0	18	0	1	**117**
	Newspaper	58	46	32	4	100	22	19	12	33	9	16	7	12	6	6	1	2	1	**386**
	Tradesman	73	15	11	0	49	2	3	0	6	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	**166**
	Wall Stall	24	20	10	14	127	48	27	2	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**291**
	Other Classes	386	330	255	28	1 997	900	44	0	119	0	91	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	**4 153**
Itinerant Hawker Licence	Frozen Confectionary	34									30									**64**
	Mobile Van	9									6									**15**
	Newspaper	2									0									**2**
	Other Classes	139									163									**302**
Registered Hawker Assistants		526	569	366	55	2 200	1 161	106	25	196	17	137	17	17	14	7	20	1	3	**5 437**
Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers		142	41	59	30	273	523	61	15	63	61	3	44	36	57	22	46	17	16	**1 511[#] (1 509+2)**

The figure includes 2 unlicensed hawkers in housing estates as provided by the Housing Department.

No. of Licensed Fixed Pitch and Itinerant Hawkers, Registered Assistants and Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers (Position as at 31.12.2019)

		Hong Kong Island & Kowloon									New Territories & Islands									Total
		Central & Western	Wan Chai	Eastern	Southern	Yau Tsim Mong	Sham Shui Po	Kowloon City	Wong Tai Sin	Kwun Tong	Kwai Tsing	Tsuen Wan	Tuen Mun	Yuen Long	North	Tai Po	Sha Tin	Sai Kung	Islands	
Fixed Pitch Hawker Licence	Barber	2	4	0	1	11	8	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**29**
	Bootblack	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**6**
	Cooked Food/Light Refreshment	10	2	0	1	4	20	1	3	13	7	6	5	0	0	0	7	0	1	**80**
	Newspaper	55	43	32	4	97	21	18	12	30	9	16	7	11	6	5	1	2	1	**370**
	Tradesman	70	16	12	0	51	2	3	0	7	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	**168**
	Wall Stall	24	18	8	14	122	47	26	2	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**278**
	Other Classes	376	330	255	28	1 978	893	44	0	117	0	90	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	**4 114**
Itinerant Hawker Licence	Frozen Confectionary	33									29									**62**
	Mobile Van	9									6									**15**
	Newspaper	2									0									**2**
	Other Classes	132									159									**291**
Registered Hawker Assistants		515	554	359	47	2 152	1 170	94	16	179	14	121	15	15	12	5	10	1	3	**5 282**
Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers		142	56	83	29	247	192	62	34	59	62	3	46	40	48	24	43	12	16	**1 201[#] (1 198+3)**

The figure includes 3 unlicensed hawkers in housing estates as provided by the Housing Department.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0555)

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 the work of "managing licensed hawker pitches, hawker permitted places and hawker bazaars", please advise on:

- the location, name, year of commissioning, number of stalls that can be accommodated, current number of stalls and vacancy rate of each of the existing licensed hawker pitches, hawker permitted places and hawker bazaars in the territory, with a breakdown by district; and

- whether there are plans to close any of the hawker permitted places or hawker bazaars; if yes, the details and the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 4)

Reply:

1. The number of licensed on-street hawker pitches, and vacant hawker pitches in the territory, and the relevant vacancy rates are provided at Annex I. The name and year of commencement of each hawker permitted place and hawker bazaar in the territory, as well as the number of licensed hawker pitches and vacant pitches therein and the vacancy rate are provided at Annexes II and III.

2. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has no plan to close any of the hawker permitted places. For hawker bazaars, the Department recognises a need to formulate exit plans for bazaars with high vacancy rates to ensure that scarce land resources are released for redevelopment and put to gainful use. The Department will actively formulate improvement or exit plans for existing hawker bazaars, having regard to their business viability, the needs of the community, resource availability and competing priorities. Since 2015, the Department has closed Tai Lin Pai Road Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar, Yu Chau West Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar, Ma Kok Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar and Luen Yan Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar, and is planning to close Yen Chow Street Temporary Hawker Bazaar. The Department will continue to explore whether other hawker bazaars with high vacancy

rates can be put to alternative uses. There is no breakdown on the expenditure involved.

Annex I

On-street hawker fixed pitches
(as at 31 December 2019)

District	Number of on-street fixed pitches		Vacancy rate
	Licensed (a)	Vacant* (b)	(b) / ((a)+(b))
Central and Western	543	23	4.1%
Wanchai	413	60	12.7%
Eastern	307	22	6.7%
Southern	29	0	0.0%
Islands	2	0	0.0%
Yau Tsim	677	114	14.4%
Mong Kok	1 239	82	6.2%
Sham Shui Po	981	65	6.2%
Kowloon City	91	18	16.5%
Wong Tai Sin	14	0	0.0%
Kwun Tong	57	0	0.0%
Kwai Tsing	9	0	0.0%
Tsuen Wan	16	0	0.0%
Tuen Mun	14	0	0.0%
Yuen Long	11	0	0.0%
North	6	0	0.0%
Tai Po	5	0	0.0%
Shatin	1	0	0.0%
Sai Kung	2	0	0.0%
Total	**4 417**	**384**	**8.0%**

Note:

*****1. The figures represent the numbers of on-street hawker pitches (including pitches in Hawker Permitted Places) suitable for re-allocation. They do not include pitches with a higher risk which are unsuitable for setting up stalls, including pitches located within a radial distance of 6 metres in front of building staircase discharge points and within 1.5 metres of fire hydrants/located at emergency vehicular access, earmarked to accommodate stalls that require relocation due to fire safety considerations, absorbed in the course of rationalisation of the overall layout of hawker areas, and reserved for resite commitments due to other needs.

2. Among the 384 vacant hawker pitches, 2 have been released after the launch of the Re-allocation of Vacant Fixed Hawker Pitches and Issue of New Licences scheme at the end of September 2019. For the remaining 382 pitches which are covered by the scheme, 116 pitches have been allocated to applicants who have yet to collect the licence.

Hawker fixed pitches
in hawker permitted places
(as at **31 December 2019**)

District	**Serial no.**	**Hawker permitted place**	**Year of commencement**	**Number of fixed-pitches**		**Vacancy rate**
				Licensed[#] (a)	**Vacant* (b)**	**(b) / ((a)+(b))**
Eastern	1	Kam Wa Street / Aldrich Street	1981	60	4	6.3%
	2	Mong Lung Street	1981	1	0	0.0%
	3	Tai Tak Street	1981	0	1	100.0%
			Sub-total	61	5	7.6%
Wanchai	4	Gresson Street	1980	4	0	0%
	5	Tai Yuen Street	1980	69	3	4.2%
	6	Cross Street / Sam Pan Street	1991	10	2	16.7%
			Sub-total	83	5	5.7%
Central and Western	7	Findlay Road	1999	4	2	33.3%
	8	Chiu Lung Street (East)	1999	9	0	0.0%
	9	Gilman’s Bazaar	1985	3	1	25.0%
	10	Graham Street	1980	14	4	22.2%
	11	MacDonnell Road	1980	1	0	0.0%
	12	Peel Street	1980	2	4	66.7%
	13	Staunton Street	1980	0	0	0.0%
	14	Wing Kut Street	1980	2	0	0.0%
	15	Wing On Street	1980	3	0	0.0%
			Sub-total	38	11	22.4%
Southern	16	Waterfall Bay Park	1980	10	0	0.0%
			Sub-total	10	0	0.0%
Yau Tsim	17	Reclamation Street	1981	28	6	17.6%
	18	Pak Hoi Street	1981	6	0	0.0%
	19	Temple Street	1981	199	71	26.3%
	20	Canton Road	1993	1	0	0.0%
	21	Pitt Street	1994	0	0	0.0%
			Sub-total	234	77	24.8%

District	Serial no.	Hawker permitted place	Year of commencement	Number of fixed pitches		Vacancy rate
				Licensed[#] (a)	Vacant* (b)	(b) / ((a)+(b))
Sham Shui Po	22	Wing Lung Street	1975	35	36	50.7%
	23	Fat Tseung Street	1975	14	5	26.3%
	24	Cheung Fat Street	1975	9	9	50.0%
	25	Apliu Street	1978	40	0	0.0%
	26	Fuk Wing Street	1993	37	1	2.6%
	27	Kweilin Street	1993	59	0	0.0%
	28	Ki Lung Street	1993	88	2	2.2%
	29	Pei Ho Street	1993	27	1	3.6%
	30	Tai Nan Street	1993	59	0	0.0%
			Sub-total	368	54	12.8%
Mong Kok	31	Tung Choi Street	1979	487	27	5.3%
	32	Cheung Wong Road	1979	2	0	0.0%
	33	Nelson Street	1979	43	3	6.5%
	34	Nam Tau Street	1979	1	1	50.0%
			Sub-total	533	31	5.5%
			Total	**1 327**	**183**	**12.1%**

Note :

[#] All licensed pitches in the hawker permitted places are counted.

*1. The figures represent the numbers of hawker pitches in Hawker Permitted Places suitable for re-allocation. They do not include pitches with a higher risk which are unsuitable for setting up stalls, including pitches located within a radial distance of 6 metres in front of building staircase discharge points and within 1.5 metres of fire hydrants/located at emergency vehicular access, earmarked to accommodate stalls that require relocation due to fire safety considerations, absorbed in the course of rationalisation of the overall layout of hawker areas, and reserved for resite commitments due to other needs.

2. Among the 183 vacant hawker pitches, 1 has been released after the launch of the Re-allocation of Vacant Fixed Hawker Pitches and Issue of New Licences scheme at the end of September 2019. For the remaining 182 pitches which are covered by the scheme, 46 pitches have been allocated to applicants who have yet to collect the licence.

Annex III

Hawker fixed pitches in
hawker bazaars
(as at **31 December 2019**)

District	Serial no.	Hawker bazaar*	Year of commencement	Number of fixed pitches		Vacancy Rate
				Licensed	Vacant	
				(a)	(b)	(b) / ((a)+(b))
Southern	1	Stanley Market Open Space Hawker Bazaar	1972	19	5	20.8%
Yau Tsim	2	Haiphong Road Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar #	1978	0	20	100.0%
	3	Reclamation Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	1976	4	8	66.7%
	4	Woosung Street Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar #	1984	0	24	100.0%
	5	Yau Ma Tei Jade Hawker Bazaar (Zone A)	1985	59	0	0.0%
	6	Yau Ma Tei Jade Hawker Bazaar (Zone B)	1985	284	0	0.0%
Kwun Tong	7	Lai Yip Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	1976	3	7	70.0%
	8	Tung Yan Street Interim Hawker Bazaar	2014	117	8	6.4%
Tsuen Wan	9	Hau Tei Square Hawker Bazaar	1980	90	79^	46.7%
Kwai Tsing	10	Kwai Wing Road Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	1972	5	15	75%
Tuen Mun	11	Lam Tei Market cum Hawker Bazaar	1969	4	0	0.0%
			Total	**585**	**166**	**22.1%**

Note:

* Excluding Yen Chow Street Temporary Hawker Bazaar which is scheduled to be closed.

\# Temporarily closed for refurbishment.

^ Among the 79 vacant hawker pitches, 28 have been reserved for resite commitments. For the remaining 51 pitches which are covered by the Re-allocation of Vacant Fixed Hawker Pitches and Issue of New Licences scheme launched at the end of September 2019, 9 pitches have been allocated to applicants who have yet to collect the licence.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0556)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (4) Public Education and Community Involvement

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding "promoting green burial as a more sustainable form of disposal of cremated human ashes",

1. please state the number of registrations made each year since the setting up of the central registration scheme;

2. please set out as per the table below the number of cases handled by the Department and the expenditure involved in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2017 to 2019); and

Year		Number of Deaths	Burial	Cremation	Interment of cremated ashes in public niches	Scattering of cremated ashes in the designated areas in Hong Kong waters	Scattering of cremated ashes in Gardens of Remembrance
2017	Number of cases						
	Expenditure involved						
2018	Number of cases						
	Expenditure involved						
2019	Number of cases						
	Expenditure involved						

3. please advise on the number of users and the utilisation rate of the ferry service provided by the Department for scattering cremated ashes at sea, as well as the expenditure involved in each of the past 3 years (i.e. from 2017 to 2019).

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

1. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department launched a Green Burial Central Register (GBCR) in January 2019. Up to February 2020, over 3 500 individuals have registered in the GBCR.

2. The number of cases handled by the Department in the past 3 calendar years is given as follows :

Year	No. of deaths	No. of coffin burials	No. of cremations	No. of ashes interment in public niches	No. of cases of scattering of ashes	
					At sea	In Gardens of Remembrance
2017	45 883	919	42 809	2 935	966	4 966
2018	47 479	919	43 803	3 657	972	5 352
2019	48 706	819	45 543	4 196	899	6 280

The expenditure incurred by the Department in providing cemeteries and crematoria services in 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 was $345.6 million, $355.4 million and $407.6 million (revised estimate) respectively. There is no breakdown by type of services.

3. The number of users and the utilisation rate of the free ferry service provided by the Department for scattering cremated ashes at sea in the past 3 calendar years is given as follows :

Year	Number of applications handled	Service capacity	Utilisation rate
2017	906	1 175	77%
2018	878	1 225	72%
2019	810	1 250	65%

The expenditure incurred by the Department for contracting out the free ferry service in 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 was $2.3 million, $2.4 million and $2.4 million (revised estimate) respectively.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)104

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2486)

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 the work to "continue to implement the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP)", the Department submitted documents to the Legislative Council in 2019 to propose that in the first phase of the MMP, a fundamental overhaul for 4 markets and refurbishment and minor improvement works for at least another 3 would be taken forward. In this connection, please provide the following information:

- The progress of the fundamental overhaul for the 4 markets.

Fundamental overhaul		
District	Market	Progress

- The markets where refurbishment and minor improvement works will be taken forward and the progress of the works.

Refurbishment and minor improvement works		
District	Market	Progress

- In the past, a support rate of 80% among tenants was needed for undertaking the retrofitting of air-conditioning in a public market. In this regard, 11 markets have reached the threshold before the launch of the MMP. Now that the retrofitting works are affected due to the launch of the MMP, will the Department still carry on the works in the markets concerned? If yes, the details and the estimated expenditure involved; if no, the reason(s).

Serial no.	Name of public market	Support rate for retrofitting of air-conditioning (%)	Will the retrofitting works be continued	If yes, the estimated commencement and completion dates of the retrofitting works	Estimated expenditure	If no, the reason(s)
	Shui Wo Street Market Cooked Food Centre					
	Tai Wai Market					
	Aberdeen Market cum Cooked Food Centre					
	Ngau Tau Kok Market Cooked Food Centre					
	Shek Tong Tsui Market Cooked Food Centre					
	Quarry Bay Market Cooked Food Centre					
	Electric Road Market Cooked Food Centre					
	Fa Yuen Street Market Cooked Food Centre					
	Ngau Chi Wan Market Cooked Food Centre					
	Yeung Uk Road Market					
	Tsuen Wan Market					

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

The Government has earmarked $2 billion for the implementation of the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project of the MMP is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) briefed the relevant committee of the Southern District Council on the details and progress of the project in February 2020. ArchSD is engaging consultants and will commence the work of detailed design of plan and preparation of tender documents, etc. as soon as possible. The expenditure of the works can only be accurately estimated upon completion of the design work. Upon completion of the preparatory work, we will seek funding approval from the Legislative Council as soon as possible and expect to commence the overhaul works in 2021.

At the same time, we plan to overhaul another 3 public markets in Kowloon and the New Territories and expect to take forward the consultation and preparatory work later this year. We also plan to kick-start minor refurbishment and improvement works for at least 3 other public markets in different districts across the territory. The project estimates for taking forward the above minor refurbishment and improvement works, as well as engagement of consultants and the preliminary work for the Aberdeen Market project, is about $68 million. The estimated expenditure of these project in 2020-21 is about $13 million.

With the implementation of the MMP, Tai Wai Market is the last public market to have air-conditioning system installation as the major part of the improvement project. The works concerned commenced in May 2019 in phases and are expected to complete in the third quarter of 2020 at a project cost of about $110 million. As fundamental overhauls under the MMP already include retrofitting of air-conditioning systems, it is not necessary to set a threshold of tenants' support. For those public markets having the support threshold reached earlier and planned to have air-conditioning systems retrofitted, they have more potential to be accorded priority for inclusion in the MMP for an overhaul as their tenants are, to a certain extent, ready for the improvement works. We also need to consider other factors in respect of the markets, including geographical location and distribution, condition of facilities, business viability and community needs. The other information requested is set out at **Annex**.

Annex

Serial no.	Name of public market	Support rate for retrofitting of air-conditioning system (%)
1	Shui Wo Street Market Cooked Food Centre	100
2	Tai Wai Market	97.1
3	Aberdeen Market cum Cooked Food Centre	80.4
4	Ngau Tau Kok Market Cooked Food Centre	90
5	Shek Tong Tsui Market Cooked Food Centre	93.3
6	Quarry Bay Market Cooked Food Centre	100
7	Electric Road Market Cooked Food Centre	100
8	Fa Yuen Street Market Cooked Food Centre	80
9	Ngau Chi Wan Market Cooked Food Centre	100
10	Yeung Uk Road Market	81.7
11	Tsuen Wan Market	82.1

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2496)

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:

Regarding "licensed hawkers" under "indicators", please set out in the table below the number of various types of hawker licences.

Type		Number of fixed-pitch hawker licences	Number of itinerant hawker licences
"Cabinet-type" stall in 43 hawker areas			--
"Hawker Permitted Place" stall in 43 hawker areas			--
Other "Cabinet-type" stall			--
Other "Hawker Permitted Place" stall			--
Hawker bazaar			--
Bootblack			--
Cooked food or light refreshment	Dai Pai Tong		--
	Others		--
Newspaper			--
Tradesman			--
Barber			--
Wall stall			--
Other classes			--
Itinerant (frozen confectionery)		--	
Itinerant (mobile van)		--	
Others		--	
Total			

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

The number of various types of hawker licences (as at 31 December 2019) is tabulated as follows:

Type		**Number of fixed-pitch hawker licences**	**Number of itinerant hawker licences**
"Cabinet-type" stall in 43 hawker areas		2 695*	-
"Hawker Permitted Place" stall in 43 hawker areas		729	-
Other "Cabinet-type" stall		118	-
Other "Hawker Permitted Place" stall		44	-
Hawker bazaar		571	-
Bootblack		6	-
Cooked food or light refreshment	Dai Pai Tong	23	-
	Others	57	-
Newspaper		370	2
Tradesman		125#	-
Barber		29	-
Wall stall		278	-
Itinerant (frozen confectionery)		-	62
Itinerant (mobile van)		-	15
Others		-	291
Total		**5 045**	**370**

*Including 43 Tradesman stalls.

Hawker licences issued to tradesmen outside 43 hawker areas.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2497)

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:

Regarding "fixed pitch hawkers" under the indicators for "licensed hawkers", the estimated number in 2020 is higher as compared to the actual number in 2019. Is the increase due to re-allocation of 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences? Please set out in the tables below the number of licensed hawkers trading in hawker bazaars and 43 fixed-pitch hawker areas respectively.

Number of licensed hawkers trading in hawker bazaars

	Number of licensed hawkers before re-allocation of 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences	Number of licensed hawkers increased due to re-allocation of 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences
Stanley Market Open Space Hawker Bazaar (with cooked food hawker stalls inside)		
Lai Yip Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar		
Tung Yan Street Interim Hawker Bazaar		
Yau Ma Tei Jade Hawker Bazaar (Zone A)		
Yau Ma Tei Jade Hawker Bazaar (Zone B)		
Haiphong Road Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar (temporarily closed for refurbishment)		
Reclamation Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar		
Woosung Street Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar (temporarily closed for refurbishment)		
Yen Chow Street Hawker Bazaar		
Hau Tei Square Hawker Bazaar		
Lam Tei Market cum Hawker Bazaar (with cooked food hawker stall inside)		
Kwai Wing Road Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar		
Total		

Number of licensed hawkers trading in 43 fixed-pitch hawker areas

District	Location of fixed pitches	Number of licensed hawkers before re-allocation of 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences	Number of licensed hawkers increased due to re-allocation of 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences
Eastern	Chun Yeung Street		
	Marble Street		
	Kam Wa Street		
	Tai Tak Street		
	Mong Lung Street		
	Subtotal		
Central and Western	Pottinger Street		
	Graham Street		
	Gage Street		
	Li Yuen Street East		
	Li Yuen Street West		
	Peel Street		
	Wing Kut Street		
	Upper Lascar Row		
	Man Wa Lane		
	Subtotal		
Wan Chai	Gresson Street		
	Cross Street		
	Tai Yuen Street		
	Jardine's Crescent		
	Subtotal		
Yau Tsim	Reclamation Street		
	Pak Hoi Street		
	Saigon Street		
	Canton Road		
	Bowring Street		
	Temple Street		
	Subtotal		
Mongkok	Tung Choi Street		
	Canton Road		
	Fife Street		
	Yin Chong Street		
	Ki Lung Street		
	Poplar Street		
	Fa Yuen Street		
	Nelson Street		
	Subtotal		
Sham Shui Po	Wing Lung Street		
	Fat Tseung Street		
	Cheung Fat Street		

	Fuk Wa Street		
	Fuk Wing Street		
	Pei Ho Street		
	Apliu Street		
	Ki Lung Street		
	Tai Nan Street		
	Kweilin Street		
	Subtotal		
Kowloon City	Pau Chung Street		
	Subtotal		
	Total no. of stalls		

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

The information sought is provided in the tables below:

Number of licensed hawkers trading in hawker bazaars

	Number of licensed hawkers before re-allocation of vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences (As at 31 December 2019)	Number of licensed hawkers increased due to re-allocation of vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences (As at 29 February 2020)
Stanley Market Open Space Hawker Bazaar	19	- (Note)
Lai Yip Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	3	- (Note)
Tung Yan Street Interim Hawker Bazaar	117	- (Note)
Yau Ma Tei Jade Hawker Bazaar (Zone A)	59	- (Note)
Yau Ma Tei Jade Hawker Bazaar (Zone B)	284	- (Note)
Haiphong Road Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar (temporarily closed for refurbishment)	0	- (Note)
Reclamation Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	4	- (Note)
Woosung Street Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar (temporarily closed for refurbishment)	0	- (Note)
Yen Chow Street Hawker Bazaar	0	- (Note)
Hau Tei Square Hawker Bazaar	90	16
Lam Tei Market cum Hawker Bazaar (with cooked food hawker stall inside)	4	- (Note)
Kwai Wing Road Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	5	- (Note)
Total	**585**	**16**

Note: The hawker bazaars listed above (except Hau Tei Square Hawker Bazaar) are not covered by the scheme of Re-allocation of Vacant Fixed Hawker Pitches and Issue of New Licences.

Number of licensed hawkers trading in fixed-pitch hawker areas (including hawker streets outside 43 hawker areas*)

District	Location of fixed pitches	Number of licensed hawkers before re-allocation of vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences (As at 31 December 2019)	Number of licensed hawkers increased due to re-allocation of vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences (As at 29 February 2020)
Eastern	Chun Yeung Street	74	0
	Marble Street	69	2
	Kam Wa Street	85	1
	Tai Tak Street	21	0
	Mong Lung Street	4	0
	Subtotal	253	3
Central and Western	Pottinger Street	35	1
	Graham Street	42	1
	Gage Street	10	0
	Li Yuen Street East	57	0
	Li Yuen Street West	50	0
	Peel Street	24	1
	Wing Kut Street	32	0
	Upper Lascar Row	11	1
	Man Wa Lane	31	0
	Aberdeen Street*	12	0
	Douglas Lane*	3	1
	Elgin Street*	11	0
	Unnamed lane connecting Pedder Street and Theatre Lane*	19	0
	Gilman's Bazaar*	3	0
	Findlay Road*	4	0
	Subtotal	344	5
Wan Chai	Gresson Street	39	1
	Cross Street	67	2
	Tai Yuen Street	74	1
	Jardine's Crescent	142	3
	Wun Sha Street*	8	0
	Subtotal	330	7
Yau Tsim	Reclamation Street	172	5
	Pak Hoi Street	13	0
	Saigon Street	15	0
	Canton Road	12	1
	Bowring Street	85	1
	Temple Street	232	2

District	Location of fixed pitches	Number of licensed hawkers before re-allocation of vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences (As at 31 December 2019)	Number of licensed hawkers increased due to re-allocation of vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences (As at 29 February 2020)
	Pitt Street*	6	1
	Subtotal	535	10

District	Location of fixed pitches	Number of licensed hawkers before re-allocation of vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences (As at 31 December 2019)	Number of licensed hawkers increased due to re-allocation of vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences (As at 29 February 2020)
Mongkok	Tung Choi Street	487	9
	Canton Road	251	6
	Fife Street	19	0
	Yin Chong Street	65	1
	Ki Lung Street	6	0
	Poplar Street	4	0
	Fa Yuen Street	216	0
	Nelson Street	43	2
	Nam Tau Street*	1	0
	Subtotal	1 092	18
Sham Shui Po	Wing Lung Street	38	9
	Fat Tseung Street	30	2
	Cheung Fat Street	42	5
	Fuk Wa Street	154	0
	Fuk Wing Street	36	1
	Pei Ho Street	146	0
	Apliu Street	206	1
	Ki Lung Street	124	0
	Tai Nan Street	60	0
	Kweilin Street	59	0
	Subtotal	895	18
Kowloon City	Pau Chung Street	42	0
	Subtotal	42	0
	Total no. of stall	3 491	61

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2498)

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:

Regarding "fixed pitch hawkers" under the indicators for "licensed hawkers", the estimated number in 2020 is higher as compared to the actual number in 2019. It is noted that the Department commenced the re-allocation of 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches and issue of new licences in 2019. What is the current progress in this respect? Please set out the numbers of applicants, applicants granted with licence and successful applicants having abandoned the application, with a breakdown by category of applicants.

	No. of applicants	No. of applicants granted with licence	No. of successful applicants having abandoned the application
Holder of Fixed-Pitch (Newspaper) Hawker Licence			
Holder of Itinerant Hawker Licence (Other Classes/Newspaper)			
Eligible Registered Assistant			
Member of the Public Satisfying Specific Criteria			
Total			

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department launched the scheme of Re-allocation of Fixed Hawker Pitches and Issue of New Licences at the end of September 2019. Under the scheme, 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches located at 7 districts will be open for application by persons who are interested in the hawking business and able to meet the required conditions. Successful applicants will operate at the pitches after a licence is granted. After launching the scheme, the Department received a total of 14 126 applications, of which 12 788 applicants were initially eligible. The Department conducted an open computer random sequencing cum manual ballot exercise to determine the priority order of applicants for pitch selection at the end of November 2019. Applicants were invited for selection of vacant pitches in early December. As at 29 February 2020, 349 applicants were invited for pitch selection. Among them, 236 have selected the pitches (77 of them have been granted with the fixed pitch hawker licence), 109 gave up pitch selection, and 4 were considered not eligible for the scheme. The pitch selection exercise is scheduled for completion at the end of April 2020.

The relevant information (as at 29 February 2020) is as follows:

Category of applicants	No. of applicants[1]	No. of applicants who have selected the pitches	No. of applicants granted with the licence	No. of applicants who have yet to collect the licence	No. of successful applicants having abandoned the application
Holder of Fixed-Pitch (Newspaper) Hawker Licence	6	4	2	2	2
Holder of Itinerant Hawker Licence (Other Classes/Newspaper)	24	6	3	3	18
Eligible Registered Assistant	1 313	105	37	68	48
Member of the Public Satisfying Specific Criteria	11 445	121	35	86	41
Total	12 788	236	77	159	109

Note:

[1] Applicants who are initially eligible.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2499)

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:

Regarding the work to "continue the comprehensive review on public markets, with a view to formulating concrete improvement proposals for the management of public markets", please provide information on:

- the population and the number of public markets in each district:

District	Population	No. of public markets	Name of public market
Central & Western			
Eastern			
Southern			
Wan Chai			
Kowloon City			
Kwun Tong			
Wong Tai Sin			
Sham Shui Po			
Mong Kok			
Yau Tsim			
Sha Tin			
Tai Po			
North			
Kwai Tsing			
Tsuen Wan			
Tuen Mun			

Yuen Long			
Sai Kung			
Islands			
Total			

- the year of commissioning, current number of stalls and occupancy rate of individual public markets (listed by air-conditioned and non-air-conditioned markets) in the territory.

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 25)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annexes I and II respectively.

District	Population[a]	No. of public markets[b]	Name of public markets[b]
Central & Western	243 266	6	Shek Tong Tsui Market Sheung Wan Market Smithfield Market Centre Street Market Sai Ying Pun Market Queen Street Cooked Food Market
Eastern	555 034	9	North Point Market Electric Road Market Quarry Bay Market Yue Wan Market Java Road Market Sai Wan Ho Market Aldrich Bay Market Chai Wan Market Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market
Southern	274 994	6	Yue Kwong Road Market Tin Wan Market Aberdeen Market Apleichau Market Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market Stanley Waterfront Mart
Wan Chai	180 123	6	Wanchai Market Bowrington Road Market Lockhart Road Market Wong Nai Chung Market Tang Lung Chau Market Causeway Bay Market
Kowloon City	418 732	4	Kowloon City Market Hung Hom Market Tokwawan Market On Ching Road Flower Market
Kwun Tong	648 541	8	Ngau Tau Kok Market Shui Wo Street Market Yee On Street Market Lei Yue Mun Market Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market

District	Population[a]	No. of public markets[b]	Name of public markets[b]
Wong Tai Sin	425 235	4	Ngau Chi Wan Market Sheung Fung Street Market Choi Hung Road Market Tai Shing Street Market
Sham Shui Po	405 869	4	Po On Road Market Pei Ho Street Market Lai Wan Market Tung Chau Street Temporary Market
Mong Kok	342 970	3	Fa Yuen Street Market Tai Kok Tsui Market Mong Kok Cooked Food Market
Yau Tsim		3	Yau Ma Tei Market Kwun Chung Market Haiphong Road Temporary Market
Sha Tin	659 794	4	Sha Tin Market Tai Wai Market Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market
Tai Po	303 926	2	Tai Po Hui Market Plover Cove Road Market
North	315 270	4	Shek Wu Hui Market Luen Wo Hui Market Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre Sha Tau Kok Market
Kwai Tsing	520 572	7	Wing Fong Street Market Tsing Yi Market North Kwai Chung Market Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market Ka Ting Cooked Food Market Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market

District	Population[a]	No. of public markets[b]	Name of public markets[b]
Tsuen Wan	318 916	5	Yeung Uk Road Market Tsuen Wan Market Heung Che Street Market Sham Tseng Temporary Market Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market
Tuen Mun	489 299	6	Yan Oi Market San Hui Market Lam Tei Market Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market Kin Wing Cooked Food Market Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market
Yuen Long	614 178	8	Tung Yick Market Tai Kiu Market Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market Kam Tin Market Lau Fau Shan Market Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market
Sai Kung	461 864	2	Sai Kung Market Tui Min Hoi Market
Islands	156 801	6	Mui Wo Market Cheung Chau Market Tai O Market Peng Chau Market Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market Mui Wo Cooked Food Market
Total	**7 335 384**	**97**	

[a] Based on "Hong Kong 2016 Population By-census - Key Statistics" published by the Census and Statistics Department in February 2017.

[b] The table only lists the public markets managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. They represent one of the avenues through which the public purchase daily provisions. Other avenues include supermarkets, on-street markets, provision shops on private premises and markets in home-ownership and public rental developments.

Serial no.	Name of market	Year of commissioning	Provision of air-conditioning system	No. of stalls as at 31 December 2019	Occupancy rate[a] as at 31 December 2019
1	Aldrich Bay Market	2008	Yes	71	87%
2	Apleichau Market	1998	Yes	63	94%
3	Centre Street Market	1976	Yes	46	74%
4	Chai Wan Market	2001	Yes	174	92%
5	Lei Yue Mun Market	2000	Yes	20	95%
6	Luen Wo Hui Market	2002	Yes	338	99%
7	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	2005	Yes	14	100%
8	Peng Chau Market	1999	Yes	18	94%
9	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	2004	Yes	11	100%
10	Sai Ying Pun Market	1999	Yes	93	95%
11	San Hui Market	1982	Yes	324	96%
12	Sha Tin Market	1980	Yes	172	97%
13	Shek Wu Hui Market	1994	Yes	393	99%
14	Tai Kiu Market	1984	Yes	379	95%
15	Tai Kok Tsui Market	2005	Yes	135	97%
16	Tai Po Hui Market	2004	Yes	313	99%
17	Tsing Yi Market	1999	Yes	76	93%
18	Wanchai Market	2008	Yes	50	98%
19	Yan Oi Market	1983	Yes	108	94%
20	Yee On Street Market	1999	Yes	65	63%
21	Yue Wan Market	1979	Yes	380	94%
22	Bowrington Road Market	1979	In cooked food centre (CFC) only	296	92%
23	Hung Hom Market	1996	In CFC only	224	97%
24	Java Road Market	1993	In CFC only	194	90%
25	Lockhart Road Market	1987	In CFC only	166	74%
26	Pei Ho Street Market	1995	In CFC only	234	97%
27	Sai Wan Ho Market	1984	In CFC only	274	96%
28	Sheung Wan Market	1989	In CFC only	223	96%

Serial no.	Name of market	Year of commissioning	Provision of air-conditioning system	No. of stalls as at 31 December 2019	Occupancy rate[a] as at 31 December 2019
29	Smithfield Market	1996	In CFC only	216	99%
30	Tai Shing Street Market	1998	In CFC only	441	92%
31	Tokwawan Market	1984	In CFC only	267	94%
32	Wong Nai Chung Market	1996	In CFC only	69	96%
33	Aberdeen Market	1983	No	335	96%
34	Causeway Bay Market	1995	No	51	92%
35	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	1979	No	32	81%
36	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	1991	No	17	100%
37	Cheung Chau Market	1991	No	243	96%
38	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	1987	No	12	100%
39	Choi Hung Road Market	1988	No	116	59%
40	Electric Road Market	1993	No	99	81%
41	Fa Yuen Street Market	1988	No	180	89%
42	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	1982	No	24	100%
43	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	1982	No	15	100%
44	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	1978	No	86	66%
45	Heung Che Street Market	1972	No	225	92%
46	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	1979	No	11	91%
47	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	1987	No	172	65%
48	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	1983	No	15	60%
49	Kam Tin Market	1964	No	41	100%

Serial no.	Name of market	Year of commissioning	Provision of air-conditioning system	No. of stalls as at 31 December 2019	Occupancy rate[a] as at 31 December 2019
50	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	1981	No	14	100%
51	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	1979	No	17	100%
52	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	1985	No	14	100%
53	Kowloon City Market	1988	No	581	90%
54	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	1986	No	11	100%
55	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	1990	No	11	91%
56	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	1985	No	98	98%
57	Kwun Chung Market	1991	No	218	73%
58	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	1984	No	29	97%
59	Lai Wan Market	1992	No	42	95%
60	Lam Tei Market	1969	No	7	100%
61	Lau Fau Shan Market	1964	No	25	72%
62	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	1985	No	20	100%
63	Mui Wo Market	1993	No	35	91%
64	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	1987	No	28	82%
65	Ngau Chi Wan Market	1986	No	402	84%
66	Ngau Tau Kok Market	1981	No	466	85%
67	North Kwai Chung Market	1984	No	222	87%
68	North Point Market	1970	No	42	83%
69	On Ching Road Flower Market	1979	No	13	100%
70	Plover Cove Road Market	1991	No	244	78%
71	Po On Road Market	1988	No	449	87%
72	Quarry Bay Market	1988	No	113	68%
73	Sai Kung Market	1985	No	209	89%
74	Sha Tau Kok Market	1998	No	66	100%

Serial no.	Name of market	Year of commissioning	Provision of air-conditioning system	No. of stalls as at 31 December 2019	Occupancy rate[a] as at 31 December 2019
75	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	1984	No	29	86%
76	Shek Tong Tsui Market	1991	No	151	88%
77	Sheung Fung Street Market	1989	No	71	97%
78	Shui Wo Street Market	1988	No	302	97%
79	Stanley Waterfront Mart	2007	No	20	65%
80	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	1980	No	17	82%
81	Tai O Market	1989	No	26	85%
82	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	1985	No	18	100%
83	Tai Wai Market	1985	No	186	91%
84	Tang Lung Chau Market	1963	No	34	91%
85	Tin Wan Market	1979	No	180	95%
86	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	1983	No	18	100%
87	Tsuen Wan Market	1981	No	381	88%
88	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	1985	No	56	93%
89	Tui Min Hoi Market	1983	No	34	56%
90	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	1992	No	349	33%
91	Tung Yick Market	1991	No	446	40%
92	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	1983	No	8	100%
93	Wing Fong Street Market	1982	No	114	76%
94	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	1984	No	18	100%
95	Yau Ma Tei Market	1957	No	144	89%
96	Yeung Uk Road Market	1990	No	318	95%
97	Yue Kwong Road Market	1981	No	197	84%

[a] Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

Remarks: Cooked food centres are located inside public markets.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1619)

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 the movement of opposition to the proposed legislative amendments over the past 9 months, "Lennon Walls" served as a propaganda "platform" for quite a number of rioters who set up such walls across the territory at all costs for brainwashing young people into believing the distorted truth; doxxing against, cursing, smearing government officials and the police in particular; confusing right and wrong; and inciting violence. "Lennon Walls" have not only affected environmental hygiene but also destroyed social harmony and inflamed the violent movement. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, being specifically responsible for environmental hygiene, all that time seems to have turned a blind eye to the "Lennon Walls" with the adoption of a non-interference approach, though it in fact has an unshirkable responsibility to clean them up. In this connection, please advise this Committee on the following:

1. What is the full-year expenditure on salaries of the Director and Deputy Directors of Food and Environmental Hygiene for the 2020-21 financial year?

2. Can the Department provide information on the "Lennon Walls" set up as a result of the movement over the past 9 months? If yes, what are the number and detailed locations? If no, what are the reasons?

3. With the movement now entering another phase, will the Department undertake to clean up the "Lennon Walls" left in the territory as soon as possible so that the public can have their healthy and hygienic environment back?

Asked by: Hon HO Kwan-yiu, Junius (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

1. The estimated expenditure on the overall remuneration of the Director and Deputy Directors of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department for 2020-21 is $14.2 million.

2. The Department has been closely monitoring the display and affixation of bills in various districts. Joint operations have been mounted by the Department in collaboration with relevant Government departments to clean up bills affixed without permission in public places on government land, while individual departments are responsible for cleaning up the same at venues under their purview. As at 29 February 2020, some 950 joint operations have been conducted at 295 locations across the territory to clean up bills displayed or affixed without permission. As the locations involved vary with the public events and some of them do not fall within the purview of the Department, detailed information has not been kept.

3. The Department has reinforced joint clearance operations to progressively clean up bills affixed without permission in public places on government land. The clean-up exercise will continue as long as the ground situation permits and it is safe to do so. We will strive for early completion of the exercise.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)110

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0996)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

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:

1. Please advise on the actual, revised and estimated expenditure of the Liquor Licensing Board in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21.

2. Please also advise on the changes in the staff establishment of the Liquor Licensing Board in each of the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon HUI Chi-fung (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

1. The actual/revised/estimated expenditure involved in manning the Liquor Licensing Board (LLB) Secretariat in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 is $6.84 million, $6.70 million and $6.90 million respectively.

2. A total of 40 staff in the 3 licensing offices of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department are responsible for handling liquor and club liquor licence applications. They also carry out work related to other licences. In addition, 9 staff are deployed for providing secretariat support for the LLB. There were no changes in the staff establishment of the LLB in the past 3 years.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1974)

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 connection with household waste collection and management of public cleansing facilities, please advise this Committee on:

1. the annual expenditure on outsourcing the collection service for three-colour waste separation bins (three-colour bins) managed by the Department, the information on the contractors hired and the respective number of three-colour bins they handled in each of the past 3 years;

2. the whereabouts of the materials collected by the contractors in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by type (i.e. paper, metals and plastics), the quantities of materials (in kilograms) eventually recycled and the quantities of materials (in kilograms) ended up being disposed of in landfills;

3. the expenditure to be involved in outsourcing the collection service for three-colour bins in the coming year; and

4. the total number of complaints received by the Department against the contractors' frontline cleansing workers for disposal at will of recyclable materials as general waste in the past 3 years; details of the follow-up actions taken by the Department; and details of the surprise checks (if any) conducted by the Department to monitor the performance of the contractors in regard to the collection of recyclable materials. Besides, will the Department consider stipulating a minimum collection tonnage of clean recycling materials in the contracts? If yes, the details; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon HUI Chi-fung (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)

Reply:

1. The names of the contractors engaged by the Department to provide recyclables collection services in the past 3 years and the respective contract values are tabulated below:

Contract period	Contractor	Contract Value
1 August 2016 to 31 August 2018	Baguio Waste Management & Recycling Limited	$23.19 million
1 September 2018 to 31 August 2020	Baguio Waste Management & Recycling Limited (Hong Kong and Islands, and New Territories East and New Territories West)	$26.85 million
	Shiny Glory Services Limited (Kowloon)	6.47 million

The number of recyclables collection bins provided by the Department throughout the territory in the past three years is as follows:

Year	No. of recyclables collection bins
2017	1 981
2018	1 981
2019	1 982

2. The recyclables collected by the contractors will be delivered to the relevant recyclers for proper handling, including processing them into recycled products or raw materials so that they can be exported or supplied to the local market. The general waste collected in the recyclables collection bins as well as the materials contaminated or unsuitable for recycling will be treated as general waste. The quantities of recyclables and other waste collected by the Department's contractors in the past 3 years are as follows:

Year	Paper (kilograms)	Metal (kilograms)	Plastic materials (kilograms)	Other waste (kilograms)
2017	301 800	33 600	389 400	557 600
2018	270 300	40 200	419 900	433 600
2019	341 100	55 500	479 700	527 800

3. The existing service contracts will expire on 31 August 2020. The expenditure required for the new contracts depends on the results of the public tender exercises to be conducted in due course.

4. The Department received 10 complaints against the contractors' improper disposal of recyclables in the past 3 years. As regards the follow-up actions on the complaints, in addition to routine inspections, the Department conducted surprise checks and took contract enforcement actions as appropriate. No improper disposal of recyclables was found in the follow-up inspections. Whether a minimum collection tonnage of

clean recycling materials should be stipulated in the service contracts depends on whether such a requirement is reasonable. The Department will take this into consideration when drawing up the terms and conditions of the new service contracts.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3112)

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:

Please advise on the following:

(a) In relation to the abusive use of weapons laced with chemical irritants, such as tear gas rounds, water cannon vehicles and pepper sprays, by the Police since June 2019,
   (1) what is the additional frequency made for cleansing streets and public places?
   (2) what is the additional manpower deployed?
   (3) what are the additional protective gear and items provided to protect frontline staff and their quantities (the daily quantities per person)?

(b) In the light of the Wuhan pneumonia outbreak since January 2020,
   (1) what is the additional frequency made for cleansing streets, public toilets and public places?
   (2) what is the additional manpower deployed?
   (3) what are the additional protective gear and items provided to protect frontline staff and their quantities (the daily quantities per person)?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is responsible for providing cleansing services for public places. The Department attaches great importance to the safety and occupational safety and health arrangements of staff (including in-house staff and those employed by outsourced contractors). The Department and public cleansing service contractors assess the risks of various working environment settings and take appropriate precautionary measures, which include providing employees with adequate and suitable protective gear and safety training.

(a) Where the situation permits, the Department will provide street cleansing service as soon as large-scale public order events are concluded. Cleansing contractors will provide services in accordance with staffing requirement under service contracts as far as practicable having regard to the ground situation. In this light, the Department has

engaged outsourced contractors to enhance overnight cleansing service in 2019-20 (as at February), with an additional expenditure of about $4 million. Cleansing workers will wear protective gear such as face masks, gloves, sleeves, aprons, non-slippery rubber boots, face shields or goggles, coveralls and caps/hats as appropriate. The Department does not keep statistics on the quantities of additional protective gear provided.

(b) In view of the coronavirus disease 2019 epidemic, the Department has enhanced cleansing and disinfection of facilities under its management. Examples include cleansing and disinfection of public toilets every 2 hours with 1:99 diluted household bleach by toilet attendants on duty to maintain their cleanliness and hygiene, and enhanced street cleansing service for public places (including locations where littering or other public cleanliness offences are prevalent) as appropriate to ensure environmental hygiene. The Department has carried out disinfection for the residences of confirmed patients and enhanced cleansing and disinfection of public places in the vicinity of the buildings with confirmed cases as appropriate. According to operational needs, the Department has deployed in-house resources and those of service contractors to implement anti-epidemic measures. Cleansing workers will wear protective gear such as face masks, gloves, sleeves, aprons, non-slippery rubber boots, face shields or goggles, coveralls and caps/hats as appropriate. The Department does not keep statistics on the quantities of additional protective gear provided.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0814)

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:

Before the enactment of the Private Columbaria Ordinance, the Development Bureau used to provide the public with land/lease and town planning information on the private columbaria which had been made known to the Lands Department and/or the Planning Department. The information contained two parts, Part A and Part B, which were presented in two tables.

- Please provide as per the table below the number of various types of applications received after the commencement of the Private Columbaria Ordinance, and the number of applications with which all the required supporting documents or information have been submitted.

Districts	Types of applications	Number of applications submitted by columbaria included in Part A (Number of applications which have provided all the required supporting documents or information)	Number of applications submitted by columbaria included in Part B (Number of applications which have provided all the required supporting documents or information)	Number of applications submitted by columbaria not included in the information provided by the Development Bureau (Number of applications which have provided all the required supporting documents or information)
District 1	Application for a licence	-- (--)	-- (--)	-- (--)
	Application for an exemption	-- (--)	-- (--)	-- (--)
	Application for a temporary	-- (--)	-- (--)	-- (--)

	suspension of liability			
District 2	Application for a licence	-- (--)	-- (--)	-- (--)
	Application for an exemption	-- (--)	-- (--)	-- (--)
	Application for a temporary suspension of liability	-- (--)	-- (--)	-- (--)
…	…	…	…	…
	Total number			

- What is the expected time of the issue of the first batch of licences? How many licences will be granted? What is the expenditure incurred in processing the applications for these licences?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

As at 6 March 2020, the Private Columbaria Licensing Board (PCLB) has granted 5 licences and approved in principle 2 licence applications and 1 application for a temporary suspension of liability (TSOL). The PCLB was processing 287 applications for specified instruments submitted by 116 private columbaria. We do not keep statistics on private columbaria by district. A summary of the 287 applications is as follows:

Types of applications	**Number of applications submitted by columbaria included in Part A**	**Number of applications submitted by columbaria included in Part B**	**Number of applications submitted by columbaria not included in the information provided by the Development Bureau**
Application for a licence	9	84	12
Application for an exemption	3	43	5
Application for a TSOL	10	109	12
Total number of applications	22	236	29
Number of private columbaria	11	92	13

Regarding the status of applicants' submission of the required supporting documents or information, the PCLB announced on 30 August 2019 that TSOL applicants should submit the required documents/information on or before the deadline of 31 December 2019. After the expiry of the deadline, the PCLB has carefully examined the status of the documents/information received and has decided to cease the vetting of the TSOL applications submitted by 15 private columbaria.

As regards licence applications and exemption applications, other than 5 private columbaria which have been granted licences, the remaining applicants have not yet submitted all the required supporting documents or information. Upon receiving the documents or information required for an application, the Private Columbaria Affairs Office (PCAO) of

the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will invite the relevant departments to provide comments. The applicant will then be asked to take the necessary follow-up actions and submit reports, which will be forwarded to the relevant departments for their vetting. After confirming that a licence application has complied with the application requirements, the PCAO will arrange for the submission of the application to the PCLB for determination.

In 2020-21, the estimated expenditure of the PCAO is $83.6 million. The Department does not keep a separate breakdown of the expenditure involved in processing applications for different types of specified instruments.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0816)

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 the work of taking "action to close public markets which are under-utilised", please provide information on:

- the occupancy rate and vacancy rate of each public market in the territory;

- how the land will be used after closure of the markets and the estimated expenditure involved; and

- the number of markets that were closed in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2017 to 2019), the expenditure involved, and the reason(s) for the closure.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

The occupancy rate and vacancy rate of each public market are provided at Annex.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is conducting a comprehensive review of the usage and development potential of existing markets, with a view to formulating appropriate development plans for meeting the policy objectives of optimising land uses, benefitting the public and promoting district development.

With demographic changes, new development/redevelopment projects and competition from other fresh provision outlets, the appeal of some public markets has been diminishing over time, with some having low patronage and high vacancy rates. Closing such markets may release precious land resources for more gainful uses to better serve the community. When considering whether a market is to be closed, FEHD will take into account a host of factors, including the vacancy rate of the market, prospects for improvement, availability of alternative fresh provision outlets in the vicinity, the cost-effectiveness that may be brought by the upgrading works and the views of the relevant District Councils, etc. When drawing up closure plans for markets, FEHD will consult the District Councils and affected market tenants.

Where FEHD closes a market and no longer requires the premises afterwards, the vacated building space will be handled according to established procedures. Based on the circumstances, FEHD will request the relevant government departments, including the Government Property Agency, Planning Department or Lands Department, to seek views from other government departments to formulate proposals for putting the premises to gainful long-term uses.

In the 3 financial years from 2017-18 to 2019-20, FEHD closed 4 markets with consistently high vacancy rates, namely Shau Kei Wan Market, Tsuen King Circuit Market, Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market and Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market. Their closure resulted in reduction of annual operating cost of about $12.8 million.

Occupancy rates and vacancy rates of public markets

Serial no.	Name of market	As at 31 December 2019		
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate[a]	Vacancy rate[b]
1	Aberdeen Market	335	96%	4%
2	Aldrich Bay Market	71	87%	13%
3	Apleichau Market	63	94%	6%
4	Bowrington Road Market	296	92%	8%
5	Causeway Bay Market	51	92%	8%
6	Centre Street Market	46	74%	26%
7	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	81%	19%
8	Chai Wan Market	174	92%	8%
9	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	100%	0%
10	Cheung Chau Market	243	96%	4%
11	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	100%	0%
12	Choi Hung Road Market	116	59%	41%
13	Electric Road Market	99	81%	19%
14	Fa Yuen Street Market	180	89%	11%
15	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	100%	0%
16	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	100%	0%
17	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	86	66%	34%
18	Heung Che Street Market	225	92%	8%
19	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	91%	9%
20	Hung Hom Market	224	97%	3%
21	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	172	65%	35%
22	Java Road Market	194	90%	10%
23	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	15	60%	40%
24	Kam Tin Market	41	100%	0%
25	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	100%	0%

Serial no.	Name of market	As at 31 December 2019		
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate[a]	Vacancy rate[b]
26	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	100%	0%
27	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	100%	0%
28	Kowloon City Market	581	90%	10%
29	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	100%	0%
30	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	11	91%	9%
31	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	98	98%	2%
32	Kwun Chung Market	218	73%	27%
33	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	97%	3%
34	Lai Wan Market	42	95%	5%
35	Lam Tei Market	7	100%	0%
36	Lau Fau Shan Market	25	72%	28%
37	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	95%	5%
38	Lockhart Road Market	166	74%	26%
39	Luen Wo Hui Market	338	99%	1%
40	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	100%	0%
41	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	100%	0%
42	Mui Wo Market	35	91%	9%
43	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	82%	18%
44	Ngau Chi Wan Market	402	84%	16%
45	Ngau Tau Kok Market	466	85%	15%
46	North Kwai Chung Market	222	87%	13%
47	North Point Market	42	83%	17%
48	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	100%	0%
49	Pei Ho Street Market	234	97%	3%
50	Peng Chau Market	18	94%	6%
51	Plover Cove Road Market	244	78%	22%
52	Po On Road Market	449	87%	13%

Serial no.	Name of market	As at 31 December 2019		
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate[a]	Vacancy rate[b]
53	Quarry Bay Market	113	68%	32%
54	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	100%	0%
55	Sai Kung Market	209	89%	11%
56	Sai Wan Ho Market	274	96%	4%
57	Sai Ying Pun Market	93	95%	5%
58	San Hui Market	324	96%	4%
59	Sha Tau Kok Market	66	100%	0%
60	Sha Tin Market	172	97%	3%
61	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	29	86%	14%
62	Shek Tong Tsui Market	151	88%	12%
63	Shek Wu Hui Market	393	99%	1%
64	Sheung Fung Street Market	71	97%	3%
65	Sheung Wan Market	223	96%	4%
66	Shui Wo Street Market	302	97%	3%
67	Smithfield Market	216	99%	1%
68	Stanley Waterfront Mart	20	65%	35%
69	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	82%	18%
70	Tai Kiu Market	379	95%	5%
71	Tai Kok Tsui Market	135	97%	3%
72	Tai O Market	26	85%	15%
73	Tai Po Hui Market	313	99%	1%
74	Tai Shing Street Market	441	92%	8%
75	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	100%	0%
76	Tai Wai Market	186	91%	9%
77	Tang Lung Chau Market	34	91%	9%
78	Tin Wan Market	180	95%	5%
79	Tokwawan Market	267	94%	6%
80	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	100%	0%
81	Tsing Yi Market	76	93%	7%
82	Tsuen Wan Market	381	88%	12%
83	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	93%	7%

Serial no.	Name of market	As at 31 December 2019		
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate[a]	Vacancy rate[b]
84	Tui Min Hoi Market	34	56%	44%
85	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	349	33%	67%
86	Tung Yick Market	446	40%	60%
87	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	100%	0%
88	Wanchai Market	50	98%	2%
89	Wing Fong Street Market	114	76%	24%
90	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	100%	0%
91	Wong Nai Chung Market	69	96%	4%
92	Yan Oi Market	108	94%	6%
93	Yau Ma Tei Market	144	89%	11%
94	Yee On Street Market	65	63%	37%
95	Yeung Uk Road Market	318	95%	5%
96	Yue Kwong Road Market	197	84%	16%
97	Yue Wan Market	380	94%	6%

[a] Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

[b] Vacancy rate is the percentage of stalls not leased versus the total number of stalls in a market.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0818)

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 the implementation of "the Market Modernisation Programme to improve facilities of existing public markets", the Department indicated in the replies to the estimates of expenditure 2019-20 that the replacement of aged lifts and escalators had been carried out in some public markets since 2015-16.

- Please set out the progress and details of the works concerned as per the table below;

District	Name of market	Number of facilities to be replaced		Commencement date	Completion date	Estimated expenditure
		lift	escalator			
Southern	Tin Wan Market					
	Yue Kwong Road Market					
	Ap Lei Chau Market					
Eastern	Sai Wan Ho Market					
	Java Road Market					
	Electric Road Market					
	Chai Wan Market					
Wanchai	Lockhart Road Market					
	Causeway Bay Market					
	Wong Nai Chung Market					
Central and Western	Sheung Wan Market					
	Shek Tong Tsui Market					
	Smithfield Market					
	Sai Ying Pun					

District	Name of market	Number of facilities to be replaced		Commencement date	Completion date	Estimated expenditure
		lift	escalator			
	Market					
	Centre Street Market					
Mongkok	Fa Yuen Street Market					
Sham Shui Po	Po On Road Market					
	Pei Ho Street Market					
Yau Tsim	Kwun Chung Market					
Kowloon City	Hung Hom Market					
	To Kwa Wan Market					
Kwun Tong	Ngau Tau Kok Market					
	Shui Wo Street Market					
Wong Tai Sin	Tai Shing Street Market					
Tsuen Wan	Yeung Uk Road Market					
	Tsuen Wan Market					
North	Shek Wu Hui Market					
	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre					
Tai Po	Tai Po Hui Market					
Kwai Tsing	North Kwai Chung Market					
Yuen Long	Tung Yick Market					
Total						

- Apart from those listed in the above table, will there be any replacement of escalators and lifts in other public markets in the coming year? If yes, please set out the details.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)

Reply:

To ensure the smooth operation of lifts and escalators in public markets, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has been replacing aged lifts and escalators in phases since 2015-16. To date, we have earmarked about $445 million for the replacement of 53 lifts and 125 escalators in 32 public markets. The replacement works will be completed progressively in the coming years. The information sought is provided at **Annex**.

Annex

Relevant information on the replacement of aged lifts and escalators in public markets

District	Name of market[1]	Number of facilities to be replaced		Commencement date[2&3]	Completion date[3]	Funding earmarked ($ million)
		Lifts	Escalators			
Southern	Tin Wan Market	-	2	Mar 2017	Jul 2017	5.0
		2	-	Jun 2020	Dec 2020	5.0
	Yue Kwong Road Market	-	1	Feb 2017	Jun 2017	2.5
		2	-	Oct 2019	Jun 2020	5.0
	Ap Lei Chau Market	2	-	Jun 2020	Dec 2020	5.0
		-	2	Under preparation		5.0
Eastern	Sai Wan Ho Market	-	1	May 2019	Sep 2019	2.5
		-	1	Apr 2020	Aug 2020	2.5
		2	2	Under preparation		10.0
	Java Road Market	-	4	Jul 2018	Dec 2018	10.0
		2	-	Apr 2020	Sep 2020	5.0
		-	2	Under preparation		5.0
	Electric Road Market	-	4	May 2019	Dec 2019	10.0
	Chai Wan Market	-	2	Under preparation		5.0
Wanchai	Lockhart Road Market	1	-	Jun 2020	Oct 2020	2.5
		1[#]	-	Oct 2020	Jan 2021	2.5
		-	4	Feb 2021	Sep 2021	10
	Causeway Bay Market	-	2	Jul 2019	Nov 2019	5.0
		1[#]	-	Jun 2020	Sep 2020	2.5
	Wong Nai Chung Market	-	2	Mar 2019	Jul 2019	5.0
		-	4	Feb 2021	Sep 2021	10.0
		1[#]	-	Aug 2020	Dec 2020	2.5
Central and Western	Sheung Wan Market	-	4	Mar 2017	Nov 2017	10.0
		1	-	Jun 2019	Sep 2019	2.5
		2	2	Under preparation		10.0
	Shek Tong Tsui Market	2	-	Apr 2019	Dec 2019	5.0
		-	2	Sep 2019	Jun 2020	5.0
		1	4	Under preparation		12.5
	Smithfield Market	-	4	Aug 2018	Jan 2019	10.0
		1	-	Sep 2019	Jan 2020	2.5
		-	2	Jul 2020	Sep 2020	5.0
		-	4	Feb 2021	Jun 2021	10.0
	Sai Ying Pun Market	-	3	Mar 2020	Aug 2020	7.5
		-	4	Under preparation		10.0
Mongkok	Fa Yuen Street Market	-	8	Apr 2017	May 2018	20.0

District	Name of market[1]	Number of facilities to be replaced		Commencement date[2&3]	Completion date[3]	Funding earmarked ($ million)
		Lifts	Escalators			
				Mar 2019	Feb 2020	
		1	-	Apr 2020	Sep 2020	2.5
		-	2	Under preparation		5.0
Sham Shui Po	Po On Road Market	-	8	Dec 2017 May 2019	Mar 2018 Nov 2019	20.0
		-	4	Mar 2020	Aug 2020	10.0
		2	-	Under preparation		5.0
	Pei Ho Street Market	-	4	Feb 2019	Jul 2019	10.0
		-	2#	May 2020	Sep 2020	5.0
		2	-	Under preparation		5.0
Yau Tsim	Kwun Chung Market	-	6	May 2017 May 2018	Oct 2017 Aug 2018	15.0
Kowloon City	Hung Hom Market	-	2	Jun 2016 Apr 2017	Aug 2016 Jul 2017	5.0
		-	2#	Under preparation		5.0
		2	-	Apr 2020	Dec 2020	5.0
		1	-	Under preparation		2.5
	To Kwa Wan Market	2	-	Under preparation		5.0
Kwun Tong	Ngau Tau Kok Market	2#	1	Under preparation		7.5
	Shui Wo Street Market	2	-	Oct 2019	Jun 2020	5.0
Wong Tai Sin	Tai Shing Street Market	2	-	Mar 2019	Nov 2019	5.0
		-	2	May 2020	Oct 2020	5.0
		2#	-	Under preparation		5.0
	Sheung Fung Street Market	1#	-	Aug 2020	Dec 2020	2.5
Tsuen Wan	Yeung Uk Road Market	2	8	Apr 2016 Jul 2017 Mar 2018 Sep 2018 Mar 2019	Sep 2016 Dec 2017 Aug 2018 Jan 2019 Jun 2019	25.0
		2	-	Apr 2020	Oct 2020	5.0
		2	-	Under preparation		5.0
	Tsuen Wan Market	1	-	Nov 2019	Apr 2020	2.5
North	Shek Wu Hui Market	-	2	Jul 2017	Dec 2017	5.0
		-	2	Mar 2018	Aug 2018	5.0
		2	-	Apr 2019	Dec 2019	5.0
	Luen Wo Hui Market	-	2#	Under preparation		5.0
	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	-	2	May 2017	Dec 2017	5.0

District	Name of market[1]	Number of facilities to be replaced		Commencement date[2&3]	Completion date[3]	Funding earmarked ($ million)
		Lifts	Escalators			
Tai Po	Tai Po Hui Market	1	-	Apr 2020	Aug 2020	2.5
		1	2	Under preparation		7.5
Kwai Tsing	North Kwai Chung Market	-	2	Aug 2016	Nov 2016	5.0
		1	-	Under preparation		2.5
Yuen Long	Tung Yick Market	1	2[#]	Under preparation		7.5
Total		53	125			445.0

[1] The operation of markets, cost-effectiveness of works and actual needs of replacement of facilities will be examined from time to time. Items that require further examination are not included in the table.

[2] Replacement projects may be conducted in phases taking into account the actual situation of the markets concerned and the views of stakeholders.

[3] Subject to the progress of tendering, liaison with stakeholders on the works arrangement, manufacturing and delivery of materials, as well as other preparation work, etc., the commencement/completion dates may need to be adjusted.

[#] New item

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0934)

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:

Regarding the work to "continue to plan new public market facilities at suitable locations",

- please set out in the table below the population, as well as the number of markets (with a breakdown by operator), supermarkets and fresh provision shops, in Tin Shui Wai, Tung Chung, Ma On Shan and Tseung Kwan O.

District	Population	No. of markets				No. of supermarkets	No. of fresh provision shops
		FEHD	Link REIT	Housing Authority	Private developer(s)		
Tin Shui Wai							
Tung Chung							
Ma On Shan							
Tseung Kwan O							

- please set out in the table below the population, as well as the number of markets (with a breakdown by operator), supermarkets and fresh provision shops, in each of the districts.

District	Population	No. of markets				No. of supermarkets	No. of fresh provision shops
		FEHD	Link REIT	Housing Authority	Private developer(s)		
Central and Western							
Eastern							
Southern							
Wan Chai							
Kowloon City							
Kwun Tong							
Wong Tai							

Sin							
Sham Shui Po							
Mong Kok							
Yau Tsim							
Sha Tin							
Tai Po							
North							
Kwai Tsing							
Tsuen Wan							
Tuen Mun							
Yuen Long							
Sai Kung							
Islands							
Total							

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

The information sought (as at March 2020) is provided at Annexes I and II respectively.

District	Population[1]	No. of markets				No. of supermarkets	No. of licensed fresh provision shops[4]
		Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD)	Link REIT[2]	Housing Authority (HA)[3]	Private developer(s)		
Tin Shui Wai	286 232	-	4	2	-	17	74
Tung Chung[5]	86 392	-	2	2	-	9	41
Ma On Shan	209 714	-	2	-	4	17	81
Tseung Kwan O	398 479	-	4	-	7	28	137

1 Based on the 2016 Population By-Census data provided by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD).

2 According to the information on the website of the Link REIT.

3 According to the information on the website of HA.

4 Selling fresh, chilled or frozen beef, mutton, pork, reptiles, fish or poultry.

5 There is no official geographical demarcation for Tung Chung in population censuses/by-censuses conducted by C&SD. The figure refers to the population in the new town of North Lantau.

Annex II

District	Population[1]	No. of markets				No. of supermarkets	No. of licensed fresh provision shops[5]
		FEHD[2]	Link REIT[3]	HA[4]	Private developer(s)		
Central and Western	243 266	5	-	-	-	58	117
Eastern	555 034	8	2	-	2	72	179
Southern	274 994	5	-	2	3	35	88
Wan Chai	180 123	6	-	-	-	32	96
Kowloon City	418 732	4	2	1	-	52	146
Kwun Tong	648 541	4	8	1	4	62	261
Wong Tai Sin	425 235	4	6	2	-	40	142
Sham Shui Po	405 869	4	1	3	1	48	166
Mong Kok	342 970	2	-	-	1	38	134
Yau Tsim		3	-	-	-	36	77
Sha Tin	659 794	2	10	4	9	67	256
Tai Po	303 926	2	5	-	-	29	105
North	315 270	4	1	-	4	34	62
Kwai Tsing	520 572	3	1	5	9	48	168
Tsuen Wan	318 916	4	-	2	2	45	100
Tuen Mun	489 299	3	6	2	5	46	178
Yuen Long	614 178	5	5	3	1	60	203
Sai Kung	461 864	2	4	-	7	38	161
Islands	156 801	4	2	2	-	19	61
Total	**7 335 384**	**74**	**53**	**27**	**48**	**859**	**2 700**

1 Based on the 2016 Population By-Census data provided by C&SD.

2 The figures only include markets managed by FEHD with wet goods for sale. Standalone cooked food markets are excluded.

3 According to the information on the website of the Link REIT.

4 According to the information on the website of HA.

5 Selling fresh, chilled or frozen beef, mutton, pork, reptiles, fish or poultry.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)117

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0935)

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:

Regarding the work to "continue the comprehensive review on public markets, with a view to formulating concrete improvement proposals for the management of public markets", please provide information on the number of stalls, occupancy rate and vacancy rate of individual public markets (listed by air-conditioned and non-air-conditioned markets) in the territory over the past 3 years (i.e. 2017, 2018 and 2019).

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 17)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

Serial no.	Name of market[(a)]	Provision of air-conditioning system	No. of stalls			Occupancy rate as at 31 December[(b)]			Vacancy rate as at 31 December[(c)]		
			2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
1	Aldrich Bay Market	Yes	71	71	71	94%	92%	87%	6%	8%	13%
2	Apleichau Market	Yes	63	63	63	97%	97%	94%	3%	3%	6%
3	Centre Street Market	Yes	46	46	46	78%	76%	74%	22%	24%	26%
4	Chai Wan Market	Yes	174	174	174	95%	92%	92%	5%	8%	8%
5	Lei Yue Mun Market	Yes	20	20	20	100%	95%	95%	0%	5%	5%
6	Luen Wo Hui Market	Yes	338	338	338	100%	99%	99%	0%	1%	1%
7	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	Yes	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
8	Peng Chau Market	Yes	18	18	18	94%	100%	94%	6%	0%	6%
9	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	Yes	11	11	11	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
10	Sai Ying Pun Market	Yes	102	102	93	89%	87%	95%	11%	13%	5%
11	San Hui Market	Yes	324	324	324	98%	98%	96%	2%	2%	4%
12	Sha Tin Market	Yes	172	172	172	98%	99%	97%	2%	1%	3%
13	Shek Wu Hui Market	Yes	393	393	393	100%	100%	99%	0%	0%	1%
14	Tai Kiu Market	Yes	379	379	379	97%	97%	95%	3%	3%	5%
15	Tai Kok Tsui Market	Yes	135	135	135	100%	97%	97%	0%	3%	3%
16	Tai Po Hui Market	Yes	313	313	313	100%	100%	99%	0%	0%	1%
17	Tsing Yi Market	Yes	76	76	76	99%	99%	93%	1%	1%	7%
18	Wanchai Market	Yes	50	50	50	98%	100%	98%	2%	0%	2%
19	Yan Oi Market	Yes	108	108	108	98%	94%	94%	2%	6%	6%
20	Yee On Street Market	Yes	65	65	65	98%	92%	63%	2%	8%	37%
21	Yue Wan Market	Yes	380	380	380	95%	94%	94%	5%	6%	6%
22	Bowrington Road Market	Only in CFC[(d)]	296	296	296	95%	93%	92%	5%	7%	8%
23	Hung Hom Market	Only in CFC[(d)]	224	224	224	99%	98%	97%	1%	2%	3%
24	Java Road Market	Only in CFC[(d)]	194	194	194	95%	94%	90%	5%	6%	10%

Serial no.	Name of market[(a)]	Provision of air-conditioning system	No. of stalls			Occupancy rate as at 31 December[(b)]			Vacancy rate as at 31 December[(c)]		
			2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
25	Lockhart Road Market	Only in CFC[(d)]	166	166	166	77%	74%	74%	23%	26%	26%
26	Pei Ho Street Market	Only in CFC[(d)]	234	234	234	99%	99%	97%	1%	1%	3%
27	Sai Wan Ho Market	Only in CFC[(d)]	274	274	274	97%	98%	96%	3%	2%	4%
28	Sheung Wan Market	Only in CFC[(d)]	223	223	223	99%	98%	96%	1%	2%	4%
29	Smithfield Market	Only in CFC[(d)]	216	216	216	100%	99%	99%	0%	1%	1%
30	Tai Shing Street Market	Only in CFC[(d)]	442	442	441	93%	93%	92%	7%	7%	8%
31	Tokwawan Market	Only in CFC[(d)]	267	267	267	99%	97%	94%	1%	3%	6%
32	Wong Nai Chung Market	Only in CFC[(d)]	69	69	69	97%	96%	96%	3%	4%	4%
33	Aberdeen Market	No	335	335	335	97%	96%	96%	3%	4%	4%
34	Causeway Bay Market	No	51	51	51	98%	96%	92%	2%	4%	8%
35	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	No	32	32	32	94%	87.5%	81%	6%	12.5%	19%
36	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	No	17	17	17	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
37	Cheung Chau Market	No	240	240	243	98%	98%	96%	2%	2%	4%
38	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	No	12	12	12	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
39	Choi Hung Road Market	No	116	116	116	67%	66%	59%	33%	34%	41%
40	Electric Road Market	No	99	99	99	97%	81%	81%	3%	19%	19%
41	Fa Yuen Street Market	No	180	180	180	98%	92%	89%	2%	8%	11%
42	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	No	24	24	24	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
43	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	No	15	15	15	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%

Serial no.	Name of market[(a)]	Provision of air-conditioning system	No. of stalls			Occupancy rate as at 31 December[(b)]			Vacancy rate as at 31 December[(c)]		
			2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
44	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	No	86	86	86	70%	69%	66%	30%	31%	34%
45	Heung Che Street Market	No	225	225	225	98%	95%	92%	2%	5%	8%
46	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	No	11	11	11	100%	91%	91%	0%	9%	9%
47	Hung Shui Kiu Market	No	172	172	172	66%	72%	65%	34%	28%	35%
48	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	No	15	15	15	60%	60%	60%	40%	40%	40%
49	Kam Tin Market	No	41	41	41	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
50	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	No	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
51	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	No	17	17	17	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
52	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	No	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
53	Kowloon City Market	No	581	581	581	99%	95%	90%	1%	5%	10%
54	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	No	11	11	11	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
55	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	No	11	11	11	91%	91%	91%	9%	9%	9%
56	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	No	98	98	98	100%	100%	98%	0%	0%	2%
57	Kwun Chung Market	No	218	218	218	92%	85%	73%	8%	15%	27%
58	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	No	29	29	29	97%	97%	97%	3%	3%	3%
59	Lai Wan Market	No	42	42	42	98%	98%	95%	2%	2%	5%
60	Lam Tei Market	No	7	7	7	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
61	Lau Fau Shan Market	No	25	25	25	88%	88%	72%	12%	12%	28%
62	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	No	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%

Serial no.	Name of market[(a)]	Provision of air-conditioning system	No. of stalls			Occupancy rate as at 31 December[(b)]			Vacancy rate as at 31 December[(c)]		
			2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
63	Mui Wo Market	No	35	35	35	100%	91%	91%	0%	9%	9%
64	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	No	28	28	28	82%	82%	82%	18%	18%	18%
65	Ngau Chi Wan Market	No	402	402	402	90%	87%	84%	10%	13%	16%
66	Ngau Tau Kok Market	No	466	466	466	87%	86%	85%	13%	14%	15%
67	North Kwai Chung Market	No	222	222	222	97%	91%	87%	3%	9%	13%
68	North Point Market	No	42	42	42	93%	83%	83%	7%	17%	17%
69	On Ching Road Flower Market	No	13	13	13	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
70	Plover Cove Road Market	No	244	244	244	92%	82%	78%	8%	18%	22%
71	Po On Road Market	No	449	449	449	89%	89%	87%	11%	11%	13%
72	Quarry Bay Market	No	113	113	113	75%	69%	68%	25%	31%	32%
73	Sai Kung Market	No	209	209	209	95%	91%	89%	5%	9%	11%
74	Sha Tau Kok Market	No	66	66	66	98%	100%	100%	2%	0%	0%
75	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	No	29	29	29	90%	90%	86%	10%	10%	14%
76	Shek Tong Tsui Market	No	151	151	151	95%	91%	88%	5%	9%	12%
77	Sheung Fung Street Market	No	71	71	71	99%	99%	97%	1%	1%	3%
78	Shui Wo Street Market	No	302	302	302	99%	98%	97%	1%	2%	3%
79	Stanley Waterfront Mart	No	20	20	20	95%	85%	65%	5%	15%	35%
80	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	No	17	17	17	88%	82%	82%	12%	18%	18%
81	Tai O Market	No	26	26	26	85%	88%	85%	15%	12%	15%
82	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	No	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
83	Tai Wai Market	No	195	195	186	86%	85%	91%	14%	15%	9%

Serial no.	Name of market[(a)]	Provision of air-conditioning system	No. of stalls			Occupancy rate as at 31 December[(b)]			Vacancy rate as at 31 December[(c)]		
			2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
84	Tang Lung Chau Market	No	34	34	34	94%	94%	91%	6%	6%	9%
85	Tin Wan Market	No	180	180	180	97%	96%	95%	3%	4%	5%
86	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	No	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
87	Tsuen Wan Market	No	381	381	381	90%	89%	88%	10%	11%	12%
88	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	No	56	56	56	93%	93%	93%	7%	7%	7%
89	Tui Min Hoi Market	No	34	34	34	59%	56%	56%	41%	44%	44%
90	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	No	359	359	349	34%	32%	33%	66%	68%	67%
91	Tung Yick Market	No	446	446	446	41%	41%	40%	59%	59%	60%
92	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	No	8	8	8	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
93	Wing Fong Street Market	No	112	114	114	98%	85%	76%	2%	15%	24%
94	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	No	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
95	Yau Ma Tei Market	No	144	144	144	94%	90%	89%	6%	10%	11%
96	Yeung Uk Road Market	No	318	318	318	98%	96%	95%	2%	4%	5%
97	Yue Kwong Road Market	No	197	197	197	97%	87%	84%	3%	13%	16%

Remarks:

(a) The information of 2 cooked food markets closed in February and June 2019 respectively is not included.

(b) Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

(c) Vacancy rate is the percentage of stalls not leased versus the total number of stalls in a market.

(d) CFC refers to Cooked Food Centre in a public market.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1293)

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 "regulating private columbaria under the Private Columbaria Ordinance (Cap. 630)", since there is a "vacuum period" between the commencement of the Ordinance and the issue of licences, during which operators of private columbaria are not allowed to inter "new ashes" in their niches, there may be demand from members of the public for the Department's temporary storage facilities for cremains. In this connection, please advise on the location of the existing temporary storage facilities provided by the Department, their service capacity and utilisation rate, as well as the number of applications received and the number of applications on the waiting list for these facilities (with a breakdown by location).

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

At present, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department provides some 64 000 temporary storage spaces for cremains at Kwai Chung Crematorium, Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phases III and V, Cape Collinson Crematorium, Fu Shan Columbarium and Hong Kong Cemetery. The temporary storage spaces at Kwai Chung Crematorium and Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phase III have been opened for public use. Regarding these two facilities, the information sought is provided as follows:

	Kwai Chung Crematorium (For storage of cremains bags)	**Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phase III (For storage of cinerary urns)**
Capacity for temporary storage of cremains	10 080 spaces	5 040 spaces
No. of spaces occupied as at 29.2.2020	1 405	3 492

Usage rate	13.9%	69.3%

In addition, it is estimated that some 12 000 temporary storage spaces will be available by the end of 2020. The Department has processed all applications for temporary ash storage services. No applications have to be waitlisted.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1294)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work to "take forward initiatives to enhance pest control services, particularly in respect of mosquitoes and rodents", the Department applied various new technologies for rodent control such as "night vision cameras", "thermal imaging cameras", and "rodent trapping devices driven by pressurised gas" last year.

- Please set out as per the table below the district(s) and place(s) where the new technologies were applied, the expenditure involved and their effectiveness:

District	Place/venue of application	Technology applied for rodent control	Hours spent on application of the technology	Number of rodents caught	Expenditure involved

- Will the Department extend the scope of application of the technologies? If yes, what are the details and the estimated expenditure involved? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 28)

Reply:

Information on the trial tests conducted by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department on technologies for rodent control since 2019 is as follows:

District	Place/venue of application	Technology applied for rodent control/ surveillance	Period of application of the technology	Expenditure involved
Sham Shui Po, Wong Tai Sin and Tsuen Wan	Public markets of the Department	Rodent trapping device driven by pressurised gas	Put on trial for 8 months (from October 2018 to June 2019)	Around $60,000
Kowloon City and Mong Kok	Public markets of the Department in Kowloon City District and a rear lane in Mong Kok District	Night-vision camera surveillance system	Put on trial for 3 months (from April to July 2019)	Around $760,000
All districts in the territory	Rear lanes in all districts	Thermal imaging camera surveillance system	Put on trial for 1 year (from January to December 2020)	Around $2.1 million

The Department has completed the trial test on a rodent trapping device driven by pressurised gas and no rodents were caught during the trial period. As the results have shown that the technology could not enhance the effectiveness of rodent control in the local environment, the Department does not intend to employ this type of device. The trial scheme on the night-vision camera surveillance system aimed to test the capability of the system for identifying rodents in night-vision images by means of artificial intelligence analysis technology in order to monitor the extent and level of rodent activities. The trial test was completed in late July 2019. Initial test results have shown that the technology is capable of accurately identifying rodents and tracing their movements, which is conducive to quantifying and enhancing the effectiveness of anti-rodent measures. However, if the technology is to be widely applied, a considerable number of night-vision cameras have to be installed in order to achieve the desired results. That may involve issues pertaining to resources, technology (such as locations of installation and power supplies) and privacy. The Department has also conducted a proof of concept test on the use of thermal imaging in order to assess whether artificial intelligence analysis technology can be applied to identify rodents in thermal images. Initial results have shown that the function of this surveillance system is comparable to that of the night-vision camera surveillance system, but no clear images of human faces are captured. The Department is conducting a trial test on the thermal imaging camera surveillance system in selected rear lanes in Kowloon City District, and plans to install thermal imaging cameras before and after the 2 phases of anti-rodent operations in designated target areas which will be conducted later in all districts throughout the territory with a view to quantifying and reviewing the effectiveness of the operations. The estimated expenditure involved is around $2.1 million. Upon completion of this trial

scheme in late 2020, the Department will compare the technologies of using night-vision cameras and thermal imaging cameras in terms of their actual application and effectiveness in monitoring rodent activities with a view to developing strategies for on-going application of the technologies and determining their respective scopes of application.

In addition to application of new technologies, the Department has kept in view new products for prevention and control of rodent infestation around the world, and has conducted trial tests to assess their suitability for use in Hong Kong. The Department is conducting a test on a poisonous bait having flavours of food to assess whether it is more attractive to rodents than traditional poisonous baits. Besides, the Department is testing a new break back trap during the special operation in 6 public markets. The newly designed break back trap which is more sensitive than traditional break back traps is expected to be more effective in catching rodents. The above tests are expected to be completed in July 2020. If the results are satisfactory, the Department will put the said bait and break back trap to extensive use in all districts.

- End -

Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)120

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1166)

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:

A) Please provide information on the different types of food licences issued at present:

Type of licence	Number of existing licences	Total number of staff of the related food premises or restaurants	Years in operation			
			Under 2 years	2-5 years	5-10 years	Over 10 years
General Restaurant Licence						
Light Refreshment Restaurant Licence						
Marine Restaurant Licence						
Food Factory Licence						
Bakery Licence						
Factory Canteen Licence						
Frozen Confection Factory Licence						
Fresh Provision Shop Licence						
Milk Factory Licence						
Siu Mei and Lo Mei Shop Licence						

Cold Store Licence						
Composite Food Shop Licence						
Approval for outside seating accommodation						

Asked by: Hon LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

Type of licence	**Number of existing licences/approval (as at 31 December 2019)**
General Restaurant Licence	12 106
Light Refreshment Restaurant Licence	4 173
Marine Restaurant Licence	5
Food Factory Licence	9 053
Bakery Licence	585
Factory Canteen Licence	486
Frozen Confection Factory Licence	542
Fresh Provision Shop Licence	2 700
Milk Factory Licence	8
Siu Mei and Lo Mei Shop Licence	392
Cold Store Licence	64
Composite Food Shop Licence	3
Approval for outside seating accommodation	350

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep statistics on food premises or restaurants in respect of the total number of staff and years in operation.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1859)

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:

The estimate under Programme (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services increases by $963.8 million or 19.5% as compared with that in 2019-20. According to the Department, this is mainly due to the creation of new posts. Please advise this Committee on the following:

1. What are the details of the new posts, including the programmes, ranks, job natures and salaries involved?

2. Will the Department increase its manpower establishment or estimated expenditure due to the novel coronavirus epidemic? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

1) There will be a net increase of 56 posts under Programme (2) in the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in 2020-21. The information of all the posts proposed to be created is as follows:

Scope of duties	Grade	Total annual salary
(a) To strengthen environmental hygiene and related services (including setting up additional dedicated enforcement teams against public cleanliness offences, handling water seepage problems and enhancing administrative support)	Health Inspector Supplies Officer Executive Officer Foreman Motor Driver	$31.5 million
(b) To set up a new team for overseeing the allocation of new niches, regulate private columbaria and enhance the provision of cemeteries and crematoria services	Health Inspector	$4.2 million

2) In 2020-21, the Department will, based on operational needs, deploy in-house and service contractors' resources for the anti-epidemic work against Coronavirus Disease 2019. The estimated expenditure for street cleansing service contracts is $2.15 billion, representing an increase of $500 million (about 30%) as compared to 2019-20 and including the provision for more street cleansing workers, mini-street washing vehicle teams and public toilet deep cleansing teams.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1896)

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 the light of the situation of novel coronavirus epidemic, it is imperative that the hygienic gear of cleansing workers be proper and sufficient to avoid infection in handling refuse and cleansing public toilets and streets. The estimated expenditure for the relevant services increases by about $1,000 million this year, does it cover the purchase of face masks, gloves, goggles and protective clothing? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons? Will the Department consider regularising the expenditure for equipment and supplies of frontline cleansing workers for prevention and control of infectious diseases, including legionella bacteria and avian infectious virus?

Asked by: Hon LAU Kwok-fan (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department attaches great importance to the safety and occupational safety and health arrangements of staff (including in-house cleansing workers and those employed by outsourced contractors). The Department and public cleansing service contractors conduct risk assessment on various working environment settings and take appropriate precautionary measures, which include providing employees with adequate and suitable protective gear and safety training. Cleansing workers will wear protective gear such as face masks, gloves, sleeves, aprons, non-slippery rubber boots, face shields or goggles, coveralls and caps/hats as appropriate. The Department does not keep a separate breakdown on the expenditure in this respect.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0076)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under this programme, the Department will follow up on the Audit Reports released in November 2018 and the Public Accounts Committee reports concerned to strengthen the functions of the Centre for Food Safety in food safety management and food import control. Please advise on the progress of the work in 2019, as well as the specific work plan and timetable, estimated manpower and resources required in 2020.

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 33)

Reply:

In 2019, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department set up a task group led by the Controller, CFS, to take forward the recommendations of the Audit Commission (Audit) and the Legislative Council (LegCo) Public Accounts Committee (PAC) concerning its work of food safety management and import control. The task group has completed its comprehensive reviews on CFS's operational manuals and guidelines, staff management and supervision arrangements, training requirements, and manpower and resource requirements. CFS has rolled out concrete and effective short, medium and long-term measures to enhance its effectiveness by phases, including updating its guidelines where there were inadequacies or ambiguities and introducing a mechanism for regular updates, enhancing training and supervision of frontline staff, strengthening staff's law enforcement mindset and the keeping of data and records. The specific measures taken and their implementation were set out in the Government minutes submitted to LegCo in May and December 2019.

In addition, CFS set up a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. CFS also launched the Food Trader Portal (FTP) in stages at the end of 2019 as a platform for electronic communication with the trade. Through the FTP, food traders can complete registration as importers or distributors by electronic means. In the first quarter of 2020, CFS further introduced an online service to facilitate food

traders to apply online for import licences and import permission in respect of meat, poultry and game.

In 2020-21, CFS will continue to implement specific measures to follow up on the recommendations of Audit and PAC and enhance its IT systems in an order of priorities. The estimated expenditure of CFS in 2020-21 is about $49 million more than the revised estimate for 2019-20. This includes the expenditure incurred for the creation of 15 additional civil service posts to enhance the safeguard of food safety.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0077)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated that the Department will enhance pest control services, particularly in respect of mosquitoes and rodents. Please advise on the progress of the work in 2019, as well as the specific work plans and timetables, estimated manpower and resources required in 2020.

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

Regarding the enhancement of pest control services, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department adopts an integrated approach to the prevention and control of mosquitoes and rodents. Such approach is mainly premised on the recommendations and technical guidelines of the World Health Organization. In 2019, the Department invited an expert in mosquito prevention and control from the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for the Western Pacific and an expert in rodent control introduced by WHO to visit Hong Kong to provide advice on mosquito and rodent control work. In the same year, the number of mosquito breeding places eliminated was 65 795, the number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks was 98 322, the number of rodent trappings was 68 490, and the total number of dead rodents collected and live rodents caught was 53 986.

In 2020, the Department will continue to carry out a series of anti-mosquito operations that mainly include removal of water accumulation, as well as mosquito prevention and control work in mosquito breeding places and potential mosquito breeding places over the territory. Emphasis will be placed on the surrounding areas of residential buildings, schools, construction sites, hospitals, illegal cultivation sites, waterfront public and private cargo handling areas, cross boundary check points, typhoon shelters, cross boundary ferry terminals, etc. Moreover, new mosquito trapping devices that are proved effective in field tests will be applied in the appropriate environments. The Department conducts an inter-departmental anti-mosquito campaign in 3 phases annually. Apart from stepping up mosquito control measures, education and publicity work will also be strengthened. In particular, members of the public will be reminded to eliminate the mosquito breeding places. After the first phase and the second phase of the anti-mosquito campaign, the

Department will conduct special thematic mosquito prevention and control operations in the territory to enhance the effectiveness of the anti-mosquito campaign. In addition, the design of the new ovitrap has been finalised. Starting from April 2020, the Department will place around 5 000 new ovitraps in the territory to calculate directly the number of adult mosquitoes. Apart from the existing ovitrap index for Aedes albopictus, the Department will also release the adult mosquito density index to better reflect the effectiveness of mosquito control work and facilitate various departments to formulate more targeted anti-mosquito measures.

The Department has provided a new mosquito trapping device to relevant departments and organisations (including the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the Housing Department, the Department of Health and the Hospital Authority) for trial use from September 2019. The new mosquito trapping device has achieved noticeable results, leading to a substantial reduction in the adult mosquito population. Various departments will use this technology more widely. Before March 2020, around 2 700 new mosquito traps will be deployed in areas under their purview with a view to preventing mosquito breeding before the onset of rainy season.

In May 2019, the Department launched a territory-wide keep clean campaign together with other relevant government departments, targeting areas such as rear lanes, housing estates, food premises and markets. During the campaign, cleansing work and enhanced enforcement actions were carried out and public education and publicity in this regard were also strengthened. Other departments have already carried out enhanced cleansing and anti-rodent work.

For rodent control, the Department adopts multi-pronged strategies and carries out anti-rodent operations in designated target areas through elimination of the 3 survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, by improving environmental hygiene, stepping up rodent disinfestation and enforcement actions. Emphasis will be placed on locations at markets, municipal services buildings, hawker bazaars, typhoon shelters, lanes adjacent to food premises and other problematic spots as well as their surroundings. Apart from the routine anti-rodent work, the Department conducts a territory-wide and inter-departmental anti-rodent campaign in two phases annually, with a view to stepping up rodent prevention and control in designated target areas and reminding the public of the importance of rodent control. The Department will also conduct two rounds of the anti-rodent operations in designated target areas in the territory, each lasts about 8 weeks, in May and November 2020 respectively. The measures to be taken include elimination of food sources and hiding places of rodents as well as blocking their passages, so as to keep the areas clean. The Department will step up public education and publicity during the anti-rodent operations and arrange health talks for building managers of private buildings, persons-in-charge of food premises, and operators of market and hawker stalls, etc. to provide information and technical advice on rodent prevention and control.

The Department is conducting studies on thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence analytical functions for monitoring the areas and extent of rodent activities. Initial trial results have shown that the data captured can quantify and assess the effectiveness of anti-rodent work by directly comparing the rodent population density before and after carrying out anti-rodent operations. The technology can be used for identifying potential rodents' entry points, travel routes and areas they frequently visit, so that

rodenticides and trapping devices can be placed in a more effective manner and more targeted rodent control measures can be implemented. The Department conducted field trials in early 2020 in order to assess the feasibility of quantifying rodent surveillance. It plans to install cameras before and after anti-rodent operations in individual designated target areas in May with a view to quantifying and reviewing the effectiveness of the operations.

In 2020-21, the Department's estimated expenditure on pest control services is $667 million. About 740 in-house staff and 2 040 staff engaged by the contractors will provide pest control services.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)125

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2140)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Please set out (i) the number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks; (ii) the number of rodent trappings; (iii) the number of dead rodents collected and live rodents caught; (iv) the number of rat holes filled; (v) the number of rodent control surveys conducted; (vi) the number of rodent infestation complaints received; and (vii) the Rodent Infestation Rate recorded, in each of the past 3 years (with a breakdown by District Council district).

2. With regard to (a) pest control work and (b) rodent control work, please provide (i) the total expenditure; (ii) the civil service staffing and the staff cost; and (iii) the total value of the outsourced service contracts and the total number of outsourced workers in the past 3 years and in the coming year.

3. How many anti-rodent operations were conducted in designated target areas in the past 3 years and how effective was each operation?

4. What rodent control methods have been adopted from Mainland China, Macao, Taiwan or overseas countries in the past 3 years and what methods will be adopted in the coming year? What are the expenditure involved (e.g. procurement of relevant devices) and the effectiveness of each method?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 6)

Reply:

1. The information sought is detailed at the Annex.

2. The information sought is summarised as follows:

Year	Overall expenditure on pest control services [note]	Expenditure on rodent control work[note]	Staff costs for pest control work[note]	Total value of pest control service contracts
2017-18	$569 million	$173 million	$236 million	$541 million
2018-19	$630 million	$198 million	$248 million	$610 million
2019-20	$647 million	$207 million	$259 million	$892 million
2020-21	$667 million	$209 million	$266 million	$1.066 billion

Note: Revised estimate and estimated expenditure for 2019-20 and 2020-21 respectively.

Year	Total number of staff engaging in pest control work	Total number of staff employed by pest control service contractors
2017	702	1 740
2018	699	1 860
2019	727	1 970
2020	740	2 040

3. In the past 3 calendar years, the Department launched a total of 6 anti-rodent operations in designated target areas in all districts in May and September 2017, April and October 2018 and May and November 2019 respectively. The measures taken included elimination of food sources and hiding places of rodents as well as blocking their passages. The results of these anti-rodent operations in the past 3 years are set out as follows:

Item	2017	2018	2019
Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation	15 972	17 678	16 637
Number of rodent trappings	24 556	22 475	38 274
Number of rat holes filled	757	803	799
Number of dead rodents collected	1 652	1 636	1 817
Number of live rodents caught	1 284	1 305	1 573

Disinfestation operations by the Department in public places alone cannot solve the problem. It is vital that members of the public should take rodent control measures in their own premises. To this end, it is part of the Department's anti-rodent operations to provide health education on prevention and control of rodent infestation to the public and to offer technical support.

4. Information on tests conducted by the Department on rodent control methods and technologies developed locally or adopted by other countries in the past 3 years is as follows:

Rodent control method/technology	Place of origin	Effectiveness	Expenditure
Using a non-poisonous bait having flavours of food for the Rodent Infestation Rate (RIR) surveys	Germany	The bait was tested in public rear lanes in 10 districts between February and September 2018. It was compared to sweet potatoes in terms of their attractiveness to rodents. The results have shown that the bait cannot attract rodents to take a bite, which means it is not so effective as sweet potatoes.	Around $60,000
Rodent trapping device driven by pressurised gas	New Zealand	The rodent trapping device was tested in 4 public markets of the Department between October 2018 and June 2019. The devices installed failed to catch any rodents.	Around $60,000
Night-vision camera surveillance system	Hong Kong	The system was tested in public markets in Kowloon City District and rear lanes in Mong Kong District between April and July 2019. The results have shown that the system with artificial intelligence analytical function is capable of identifying rodents in night-vision images and tracing their movements. It can be employed to monitor the areas and extent of rodent activities and is therefore conducive to quantifying and enhancing the effectiveness of anti-rodent measures.	Around $760,000

The Department is conducting a trial test on the thermal imaging camera surveillance system in selected rear lanes in Kowloon City District, and plans to install thermal imaging cameras before and after the 2 phases of anti-rodent operations in designated target areas which will be conducted later in various districts with a view to quantifying and reviewing the effectiveness of the operations. The estimated expenditure involved is around $2.1 million. The Department will continue to keep in view the methods of vector prevention and control recommended by the World Health Organization and adopted by other countries. The Department keeps an open mind on adopting or trying out rodent control methods that are suitable for use in local

circumstances for further improving the effectiveness of its rodent infestation surveys as well as prevention and control work.

Annex

District	2017							
	Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	**Number of rodent trappings**	**Number of dead rodents collected**	**Number of live rodents caught**	**Number of rat holes filled**	**Number of rodent control surveys**	**Number of rodent infestation complaints received**	**RIR**
Central and Western	4 306	4 881	1 932	1 689	234	27	871	3.6%
Eastern	7 430	2 450	2 407	871	152	47	765	6.0%
Southern	2 762	936	708	438	121	42	189	2.7%
Wan Chai	4 900	3 668	1 241	584	167	20	691	5.6%
Kowloon City	4 368	11 867	2 322	1 491	333	45	865	2.3%
Kwun Tong	6 390	1 291	2 213	448	241	42	477	4.3%
Wong Tai Sin	948	244	720	296	122	42	343	1.0%
Sham Shui Po	404	1 786	2 848	1 330	1 553	29	1 181	6.2%
Yau Tsim Mong	387	8 127	3 176	2 391	1 189	50	1 247	2.8% (Yau Tsim) 6.6% (Mong Kok)
Sha Tin	2 308	8 810	800	704	877	45	530	2.6%
Tai Po	10 476	376	1 254	938	711	25	346	1.8%
North	2 257	360	1 203	466	1 162	47	306	1.9%
Kwai Tsing	1 545	138	496	344	262	45	254	3.6%
Tsuen Wan	3 624	3 265	817	1 399	162	45	347	4.7%
Tuen Mun	4 938	1 811	415	88	56	45	354	1.3%
Yuen Long	6 492	637	2 084	735	88	45	795	3.5%
Sai Kung	6 238	1 189	513	252	145	45	358	1.8%
Islands	348	2 602	1 185	240	383	25	331	3.3%
Overall	70 121	54 438	26 334	14 704	7 958	711*	10 250	3.5%

* Only surveys conducted in relation to Rodent Infestation Survey and Rat-flea Survey are listed. Other rodent surveys (1 258) are not included in the breakdown.

District	2018							
	Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	**Number of rodent trappings**	**Number of dead rodents collected**	**Number of live rodents caught**	**Number of rat holes filled**	**Number of rodent control surveys**	**Number of rodent infestation complaints received**	**RIR**
Central and Western	4 432	4 772	1 890	1 763	258	45	992	3.6%
Eastern	18 699	2 480	2 398	890	156	45	884	2.1%
Southern	3 394	935	713	439	105	25	171	0.5%
Wan Chai	8 446	3 760	1 622	805	163	40	909	2.8%
Kowloon City	4 608	11 309	2 592	1 666	332	29	1 128	6.1%
Kwun Tong	6 587	1 876	2 434	819	225	42	487	5.8%
Wong Tai Sin	950	333	1 441	413	146	25	338	1.0%
Sham Shui Po	308	5 522	3 853	2 241	3 258	45	1 381	6.7%
Yau Tsim Mong	1 510	8 331	3 217	2 364	1 050	70	1 199	2.4% (Yau Tsim) 6.0% (Mong Kok)
Sha Tin	4 548	9 167	858	703	910	25	696	4.7%
Tai Po	13 560	384	771	585	902	40	352	2.7%
North	3 232	424	1 034	464	380	42	387	2.5%
Kwai Tsing	1 457	569	408	520	246	42	336	1.0%
Tsuen Wan	3 182	4 176	823	1 631	225	42	376	5.1%
Tuen Mun	4 703	1 927	503	128	102	45	411	2.1%
Yuen Long	6 585	664	1 654	602	43	42	892	3.9%
Sai Kung	6 966	1 201	480	231	244	30	381	2.2%
Islands	648	2 602	1 183	240	384	25	343	1.4%
Overall	93 815	60 432	27 874	16 504	9 129	699#	11 663	3.4%

Only surveys conducted in relation to Rodent Infestation Survey and Rat-flea Survey are listed. Other rodent surveys (1 334) are not included in the breakdown.

District	2019							
	Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	**Number of rodent trappings**	**Number of dead rodents collected**	**Number of live rodents caught**	**Number of rat holes filled**	**Number of rodent control surveys**	**Number of rodent infestation complaints received**	**RIR**
Central and Western	4 594	4 912	2 029	1 661	260	23	1 074	1.6%
Eastern	21 771	2 483	2 330	1 182	217	40	818	3.2%
Southern	3 815	1 117	611	464	73	25	112	2.2%
Wan Chai	12 544	3 569	1 533	1 213	611	42	988	11.7%
Kowloon City	4 640	11 196	3 459	2 019	415	28	952	6.2%
Kwun Tong	6 302	2 927	2 929	3 476	432	42	556	9.1%
Wong Tai Sin	960	1 210	1 557	606	201	25	357	4.9%
Sham Shui Po	284	5 286	3 578	3 291	2 963	34	1 200	5.3%
Yau Tsim Mong	1 482	10 334	4 172	3 031	4 653	50	1 161	6.0% (Yau Tsim) 3.0% (Mong Kok)
Sha Tin	4 693	9 608	1 018	766	922	25	711	3.4%
Tai Po	13 500	389	780	591	754	40	344	4.5%
North	1 667	449	1 119	580	380	35	485	1.6%
Kwai Tsing	1 305	2 672	395	768	234	42	295	4.6%
Tsuen Wan	3 009	4 716	1 125	1 767	186	42	311	5.2%
Tuen Mun	4 811	2 015	465	371	46	38	458	1.7%
Yuen Long	4 685	1 767	1 554	1 490	49	42	776	4.8%
Sai Kung	7 580	1 239	432	210	183	30	372	2.3%
Islands	680	2 601	1 173	241	384	30	359	5.3%
Overall	98 322	68 490	30 259	23 727	12 963	633^	11 329	4.2%

^ Only surveys conducted in relation to Rodent Infestation Survey and Rat-flea Survey are listed. Other rodent surveys (1 325) are not included in the breakdown.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2184)

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:

Under section 104A(1) of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132), any person displaying or affixing a bill or poster on Government land without permission commits an offence, and is liable to a maximum penalty of a fine of $10,000 and a daily fine of $300 upon conviction. Moreover, an offender will be issued a fixed penalty notice (FPN) of $1,500 pursuant to the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance (Cap. 570). In this connection, please advise this Committee on:

(1) the maximum penalty and fine meted out by the court for unauthorised display or affixation of bills or posters in each of the past 3 years;

(2) the number of FPNs issued to offenders for illegally displaying or affixing bills or posters (with a breakdown by District Council district) since June last year, and whether there was any case of non-payment of fine; if yes, the amount involved;

(3) whether the Department will increase manpower this year for taking prosecution against unauthorised display or affixation of bills or posters; if yes, the expenditure to be involved; if no, the reason(s); and

(4) the number of locations where clean-up operations against unauthorised display or affixation of bills or posters were carried out by relevant government departments (with a breakdown by District Council district and month), and the number of clean-up operations concerned (with a breakdown by District Council district and month).

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 86)

Reply:

(1) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department issued 3 169, 3 714 and 3 647 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) respectively in the past 3 calendar years against unauthorised display of bills or posters. In 2018, 3 prosecutions were instituted against offenders for illegally displaying or affixing bills or posters. The maximum fine meted out by the court for the offence was $2,000.

(2) The number of FPNs issued between June and December 2019 against unauthorised display of bills or posters and the number of overdue FPNs, with a breakdown by District Council district, are tabulated below. As the overdue cases are still being processed, the final amount of fines cannot be provided at this stage.

District	**No. of FPNs issued**	**No. of overdue FPNs (As at 10 March 2020)**
Central & Western	12	0
Eastern	180	3
Wan Chai	65	0
Southern	28	0
Islands	41	1
Yau Tsim Mong	137	5
Kowloon City	20	0
Kwun Tong	447	3
Wong Tai Sin	69	0
Sham Shui Po	208	1
Sai Kung	54	0
Tuen Mun	92	1
Yuen Long	228	3
North	11	0
Kwai Tsing	81	0
Tai Po	43	0
Sha Tin	156	2
Tsuen Wan	128	1
Total	2 000	20

(3) As part of the overall enforcement duties of enforcement officers of the Department, prosecution against unauthorised display of bills or posters was undertaken by existing manpower in 2019-20.

(4) The Department has been closely monitoring the display and affixation of bills in various districts. Joint operations have been mounted in collaboration with relevant departments to clean up bills affixed without permission in public places on government land, while individual departments are responsible for cleaning up the same at venues under their purview. Between June 2019 and February 2020, 950 joint operations were conducted at 295 locations across the territory to clean up bills displayed or affixed without permission. A breakdown of the joint operations by District Council district is at Annex.

Annex

District	No. of joint clean-up operations against bills affixed without permission (June 2019 to February 2020)	
	No. of locations cleaned up	Frequency of clean-ups
Central & Western	17	53
Wan Chai	9	31
Eastern	13	65
Southern	5	21
Kowloon City	15	46
Kwun Tong	16	61
Wong Tai Sin	22	60
Sham Shui Po	12	58
Yau Tsim Mong	15	126
Islands	3	22
Yuen Long	16	52
Tuen Mun	34	88
Sai Kung	31	51
North	16	53
Tai Po	4	12
Sha Tin	38	76
Kwai Tsing	15	48
Tsuen Wan	14	27
Total	295	950

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2324)

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:

It is mentioned in "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020–21" in the Estimates that during 2020-21, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will follow up proactively the recommendations in the Audit Report released in November 2019 and the Public Accounts Committee report concerned to further enhance the planning, provision and management of public toilets. In this connection,

(1) please set out the number of public toilets managed by the Department, with a breakdown by region (Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and New Territories).

(2) how many complaints about unsatisfactory hygiene conditions of public toilets were received in each of the past 3 years? Please provide the information with a breakdown by District Council district. Has the Department planned to introduce new measures to improve the hygiene condition of public toilets? If yes, the details; if no, the reason(s).

(3) as it is mentioned in the Budget 2019-20 that the Government will allocate over $600 million to refurbish about 240 public toilets in the coming 5 years, improving ventilation and other facilities, as well as installing automatic sensor taps, what are the progress of work and the breakdown of the expenditure involved?

(4) what is the Department's performance pledge for toilet cleansing service? In each of the past 3 years, how many contractors were issued warnings and fined for failing to meet the Department's pledge in performance of toilet cleansing service? What are the total number of warnings and total amount of fines involved?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

(1) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department manages 799 public toilets, comprising 90 on Hong Kong Island, 61 in Kowloon and 648 in the New Territories and on outlying islands.

(2) From 2017 to 2019, the Department received 2 913, 2 626 and 2 367 complaints against public toilet/bathhouse services respectively. The number of complaints with a breakdown by District Council district is provided at **Annex I**.

After the review on overall progress of the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme conducted by the Department in 2018, the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme (Enhanced PTRP) was introduced in the same year, which is divided into two types of works, namely refurbishment and facelifting. New design and layouts will generally be adopted for the refurbishment of public toilets, with beautified facades and modern facilities, with a view to making them hygienic, clean and safe. The refurbishment works may cover exterior design, installations and equipment, materials, ventilation, odour control, lighting, infra-red sensor-activated taps and flushing facilities, etc. The Department will adjust the scope of the refurbishment of individual toilets having regard to the actual circumstances. The scope of works for facelifting of public toilets does not involve the prevailing layout and mainly includes replacement of aged facilities and installation of new features, repainting of ceiling, replacement of cubicle partitions, wall tiles and floor tiles as well as repainting or replacement of piping, conduits and water pipes, so as to improve the facilities and level of hygiene of public toilets.

On enhancing the hygiene of public toilets, the Department will continue to make good use of technology and step up collaboration with relevant departments (the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD)) for enhancing the work and efficiency of public toilet management and maintenance. In November 2019, the revamped electronic Contract Management System was fully implemented to better monitor the management outcome of public toilets. Since March 2020, the Department has applied the newly developed mobile application "minor works order record system" to make repair requests to ArchSD and EMSD, as well as to track the progress and enhance the efficiency of repair works. It is also proactively planning to conduct surveys to collect the views of public toilet users and other stakeholders. The Department will continue to adopt new technology for headcount and review the utilisation rates of public toilets on a regular basis, so as to further enhance the planning, provision and management of public toilets. The Department will also conduct pilot schemes to provide air treatment and other facilities in public toilets so as to abate odour and improve air quality.

On top of routine cleansing services, dedicated deep cleansing teams have been set up in all districts to enhance deep cleansing services for public toilets with very high usage rate on a regular basis. In addition, surprise inspections have been stepped up to monitor the contractors' performance to ensure that they meet the service standard as stipulated in the contract provisions.

The Department endeavours to enhance the cleanliness of public toilets and continues to strengthen its efforts in public education by reminding the public to be civic-minded when using public toilets and properly use the facilities to avoid causing damage and dirtiness.

(3) It was announced in the 2019-20 Budget that the Government would make an additional allocation of over $600 million to implement the Enhanced PTRP, under which the Department will roll out the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 240 public toilets under its management by phases in 5 years since 2019-20, so as to improve their installations and the level of hygiene. The Department has been working closely with ArchSD to roll out the refurbishment or facelifting projects for 42 public toilets in the first year, with an estimated expenditure of about $151 million. The facelifting works for 7 public toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. A list of the 42 public toilets with their works schedules is at **Annex II**.

(4) The Department's performance pledge for its public toilet is as follows:
(1) To effect minor repairs normally within 24 hours of reporting;
(2) To upkeep cleanliness of public toilets with high usage rates by providing toilet attendants; and
(3) To thoroughly cleanse other public toilets at least twice daily.

Public toilet cleansing service is covered in street cleansing services provided in public places by the Department's street cleansing contractors. The follow-up actions taken by the Department against non-compliance or default by street cleansing contractors in the past 3 years (from 2017 to 2019) are set out at **Annex III**. The Department fully implemented the revamped electronic Contract Management System in November 2019, through which the number of follow-up actions taken against the relevant contractors for failing to meet the performance requirements can be collated to facilitate monitoring of the outcome of management work. According to records, no contractors were issued warnings and fined for failing to meet the Department's pledge in performance of toilet cleansing service between November 2019 and February 2020.

Annex I

Number of Complaints About Public Toilet/Bathhouse Services with a Breakdown by District Council District Received from 2017 to 2019

District	Year (Number of complaints about public toilet/bathhouse services received)		
	2017	**2018**	**2019**
Central & Western	301	220	230
Wan Chai	98	122	118
Eastern	144	101	95
Southern	123	88	60
Islands	137	131	95
Yau Tsim Mong	306	188	192
Sham Shui Po	149	122	136
Kowloon City	88	91	81
Wong Tai Sin	25	19	16
Kwun Tong	78	83	79
Kwai Tsing	88	61	80
Tsuen Wan	89	118	97
Tuen Mun	123	105	76
Yuen Long	471	432	349
North	166	214	255
Tai Po	193	182	131
Sha Tin	124	118	69
Sai Kung	195	209	162
Others *	15	22	46
Total	**2 913**	**2 626**	**2 367**

* Not specifying the names of the toilets complained

Annex II

List of 42 Public Toilets under the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2019-20 (As at 6 March 2020)

(A) 20 Refurbishment Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[1]
1.	Lok Ku Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to June 2021
2.	Ladder Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to June 2021
3.	Rumsey Street Multi Storey Car-park Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to April 2021
4.	Sheung Shui Wai Po Sheung Tsuen Public Toilet	North	From April to December 2021
5.	Tseng Lan Shue Public Toilet	Sai Kung	From August 2021 to April 2022
6.	Ma Liu Shui Waterfront Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From December 2020 to August 2021
7.	Science Park Road Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From August 2020 to April 2021
8.	Shan Mei Street Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From February to September 2021
9.	Shap Yi Watt Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From August 2021 to April 2022
10.	Tai Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From April to November 2021
11.	To Tau Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From April to November 2021
12.	No. 16 Aberdeen Main Road Public Toilet	Southern	From October 2021 to April 2022
13.	Fong Ma Po Public Toilet	Tai Po	From November 2020 to August 2021
14.	Ma Wo Public Toilet	Tai Po	From April to December 2021
15.	Tap Mun Pier Public Toilet	Tai Po	From April to December 2021
16.	Sunny Bay Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2020 to July 2021
17.	Wang Lung Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to November 2021
18.	Morrison Hill Road Public Toilet	Wan Chai	From February to August 2021
19.	Science Museum Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From February to September 2021
20.	Hong King Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	From March to December 2021

[1] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

(B) 22 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[2]
1.	Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall Public Toilet	Central & Western	From March to June 2020
2.	Wing Lok Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	From March to June 2020
3.	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	Islands	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
4.	Tat Tung Road Public Toilet	Islands	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
5.	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	From October 2019 to April 2020
6.	Kwai Hing Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	From October 2019 to April 2020
7.	Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Kwun Tong	From March to June 2020
8.	Shung Yan Street Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	From February to June 2020
9.	Mong Kok Road Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From June to October 2020
10.	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From September 2020 to February 2021
11.	Sai Yee Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From May to October 2020
12.	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	From June to November 2019 (completed)
13.	Pei Ho Street Market G/F & 1/F Toilet	Sham Shui Po	1/F: From September to December 2019 (completed) G/F: From April to July 2020
14.	Yen Chow Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	From December 2019 to May 2020
15.	Chai Wan Kok Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to June 2020
16.	Chuen Lung Village Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
17.	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
18.	Shing Mun Road Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to June 2020
19.	Wan Chai Market Public Toilet	Wan Chai	From April to October 2020
20.	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From September 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
21.	Jordan Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
22.	Market Street Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yau Tsim	From October 2019 to May 2020

[2] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

Annex III

Follow-up Actions Taken against Non-compliance or Default by Street Cleansing Service Contractors from 2017 to 2019

Year	2017	2018	2019
Number of verbal warnings issued	1 990	2 567	2 105
Number of written warnings issued	74	81	57
Number of default notices issued	913	1 241	1 157
Amount of monthly service charge payments deducted ($)	1.828 million	2.952 million	2.75 million

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2045)

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:

It is mentioned in the Estimates that the Department will "continue to explore and apply new technology and automation to enhance environmental hygiene services and strengthen related enforcement and prosecution work". How many cameras have been installed for the purpose of monitoring illegal deposits of refuse? How many cases resulted in successful prosecution with the footage captured by cameras in 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 respectively? What resources will be allocated to take forward the above work in the coming year? How many cameras does the Department aim to install for monitoring environmental hygiene blackspots?

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department launched the scheme on installation of Internet Protocol (IP) cameras in June 2018 to curb illegal deposits of refuse in various districts. As District Councils (DCs) reflected that significant improvement on the hygiene condition of relevant illegal refuse deposit spots was noticed after implementation of the scheme, the Department has, after consulting the DCs, extended the scheme for 2 years from August 2019. Cameras have been installed at priority locations proposed by the DCs with a view to stepping up efforts to combat illegal deposits of refuse. So far the Department has installed IP cameras at over 150 illegal refuse deposit spots across the territory, and the number will progressively increase to over 300. The estimated annual expenditure is about $16 million.

In 2018-19 and 2019-20 (as at February), the Department issued 505 and 559 summonses respectively to owners of the vehicles used for illegal deposits of refuse based on the footage captured.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2067)

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:

The work of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department involves "abating environmental nuisances relating to dripping air-conditioners". Please advise this Committee on the following:

Regarding the enforcement of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance against dripping air-conditioners in 2019, please set out: (a) the number of verbal warnings or advisory letters issued; (b) the number of nuisance notices issued; (c) the number of prosecutions instituted; and (d) the number of successful prosecution cases.

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 42)

Reply:

The statistics on enforcement against dripping air-conditioners under the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) in 2019 are as follows:

	2019
No. of nuisance notices issued	4 664
No. of prosecutions instituted (Note 1)	91
No. of successful prosecution cases (Note 2)	85

Note 1: A nuisance notice will be issued when nuisance exists, requiring the nuisance be abated within a specified period. Prosecution will be instituted against non-compliant cases.

Note 2: Including certain cases against which prosecution was instituted before 2019.

The Department does not keep separate statistics on the number of verbal warnings and advisory letters issued.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2074)

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:

On the enforcement of the Public Cleansing and Prevention of Nuisances Regulation and the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance, please advise this Committee on:

(a) the enforcement of environmental hygiene legislation from 2017 to 2020 as per the table below:

Offences under the Regulation and the Ordinance / Number of inspections per year	2017 (actual)	2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (estimate)
Littering and/or spitting				

(b) the respective number of prosecutions against littering and spitting in 2019?

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)

Reply:

(a) Under the Public Cleansing and Prevention of Nuisances Regulation (Cap. 132 BK), any person depositing litter on street or public place will be prosecuted. The offender is liable on conviction to a fine of up to $25,000 and imprisonment for 6 months. Any person who spits in a street or public place will also be prosecuted and liable to a fine of up to $10,000. The same offences may also be caught under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance (Cap. 570), which empowers an enforcement officer to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) currently at $1,500. Officers of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will take enforcement actions against various public cleanliness offences, including littering and spitting. The Department has not kept information on the number of inspections.

(b) In 2019, the Department issued a total of 41 911 FPNs and 145 summonses against littering and a total of 2 361 FPNs and 8 summonses against spitting.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2974)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21, it is mentioned that the Department will take forward initiatives to enhance pest control services. In this connection, please advise on the following:

In the past year, how many rodent infestation complaints were received and handled by the Department? What were the numbers of dead rodents collected, live rodents caught and rat holes filled? What were the manpower and expenditure involved? Please provide the information in tabular form with a breakdown by administrative district.

What anti-rodent methods did the Department employ in the past 3 years? What were the rodent trapping devices used? What were the quantity and cost of the equipment? How effective was the anti-rodent work?

What are the results of the baseline study conducted by the Department in Kowloon City District in January this year? What is the timetable for extending the baseline study to all districts in Hong Kong with a view to establishing a quantifying new rodent infestation surveillance mechanism?

The Department has stated that it is preparing for the use of thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence analytical functions for monitoring the areas and extent of rodent activities. What are the details as well as the manpower and expenditure to be involved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 63)

Reply:

Information on rodent complaints received and handled by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in 2019 is tabulated as follows:

District	Number of rodent complaints received and handled
Central and Western	1 074
Wan Chai	988
Eastern	818
Southern	112
Yau Tsim Mong	1 161
Sham Shui Po	1 200
Kowloon City	952
Wong Tai Sin	357
Kwun Tong	556
Kwai Tsing	295
Tsuen Wan	311
Tuen Mun	458
Yuen Long	776
North	485
Tai Po	344
Sha Tin	711
Sai Kung	372
Islands	359
Overall	**11 329**

In 2019-20, the revised estimated expenditure of the Department on rodent control services was $207.1 million. The total number of in-house staff responsible for pest control work and the total number of staff engaged by pest control service contractors in 2019 was 727 and 1 970 respectively. In 2019, the Department filled 12 963 rat holes, collected 30 259 dead rodents and caught 23 727 live rodents. There is no separate breakdown on the dead rodents collected, live rodents caught and rat holes filled as well as the manpower and expenditure involved in handling rodent complaints.

The Department has been adopting multi-pronged strategies including improving environmental hygiene, rodent disinfestation and enforcement action to combat rodent problem. The integrated approach adopted by the Department in rodent prevention and control by improving environmental hygiene, complemented with poisonous baiting and trapping is based on the recommendations and technical guidelines of the World Health Organization. The trapping device used by the Department is the rodent cage trap and the poisonous baits are anticoagulants. In 2019, the Department conducted a test on a rodent trapping device driven by pressurised gas. The unsuccessful trapping showed that the device was not so effective as the rodent cage trap. The expenditure involved in conducting the test was about $60,000.

The Department is conducting studies on thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence analytical functions for monitoring the areas and extent of rodent activities. Initial trial results have shown that the data captured can quantify and assess the effectiveness of anti-rodent work by directly comparing the rodent population density before and after carrying out anti-rodent operations. Also, the technology can be used for identifying potential rodents' entry points, travel routes and areas they frequently visit, so that rodenticides and trapping devices can be placed in a more effective manner and more targeted rodent control measures can be implemented. The Department has been conducting further field trials in Kowloon City District since early 2020 in order to assess the feasibility of quantifying rodent surveillance. It plans to install cameras before and after anti-rodent operations in individual designated target areas in May this year with a view to quantifying and reviewing the effectiveness of the operations. The estimated expenditure involved in conducting the trials is about $2.1 million and the manpower involved will be absorbed by existing resources.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)132

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0025)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 under Programme (1), that the Department will continue to follow up proactively the recommendations in the Audit Reports released in November 2018 and the Public Accounts Committee reports concerned to strengthen the functions of the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) in food safety management and food import control. And as indicated in controlling officer's reply last year, a task group has been set up to take forward the recommendations, specifically conducting a comprehensive review on several issues. In this regard, please advise this Committee:

1. of the funding allocated to CFS in each of the past 5 years and in 2020-21, whether additional resources will be deployed;

2. of the latest progress of the review, and of specific measures have been adopted to enhance food safety management and food import control last year;

3. of the work plan of the task group this year, and whether any new measures will be adopted in this regard.

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

1. The expenditure of the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department from 2015-16 to 2020-21 is set out as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure ($ million)
2015-16	504
2016-17	551
2017-18	592
2018-19	660
2019-20 (revised estimate)	723
2020-21 (estimate)	772

2.&3. In 2019, CFS set up a task group led by the Controller, CFS, to take forward the recommendations of the Audit Commission (Audit) and the Legislative Council (LegCo) Public Accounts Committee (PAC) concerning its work in food safety management and import control. The task group has completed its comprehensive reviews on CFS's operational manuals and guidelines, staff management and supervision arrangements, training requirements, and manpower and resource requirements. CFS has rolled out concrete and effective short, medium and long-term measures to enhance its effectiveness by phases, including updating its guidelines where there were inadequacies or ambiguities and introducing a mechanism for regular updates, enhancing training and supervision of frontline staff, strengthening staff's law enforcement mindset and the keeping of data and records. The specific measures taken and their implementation were set out in the Government minutes submitted to LegCo in May and December 2019.

In addition, CFS set up a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. CFS also launched the Food Trader Portal (FTP) in stages at the end of 2019 as a platform for electronic communication with the trade. Through the FTP, food traders can complete registration as importers or distributors by electronic means. In the first quarter of 2020, CFS further introduced an online service to facilitate food traders to apply online for import licences and import permission in respect of meat, poultry and game.

In 2020-21, CFS will continue to implement specific measures to follow up on the recommendations of Audit and PAC and enhance its IT systems in an order of priorities to safeguard food safety.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0033)

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:

The financial provision under Programme (2) in 2020-21 is estimated to be $5,903.1 million, which is a 22.3% increase on original provision in 2019–20. It is mentioned that the Department will follow up proactively the recommendations in the Audit Report released in November 2019 and the Public Accounts Committee report concerned to further enhance the planning, provision and management of public toilets. The Department will also continue to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme to improve the design and facilities of existing public toilets by phases. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

1. of the specific action to be taken to follow up the recommendations, whether additional funding and other resources will be accordingly deployed in 2020-21; and

2. of the funding allocated to implement Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme, and the numbers of toilets (to be) refurbished in each of the past 5 years and this year; and

3. whether the Programme will be enhanced with reference to the recommendations (i.e. prioritising public toilets for inclusion in the Programme, and taking forward refurbishment projects in a timely manner). If yes, of the details.

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

1. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is proactively following up the recommendations in the Audit Report released in November 2019 and the Public Accounts Committee report. With regard to the proposals of planning for public toilets, the Department will review its guidelines and criteria on construction and reprovisioning of public toilets. In reviewing the adequacy of public toilet facilities at tourist spots, the Department will continue to consult the Tourism Commission with a view to serving the needs of tourists. It will communicate with the Tourism Commission on a regular basis to listen to the views of the industry on the

refurbishment or facelifting works of the public toilets at major tourist spots. In parallel, the procedures of public consultation will be rationalised to minimise delays of works. The revamped electronic Contract Management System has been fully implemented since November 2019 to better monitor the management outcome of public toilets. Since March 2020, the Department has applied the newly developed mobile application "minor works order record system" to make repair requests to the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD), as well as to track the progress and enhance the efficiency of repair works. It is also proactively planning to conduct surveys to collect the views of public toilet users and other stakeholders. The Department will continue to adopt new technology for headcount and review the utilisation rates of public toilets on a regular basis, so as to further enhance the planning, provision and management of public toilets. The expenditure for the review and planning of the above measures will be absorbed by existing resources, and therefore no additional recurrent expenditure will be incurred.

2. It was announced in the 2019-20 Budget that the Government would make an additional allocation of over $600 million to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme, under which the Department will roll out the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 240 public toilets under its management by phases in 5 years since 2019-20, so as to improve their installations and the level of hygiene. The Department has been working closely with ArchSD to roll out the refurbishment or facelifting projects for 42 public toilets in the first year, with an estimated expenditure of about $151 million. The facelifting works for 7 public toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. The Department is preparing to commence refurbishment or facelifting projects for 49 public toilets in 2020-21.

The number of public toilets refurbished in the past 5 years is listed in the table below:

Year	Number of refurbished/facelifted public toilets
2015-16	19
2016-17	7
2017-18	9
2018-19	13
2019-20	41[#]

Including 7 facelifting works as at 6 March 2020

3. The Department will collaborate with ArchSD to work out the priority list of public toilets for refurbishment or facelifting, having regard to their utilisation rate, locations, maintenance condition of equipment, and the time of construction or the time lapsed since they were last refurbished. Its objective is to shorten the timeline for a refurbishment project to about 2 to 3 years and about 1 to 1.5 years for a facelifting project (which mainly includes replacement of aged facilities and installation of new features, with the prevailing layout and exterior wall remaining unchanged).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0035)

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:

In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 under Programme (3), it is mentioned that the Department will take action to close public markets which are under-utilized. In this regard, please advise this Committee on the following:

1. of the public markets closed in the past 3 years, their locations, and current use of the sites;

2. of the public markets that will be closed this year, their utilization rates, numbers of market stalls affected and planned use of sites.

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

1. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is conducting a comprehensive review of the usage and development potential of existing markets, with a view to formulating appropriate development plans for meeting the policy objectives of optimising land uses, benefitting the public and promoting district development.

   With demographic changes, new development/redevelopment projects and competition from other fresh provision outlets, the appeal of some public markets has been diminishing over time, with some having low patronage and high vacancy rates. Closing such markets may release precious land resources for more gainful uses to better serve the community. When considering whether a market is to be closed, FEHD will take into account a host of factors, including the vacancy rate of the market, prospects for improvement, availability of alternative fresh provision outlets in the vicinity, the cost-effectiveness that may be brought by the upgrading works and the views of the relevant District Councils, etc. When drawing up closure plans for markets, FEHD will consult the District Councils and affected market tenants.

   In the 3 financial years from 2017-18 to 2019-20, FEHD closed 4 markets with consistently high vacancy rates, namely Shau Kei Wan Market, Tsuen King Circuit

Market, Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market and Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market.

After the closure of the 4 markets, the vacated buildings have been handled according to established procedures. Based on the circumstances, FEHD is requesting the relevant government departments including the Government Property Agency, Planning Department or Lands Department, to seek views from other government departments to formulate proposals for putting the premises to gainful long-term uses.

2. FEHD plans to close Tui Min Hoi Market in 2020-21. As at 31 December 2019, there were 19 stalls let out in the market, and the occupancy rate was about 56%. FEHD will continue to review the usage and development potential of other markets, and tentatively plans to take forward the preparatory and consultation work for closure of another 4 markets. Views from other government departments have been sought in accordance with established procedures to formulate proposals for putting the premises concerned to gainful long-term uses.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2385)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2020-21, the Department will continue to follow up proactively on the recommendations in the Audit Reports released in November 2018 and the Public Accounts Committee reports concerned to strengthen the functions of the Centre for Food Safety in food safety management and food import control. What is the timetable for implementing the recommendations? Will additional manpower and expenditure be required? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 30)

Reply:

In 2019, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department set up a task group led by the Controller, CFS, to take forward the recommendations of the Audit Commission (Audit) and the Legislative Council (LegCo) Public Accounts Committee (PAC) concerning its work of food safety management and import control. The task group has completed its comprehensive reviews on CFS's operational manuals and guidelines, staff management and supervision arrangements, training requirements, and manpower and resource requirements. CFS has rolled out concrete and effective short, medium and long-term measures to enhance its effectiveness by phases, including updating its guidelines where there were inadequacies or ambiguities and introducing a mechanism for regular updates, enhancing training and supervision of frontline staff, strengthening staff's law enforcement mindset and the keeping of data and records. The specific measures taken and their implementation were set out in the Government minutes submitted to LegCo in May and December 2019.

In addition, CFS set up a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. CFS also launched the Food Trader Portal (FTP) in stages at the end of 2019 as a platform for electronic communication with the trade. Through the FTP, food traders can complete registration as importers or distributors by electronic means.

In the first quarter of 2020, CFS further introduced an online service to facilitate food traders to apply online for import licences and import permission in respect of meat, poultry and game.

In 2020-21, CFS will continue to implement specific measures to follow up on the recommendations of Audit and PAC and enhance its IT systems in an order of priorities. The estimated expenditure of CFS in 2020-21 is about $49 million more than the revised estimate for 2019-20. This includes the expenditure incurred for the creation of 15 additional civil service posts to enhance the safeguard of food safety.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2386)

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:

It is stated that during 2020-21, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to plan new public market facilities at suitable locations, take forward the proposed projects and take action to close public markets which are under-utilised. In this regard, please advise on:

1. the selected or possible locations for planning new public market facilities and the estimated expenditure involved; and
2. the public markets being closed or to be closed.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 31)

Reply:

1. The Government is taking forward 7 new market projects which are at different stages of planning. They include the development of new public markets in Tin Shui Wai, Tung Chung Town Centre, Tseung Kwan O, Kwu Tung North New Development Area, Tung Chung New Town Extension and Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area as well as the establishment of a temporary market in Tin Shui Wai.

   For the temporary market in Tin Shui Wai, the current estimated project cost is close to $30 million. As for other new market projects, the estimated expenditure will be available upon finalisation of the scope of works and completion of technical feasibility studies and assessment.

2. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department plans to close Tui Min Hoi Market in 2020-21. As at 31 December 2019, there were 19 stalls let out in the market, and the occupancy rate was about 56%. FEHD will continue to review the usage and development potential of other markets, and tentatively plans to take forward the preparatory and consultation work for closure of another 4 markets. Views from other government departments have been sought in accordance with established procedures to formulate proposals for putting the premises concerned to gainful long-term uses.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2387)

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:

Provision for 2020-21 is $146.7 million (7.2%) higher than the revised estimate for 2019-20. This is mainly due to creation of new posts and increased operating expenses for planning new public markets and other municipal facilities, modernisation of existing public markets, and strengthening enforcement against street obstruction. There will be a net increase of 52 posts. Please advise on the breakdown of the expenditure and the scope of duties of the new posts.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 32)

Reply:

The provision for 2020-21 under Programme (3) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is $146.7 million higher than the revised estimate for 2019-20. The expenditure for market management (including the expenditure for planning new public markets and other municipal facilities, implementing modernisation of existing public markets, enhancing outsourced service contracts, replacing equipment and maintenance works) will increase by $100.6 million, while the expenditure for hawker control (including the expenditure for strengthening enforcement against street obstruction and support services) will increase by $46.1 million. The above figures have covered the expenditure for the creation of new posts.

In 2020-21, there will be a net increase of 52 posts under Programme (3). Information on all the posts proposed to be created is as follows:

Scope of duties	Grade	Total annual salary
(a) To plan new public markets and other municipal facilities, and implement modernisation of existing public markets	Health Inspector	$3.7 million
(b) To strengthen enforcement against street obstruction	Health Inspector Hawker Control Officer Motor Driver Workman I	$20.2 million
Total		$23.9 million

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1785)

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:

Please set out in tabular form the respective numbers of food licences and permits in each of the past 5 years:

Type of food licence/permit	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
General Restaurant Licence					
Light Refreshment Restaurant Licence					
Marine Restaurant Licence					
Bakery Licence					
Cold Store Licence					
Factory Canteen Licence					
Food Factory Licence					
Fresh Provision Shop Licence					
Frozen Confection Factory Licence					
Milk Factory Licence					
Siu Mei and Lo Mei Shop Licence					
Other licences					

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

The information sought for the period from 2015 to 2019 (as at 31 December of the year) is as follows:

Type of food licence/permit	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
General Restaurant Licence	10 408	10 783	11 286	11 749	12 106
Light Refreshment Restaurant Licence	3 661	3 785	3 936	4 064	4 173
Marine Restaurant Licence	5	5	5	5	5
Bakery Licence	660	626	614	596	585
Cold Store Licence	45	51	54	58	64
Factory Canteen Licence	473	477	489	492	486

Food Factory Licence	7 062	7 428	7 881	8 464	9 053
Type of food licence/permit	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Fresh Provision Shop Licence	2 669	2 636	2 677	2 669	2 700
Frozen Confection Factory Licence	523	524	501	536	542
Milk Factory Licence	8	8	8	8	8
Siu Mei and Lo Mei Shop Licence	407	387	385	387	392
Composite Food Shop Licence	8	9	6	3	3
Various food permits	6 548	6 951	7 423	7 952	7 865

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1788)

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:

Please inform this Committee of the following:

1. How many factory canteens were there in the past 5 years?

2. How many prosecutions were instituted in the past 5 years against breaches of the new condition of the Factory Canteen Licence which requires (i) a licensee to display a notice reading "FACTORY EMPLOYEES OF THIS BUILDING ONLY" outside each entrance of the factory canteen, as implemented by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department since February 2018?

3. Will the Government amend the legislation to allow factory canteens to provide catering services to persons not employed in the factory building concerned? If yes, the details; if no, the reason(s).

4. Please provide the figures of conversion of factory canteens into general restaurants in the past 5 years (in tabular form):

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of applications received					
Number of applications approved					
Number of applications rejected					

5. What are the main reasons for the rejection of applications for converting factory canteens into general restaurants?

6. Please provide in tabular form the distribution of factory canteens in the 18 districts of Hong Kong as at February 2020.

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 48)

Reply:

1. The number of licensed factory canteens in the past 5 calendar years is as follows:

	2015	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Number of licensed factory canteens	473	477	489	492	486

2. In the past 5 calendar years, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department instituted 124 prosecutions against licensed factory canteens as the licence holders failed to comply with the licensing requirement on display of a notice reading "FACTORY EMPLOYEES OF THIS BUILDING ONLY" outside each entrance of the factory canteen and at conspicuous places of the seating accommodation and did not take corresponding measures to ensure that a factory canteen can only serve employees in the factory building where the canteen is situated.

3. to 5. Under the Food Business Regulation (Cap. 132X), a Factory Canteen Licence must be obtained from the Department for operation of food business in a factory building which involves the sale or supply of meals or drinks for consumption on the premises by persons employed in the factory building concerned. The Factory Canteen Licence was introduced to facilitate factory workers to take meals in the factory building. From the perspective of food safety as well as hygiene and fire safety of food premises, the Department is not inclined to issue General Restaurant Licences to canteens operating in factory buildings.

6. The distribution of licensed factory canteens in the 18 districts of Hong Kong as at 29 February 2020 is as follows:

District	**No. of factory canteens**	**District**	**No. of factory canteens**
Central and Western	0	Kwun Tong	148
Wan Chai	0	Kwai Tsing	85
Eastern	17	Tsuen Wan	28
Southern	12	Tuen Mun	37
Islands	6	Yuen Long	10
Yau Tsim Mong	0	North	9
Sham Shui Po	49	Tai Po	6
Kowloon City	3	Sha Tin	46
Wong Tai Sin	27	Sai Kung	5

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0602)

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 relation to the anti-epidemic work since the novel coronavirus outbreak in Hong Kong, please provide figures and information on the following:

(a) What is the number of residents confirmed to have been infected with the novel coronavirus in each of the 18 administrative districts in Hong Kong? For the administrative districts with more confirmed cases, have additional resources been allocated to enhance disinfection and cleansing of streets in the vicinity of the residences of the infected? If yes, what are the districts concerned and the details? If no, what are the reasons?

(b) Have additional resources been allocated to enhance disinfection and cleansing of streets in the vicinity of places with cases of virus spread at gatherings in the wake of such reports in Hong Kong? If yes, what are the districts concerned and the details? If no, what are the reasons?

(c) How many buildings in each of the 18 administrative districts in Hong Kong have residents under compulsory quarantine? For the administrative districts with more residents under compulsory quarantine, have additional resources been allocated to enhance disinfection and cleansing of streets in the vicinity of the residences of people under compulsory quarantine? If yes, what are the districts concerned and the details? If no, what are the reasons?

(d) Has the Department deployed resources to carry out disinfection and cleansing of streets in the community? If yes, what is the effectiveness? If no, is it necessary to allocate additional resources in this regard?

Asked by: Hon TO Kun-sun, James (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)

Reply:

It is a key responsibility of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to maintain a hygienic environment. In the light of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) epidemic,

the Department has stepped up the cleansing of public facilities under its management, including public markets, cooked food centres, hawker bazaars, public toilets, refuse collection points, etc. The street cleansing service of public places, including locations where littering and other public cleanliness offences are prevalent, has also been strengthened as appropriate and when necessary to maintain environmental hygiene. Furthermore, the Department has increased the frequency of washing the nearby streets of buildings with confirmed cases according to the instructions of the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH). The increased frequency of street washing in various districts from 23 January 2020 to 8 March 2020 is provided at **Annex**. The Department deploys internal resources to provide relevant street cleansing and disinfection services having regard to actual circumstances and operational needs. For the list of buildings with confirmed cases of COVID-19, please refer to the following thematic website of CHP under DH: (https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/102465.html).

Annex

Increased Frequency of Street Washing in Various Districts from 23 January 2020 to 8 March 2020

District	Increased frequency of street washing
Central & Western	18
Eastern	100
Southern	57
Wan Chai	142
Kowloon City	44
Kwun Tong	98
Mong Kok	14
Yau Tsim	70
Sham Shui Po	1
Wong Tai Sin	1
North	16
Sha Tin	83
Yuen Long	28
Sai Kung	64
Tuen Mun	56
Total	**792**

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1350)

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:

The Government proposed in last year's Budget that a total expenditure of over $600 million be spent on refurbishing over 240 public toilets under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the next 5 years. The Department states in this year's Estimates that it will continue to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme and follow up proactively the recommendations on the planning, provision and management of public toilets made in the Audit Report and by the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of the Legislative Council. Please account for the details of the work concerned.

1. Please provide a list of the 240 public toilets which have been included in the refurbishment programme, the timetable for the refurbishment works planned/undertaken and the estimated annual expenditure.

2. Have additional public toilets been included in the refurbishment programme in the light of the recommendations of the Audit Commission and PAC?

3. How does the tendering strategy ensure that more small and medium companies (including professional services consultancies) can have the opportunity to engage in the refurbishment projects?

4. The Department has indicated that it will organise a series of Design Thinking workshops to engage the public and relevant trades to review the current public toilet services in various aspects, such as design, procurement as well as operation and management. What is the progress of the work? Has expenditure been earmarked for the initiative? What are the "relevant trades" to be invited?

5. The Department has indicated that it will consider organising open design competitions for some selected public toilets. What is the progress of the work? Has expenditure been earmarked for the initiative?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chuen, Tony (LegCo internal reference no.: 1)

Reply:

1.&2. It was announced in the 2019-20 Budget that the Government would make an additional allocation of over $600 million to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme (Enhanced PTRP), under which the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department would roll out the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 240 public toilets under its management by phases in 5 years since 2019-20, so as to improve their facilities and hygiene level. The Department has been working closely with the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) to roll out the refurbishment or facelifting projects for 42 public toilets in the first year, with an estimated expenditure of about $151 million. The facelifting works for 7 public toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. A list of the 42 public toilets with their works schedules is at **Annex**. Refurbishment or facelifting projects for 49 public toilets are being planned to commence in 2020-21 at a project estimate of about $134 million. The Department will prioritise the remaining public toilets for inclusion in the Enhanced PTRP having regard to their utilisation rates, locations, maintenance conditions and the time lapsed since they were constructed or last refurbished, with special attention to those with high utilisation rates and in ageing conditions. Subject to the progress of the programme, the Department will consider bidding for additional resources to expedite the refurbishment of the remaining public toilets in due course.

3. Public toilet refurbishment projects, which involve full-scale refurbishment, are designed by the term consultants of ArchSD before tenders are invited from small and medium-sized contractors in Groups A and B on the Government's List of Approved Contractors for Public Works. Another type is facelifting projects which involve mainly repair and simple replacement of indoor sanitary fittings, ceramic tiles, etc. are undertaken by the maintenance term contractors of ArchSD.

4. Expenditure has been earmarked, and a professional consultant is being engaged to assist in the preparatory work for the Design Thinking workshops. Stakeholders involved in the use, management, design, repair and cleansing of public toilets as well as concern groups will be invited to participate in the workshops to review the existing conditions of public toilets and explore concrete and feasible proposals for improvement with innovative design thinking.

5. Expenditure has been earmarked, and suitable public toilet projects are being selected for open design competitions. Details of the competitions will be announced later this year.

Annex

List of 42 Public Toilets under the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2019-20 (As at 6 March 2020)

(A) 20 Refurbishment Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[1]
1.	Lok Ku Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to June 2021
2.	Ladder Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to June 2021
3.	Rumsey Street Multi Storey Car-park Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to April 2021
4.	Sheung Shui Wai Po Sheung Tsuen Public Toilet	North	From April to December 2021
5.	Tseng Lan Shue Public Toilet	Sai Kung	From August 2021 to April 2022
6.	Ma Liu Shui Waterfront Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From December 2020 to August 2021
7.	Science Park Road Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From August 2020 to April 2021
8.	Shan Mei Street Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From February to September 2021
9.	Shap Yi Watt Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From August 2021 to April 2022
10.	Tai Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From April to November 2021
11.	To Tau Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From April to November 2021
12.	No. 16 Aberdeen Main Road Public Toilet	Southern	From October 2021 to April 2022
13.	Fong Ma Po Public Toilet	Tai Po	From November 2020 to August 2021
14.	Ma Wo Public Toilet	Tai Po	From April to December 2021
15.	Tap Mun Pier Public Toilet	Tai Po	From April to December 2021
16.	Sunny Bay Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2020 to July 2021
17.	Wang Lung Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to November 2021
18.	Morrison Hill Road Public Toilet	Wan Chai	From February to August 2021
19.	Science Museum Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From February to September 2021
20.	Hong King Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	From March to December 2021

[1] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

(B) 22 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[2]
1.	Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall Public Toilet	Central & Western	From March to June 2020
2.	Wing Lok Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	From March to June 2020
3.	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	Islands	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
4.	Tat Tung Road Public Toilet	Islands	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
5.	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	From October 2019 to April 2020
6.	Kwai Hing Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	From October 2019 to April 2020
7.	Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Kwun Tong	From March to June 2020
8.	Shung Yan Street Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	From February to June 2020
9.	Mong Kok Road Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From June to October 2020
10.	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From September 2020 to February 2021
11.	Sai Yee Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From May to October 2020
12.	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	From June to November 2019 (completed)
13.	Pei Ho Street Market G/F & 1/F Toilet	Sham Shui Po	1/F: From September to December 2019 (completed) G/F: From April to July 2020
14.	Yen Chow Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	From December 2019 to May 2020
15.	Chai Wan Kok Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to June 2020
16.	Chuen Lung Village Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
17.	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
18.	Shing Mun Road Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to June 2020

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/ actual commencement and completion dates[2]
19.	Wan Chai Market Public Toilet	Wan Chai	From April to October 2020
20.	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From September 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
21.	Jordan Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
22.	Market Street Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yau Tsim	From October 2019 to May 2020

[2] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2442)

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:

Regarding the Joint Office for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints (JO) under the Buildings Department and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, does the Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene know the number of complaint cases received by the Office of The Ombudsman on JO in this financial year? What are the percentage changes as compared with the previous 5 financial years?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chun, Paul (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

The statistics on the number of complaints referred by the Office of The Ombudsman to the Buildings Department and/or the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department regarding the handling of reports of water seepage in buildings by the Joint Office in 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 are tabulated below:

	2015-16 (a)	**2016-17 (b)**	**2017-18 (c)**	**2018-19 (d)**	**2019-20 (as at 1 March 2020) (e)**	**Percentage change of complaints received in 2019-20 (as at 1 March 2020) as compared with**			
						2015-16 (e)-(a)/(a)	**2016-17 (e)-(b)/(b)**	**2017-18 (e)-(c)/(c)**	**2018-19 (e)-(d)/(d)**
BD	59	72	49	78	56	-5%	-22%	+14%	-28%
FEHD	87	86	81	99	75	-14%	-13%	-7%	-24%

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2445)

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:

Regarding the Joint Office for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints (JO) under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Buildings Department,

(1) how many requests for assistance on water seepage has the new Hong Kong Regional Joint Office (RJO) received? What are the follow-up actions and processing time for each case? What is the difference in the processing time as compared to that before the setting up of the dedicated RJO?

(2) please set out the manpower and financial resources earmarked for handling requests for assistance on water seepage in the coming financial year (with a breakdown by district).

(3) will the Department set up a dedicated RJO in Kowloon to handle cases in Kowloon East and Kowloon West? If yes, what are the details, the manpower and expenditure involved and the timetable for setting up the RJO?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chun, Paul (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

(1) The duty of the Joint Office (JO) formed by the Buildings Department and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is to handle reports of water seepage in buildings. Upon receipt of such reports, FEHD staff are responsible for Stages I and II investigation, i.e. confirmation the existence of water seepage and initial investigation including moisture monitoring at seepage locations, colour water test of drainage pipes and reversible pressure test for water supply pipes. If the source of water seepage cannot be identified during Stage II, BD will engage outsourced consultants to carry out Stage III investigation including moisture monitoring at seepage locations, ponding test for floor slabs, water spray test on walls as well as reversible pressure test for water supply pipes to identify the source of water seepage. New technologies such as infrared thermography and microwave tomography have been used in suitable cases to shorten the time required for Stage III investigation and

enhance the success rate of identifying sources of water seepage. If it is confirmed that the water seepage sources have caused health nuisance, risk to the structural safety of the building or waste of water, the departments concerned will handle the cases in accordance with the power under the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132), the Buildings Ordinance (Cap. 123) and the Waterworks Ordinance (Cap. 102) respectively.

The Hong Kong Regional Joint Office (RJO) came into operation in early January 2020 and received a total of 1 113 reports of water seepage as at 29 February 2020. Given its short time of establishment, it is too early to compare the time for processing cases before and after the setting up of the RJO. Working together in the RJO, the staff of BD and FEHD can strengthen communication and shorten the time for delivery of documents in handling cases, thereby enhancing work efficiency.

(2) The staff establishment and estimated expenditure of JO for handling reports of water seepage in buildings in 2020-21 are set out as follows:

FEHD	
Number of investigation and coordinating staff	241
Staff costs and departmental expenses	$146 million
BD	
Number of professional and technical staff	82
Staff costs and departmental expenses	$63.5 million
Expenditure for engaging outsourced consultants	$42.5 million

JO does not keep a separate breakdown by district.

(3) JO has confirmed the setting up of a RJO in Kowloon Bay to handle cases of report of water seepage in buildings in Kowloon districts. The preparatory work is underway and the RJO is scheduled for operation in mid-2020. In 2020-21, the estimated manpower of FEHD for the RJO is 88 and the estimated expenditure is $49.7 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2446)

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:

Some members of the public have complained about being greatly distressed by the pigeon nuisance in Wong Tai Sin and Wan Chai districts. Wanton feeding of pigeons is often found in Upper Wong Tai Sin Estate and at the tram stop outside the Craigengower Cricket Club in Wan Chai, leading to congregation of pigeons. No improvement in the hygiene conditions has been made although complaints have been lodged to the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. With the current outbreak of influenza and novel coronavirus in the territory, the public are deeply concerned about the spread of viruses through accumulated droppings of birds. In this connection, please advise this Committee on the following:

(1) What were the manpower and financial resources allocated by the Department for mounting operations against the feeding of wild birds in the past 3 financial years? How many prosecutions were instituted?

(2) From the estimated financial provision of $5,903 million under Programme (2) in the coming financial year, what is the expenditure allocated for tackling the above issue? Has the Department assessed whether the current manpower and financial provision for tackling the pigeon feeding and environmental hygiene issues is adequate or not?

(3) Given that there is a large number of hygiene blackspots of pigeon congregation across the territory and some of which are on private land, will a dedicated section be set up or inter-departmental meetings be held to discuss the related hygiene issues and co-ordinate efforts to tackle the situation? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chun, Paul (LegCo internal reference no.: 17)

Reply:

(1) & (2) Under the Public Cleansing and Prevention of Nuisances Regulation (Cap. 132 BK), any person depositing litter on or in any street or public place, including dirtying any public place while feeding wild birds, will be prosecuted. The offender is liable to a maximum penalty of $25,000 fine and 6 months'

imprisonment. The Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance (Cap. 570) empowers enforcement officers to issue Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs), with a penalty currently set at $1,500, for the offence.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department issued 181, 345 and 278 FPNs against persons dirtying public places while feeding wild birds each year from 2017-18 to 2019-20 (as at 29 February) respectively. As staff responsible for the cleansing and enforcement work are also tasked with other duties, the Department does not have statistics on the manpower and expenditure for the work related to wild bird feeding.

The Department has put in place a series of enhanced measures to prevent environmental hygiene nuisances caused by the congregation of wild birds. These include stepping up inspection, cleansing and disinfection with diluted bleach solution in public places where wild birds congregate; reminding the public not to feed wild birds through distribution of leaflets and erection of warning signs at target locations; and taking stringent enforcement actions against bird-feeders who dirty public places while feeding wild birds. Internet protocol cameras are also installed and dedicated enforcement teams deployed to step up enforcement actions against public cleanliness offences.

(3) Owners (such as incorporated owners) and property management agencies of private areas may remind the persons concerned to keep the areas clean and not to feed wild birds. They should also perform their obligations and exercise their powers under the deed of mutual covenant. The Department is pleased to provide environmental hygiene education and advice for the owners accordingly.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)145

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2448)

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:

Rodent infestation was serious in Kwun Tong and Wong Tai Sin in the past 2 financial years. I, together with some local organisations and District Councillors, have met with Dr CHUI Tak-yi, the Under Secretary for Food and Health, to reflect the situation. Owing to the current outbreak of Wuhan pneumonia in the territory, public awareness of environmental hygiene has been enhanced. However, rodent activities are still detected in various districts. Members of the public are concerned that rodent infestation may lead to the spread of diseases in the community. In this connection, please advise this Committee on the following:

(1) How many anti-rodent operations were conducted in the 18 districts in the territory in the past 3 financial years?

(2) What were the manpower and financial resources allocated by the Department in tackling the rodent problem in each of the 18 districts in the territory in the past 3 financial years?

(3) Many citizens complained that the rodent problem is still serious in Kwun Tong and Wong Tai Sin and were doubtful about the effectiveness of the rodent control measures. Has the Department assessed whether the current manpower and financial resources are sufficient in tackling the rodent problem, and whether the rodent control measures are out-dated?

(4) What are the manpower and financial resources to be allocated by the Department in tackling the rodent problem in the new financial year? Will the Department consider expanding the existing establishment or setting up a dedicated section in tackling the rodent problem? If yes, please provide the details, including the manpower and estimated expenditure.

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chun, Paul (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

(1) In the past 3 calendar years, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department conducted a "territory-wide anti-rodent campaign" in two phases annually in various districts, with a view to enhancing public awareness on the importance of rodent control and encouraging active public participation in anti-rodent work. To step up rodent control in various districts, the Department launched the "anti-rodent operations in designated target areas" in various districts lasting about 8 weeks after the two phases of the "territory-wide anti-rodent campaign". Multi-pronged strategies, including environmental hygiene improvement, rodent disinfestation and enforcement actions, were adopted to strengthen rodent prevention and control.

(2) The overall expenditure on the provision of pest control services by in-house and outsourced staff in 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 was $569 million, $630 million and $647 million respectively (revised estimate). In 2017, 2018 and 2019, the total number of in-house staff responsible for pest control work was 702, 699 and 727 respectively and the total number of outsourced staff providing pest control services was about 1 740, 1 860 and 1 970 respectively. The Department does not have a separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved in rodent prevention and control.

(3) The Department has all along adopted an integrated approach to rodent prevention and control through cleansing, disinfestation, enforcement, publicity and public education. Such approach is premised on the recommendations and technical guidelines of the World Health Organization and is in line with the anti-rodent approach adopted by the Mainland and other countries such as Malaysia, Singapore, as well as those in Europe and North America. The direct disinfestation approach adopted by the Department mainly includes the setting of rodent cage traps and the application of poisonous baits that have been tested and proved effective. The Department invited an expert in rodent control, via the World Health Organization, to visit Hong Kong in November 2019 and to give advice on rodent control in the territory, including ways to improve the effectiveness of baits and traps. The Department is following up on the expert's advice and will continue to promote rodent prevention and control in the community. In addition, the application of various technologies on baits and traps will be explored. Moreover, the Department exchanges experience in rodent control work with the relevant organisations and experts of other countries/cities from time to time.

(4) In 2020-21, the Department's estimated expenditure on pest control services is $667 million. About 740 in-house staff and 2 040 staff engaged by the contractors will provide pest control services.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)146

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1001)

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:

Regarding the programme aim to provide new public market facilities at suitable locations, apart from Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung, has the Department identified other locations for the provision of new public markets? If yes, what are the details of the proposals?

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 6)

Reply:

The Government is taking forward 7 new market projects which are at different stages of planning. They include the development of new public markets in Tin Shui Wai, Tung Chung Town Centre, Tseung Kwan O, Kwu Tung North New Development Area, Tung Chung New Town Extension and Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area as well as the establishment of a temporary market in Tin Shui Wai. The information on the projects is set out at **Annex**.

Annex

	Project	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date
1.	Tin Shui Wai temporary market (Tin Sau Road)	The temporary market will be built at the open space adjacent to Tin Sau Road Park using the modular integrated construction method. It is expected to provide about 40 stalls focusing on sale of fish, meat, vegetables and fruits.	Preparation of construction drawings and pre-construction works are underway.	The fourth quarter of 2020
2.	Tin Shui Wai market (a section of Tin Fuk Road)	A decked-over market will be built at the section of Tin Fuk Road near Tin Shui Wai Mass Transit Railway (MTR) Station. It is expected to provide a maximum of about 150 stalls.	The technical feasibility study is underway.	The first half of 2027
3.	Tung Chung Town Centre market (Area 6)	The market will be located on the lower floors of a commercial building to be built by a developer in Area 6 adjacent to Tung Chung MTR Station. It is expected to provide at least 100 stalls.	The technical feasibility study for the entire commercial building development project (including the public market) is underway.	To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.
4.	Tseung Kwan O market	The market will be located on the lower floors of the proposed joint-user building for community facilities at Tseung Kwan O town centre.	The study and preliminary planning on the site selection for the joint-user building for community facilities (including the new public market) are underway.	To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.

	Project	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date
5.	Kwu Tung North New Development Area market	To be confirmed upon completion of preliminary planning.	Preliminary planning is underway.	The development of the public markets will tie in with the housing development plan of the districts concerned.
6.	Tung Chung New Town Extension market			
7.	Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area market			

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1002)

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:

It is mentioned that during 2020-21, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will:

i. continue to plan new public market facilities at suitable locations and take forward the proposed projects. In this regard, what are the details of the projects?

ii. continue the comprehensive review on public markets, with a view to formulating concrete improvement proposals for the management of public markets. In this regard, what are the details of the proposals?

iii. continue to implement the Market Modernisation Programme to improve facilities of existing public markets. In this regard, what are the names of the markets concerned and the details of improvement, as well as the expenditure involved?

iv. take action to close public markets which are under-utilised. In this regard, please provide the names of the markets to be closed.

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)

Reply:

i. The Government is taking forward 7 new market projects which are at different stages of planning. They include the development of new public markets in Tin Shui Wai, Tung Chung Town Centre, Tseung Kwan O, Kwu Tung North New Development Area, Tung Chung New Town Extension and Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area as well as the establishment of a temporary market in Tin Shui Wai. The information on the projects is set out at **Annex**.

ii. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is conducting a comprehensive review of its existing public markets and will formulate specific improvement measures for their facilities and management in a systematic manner. These include rental policy, tenancy renewal, trade mix and daily management, etc. as well as looking into ways to enhance the functions of the Market Management Consultative

Committees. We will consider adopting new operation mode for new public markets, which includes ways to enhance the role of service contractors in market management, such as formulating promotion and development strategies for markets, advising on the trade mix in markets and enforcing tenancy agreements, etc. With the aim to serve the overall interest of the community, we will listen to stakeholders' views during the process of formulating specific recommendations.

iii. The Government has earmarked $2 billion for the implementation of the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project of the MMP is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. FEHD and the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) briefed the relevant committee of the Southern District Council on the details and progress of the project in February 2020. ArchSD is engaging consultants and will commence the work of detailed design of plan and preparation of tender documents, etc. as soon as possible. The expenditure of the works can only be accurately estimated upon completion of the design work. Upon completion of the preparatory work, we will seek funding approval from the Legislative Council as soon as practicable and expect to commence the overhaul works in 2021.

At the same time, we plan to overhaul another 3 public markets in Kowloon and the New Territories and expect to take forward the consultation and preparatory work later this year. We also plan to kick-start minor refurbishment and improvement works for at least 3 other public markets in different districts across the territory. The project estimates for taking forward the above minor refurbishment and improvement works, as well as engagement of consultants and the preliminary work for the Aberdeen Market project, is about $68 million. The estimated expenditure of these projects in 2020-21 is about $13 million.

iv. FEHD plans to close Tui Min Hoi Market in 2020-21. As at 31 December 2019, there were 19 stalls let out in the market, and the occupancy rate was about 56%. FEHD will continue to review the usage and development potential of other markets, and tentatively plans to take forward the preparatory and consultation work for closure of another 4 markets. Views from other government departments have been sought in accordance with established procedures to formulate proposals for putting the premises concerned to gainful long-term uses.

Annex

	Project	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date
1.	Tin Shui Wai temporary market (Tin Sau Road)	The temporary market will be built at the open space adjacent to Tin Sau Road Park using the modular integrated construction method. It is expected to provide about 40 stalls focusing on sale of fish, meat, vegetables and fruits.	Preparation of construction drawings and pre-construction works are underway.	The fourth quarter of 2020
2.	Tin Shui Wai market (a section of Tin Fuk Road)	A decked-over market will be built at the section of Tin Fuk Road near Tin Shui Wai Mass Transit Railway (MTR) Station. It is expected to provide a maximum of about 150 stalls.	The technical feasibility study is underway.	The first half of 2027
3.	Tung Chung Town Centre market (Area 6)	The market will be located on the lower floors of a commercial building to be built by a developer in Area 6 adjacent to Tung Chung MTR Station. It is expected to provide at least 100 stalls.	The technical feasibility study for the entire commercial building development project (including the public market) is underway.	To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.
4.	Tseung Kwan O market	The market will be located on the lower floors of the proposed joint-user building for community facilities at Tseung Kwan O town centre.	The study and preliminary planning on the site selection for the joint-user building for community facilities (including the new public market) are underway.	To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.

	Project	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date
5.	Kwu Tung North New Development Area market	To be confirmed upon completion of preliminary planning.	Preliminary planning is underway.	The development of the public markets will tie in with the housing development plan of the districts concerned.
6.	Tung Chung New Town Extension market			
7.	Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area market			

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)148

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1003)

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:

1. Please advise on the number of hawker licences re-issued by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department as at 29 February this year, with a breakdown by 18 administrative districts.

2. How many applications from members of the public were received after the re-issuance of hawker licences commenced? How many successful applicants have given up collecting their licences?

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 41)

Reply:

1. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department launched the scheme of Re-allocation of Fixed Hawker Pitches and Issue of New Licences at the end of September 2019. Under the scheme, 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches located at 7 districts will be open for application by persons who are interested in the hawking business and able to meet the required conditions. Successful applicants will operate at the pitches after a licence is granted. As at 29 February 2020, a total of 77 hawker licences for the fixed pitches located at the above districts were issued. A breakdown is provided at Annex.

2. After launching the scheme, the Department received a total of 14 126 applications, of which 12 788 applicants were initially eligible. As at 29 February 2020, 349 applicants were invited for pitch selection. Among them, 236 have selected the pitches, 109 have given up pitch selection and collection of licence, and 4 were confirmed to be ineligible for the scheme. The Department will continue the allocation exercise and issue of licences for the remaining pitches.

Number of Re-issued Hawker Licences
(As at 29 February 2020)

District	Hawker Street/ Hawker Bazaar	Number of available vacant hawker pitches for allocation	Number of stalls selected with hawker licences issued
Eastern	Chun Yeung Street	1	0
	Marble Road	11	2
	Kam Wa Street	6	1
	Tai Tak Street	4	0
	Total	22	3
Central and Western	Pottinger Street	3	1
	Graham Street	6	1
	Peel Street	4	1
	Upper Lascar Row	1	1
	Aberdeen Street	1	0
	Douglas Lane	1	1
	Elgin Street	2	0
	Unnamed lane connecting Pedder Street and Theatre Lane	1	0
	Gilman’s Bazaar	1	0
	Findlay Road	2	0
	Total	22	5
Wan Chai	Gresson Street	7	1
	Cross Street	2	2
	Tai Yuen Street	3	1
	Jardine's Crescent	22	3
	Wun Sha Street	26	0
	Total	60	7
Yau Tsim Mong	Reclamation Street	22	5
	Canton Road	45	7
	Bowring Street	5	1
	Temple Street	70	2
	Pitt Street	2	1
	Tung Choi Street	29	9
	Fife Street	8	0
	Yin Chong Street	4	1
	Ki Lung Street	5	0
	Poplar Street	3	0

District	Hawker Street/ Hawker Bazaar	Number of available vacant hawker pitches for re-allocation	Number of stalls selected with hawker licences issued
	Nelson Street	3	2
	Nam Tau Street	1	0
	Total	197	28
Sham Shui Po	Wing Lung Street	37	9
	Fat Tseung Street	6	2
	Cheung Fat Street	14	5
	Fuk Wing Street	1	1
	Pei Ho Street	1	0
	Apliu Street	4	1
	Ki Lung Street	2	0
	Total	65	18
Kowloon City	Pau Chung Street	18	0
	Total	18	0
Tsuen Wan	Hau Tei Square Hawker Bazaar	51	16
	Total	51	16
	Total	435	77

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Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)149

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3053)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide i) the number of outsourced service contracts; ii) the total amount paid to outsourced service contractors; iii) the total number of staff engaged by outsourced service contractors; iv) the number of cleansing workers under outsourced service contracts; and v) the number of security guards under outsourced service contracts of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department as at December 2019.

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 51)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

		2019-20 (as at 31.12.2019)
i)	Number of outsourced service contracts	169
ii)	Total amount paid to outsourced service contractors	$2.9344 billion[Note 1]
iii)	Number of staff engaged by outsourced service contractors	13 595[Note 3]
iv)	Number of cleansing workers under outsourced service contracts[Note 2]	10 330[Note 3]
v)	Number of security guards under outsourced service contracts	530[Note 3]

Note 1：Revised estimate for 2019-20

Note 2：Including toilet attendants and operatives

Note 3：The number of outsourced workers is the number of functional posts stipulated in the contracts

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3054)

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:

Under Programme (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services, the provision for the coming year will be increased to $590 million, representing an increase of 19.5%. In paragraph 7 under Brief Description, it is stated that the scope of work involves providing efficient and effective public cleansing services such as street cleansing and household waste collection. Under Matters Requiring Special Attention, it is stated that the design and facilities of existing public toilets are to be improved by phases. Given that there is an increase in the estimate, please advise this Committee on the following:

1. What is the actual amount of additional allocation to the Department for providing cleansing services such as street cleansing and household waste collection in the coming year? How will the Department, in response to the requests of District Councils, allocate the additional manpower and resources for street cleansing and enhancement of waste collection so as to keep the hygiene of various districts from being impacted by the waste pending clearance?

2. Some District Councils have claimed that the Department would not take the initiative to furnish information on the refurbishment works for public toilets and input for improvement could hardly be provided as the information was not available until commencement of the works. Will the Department set out in tabular form the public toilets to be improved and refurbished in respective districts in the coming financial year? Will the Department undertake to furnish documents to respective District Councils before inviting tenders so that they may decide whether discussion should be held at meetings where more input for improvement can be incorporated into the tenders?

3. The Department submits an annual plan entitled "Strategies and Work to Improve the Environmental Hygiene of Hong Kong" to 18 District Councils every year. Apart from a brief report on main duties, information such as ways in which streets or public toilets are cleansed, cleansing frequencies, the number of staff involved, daily arrangements, schedules of refuse collection vehicles and the marking scheme for contractors are seldom included. Sometimes only a very brief account is given even

for district-based work, making it difficult for District Councillors and the public to follow up. How will the Department improve the contents of the plans (e.g. by, at least, including the above items) to allow more effective comments by respective districts for enhancement in cleanliness?

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 52)

Reply:

1. The estimated expenditure for the provision of public cleansing services by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in 2020-21 is $4.517 billion, of which $3.86 billion and $657 million are allocated for street cleansing and waste collection services respectively. The overall estimated expenditure on public cleansing services is $813 million or about 22% higher than the revised estimate for 2019-20. With increased provision, the Department will continue its commitment to provide effective public cleansing services to the community.

2. The Department collaborates with the Architectural Services Department to work out the priority list of public toilets for refurbishment or facelifting, having regard to their utilisation rates, maintenance conditions, locations and the time lapsed since they were constructed or last refurbished. It is planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifting works for 49 public toilets in 2020-21. A list of the public toilets is at Annex. Before inviting tenders, consultation with the relevant District Councils (DCs) on the refurbishment of public toilets, including the toilets to be refurbished, layout design, works schedule and temporary arrangements such as provision of portable toilets (if applicable) during closure, will be conducted.

3. On submission of "Strategies and Work to Improve the Environmental Hygiene of Hong Kong" to DCs annually, DC members are updated on our work in the previous year, our strategies and actions for maintaining and improving local environmental hygiene in the coming year, as well as our efforts on market management and hawker control. A District Action Plan for the coming year, which is drawn up by respective District Environmental Hygiene Office in the light of local characteristics, will also be attached to the paper to give an account of the services and tasks to be performed. Through various channels, the Department has been maintaining communication with DCs and their respective Committees or Working Groups to gather views and suggestions on ways to improve environmental hygiene.

List of 49 Public Toilets under the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2020-21

(A) 20 Refurbishment Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Wellington Street Public Toilet (Male Only)	Central & Western	Junction of Wellington Street and Queen's Road Central, Central
2.	Wa Hing Lane Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Central & Western	Junction of Shing Wong Street and Wa Hing Lane, Sheung Wan
3.	Ice House Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	Opposite No. 16 Ice House Street, Central
4.	Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Central & Western	2/F, Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building, No. 470 Queen's Road West, Shek Tong Tsui
5.	Stanley Tytam Village Public Toilet	Southern	Stanley Tytam Village near Hong Kong Sea School
6.	South Bay Public Toilet	Southern	South Bay Road near South Bay Beach
7.	Round Table I Village Public Toilet	Islands	Round Table I Village, Cheung Chau
8.	Ma Wan Chung Public Toilet	Islands	Ma Wan Chung, Tung Chung
9.	Anchor Street Playground Public Toilet	Mong Kok	Anchor Street Playground
10.	Chung Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Chung Uk Tsuen
11.	Kin Lung Street Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Kin Lung Street, Tuen Mun (near Shek Pai Tau Playground)
12.	Tai Tong Road Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yuen Long	Sai Ching Street (near Manhattan Plaza), Yuen Long
13.	Kuk Ting Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Kuk Ting Street, Yuen Long
14.	Luk Keng Public Toilet	North	Luk Keng Road near Chan Fung Kee Store, Sha Tau Kok
15.	Yue Kok Public Toilet	Tai Po	Yue Kok Village, Tai Po
16.	Tung Ping Chau Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tung Ping Chau
17.	Tap Mun Ha Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun Ha Wai, Tai Po
18.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village North Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village, Tai Po
19.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village South Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village, Tai Po

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
20.	Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Chun Yat Street

(B) 29 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Kennedy Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	Junction of Kennedy Road and Garden Road, Central
2.	Macau Ferry Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Central & Western	At side of Macau Ferry Bus Terminus, Sheung Wan
3.	Hospital Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	Basement, Centre for Food Safety, No. 4 Hospital Road, Sai Ying Pun
4.	Quarry Bay Market Public Toilet	Eastern	No. 38 Quarry Bay Street
5.	Pak Fuk Road Public Toilet	Eastern	Junction of Pak Fuk Road and Healthy Street Central
6.	Yip Fat Street Public Toilet	Southern	Near No. 12 Yip Fat Street, Wong Chuk Hang
7.	Sok Kwu Wan Public Toilet	Islands	Sok Kwu Wan Ferry Pier, Lamma
8.	Lo Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Islands	Lo Uk Tsuen, Lantau
9.	Shui Hau Public Toilet	Islands	Shui Hau Village, Lantau
10.	Pok Man Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	No. 1 Sham Mong Road, Olympic Station
11.	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus
12.	Lung Kong Road Public Toilet	Kowloon City	No. 30-32, Lung Kong Road
13.	Kei Yip Lane Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	Near Kwun Tong Ferry Pier Bus Terminus at Kei Yip Lane, Kwun Tong
14.	Tai Lin Pai Road Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	Tai Lin Pai Road near Kung Yip Street
15.	Ta Chuen Ping Street Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	Ta Chuen Ping Street near a carpark
16.	Tin Sum San Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Tin Sum San Tsuen
17.	San Wai Public Toilet	Yuen Long	San Wai, San Sik Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
18.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)	Yuen Long	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)
19.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)	Yuen Long	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)
20.	Wo Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	North	At side of a carpark in Wo Hing Tsuen, Fanling
21.	Shui Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	Shui Wai Village, Tai Po
22.	Tai Po Tau South Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tai Po Tau Village
23.	Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Junction of Sha Tin Wai Road and Ngau Pei Sha Street
24.	Wo Liu Hang Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Wo Liu Hang Village
25.	Fo Tan Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Near Shan Mei Street, Fo Tan Village
26.	Pak Kong Tsuen Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Opposite lamp post No. EB31651 at Pak Kong Road
27.	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village
28.	Tai Mong Tsai Public Toilet	Sai Kung	At side of Tai Mong Tsai Carpark
29.	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan) Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3256)

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:

How many outsourced service contracts of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will expire in the coming three years? Please provide a tabulated breakdown, by (a) type of service (i.e. cleansing or security) involved in the contract and (b) District Council district, of the following information: (i) names of contractors, (ii) service districts and details, (iii) contract values, (iv) number of non-skilled employees, (v) committed wages paid to non-skilled workers, (vi) meal times (in hours), (vii) total amount of wages and (viii) expiry dates of the contracts.

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 56)

Reply:

(i)、(ii)、(iii) & (viii)
The information on the names of contractors, service districts and details, contract values and expiry dates, etc. of the outsourced cleansing and security services contracts awarded by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) is uploaded onto the "contract award notice" section on the website of the Government Logistics Department:

https://pcms2.gld.gov.hk/iprod/#/home?lang-setting=zh-HK

(iv) & (v)
The information sought is provided in Annexes 1 and 2.

(vi) & (vii)
FEHD does not keep information on the meal times and the total amount of wages of the outsourced workers.

Annex 1

Number of non-skilled workers engaged by outsourced cleansing service contractors and the committed wages
(as at 31.12.2019)

District	Number of contracts	Number of non-skilled workers[Note 1]	Minimum monthly wages committed ($)	Maximum monthly wages committed ($)
Central and Western	4	513	9,300	11,160
Eastern	6	674	9,300	11,904
Islands	2	375	9,672	10,881
Kowloon City	5	693	9,300	15,200
Kwai Tsing	3	437	9,300	11,160
Kwun Tong	5	518	9,300	13,392
North	4	646	9,300	13,252.5
Sai Kong	5	400	9,300	10,881
Sha Tin	2	438	9,548	10,741.5
Sham Shui Po	5	668	9,300	11,299.5
Southern	4	389	9,300	13,531.5
Tai Po	5	414	9,300	11,439
Tsuen Wan	3	412	9,300	12,800
Tuen Mun	2	284	9,300	11,493
Wan Chai	3	77	9,300	9,300
Wong Tai Sin	3	180	9,300	10,800
Yau Tsim Mong	11	868	9,300	10,462.5
Yuen Long	4	599	9,300	10,183.5
Cross-District	20	684	9,300	14,700
Total	96	9 269		

Note 1: The number of non-skilled workers is calculated based on the functional posts stipulated in the contract

Number of non-skilled workers engaged by outsourced security guard service contractors and the committed wages
(as at 31.12.2019)

District	Number of contracts	Number of security guards[Note 2]	Minimum monthly wages committed ($)	Maximum monthly wages committed ($)
Central and Western	1	26	10,044	10,044
Eastern	2	26	9,424	9,920
Kowloon City	1	12	10,044	10,044
North	2	45	9,300	9,424
Sham Shui Po	1	11	9,300	9,300
Southern	2	11	9,548	10,168
Tai Po	1	30	9,300	9,300
Tsuen Wan	1	7	9,300	9,300
Wan Chai	1	7	9,300	9,300
Yau Tsim Mong	2	23	9,700	10,044
Cross-District	8	298	9,300	9,672
Total	22	496		

Note 2: The number of security guards is calculated based on the functional posts stipulated in the contract

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3257)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

How many Workmen II are employed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department? What are (i) the number, (ii) the post(s), (iii) the minimum salary point(s), (iv) the maximum salary point(s), (v) the average weekly working hours, and (vi) the meal time(s) of Workmen II who take up non-technical duties? Are they entitled to travelling and hardship allowances when they work under inclement weather?

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 57)

Reply:

As at 1 March 2020, there were 2 772 Workmen II (WMII) working in the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. All of them took up non-technical duties, including public cleansing duties, pest control services, duties relating to disposal of dead bodies and cemeteries and crematoria services, as well as other manual work in offices and facilities managed by the Department. The minimum pay point of WMII is Model Scale 1 Pay Scale Point 0 ($13,730 per month) and the maximum pay point is Model Scale 1 Pay Scale Point 8 ($16,175 per month). Their average working hours per week are 45 hours. The meal time of WMII is normally 1 hour. If WMII are required to work when a Black Rainstorm Warning Signal or a Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 8 (or above) is in force, they are entitled to the Rainstorm Black Warning Allowance or Typhoon Allowance.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1225)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the aim "to facilitate agricultural and fisheries production and improve productivity", please advise on the respective share of food supplied locally and imported into Hong Kong in each of the past 3 years (i.e. 2017, 2018 and 2019) as per the table below:

	Share of food supplied locally (%)	Leading supplier countries (by share of food imported (%))		
		Country A	Country B	Country C
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 chicken				
Frozen chicken				
Chilled poultry				
Frozen poultry				
Chilled or frozen fish				

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

The respective shares of food supplied locally and imported into Hong Kong in 2017, 2018 and 2019 are tabulated as follows:

(a) 2017

Food item	Share of food supplied locally (%)	Share of food imported by top three economies (%)		
Rice	-	Thailand 64.8	Vietnam 15.3	USA 5.4
Vegetables	1.7	Mainland 92.6	USA 2.1	Australia 1.3
Live cattle	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live goats	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live pigs	6.7	Mainland 93.3	-	-
Live chickens	100	-	-	-
Other live poultry	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live fish	7.8	Mainland 82.9	Philippines 4.0	Taiwan 3.7
Chilled beef	-	Australia 47.8	USA 27.8	Japan 6.9
Frozen beef	-	Brazil 56.1	USA 24.8	Canada 4.4
Chilled mutton	-	Australia 60.5	New Zealand 27.8	UK 10.0
Frozen mutton	-	Australia 38.3	New Zealand 23.6	Mainland 14.9
Chilled pork	-	Mainland 62.1	Brazil 26.6	Australia 3.2
Frozen pork	-	Brazil 28.1	USA 17.2	Mainland 12.3
Chilled chicken	-	Mainland 99.6	Australia 0.29	France 0.13
Frozen chicken	-	USA 41.5	Brazil 34.7	Mainland 8.8
Chilled poultry	-	Mainland 98.7	Thailand 0.9	Australia 0.3
Frozen poultry	-	USA 40.0	Brazil 35.5	Mainland 8.7
Chilled and frozen fish	34.3	Mainland 48.6	Vietnam 15.0	Norway 12.5

(b) 2018

Food item	Share of food supplied locally (%)	Share of food imported by top three economies (%)		
Rice	-	Thailand 55.9	Vietnam 23.3	Mainland 7.1
Vegetables	1.8	Mainland 92.5	USA 2.0	Australia 1.4
Live cattle	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live goats	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live pigs	6.7	Mainland 93.3	-	-
Live chickens	100	-	-	-
Other live poultry	-	-	-	-
Live fish	8.0	Mainland 82.9	Taiwan 4.5	Philippines 3.8
Chilled beef	-	Australia 41.3	USA 30.0	Brazil 15.0
Frozen beef	-	Brazil 63.6	USA 21.7	Canada 3.7
Chilled mutton	-	Australia 49.2	New Zealand 32.9	UK 9.6
Frozen mutton	-	Australia 35.9	New Zealand 23.6	Mainland 14.3
Chilled pork	-	Mainland 55.3	Brazil 31.8	Canada 3.7
Frozen pork	-	Brazil 45.2	Mainland 13.8	USA 12.4
Chilled chicken	-	Mainland 99.6	Australia 0.21	France 0.08
Frozen chicken	-	USA 42.8	Brazil 32.8	Mainland 9.1
Chilled poultry	-	Mainland 98.4	Thailand 1.1	Australia 0.3
Frozen poultry	-	USA 41.2	Brazil 33.5	Mainland 9.0
Chilled and frozen fish	30.3	Mainland 48.7	Vietnam 15.3	Norway 11.9

(c) 2019

Food item	Share of food supplied locally (%)	Share of food imported by top three economies (%)		
Rice	-	Thailand 52.0	Vietnam 28.4	Mainland 7.1
Vegetables	1.7	Mainland 92.6	USA 1.8	Australia 1.3
Live cattle	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live goats	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live pigs	11.5	Mainland 88.5	-	-
Live chickens	100	-	-	-
Other live poultry	-	-	-	-
Live fish	8.2	Mainland 85.4	Taiwan 3.9	Philippines 3.9
Chilled beef	-	Brazil 41.2	Australia 27.6	USA 20.1
Frozen beef	-	Brazil 57.4	USA 22.6	Canada 4.8
Chilled mutton	-	Australia 46.9	New Zealand 40.8	UK 9.6
Frozen mutton	-	Australia 38.8	New Zealand 22.7	Mainland 11.9
Chilled pork	-	Mainland 46.8	Thailand 24.2	Brazil 14.6
Frozen pork	-	Brazil 53.0	Mainland 10.2	Netherlands 8.7
Chilled chicken	-	Mainland 99.6	New Zealand 0.2	Australia 0.1
Frozen chicken	-	USA 43.7	Brazil 30.7	Mainland 9.4
Chilled poultry	-	Mainland 97.5	Thailand 1.2	USA 0.7
Frozen poultry	-	USA 41.8	Brazil 31.6	Mainland 9.3
Chilled and frozen fish	34.4	Mainland 47.4	Vietnam 15.9	Norway 12.4

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2539)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. The samples taken from food animals for testing of veterinary drug residues has been decreasing in number for successive years. What is/are the reason(s)?

2. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department mentioned that it will continue to follow up proactively on the recommendations in the Audit Reports released in November 2018 and the Public Accounts Committee reports concerned to strengthen the functions of the Centre for Food Safety in food safety management and food import control. Has the Department accepted all the recommendations? If not, how are the accepted recommendations implemented and what are the resources involved? What are the difficulties to be involved in implementing the unaccepted recommendations?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)

Reply:

1. The total quantity of live food animals admitted to slaughterhouses decreased last year, mainly due to a drop in overall supply of live pigs from the Mainland following the detection of a case of African Swine Fever in Hong Kong in May 2019. Despite a decrease in the number of samples taken from live food animals for testing in 2019, the rate of sampling was higher when compared with 2018.

2. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department accepted the views and recommendations made by the Audit Commission (Audit) and the Legislative Council (LegCo) Public Accounts Committee (PAC) concerning its work of food safety management and import control and set up a task group led by the Controller, CFS, in 2019 to take forward the recommendations. The task group has completed its comprehensive reviews on CFS's operational manuals and guidelines, staff management and supervision arrangements, training requirements, and manpower and resource requirements. CFS has rolled out concrete and effective short, medium and long-term measures to enhance its effectiveness by phases, including updating its guidelines where there were inadequacies or ambiguities

and introducing a mechanism for regular updates, enhancing training and supervision of frontline staff, strengthening staff's law enforcement mindset and the keeping of data and records. The specific measures taken and their implementation were set out in the Government minutes submitted to LegCo in May and December 2019.

In addition, CFS set up a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. CFS also launched the Food Trader Portal (FTP) in stages at the end of 2019 as a platform for electronic communication with the trade. Through the FTP, food traders can complete registration as importers or distributors by electronic means. In the first quarter of 2020, CFS further introduced an online service to facilitate food traders to apply online for import licences and import permission in respect of meat, poultry and game.

In 2020-21, CFS will continue to implement specific measures to follow up on the recommendations of Audit and PAC and enhance its IT systems in an order of priorities. The estimated expenditure of CFS in 2020-21 is about $49 million more than the revised estimate for 2019-20. This includes the expenditure incurred for the creation of 15 additional civil service posts to enhance the safeguard of food safety.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2540)

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:

Please advise on the following:

1. the revised and estimated expenditures of the Private Columbaria Licensing Board in 2019-20 and 2020-21, and the respective staff establishment for the provision of administrative support;

2. the number of licence applications processed by the Private Columbaria Licensing Board in 2019-20, the number of licence applications approved, the estimated number of licence applications in 2020-21, and the estimated time normally required for approving an application; and

3. the names of the private columbaria which have been granted a licence at present.

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

1. The expenditure of the Private Columbaria Licensing Board (PCLB) and the manpower for providing the executive support are included in the estimated expenditure of the Private Columbaria Affairs Office (PCAO) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. In 2019-20, the PCAO had about 60 staff and the revised estimate was $74.92 million. In 2020-21, the PCAO will increase its manpower to about 70 staff and the estimated expenditure is $83.6 million.

2. In 2019-20, the PCLB granted 3 licences and approved in principle 2 licence applications and 1 application for a temporary suspension of liability (TSOL). It also refused 15 sets of applications for specified instruments (including 12 licence applications). On 6 March 2020, the PCLB was processing applications for specified instruments submitted by 116 private columbaria (91 of which had submitted licence applications). The PCLB will continue to process these applications in 2020-21. The time the PCLB takes to process a licence application depends on the actual circumstances of the case, particularly on whether the private columbarium has

complied with all the requirements for licence application stipulated in the Private Columbaria Ordinance (Cap. 630) and those specified by the PCLB (including the requirements relating to planning, land, buildings, fire safety, electrical and mechanical safety, management plan, right to use the premises, environmental protection, etc.), and whether the applicant has submitted sufficient documents to prove that the private columbarium has complied with the requirements. Upon receiving the documents or information required for an application, the PCAO will invite the relevant departments to provide comments. The applicant will then be asked to take the necessary follow-up actions and submit reports, which will be forwarded to the relevant departments for their vetting. After confirming that a licence application has complied with the application requirements, the PCAO will arrange for the submission of the application to the PCLB for determination.

3. As at 6 March 2020, the PCLB has granted 5 licences and the private columbaria concerned are Filial Park; Pu Tong Ta, Chi Lin Nunnery; Shan Yuan; Shatin Po Fook Hill (excluding Miu King Tong); and Tung Wah Coffin Home. The PCLB has also approved in principle 2 licence applications submitted by Po Tung Tower, Lo Hon Monastery and by Fung Ying Seen Koon; and 1 application for a TSOL submitted by Shang Sin Chun Tong.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2541)

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:

1. With reference to Reply Serial No. FHB(FE)226 last year, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department mentioned that it was planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20. What are the locations of the 40 public toilets?

2. Which of these toilets have refurbishment or facelifting works behind schedule? What is/are the reason(s)?

3. How many public toilets are expected to be refurbished or facelifted in 2020-21? What are their locations?

4. Has the male-to-female toilet compartment ratio of the refurbished public toilets been changed to not less than 1:2?

5. How many existing public toilets in the territory have a compartment ratio of 1:2? Will the Department allocate resources to change the male-to-female toilet compartment ratio of public toilets? If yes, what are the specific details?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

1. to 3. It was announced in the 2019-20 Budget that the Government would make an additional allocation of over $600 million to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme, under which the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department would roll out the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 240 public toilets under its management by phases in 5 years starting from 2019-20, so as to improve their installations and the level of hygiene. The Department has been working closely with the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) to roll out the refurbishment or facelifting projects for 42 public toilets in the first year, with a project estimate of about $151 million. The facelifting works for 7 public toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. A list of

the 42 public toilets with their works schedules is at **Annex I**. The Department is planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifting works for 49 public toilets in 2020-21 with a project estimate of about $134 million. A list of the public toilets is at **Annex II**.

4. to 5. Of the 799 public toilets managed by the Department, over 400 have a male-to-female toilet compartment ratio of 1:2. Where circumstances permit, the Department will continue to work with ArchSD to provide male and female toilet fitments in the ratio required under the existing guidelines when the public toilets are refurbished. From February 2019 to February 2020, the Department also adopted the infrared sensor counting technology for counting the number of visitors in order to assess the demand for and usage pattern of public toilets and review the existing male-to-female compartment ratio. The review, which includes whether sanitary fitments (including urinals and compartments) can be used as the basis of calculation, is expected to be completed in 2020.

Annex I

List of 42 Public Toilets under the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2019-20 (As at 6 March 2020)

(A) 20 Refurbishment Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[1]
1.	Lok Ku Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to June 2021
2.	Ladder Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to June 2021
3.	Rumsey Street Multi Storey Car-park Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to April 2021
4.	Sheung Shui Wai Po Sheung Tsuen Public Toilet	North	From April to December 2021
5.	Tseng Lan Shue Public Toilet	Sai Kung	From August 2021 to April 2022
6.	Ma Liu Shui Waterfront Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From December 2020 to August 2021
7.	Science Park Road Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From August 2020 to April 2021
8.	Shan Mei Street Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From February to September 2021
9.	Shap Yi Watt Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From August 2021 to April 2022
10.	Tai Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From April to November 2021
11.	To Tau Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From April to November 2021
12.	No. 16 Aberdeen Main Road Public Toilet	Southern	From October 2021 to April 2022
13.	Fong Ma Po Public Toilet	Tai Po	From November 2020 to August 2021
14.	Ma Wo Public Toilet	Tai Po	From April to December 2021
15.	Tap Mun Pier Public Toilet	Tai Po	From April to December 2021
16.	Sunny Bay Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2020 to July 2021
17.	Wang Lung Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to November 2021
18.	Morrison Hill Road Public Toilet	Wan Chai	From February to August 2021
19.	Science Museum Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From February to September 2021
20.	Hong King Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	From March to December 2021

[1] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

(B) 22 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[2]
1.	Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall Public Toilet	Central & Western	From March to June 2020
2.	Wing Lok Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	From March to June 2020
3.	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	Islands	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
4.	Tat Tung Road Public Toilet	Islands	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
5.	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	From October 2019 to April 2020
6.	Kwai Hing Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	From October 2019 to April 2020
7.	Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Kwun Tong	From March to June 2020
8.	Shung Yan Street Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	From February to June 2020
9.	Mong Kok Road Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From June to October 2020
10.	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From September 2020 to February 2021
11.	Sai Yee Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From May to October 2020
12.	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	From June to November 2019 (completed)
13.	Pei Ho Street Market G/F & 1/F Toilet	Sham Shui Po	1/F: From September to December 2019 (completed) G/F: From April to July 2020
14.	Yen Chow Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	From December 2019 to May 2020
15.	Chai Wan Kok Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to June 2020
16.	Chuen Lung Village Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
17.	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
18.	Shing Mun Road Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to June 2020
19.	Wan Chai Market Public Toilet	Wan Chai	From April to October 2020
20.	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From September 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
21.	Jordan Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
22.	Market Street Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yau Tsim	From October 2019 to May 2020

[2] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

Annex II

List of 49 Public Toilets under the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2020-21

(A) 20 Refurbishment Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Wellington Street Public Toilet (Male Only)	Central & Western	Junction of Wellington Street and Queen's Road Central, Central
2.	Wa Hing Lane Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Central & Western	Junction of Shing Wong Street and Wa Hing Lane, Sheung Wan
3.	Ice House Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	Opposite No. 16 Ice House Street, Central
4.	Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Central & Western	2/F, Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building, No. 470 Queen's Road West, Shek Tong Tsui
5.	Stanley Tytam Village Public Toilet	Southern	Stanley Tytam Village near Hong Kong Sea School
6.	South Bay Public Toilet	Southern	South Bay Road near South Bay Beach
7.	Round Table I Village Public Toilet	Islands	Round Table I Village, Cheung Chau
8.	Ma Wan Chung Public Toilet	Islands	Ma Wan Chung, Tung Chung
9.	Anchor Street Playground Public Toilet	Mong Kok	Anchor Street Playground
10.	Chung Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Chung Uk Tsuen
11.	Kin Lung Street Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Kin Lung Street, Tuen Mun (near Shek Pai Tau Playground)
12.	Tai Tong Road Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yuen Long	Sai Ching Street (near Manhattan Plaza), Yuen Long
13.	Kuk Ting Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Kuk Ting Street, Yuen Long
14.	Luk Keng Public Toilet	North	Luk Keng Road near Chan Fung Kee Store, Sha Tau Kok
15.	Yue Kok Public Toilet	Tai Po	Yue Kok Village, Tai Po
16.	Tung Ping Chau Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tung Ping Chau
17.	Tap Mun Ha Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun Ha Wai, Tai Po
18.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village North Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village, Tai Po
19.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village South Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village, Tai Po

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
20.	Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Chun Yat Street

(B) 29 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Kennedy Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	Junction of Kennedy Road and Garden Road, Central
2.	Macau Ferry Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Central & Western	At side of Macau Ferry Bus Terminus, Sheung Wan
3.	Hospital Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	Basement, Centre for Food Safety, No. 4 Hospital Road, Sai Ying Pun
4.	Quarry Bay Market Public Toilet	Eastern	No. 38 Quarry Bay Street
5.	Pak Fuk Road Public Toilet	Eastern	Junction of Pak Fuk Road and Healthy Street Central
6.	Yip Fat Street Public Toilet	Southern	Near No. 12 Yip Fat Street, Wong Chuk Hang
7.	Sok Kwu Wan Public Toilet	Islands	Sok Kwu Wan Ferry Pier, Lamma
8.	Lo Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Islands	Lo Uk Tsuen, Lantau
9.	Shui Hau Public Toilet	Islands	Shui Hau Village, Lantau
10.	Pok Man Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	No. 1 Sham Mong Road, Olympic Station
11.	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus
12.	Lung Kong Road Public Toilet	Kowloon City	No. 30-32, Lung Kong Road
13.	Kei Yip Lane Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	Near Kwun Tong Ferry Pier Bus Terminus at Kei Yip Lane, Kwun Tong
14.	Tai Lin Pai Road Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	Tai Lin Pai Road near Kung Yip Street
15.	Ta Chuen Ping Street Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	Ta Chuen Ping Street near a carpark
16.	Tin Sum San Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Tin Sum San Tsuen
17.	San Wai Public Toilet	Yuen Long	San Wai, San Sik Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
18.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)	Yuen Long	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)
19.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)	Yuen Long	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)
20.	Wo Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	North	At side of a carpark in Wo Hing Tsuen, Fanling
21.	Shui Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	Shui Wai Village, Tai Po
22.	Tai Po Tau South Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tai Po Tau Village
23.	Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Junction of Sha Tin Wai Road and Ngau Pei Sha Street
24.	Wo Liu Hang Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Wo Liu Hang Village
25.	Fo Tan Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Near Shan Mei Street, Fo Tan Village
26.	Pak Kong Tsuen Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Opposite lamp post No. EB31651 at Pak Kong Road
27.	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village
28.	Tai Mong Tsai Public Toilet	Sai Kung	At side of Tai Mong Tsai Carpark
29.	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan) Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2542)

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:

1. It is mentioned that one of the reasons for the increased provision under this Programme is the setting up of additional dedicated enforcement teams. Please provide the manpower establishment of the teams and the estimated expenditure in 2020-21.

2. How will the dedicated teams strengthen the handling of water seepage complaints?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

1. In 2020-21, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will set up 5 additional dedicated enforcement teams (each comprising 5 officers) to step up enforcement action against various public cleanliness offences and promote environmental hygiene through public education and publicity campaigns. The estimated expenditure is about $8.2 million.

2. Regarding the handling of water seepage complaints, the Joint Office (JO) formed by the Department and the Buildings Department has set up a task force to review the investigation procedures of water seepage in buildings, so as to enhance the effectiveness of investigation. The work of the task force involves, among others, studying the application of new testing technologies in water seepage investigation, such as microwave tomography and infrared thermography, in order to shorten the time required and improve the success rate of identifying the sources of water seepage. The task force will also coordinate the establishment of four regional joint offices in Hong Kong, Kowloon, the New Territories East and New Territories West to enable JO staff to work in the same office with a view to increasing overall work efficiency.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)158

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0324)

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:

Please advise this Committee on the number of community hygiene facilities, such as refuse bins, sabotaged or damaged in a series of protests against the proposed legislative amendments starting from the second half of 2019. Please also advise on the additional expenditure on street cleansing in the aftermath, e.g. whether cleaners were required to work overtime to clean up the streets. If yes, the detailed figures; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon WONG Ting-kwong (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

Between June 2019 and February 2020, about 1 280 litter containers, 100 cigarette butt containers, 20 dog excreta collection bins and 120 recyclables collection bins of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department were sabotaged. The replacement cost of the facilities is about $1.7 million.

The Department is responsible for providing cleansing services in public places. Street cleansing services will be provided as promptly as circumstances permit after large-scale public order events. Cleansing contractors will, subject to ground situation, provide street cleansing services under the staffing requirement specified in service contracts as far as possible. In the light of the situation, outsourced service contractors were engaged by the Department to enhance mid-night cleansing services in 2019-20 (up to February). The additional expenditure involved is about $4 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0325)

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:

Has the Department enhanced community cleansing in the light of the novel coronavirus epidemic? If yes, what are the details; if no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon WONG Ting-kwong (LegCo internal reference no.: 17)

Reply:

In view of the coronavirus disease 2019 epidemic, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has stepped up the cleansing of public facilities under its management, including public markets, cooked food centres, hawker bazaars, public toilets and refuse collection points (RCPs).

For public toilets with attendant service, the Department has instructed toilet attendants on duty to cleanse and disinfect the floor, water closets, urinals, wash hand basins, toilet seats, door handles, handrails, etc. every 2 hours with 1:99 diluted household bleach. For other public toilets, cleansing workers also carry out cleansing and disinfection with 1:99 diluted household bleach at least twice a day in performing routine cleansing service to ensure their cleanliness. In performing routine cleansing service of RCPs, cleansing workers will also cleanse and disinfect the floor, walls, large refuse bins, handrails, etc. with 1:99 diluted household bleach to ensure the cleanliness of RCPs.

The Department has stepped up cleansing for public markets with the use of 1:99 diluted household bleach to cleanse and disinfect the common areas and facilities in public markets at least 4 times every day. Cleansing and disinfection are performed hourly for lift button panels and escalator handrails and every 2 hours for the toilets in the markets.

The Department also strengthens street cleansing services on a need basis, including enhancing cleansing of locations where littering and other public cleanliness offences are prevalent. It has arranged cleansing and disinfection of the residences of confirmed patients by cleansing workers according to the instructions of the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health and enhanced sweeping and washing of public places in the vicinity of the buildings concerned to maintain environmental hygiene.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2334)

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 the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP) under this Programme, please advise this Committee on:

1. the progress of implementing the recommendations under the MMP;

2. the implementation of improvement measures in the 6 selected markets in the past 3 years;

3. the details of launching the MMP under this Programme and the expenditure involved; and

4. the locations of the targeted public markets which are under-utilised and intended to be closed over the next 3 years.

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 58)

Reply:

1&3. The Government has earmarked $2 billion for the implementation of the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project of the MMP is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) briefed the relevant committee of the Southern District Council on the details and progress of the project in February 2020. ArchSD is engaging consultants and will commence the work of detailed design of plan and preparation of tender documents, etc. as soon as possible. The expenditure of the works can only be accurately estimated upon completion of the design work. Upon completion of the preparatory work, we will seek funding approval from the Legislative Council as soon as possible and expect to commence the overhaul works in 2021.

At the same time, we plan to overhaul another 3 public markets in Kowloon and the New Territories and expect to take forward the consultation and preparatory work

later this year. We also plan to kick-start minor refurbishment and improvement works for at least 3 other public markets in different districts across the territory. The project estimates for taking forward the above minor refurbishment and improvement works, as well as engagement of consultants and the preliminary work for the Aberdeen Market project, is about $68 million. The estimated expenditure of these projects in 2020-21 is about $13 million.

2. The 6 markets for which the Government consultant has conducted study and put forward improvement recommendations are Lockhart Road Market, Sheung Fung Street Market, Yau Ma Tei Market, Wing Fong Street Market, Tsuen Wan Market and Ngau Chi Wan Market respectively. FEHD has completed the consultation with the Market Management Consultative Committees (MMCCs) of these markets. The MMCCs expressed support for some improvement works proposals that did not require temporary closure of stalls or suspension of business. Having considered the MMCCs' views and the results of the feasibility studies, FEHD has taken forward improvement works of different scales in Lockhart Road Market, Sheung Fung Street Market, Yau Ma Tei Market and Wing Fong Street Market. The works in Wing Fong Street Market and Yau Ma Tei Market have been completed while those in the other 2 markets are scheduled for completion in the first half of 2020. The improvement works in the remaining 2 markets will be considered under the context of the MMP.

4. With demographic changes, new development/redevelopment projects and competition from other fresh provision outlets, the appeal of some public markets has been diminishing over time, with some having low patronage and high vacancy rates. Closing such markets may release precious land resources for more gainful uses to better serve the community. In 2020-21, FEHD plans to close Tui Min Hoi Market and consult market tenants and other stakeholders on the closure of 4 markets.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2335)

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 the enforcement against shop front extensions (SFE), please advise this Committee on:

1) the number of complaints received and prosecutions instituted by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by year and the 18 districts in the territory;

2) the manpower and expenditure involved in the Department's actions against SFE in each of the past 3 years;

3) the number of fixed penalty notices issued in 2018-19, given the implementation of the fixed penalty system, and also the estimated manpower and expenditure for 2019-20; and

4) the initiatives of the Department in the coming 12 months to step up clamp down measures in areas within Wong Tai Sin District where the problem of SFE by individual shops is serious, including Yuk Wah Street and Sheung Fung Street in Tsz Wan Shan, and Ngau Chi Wan Village.

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 59)

Reply:

1) The number of complaints received and prosecutions instituted against shop front extensions (SFE) by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in each of the past 3 calendar years, with a breakdown by year and district, is provided at Annex I.

2) Taking enforcement actions against SFE is one of the duties of the Department's hawker control staff. Information on the manpower and expenditure involved in hawker control in each of the past 3 calendar years is provided at Annex II. Further breakdown of the manpower and expenditure on enforcement actions in this respect is not available.

3) In 2019, the Department issued a total of 7 626 Fixed Penalty Notices against SFE. As an additional measure for tackling the problem of SFE, the fixed penalty system is part of the Department's overall enforcement work. There is no breakdown of the manpower and expenditure involved for 2019-20.

4) The Department will take enforcement actions against SFE in the light of actual circumstances. For locations with serious problem of SFE in Wong Tai Sin District, the Department will keep the situation under review and take appropriate actions, including blitz operations and law enforcement, to maintain environmental hygiene.

Annex I

Number of Complaints Received and Prosecutions Instituted against SFE by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

District	Number of complaints			Number of prosecutions*		
	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
Central & Western	931	636	547	280	166	76
Wan Chai	656	654	978	211	189	162
Eastern	1 146	1 103	1 248	387	215	308
Southern	317	252	237	190	42	62
Islands	110	92	58	60	30	18
Yau Tsim	770	399	689	140	83	90
Mong Kok	1 222	1 107	1 878	241	254	205
Sham Shui Po	2 892	2 034	1 750	456	311	343
Kowloon City	766	548	722	77	73	76
Wong Tai Sin	542	708	810	110	101	111
Kwun Tong	1 299	1 267	1 286	201	302	230
Kwai Tsing	343	306	371	270	138	156
Tsuen Wan	921	685	640	224	230	198
Tuen Mun	306	282	412	357	430	296
Yuen Long	1 806	856	1 597	712	570	238
North	359	356	381	37	67	51
Tai Po	1 092	707	941	61	117	129
Sha Tin	226	268	228	87	158	149
Sai Kung	217	198	249	103	101	100
Total	**15 921**	**12 458**	**15 022**	**4 204**	**3 577**	**2 998**

Note: * The figure does not include the Fixed Penalty Notices issued by the Department against SFE.

Annex II

Manpower and Expenditure Involved in Hawker Control

Financial year	Number of staff	Expenditure ($ million)
2017-18	2 264	1,074.2
2018-19	2 264	1,134.2
2019-20 (Revised Estimate)	2 253	1,159.6

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2336)

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 the collection of household waste and management of refuse collection points (RCPs) under this Programme, please advise this Committee:

1) on the location and area of each RCP installed with a mobile refuse compactor, as well as the daily average amount of refuse handled by the compactor, as at 31 December 2019;

2) whether there is any plan to install mobile refuse compactors in other RCPs in 2020-21; if yes, the details and the expenditure to be involved;

3) whether the newly built RCPs will be required to reserve space for installing mobile refuse compactors; and

4) on measures to tackle the problem of household waste collection for areas with higher concentration of three-nil buildings (e.g. in the vicinity of Fung Wong in Wong Tai Sin District, San Po Kong and Ting On Street in Ngau Tau Kok), given that the domestic waste charging scheme may be implemented in the near future.

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 60)

Reply:

1) As at 31 December 2019, 58 permanent off-street refuse collection points (RCPs) managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department were provided with mobile refuse compactors (MRCs). The information sought is provided at Annex.

2) The Department plans to install an MRC in Kin Lung Street RCP, Tuen Mun, in 2020-21. There is no separate breakdown of expenditure on provision of the MRC.

3) The Department will consider the provision of MRCs in individual RCPs, including those under planning, based on operational need and where the site situation permits.

4) To complement the implementation of municipal solid waste charging, the Environmental Protection Department has allocated additional recurrent resources to strengthen the supporting measures and public education on promotion of waste reduction and recycling across the territory. Examples include (a) the organisation of outreach educational and publicity activities in areas with higher concentration of three-nil buildings; (b) the operation of Community Recycling Centres (CRCs) for provision of recycling support to residents; and (c) the implementation of the two-year Pilot Scheme on Collection and Recycling Services of Plastic Recyclable Materials in 3 different districts (Eastern District, Kwun Tong and Shatin), under which free collection service for non-commercial and non-industrial waste plastics is provided for public and private housing estates, schools, public institutions, CRCs as well as Community Green Stations within the districts. In addition, the Department will consider extending the opening hours of some target RCPs with additional manpower provided to meet local demand for services at midnight or in the early morning, whereas inspections, and surprise checks and enforcement actions will be conducted at blackspots of irregularities.

Annex

List of Permanent Off-street Public Refuse Collection Points (RCPs) Provided with Mobile Refuse Compactors

Name	Location	Area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (tonnes)
Shek Tong Tsui RCP	Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building, No. 470 Queen's Road West	430	19
In Ku Lane RCP	No. 8 In Ku Lane, Sheung Wan	364	12
Man Kat Street RCP	Junction of Man Kat Street and Connaught Road Central	360	35
Smithfield Municipal Services Building RCP	Smithfield Municipal Services Building, No. 12K Smithfield	160	25
Lan Kwai Fong RCP	At side of Lan Kwai Fong Sitting-out Area, Central	312	30
Tanner Road RCP	No. 63 Tanner Road	435	6
Java Road RCP	No. 94 Java Road (G/F of Java Road Market)	170	20
Tung Hei Road RCP	At side of No. 28 Tung Hei Road	389	6
Hing Man Street RCP	Junction of Hing Man Street and Oi Yee Street	364	14
Sing Woo Road RCP	Junction of Sing Woo Road and Yik Yam Street	304	14
Luard Road RCP	Junction of Luard Road and Johnston Road	224	30
Gloucester Road RCP	Opposite No. 250 Gloucester Road	104	35
Vehicle Clearance Plaza RCP	No. 168 Shun Wan Road, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port	485	3
Ma Tau Kok Road RCP	Ma Tau Kok Road	430	12
Kowloon City Complex RCP	Hau Wong Road (Kowloon City Municipal Services Building)	184	13
Baker Street RCP	No. 65 Baker Street	170	17
Anchor Street RCP	No. 55 Anchor Street	212	13
Dundas Street RCP	Junction of Dundas Street and Tung Choi Street	170	50
Nullah Road RCP	Opposite Nos. 3-13 Nullah Street	158	16
Yu Chau Street RCP	Opposite No. 47 Yu Chau Street	131	23
Mong Kok Road RCP	No. 661B Shanghai Street	334	20
Nelson Street RCP	No. 1024 Canton Road	251	16

Name	Location	Area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (tonnes)
Portland Street RCP	No. 193 Portland Street	156	18
Sai Yee Street RCP	No. 188 Sai Yee Street	90	15
Cheung Wah Street RCP	No. 360 Shun Ning Road	420	21
Un Chau Street RCP	Nos. 59-63 Un Chau Street	410	24
Pei Ho Street RCP	No. 333 Ki Lung Street	266	31
Yee Kuk Street RCP	No. 152 Yee Kuk Street	250	15
Camp Street RCP	Junction of Camp Street and Fuk Wa Street	742	18
Yi Lun Street RCP	G/F, San Po Kong Plaza, No. 33 Shung Ling Street, San Po Kong	420	19
Parkes Street RCP	No. 107 Parkes Street, Jordan	372	32
Market Street RCP	No. 1 Market Street, Yau Ma Tei	280	10
Kwun Chung Street RCP	No. 17 Bowring Street, Jordan	162	18
Minden Row RCP	Opposite No. 3 Minden Row, Tsim Sha Tsui	127	17
Auto Plaza RCP	Auto Plaza, Mody Square, Tsim Sha Tsui East	220	11
Kimberley Street RCP	No. 28 Kimberley Street, Tsim Sha Tsui	219	36
Man Cheong Street RCP	Opposite No. 47, Man Cheong Street, Jordan	160	8
Fu Hing Street RCP	At side of No. 16 Fu Hing Street, Sheung Shui	298	18
Luen Fat Street RCP	Opposite No. 18, Luen Fat Street, Fanling	246	15
Yi Chun Street RCP	Yi Chun Street (opposite Sai Kung Market)	195	10
Fuk Man Road RCP	Fuk Man Road (at side of Sai Kung Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground)	150	6
Chik Fai Street Tai Wai RCP	Chik Fai Street, Tai Wai	55	4
Tsing Hoi Circuit RCP (Area 37B)	Area 37B, Tsing Hoi Circuit	170	10
Tseng Choi Street RCP (Area 4B)	Area 4B, Tseng Choi Street	170	8
Yan Ching Street RCP	Area 10A, Kai Fat Path	146	14
Evergreen Court RCP	G/F, No. 9 Chui Lok Street	350	11

Name	Location	Area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (tonnes)
Plover Cove Road RCP	G/F, Plover Cove Garden, No. 3 Plover Cove Road	102	6
Yan Hing Street RCP	Yan Hing Street	165	10
Kwong Fuk Square RCP	Kwong Fuk Square	100	16
Luen Yan Street RCP	No. 10 Luen Yan Street	183	20
Tsuen Wan Market Street RCP	Tsuen Wan Market Street (opposite No. 150)	170	22
Heung Che Street RCP	Heung Che Street (at side of Heung Che Street Market)	168	20
Yan Lok Square RCP	At side of Chung Sing Path Playground, Yan Lok Square	170	19
Tai Tong Road RCP	Junction of Tai Tong Road and Hop Yick Road	170	20
Tai Kiu RCP	At side of Tai Kiu Market, Kiu Lok Square	170	16
Kam Cheung Square RCP	Junction of Kam Cheung Square and Sai Yu Street	170	16
Tung Tai Street RCP	Junction of Tung Tai Street and On Lok Road	125	16
Fung Kwan Street RCP	Fung Kwan Street near an open car park	120	16

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2337)

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:

Due to the outbreak of Wuhan pneumonia, workers employed by the Department's contractors of outsourced services (including street cleansing, market, management of public toilets and household waste collection) often have to face the risk posed by the spread of the disease. With regard to protection of the health of the contractors' workers, please advise this Committee on the following:

1) the number of surgical masks (produced by the Correctional Services Department) that have been distributed per month since January 2020 to workers of the contractors in each district;

2) the criteria for providing surgical masks by the Department to the workers, including the principle under which the Department considers that a contractor should hand out only one face mask to a worker each day;

3) the reason(s) why the Department disagrees with the contractors' acceptance of face masks through other channels apart from distribution by the Department (including those donated by the public).

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 61)

Reply:

1) From 17 February 2020, the Department has made arrangements for distribution of face masks produced by the Correctional Services Department (CSD) to its cleansing service contractors' frontline workers for their use when cleaning streets, public toilets, refuse collection points and public markets. Information on the number of face masks distributed to each district between 17 February and 9 March 2020 is given in the Annex.

2) It is stipulated in the Department's service contracts that the contractors should comply with all the legislation in relation to the execution of the service contracts, including the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance (Cap. 509) and its subsidiary

regulation. The contractors have a duty to ensure their employees' occupational safety and health at work, including assessing the risks faced by their employees working in various environments and taking appropriate preventive measures, providing sufficient and appropriate personal protective clothing and equipment, necessary training on occupational safety, and making appropriate work arrangements. In light of the outbreak of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and the tight supply of face masks as a whole, the Government understands that outsourced cleansing service contractors have encountered difficulties in procuring face masks. As a contingency measure, 700 000 additional masks produced by the CSD are reserved for distribution to frontline cleansing workers employed by the Government's outsourced service contractors in order to protect the health of these cleansing workers and maintain the necessary cleansing services.

3) The Department has no objection for outsourced service contractors to accept face masks through other channels (including those donated by the public).

Approximate number of surgical masks produced by CSD which were distributed to cleansing workers of cleansing service contractors in 2020 (broken down by District Council district)

District	Daily number of masks distributed (between 17 February and 9 March)
Central and Western	810
Wan Chai	490
Eastern	520
Southern	270
Islands	380
Yau Tsim	320
Mong Kok	450
Sham Shui Po	570
Kowloon City	570
Wong Tai Sin	240
Kwun Tong	470
Kwai Tsing	360
Tsuen Wan	400
Tuen Mun	280
Yuen Long	590
North	650
Tai Po	310
Sha Tin	430
Sai Kung	370

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0638)

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:

As the novel coronavirus epidemic has continued to spread, the hygiene condition of public toilets remains a cause for concern. In this connection, please advise on the following:

(1) What is the number of public toilets refurbished in the past year and the expenditure involved? What is the difference between such expenditure and the original estimate?

(2) What is the number of public toilets to be refurbished in the coming year and the expenditure involved?

(3) Does the Department have a timetable to refurbish all public toilets in Hong Kong? If yes, the details; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon YIU Si-wing (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

(1) A total of 41 public toilets were refurbished or facelifted in 2019-20 with a project estimate of about $164 million.

(2) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifting works for 49 public toilets in 2020-21 with a project estimate of about $134 million. A list of the public toilets is at **Annex**.

(3) It was announced in the 2019-20 Budget that the Government would make an additional allocation of over $600 million to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme (Enhanced PTRP), under which the Department would roll out the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 240 public toilets under its management by phases in 5 years since 2019-20, so as to improve their installations and the level of hygiene. The Department has been working closely with the Architectural Services Department to roll out the refurbishment or facelifting projects for 42 public toilets in the first year. The facelifting works for 7 public toilets have

been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. A number of public toilets with high utilisation rates have been or will be included in the Enhanced PTRP in 2020-21 and 2021-22. The Department will prioritise the remaining public toilets for inclusion in the Enhanced PTRP having regard to their utilisation rates, locations, maintenance conditions and the time lapsed since they were constructed or last refurbished, with special attention to those with high utilisation and in ageing conditions. Subject to the progress of the programme, the Department will consider bidding for additional resources to expedite the refurbishment of the remaining public toilets in due course.

Annex

List of 49 Public Toilets under the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2020-21

(A) 20 Refurbishment Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Wellington Street Public Toilet (Male Only)	Central & Western	Junction of Wellington Street and Queen's Road Central, Central
2.	Wa Hing Lane Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Central & Western	Junction of Shing Wong Street and Wa Hing Lane, Sheung Wan
3.	Ice House Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	Opposite No. 16 Ice House Street, Central
4.	Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Central & Western	2/F, Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building, No. 470 Queen's Road West, Shek Tong Tsui
5.	Stanley Tytam Village Public Toilet	Southern	Stanley Tytam Village near Hong Kong Sea School
6.	South Bay Public Toilet	Southern	South Bay Road near South Bay Beach
7.	Round Table I Village Public Toilet	Islands	Round Table I Village, Cheung Chau
8.	Ma Wan Chung Public Toilet	Islands	Ma Wan Chung, Tung Chung
9.	Anchor Street Playground Public Toilet	Mong Kok	Anchor Street Playground
10.	Chung Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Chung Uk Tsuen
11.	Kin Lung Street Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Kin Lung Street, Tuen Mun (near Shek Pai Tau Playground)
12.	Tai Tong Road Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yuen Long	Sai Ching Street (near Manhattan Plaza), Yuen Long
13.	Kuk Ting Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Kuk Ting Street, Yuen Long
14.	Luk Keng Public Toilet	North	Luk Keng Road near Chan Fung Kee Store, Sha Tau Kok
15.	Yue Kok Public Toilet	Tai Po	Yue Kok Village, Tai Po
16.	Tung Ping Chau Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tung Ping Chau
17.	Tap Mun Ha Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun Ha Wai, Tai Po
18.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village North Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village, Tai Po
19.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village South Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village, Tai Po

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
20.	Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Chun Yat Street

(B) 29 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Kennedy Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	Junction of Kennedy Road and Garden Road, Central
2.	Macau Ferry Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Central & Western	At side of Macau Ferry Bus Terminus, Sheung Wan
3.	Hospital Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	Basement, Centre for Food Safety, No. 4 Hospital Road, Sai Ying Pun
4.	Quarry Bay Market Public Toilet	Eastern	No. 38 Quarry Bay Street
5.	Pak Fuk Road Public Toilet	Eastern	Junction of Pak Fuk Road and Healthy Street Central
6.	Yip Fat Street Public Toilet	Southern	Near No. 12 Yip Fat Street, Wong Chuk Hang
7.	Sok Kwu Wan Public Toilet	Islands	Sok Kwu Wan Ferry Pier, Lamma
8.	Lo Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Islands	Lo Uk Tsuen, Lantau
9.	Shui Hau Public Toilet	Islands	Shui Hau Village, Lantau
10.	Pok Man Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	No. 1 Sham Mong Road, Olympic Station
11.	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus
12.	Lung Kong Road Public Toilet	Kowloon City	No. 30-32, Lung Kong Road
13.	Kei Yip Lane Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	Near Kwun Tong Ferry Pier Bus Terminus at Kei Yip Lane, Kwun Tong
14.	Tai Lin Pai Road Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	Tai Lin Pai Road near Kung Yip Street
15.	Ta Chuen Ping Street Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	Ta Chuen Ping Street near a carpark
16.	Tin Sum San Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Tin Sum San Tsuen
17.	San Wai Public Toilet	Yuen Long	San Wai, San Sik Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
18.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)	Yuen Long	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)
19.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)	Yuen Long	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)
20.	Wo Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	North	At side of a carpark in Wo Hing Tsuen, Fanling
21.	Shui Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	Shui Wai Village, Tai Po
22.	Tai Po Tau South Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tai Po Tau Village
23.	Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Junction of Sha Tin Wai Road and Ngau Pei Sha Street
24.	Wo Liu Hang Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Wo Liu Hang Village
25.	Fo Tan Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Near Shan Mei Street, Fo Tan Village
26.	Pak Kong Tsuen Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Opposite lamp post No. EB31651 at Pak Kong Road
27.	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village
28.	Tai Mong Tsai Public Toilet	Sai Kung	At side of Tai Mong Tsai Carpark
29.	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan) Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 2081)

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:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21, it is stated that the Department will oversee the implementation of the regulatory regime for private columbaria. Please advise on:

1. the latest number of applications for public niches and the average waiting time;

2. the staff establishment and expenditure of the Private Columbaria Affairs Office in 2019-21;

3. the number of applications for a licence under the Private Columbaria Ordinance received by the Department, the number of cases approved and the time required for processing the applications;

4. the measures to be taken by the Department in light of the strong public demand for private columbaria.

Asked by: Hon YUNG Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

1. At present, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department allocates new extendable niches to eligible applicants by open drawing of lots and computer balloting rather than on a first-come, first-served basis. In late 2019, the Department conducted a niche allocation exercise for two new public columbaria, namely Tsang Tsui Columbarium (first phase) in Tuen Mun (providing around 20 000 niches) and Wong Nai Chung Road Columbarium (providing 855 niches). In the next few years, with new columbarium projects being completed one after another, it is estimated that no fewer than 20 000 niches will be available for allocation each year.

2. In 2019-20, the Private Columbaria Affairs Office (PCAO) of the Department had about 60 staff and the revised estimated expenditure was around $74.92 million. In

2020-21, the PCAO will increase its manpower to about 70 staff and the estimated expenditure is $83.6 million.

3. As at 6 March 2020, the Private Columbaria Licensing Board (PCLB) has granted 5 licences and approved in principle 2 licence applications and 1 application for a temporary suspension of liability (TSOL). The PCLB was processing applications for specified instruments submitted by 116 private columbaria (91 of which had submitted licence applications). The time the PCLB takes to process a licence application depends on the actual circumstances of the case, particularly on whether the private columbarium has complied with all the requirements for licence application stipulated in the Private Columbaria Ordinance (Cap. 630) and those specified by the PCLB (including the requirements relating to planning, land, buildings, fire safety, electrical and mechanical safety, management plan, right to use the premises, environmental protection, etc.), and whether the applicant has submitted sufficient documents to prove that the private columbarium has complied with the requirements. Upon receiving the documents or information required for an application, the PCAO will invite the relevant departments to provide comments. The applicant will then be asked to take the necessary follow-up actions and submit reports, which will be forwarded to the relevant departments for their vetting. After confirming that a licence application has complied with the application requirements, the PCAO will arrange for the submission of the application to the PCLB for determination.

4. With a view to speeding up the processing of applications for specified instruments, the PCLB announced the implementation of three measures on 30 August 2019, namely granting exemption without requiring the applicant to restore the ash interment quantity first, administrative arrangements for "Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application", and requiring applicants to submit the documents/information required for their TSOL applications on or before the deadline of 31 December 2019. After the expiry of the said deadline, the PCLB has carefully examined the status of the documents/information received and has decided to cease the vetting of the TSOL applications submitted by 15 private columbaria, and will hold open meetings to determine these applications by batches. The list of the private columbaria concerned has been uploaded onto the dedicated website for public information. As for other applications for specified instruments being processed, the PCAO will continue to liaise closely with the applicants and the relevant departments and strive to assist the PCLB in expediting the vetting work.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)166

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3900)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Will the Government inform this Committee of the estimated annual salary cost for the Secretary for Food and Health in 2020-21?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 202)

Reply:

The provision reserved in the 2020-21 estimates for the salary of the Secretary for Food and Health is $4.18 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3984)

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

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 of Programme (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety that the Bureau will continue to implement a strategic plan for reducing the levels of salt and sugar in food to promote healthy eating.

1) What are the manpower, staff cost, expenditure on welfare benefits and operating expenses involved in the above-mentioned work?

2) What has been done in respect of the above work over the past 3 years (for example, public surveys, publicity and research programmes)? What are the details of any future implementation of strategic plans?

3) How will the Bureau monitor the above work? Have any indicators been set for the work; and if so, what are the details? What will the Bureau do if the work is below par or fails to meet expectations?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 264)

Reply:

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and the Department of Health (DH) announced "Towards 2025: Strategy and Action Plan to Prevent and Control Non-communicable Diseases in Hong Kong" in May 2018. The targets include achieving a 30% relative reduction in the mean population daily intake of sodium, halting the rise in diabetes and obesity, and containing the prevalence of raised blood pressure by 2025 or before.

FHB, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, DH and the Committee on Reduction of Salt and Sugar in Food (CRSS) have all along been striving to promote salt and sugar reduction through five directions, including starting from an early age, enhancing transparency of information, encouraging restaurants to reduce salt and sugar, reformulation of prepackaged food products, as well as strengthening publicity and education.

On starting from an early age, DH has launched the Healthy Drinks at School Charter at kindergartens and child care centres starting from 2018/19 school year. As at to-date, more than 420 kindergartens and child care centres (i.e. about 40% of kindergartens and child care centres in Hong Kong) are participating in the Charter, pledging to provide children with water and healthy drinks, and not using food as a reward. Besides, DH has launched the Salt Reduction Scheme for School Lunches in primary schools since 2017/18 school year. So far, 13 school lunch suppliers joined the Scheme and provided sodium-reduced lunch options to more than 510 primary schools in Hong Kong (i.e. representing nearly 90% of primary schools in Hong Kong). DH's target is to reduce the average sodium level of primary school lunches by 5% to 10% per year, with a view to cutting the average sodium level of primary school lunches down to not more than 500 mg in ten years. In 2017/18 school year, the average sodium content of primary school lunch decreased by 14%, meeting the Scheme's sodium reduction target for 2018.

On enhancing transparency of information, we launched the "Salt/Sugar" Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products in October 2017 to facilitate the public to identify more easily prepackaged food products which meet the legal definition of "low salt", "no salt", "low sugar" and "no sugar". At present, more than 210 prepackaged food products have participated in the Scheme. We will continue to actively promote the Scheme to manufacturers/importers to enlist their participation. In addition, several large-scale food manufacturers have undertaken to reformulate their prepackaged food products, covering various types of drinks, instant noodles and soups.

On encouraging restaurants to reduce salt and sugar, we launched the Less-salt-and-sugar Restaurants Scheme in early 2019. Up till now, about 960 restaurants have enrolled and provided customers with options of reduced salt and/or sugar or tailor-made less-salt-and-sugar dishes, so that the public can have more healthy choices when eating out. We have also promoted the Scheme to the public through an online restaurant searching platform. From February 2019 till now, the total number of searches for nearby less-salt-and-sugar restaurants through the platform has exceeded 140 million.

Regarding reformulation of prepackaged food products, we set voluntary sodium reduction targets for prepackaged white bread and wholemeal bread in late September 2019. Seven chained bakery shops and manufacturers have been invited to participate in the Salt Reduction Scheme, striving to reduce the sodium content in their bread through product reformulation. Our next step is to extend the Scheme to non-prepackaged white bread and wholemeal bread, and invite more bread manufacturers to join the Scheme.

On strengthening publicity and education, we organised various activities in 2019, including a large-scale publicity event at Tai Kwun in February, a media tea reception in May with seven celebrity chefs to conduct cooking demonstration with less salt and sugar, and staging, for the third time, less-salt-and-sugar cooking demonstrations by four "star chefs" at Food Expo in August. Moreover, we have been disseminating the message of salt and sugar reduction to the public via the Facebook and Instagram pages on "Hong Kong's Action on Salt & Sugar Reduction". We have also produced radio programmes, music videos and Announcements of Public Interest on television, and engaged key opinion leaders of social media to help promote less-salt-and-sugar diet and perform online cooking demonstration with less salt and sugar. Starting from 2019, FHB, CFS, DH and the

Education Bureau jointly hold briefings for teachers to promote healthy living and less-salt-and-sugar eating habits.

FHB has earmarked $7.5 million in 2020-21 for promoting salt and sugar reduction territory-wide. The earmarked funds are intended for implementing various programmes so as to promote a less-salt-and-sugar dietary culture to the public, including organising public education and publicity activities, proactively promoting the "Salt/Sugar" Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products to manufacturers/importers, inviting more restaurants to participate in the Less-salt-and-sugar Restaurants Scheme and better utilising the online searching platform for promotion etc. As for manpower and other recurrent expenses, they were subsumed under FHB's overall allocation and could not be separately accounted for.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4450)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work in relation to the Code on Access to Information, will the Government advise this Committee on the following:

1) Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch) from October 2018 to present for which only some of the required information has been provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests for which only some of the required information has been provided; (ii) the reasons for providing some of the information only; (iii) whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application); (iv) whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)? If yes, please provide the details.

From October to December 2018

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the

			Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

2019

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

2) Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch) from October 2018 to present for which the required information has not been provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests refused; (ii) the reasons for refusal; (iii) whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application); (iv) whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)? If yes, please provide the details.

From October to December 2018

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that

		Interpretation and Application)	could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

2019

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

3) Any person who believes that a department has failed to comply with any provision of the Code on Access to Information may ask the department to review the situation. Please advise this Committee in each of the past 5 years, (i) the number of review cases received; (ii) the number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review; (iii) whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level.

Year in which review cases were received	(i) Number of review cases received	(ii) Number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review	(iii) Whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018			
2019			

4) With reference to the target response times set out in paragraphs 1.16.1 to 1.19.1 of Guidelines on Interpretation and Application of the Code on Access to Information, please advise this Committee on the following information by year in table form (with text descriptions).

(a) Within 10 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

Within 10 to 21 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge

			request		
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

Within 21 to 51 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

(b) cases in which information could not be provided within 21 days from date of receipt of a request in the past 5 years:

Date	Subject of information requested	Specific reason

(c) cases in which information could not be provided within 51 days from date of receipt of a request in the past 5 years:

Date	Subject of information requested	Specific reason

5) Please state in table form the number of those, among the cases in which requests for information were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information, on which the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was consulted when

they were being handled in the past 5 years. For cases on which advice had been sought, was it fully accepted in the end? For cases where the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was not accepted or was only partially accepted, what are the reasons?

Date	Subject	Particular exemption provision in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information under which requests for information were refused	Whether the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was fully accepted	Reasons for refusing to accept or only partially accepting the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 355)

Reply:

During the period from October 2018 to September 2019, the Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch) did not receive any request for which only part of the required information was provided or refuse any request for information under the Code on Access to Information (the Code).

2. During the period from 2015 to September 2019, no review case was received by the Food Branch.

3. During the period from 2016 to September 2019, the number of written requests for which the information requested was provided by the Food Branch within 10 days and 11 to 21 days from date of receipt of a request were 7 and 3 respectively. The number of written requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request within 10 days from date of receipt of a request was 19.

4. During the period from 2016 to September 2019, there was no case where information could not be provided by the Food Branch within 21 days from date of receipt of a request.

5. During the period from 2016 to September 2019, there was 1 case where information could not be provided by the Food Branch within 51 days from date of receipt of the request. The main reason was that longer time was required to prepare the information which was complex and detailed.

6. During the period from 2016 to September 2019, there was no case where request for information was refused by the Food Branch.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)169

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5583)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise this Committee of the following:

(1) whether the Bureau has received and used CSI masks produced by the Correctional Services Department (CSD); if yes, the details; if not, the reasons for that; and

(2) if CSI masks produced by the CSD have been received and used, the respective figures on the CSI masks received and used in each of the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 610)

Reply:

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) obtains masks produced by the Correctional Services Department from the Government Logistics Department and also procures masks from the market for distribution to its staff. FHB does not maintain information regarding the distribution of masks with different origins to staff members.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6833)

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

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please list the monthly salary, allowances and other expenses of the Secretary for Food and Health in the past 5 years, as well as the amount of her monthly pension and the total amount of her pension after retirement.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1311)

Reply:

According to the remuneration package for politically-appointed officials of the HKSAR Government, the monthly salary of the Secretary for Food and Health (SFH) is set out below:

Date	Monthly Salary Expenditure
April 2015 – March 2016	$298,115
April 2016 – March 2017	$298,115
April 2017 – June 2017	$298,115
July 2017 – June 2018	$333,900
July 2018 – June 2019	$340,250
July 2019 – March 2020	$348,100

SFH is not entitled to regularly-paid benefits and allowances, job-related allowance, leave passage allowance, security arrangements and end-of-contract gratuity or related allowances.

For the SFH post, no pension benefits are provided other than the Government's contribution to the Mandatory Provident Fund.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6642)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Would the Government inform this Committee of the figures and places of origin of fresh vegetables imported into Hong Kong in the past 5 years?

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Mainland China					
Japan					
Taiwan					
Other Asian regions					
Other non-Asian regions					

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 2029)

Reply:

According to the information from the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD), the figures and places of origins of vegetables imported into Hong Kong in the past 5 years (2015-2019) are tabulated as follows –

Year	**Imported vegetables (tonnes)**				
	2015	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Mainland China	765 533	789 345	821 781	781 091	799 728
Japan	2 899	3 298	3 754	4 151	5 651
Taiwan	8 805	4 987	7 259	7 813	7 588
Other regions	52 293	55 283	54 751	51 312	50 415

Note: C&SD's information does not classify import sources into Asian and non-Asian regions.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)172

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6643)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Would the Government inform this Committee of the figures and places of origin of frozen meat imported into Hong Kong in the past 5 years?

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Mainland China					
Thailand					
South Korea					
Japan					
Brazil					
USA					
Europe					
Other regions					

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 2030)

Reply:

According to the information from the Census and Statistics Department, the figures and places of origins of frozen meat (including pork, beef and mutton) imported into Hong Kong in the past 5 years (2015-2019) are tabulated as follows –

Year	Imported frozen meat (tonnes)				
	2015	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Mainland China	54 612	37 367	44 690	34 539	23 372
Thailand	363	544	649	537	1 221
South Korea	42	230	144	15	335
Japan	685	552	715	827	1 012
Brazil	215 836	316 690	310 809	378 491	284 634
USA	123 946	149 054	154 355	121 945	84 501
Other regions	135 732	182 064	225 352	136 459	123 473

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)173

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6644)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Would the Government inform this Committee of the figures and places of origin of fresh vegetables imported into Hong Kong in the past 5 years?

Asian regions:

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Mainland China					
Japan					
South Korea					
Taiwan					
Thailand					
Philippines					
Malaysia					
Other Asian regions					

Non-Asian regions:

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
USA					
Canada					
Australia					
New Zealand					
Europe					
Other regions					

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 2031)

Reply:

According to the information provided by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD), the figures and places of origins of vegetables imported into Hong Kong in the past 5 years (2015-2019) are tabulated as follows –

Year	Imported vegetables (tonnes)				
	2015	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Mainland China	765 533	789 345	821 781	781 091	799 728
Japan	2 899	3 298	3 754	4 151	5 651
South Korea	1 888	2 013	1 851	1 610	1 878
Taiwan	8 805	4 987	7 259	7 813	7 588
Thailand	5 121	5 083	5 489	5 441	5 829
Philippines	51	66	72	66	78
Malaysia	572	671	558	476	331
USA	19 794	18 628	18 585	17 028	15 121
Canada	227	77	81	95	94
Australia	11 579	14 522	11 963	11 936	11 221
New Zealand	3 791	4 151	3 541	2 302	3 245
Other regions	9 270	10 072	12 611	12 358	12 618

Note: C&SD's information does not classify import sources into Asian and non-Asian regions.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4554)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention that the Food Branch will "oversee the development of new public markets at selected locations and the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme to improve facilities of existing public markets". In this connection, please advise this Committee on the following:

(1) the details of work with regard to the development of new public markets, including the proposed locations and the respective timetables;

(2) the details of work, timetable and the estimated expenditure involved with regard to the Market Modernisation Programme.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 135)

Reply:

1. The Government is taking forward 7 new market projects which are at different stages of planning. They include the development of new public markets in Tin Shui Wai, Tung Chung Town Centre, Tseung Kwan O, Kwu Tung North New Development Area, Tung Chung New Town Extension and Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area as well as the establishment of a temporary market in Tin Shui Wai. The information on the projects is set out at Annex.

2. The Government has earmarked $2 billion for the implementation of the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project of the MMP is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) briefed the relevant committee of the Southern District Council on the details and progress of the project in February 2020. ArchSD is engaging consultants and will commence the work of detailed design of plan and preparation of tender documents, etc. as soon as possible. The expenditure of the works can only be accurately estimated upon completion of the design work. Upon completion of the preparatory work, we will seek funding approval from the

Legislative Council as soon as practicable and expect to commence the overhaul works in 2021.

At the same time, we plan to overhaul another 3 public markets in Kowloon and the New Territories and expect to take forward the consultation and preparatory work later this year. We also plan to kick-start minor refurbishment and improvement works for at least 3 other public markets in different districts across the territory. The project estimates for taking forward the above minor refurbishment and improvement works, as well as engagement of consultants and the preliminary work for the Aberdeen Market project, is about $68 million. The estimated expenditure of these projects in 2020-21 is about $13 million.

Annex

	Project	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date
1.	Tin Shui Wai temporary Market (Tin Sau Road)	The temporary market will be built at the open space adjacent to Tin Sau Road Park using the modular integrated construction method. It is expected to provide about 40 stalls focusing on sale of fish, meat, vegetables and fruits.	Preparation of construction drawings and pre-construction works are underway.	The fourth quarter of 2020
2.	Tin Shui Wai market (a section of Tin Fuk Road)	A decked-over market will be built at the section of Tin Fuk Road near Tin Shui Wai Mass Transit Railway (MTR) Station. It is expected to provide a maximum of about 150 stalls.	The technical feasibility study is underway.	The first half of 2027
3.	Tung Chung Town Centre market (Area 6)	The market will be located on the lower floors of a commercial building to be built by a developer in Area 6 adjacent to Tung Chung MTR Station. It is expected to provide at least 100 stalls.	The technical feasibility study for the entire commercial building development project (including the public market) is underway.	To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.
4.	Tseung Kwan O market	The market will be located on the lower floors of the proposed joint-user building for community facilities at Tseung Kwan O town centre	The study and preliminary planning on the site selection for the proposed joint-user building for community facilities (including the public market) are underway.	To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.

	Project	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date
5.	Kwu Tung North New Development Area market	To be confirmed upon completion of preliminary planning	Preliminary planning is underway.	The development of the public markets will tie in with the housing development plan of the districts concerned.
6.	Tung Chung New Town Extension market			
7.	Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area market			

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4555)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please ask the Centre for Food Safety to set out in tabular form the following information on taking fish samples for testing in the past 5 years:

(1) the frequency of sampling and testing;

(2) the types of fish sampled and tested;

(3) the places of purchase;

(4) the substances/bacteria tested;

(5) the test results/exceedances found;

(6) the food sources;

(7) whether recalls or cessation of sales of products were arranged; and

(8) whether prosecutions were instituted.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 136)

Reply:

From 2015 to 2019, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department adopted a risk-based principle in taking 11 400 samples of locally produced and imported fish, including freshwater fish, brackish water fish, seawater fish, and fish products, at the import, wholesale and retail levels for chemical analysis and microbiological testing under its Food Surveillance Programme. The number of samples tested and the number of unsatisfactory samples, with a breakdown by year, are as follows:

	2015	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**Total**
Number of samples tested	2 286	2 322	2 258	2 125	2 409	11 400
Number of unsatisfactory samples	14	18	9	11	20	72

The unsatisfactory samples were detected to have veterinary drug residues, pesticide residues or metallic contamination exceeding the statutory limits. CFS has taken appropriate follow-up actions regarding the unsatisfactory samples, including instituting 25 prosecutions against the food traders concerned and conducting 7 food recall exercises.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4557)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Will the Government inform the Committee:

(1) of the respective numbers and percentages of vegetable importers, wholesalers and retailers engaging in the trading of directly distributed vegetables in each of the past 5 years?

(2) of the respective quantities and percentages of directly distributed vegetables among the various kinds of vegetables imported to Hong Kong (including winter vegetables, summer vegetables, leafy vegetables, gourds, fruits, roots and rhizomes, beans, herbs, mushrooms and others) in each of the past 5 years?

(3) of (i) the number of vegetable samples taken by the Department for inspection and testing, (ii) the number of unsatisfactory samples (as well as the reasons for the unsatisfactory results), and (iii) the number of cases of poisoning due to consumption of vegetables with excessive pesticide residues, and among them, the respective numbers related to directly distributed vegetables and their percentages in the relevant totals, in each of the past 5 years?

(4) whether the Department has assessed if directly distributed vegetables are suitable for consumption; if yes, the details; if no, the reason(s). What are the measures in place to address public concerns over the safety of consumption of directly distributed vegetables?

(5) whether the Department has studied if the prevalence of directly distributed vegetables in the market reveals that there are loopholes in the Food Surveillance Programme (FSP)? If it has done so and the outcome is in the affirmative, will the Department take measures to include directly distributed vegetables in the FSP, such as requiring that all vegetables supplied from the Mainland to Hong Kong must be distributed through the Vegetable Marketing Organization? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 138)

Reply:

Imported vegetables are distributed through wholesale markets (including the wholesale markets operated by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), the Cheung Sha Wan Vegetable Wholesale Market of the Vegetable Marketing Organisation (VMO) or other private wholesalers) or sold directly at retail outlets (direct sale). According to the information from the Census and Statistics Department, there were about 860 000 tonnes of imported vegetables in 2019. As informed by AFCD, about 340 000 tonnes of vegetables were transacted through the wholesale markets operated by AFCD and VMO in the year.

Whether vegetables are distributed through wholesalers is unrelated to safeguarding of food safety. Wholesale markets primarily provide a trading platform for importers and retailers to facilitate business. All vegetables sold in Hong Kong for human consumption, whether or not they are distributed through the wholesale markets operated by AFCD or VMO, are subject to the local food safety regulatory mechanism. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department takes samples of vegetables at the import, wholesale and retail levels having regard to the risk-based principle under its Food Surveillance Programme to ensure food safety, regardless of whether the vegetables are distributed through wholesalers or are for direct sale. From 2015 to 2019, CFS collected 118 278 samples of vegetables and related products for testing. The number of samples tested and the number of unsatisfactory samples, with a breakdown by year, are as follows:

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Number of samples tested	24 537	24 462	23 677	23 952	21 650	118 278
Number of unsatisfactory samples	97	65	26	44	31	263

The unsatisfactory samples were separately detected to have pesticide residues, preservatives or metallic contamination exceeding the statutory limits. There was no food poisoning case caused by consuming foods with excessive pesticide residues in the past 5 years.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4560)

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

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

"There will be a net increase of three posts in 2020-21." Please inform this Committee of the post titles, pay scales and duties of these three posts.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 141)

Reply:

Details of the net increase of three posts are as follows:

Post	No.	Pay Scale (MPS points)	Duties
Senior Information Officer	1	34 - 39	To cope with increasing work in handling and answering enquiries from the media, arranging officials to meet the media etc.
Personal Secretary I	1	16 - 21	To provide support service in word processing, lining up meetings etc.
Assistant Clerical Officer	1	3 - 15	To increase manpower to cope with the clerical work in financial management.
Total:	3		

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 | Reply Serial No. **FHB(FE)178**

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4561)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Food and Health Bureau has mentioned that it will "continue to study the feasibility of reprovisioning and expanding the Food Safety Laboratory of the Government Laboratory to enhance its testing capability and operational efficiency for tests relating to food safety". Please advise:

(1) on the detailed work plan and progress of reprovisioning and expanding the Food Safety Laboratory of the Government Laboratory; the scale of the Food Safety Laboratory; the estimated time of submitting the proposal to the Legislative Council; and

(2) whether the Bureau will outsource the food tests to private testing laboratories before the reprovisioning and expanding of the Food Safety Laboratory, so as to enhance the efficiency of testing and increase the number of samples for testing. If so, what are the number and expenditure involved in the past 3 years?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 142)

Reply:

(1) The Government Laboratory (GL), including its Food Safety Laboratory, is currently facing shortage of space. The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and GL have, earlier on, identified a suitable site for the construction of a new complex for GL, and have initially consulted the relevant District Council (DC). Following the consultation, we have reviewed and revised the proposal in the light of the views of the DC, and sought comments from the technical departments. As and when the revised proposal is finalised, we will conduct further consultation. After we have completed the consultation and the technical assessments of the overall development, we will confirm the project details such as the timetable and budget estimates. FHB and GL are handling the above-mentioned work with existing resources.

(2) In face of the ever-increasing service demand and in order to optimise the use of resources, over the years, GL has been outsourcing some of its routine food testing work to private testing laboratories such that resources may be freed up for developing testing methods, handling new testing work and developing chemical metrology work to enhance

the testing standards and capabilities of the laboratory sector. In the 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 financial years, GL outsourced 123 000, 125 000 and 125 000 food tests respectively. The annual expenditure on outsourcing tests is about $12.5 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4562)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work of the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) on "reduction of sodium and sugar in food", please advise on the following:
(1) the details of the related work in 2020-21;
(2) the details and expenditure involved in the promotion and publicity of "reduction of sodium and sugar in food", the expenditure incurred in engaging public relations agencies for such purpose and the details of their services over the past 3 years; and
(3) how CFS assesses the effectiveness of its work on "reduction of sodium and sugar in food".

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 143)

Reply:

The Government attaches much importance to the work on reducing salt and sugar intake of Hong Kong people. The Food and Health Bureau (FHB), the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Department of Health (DH) and the Committee on Reduction of Salt and Sugar in Food (CRSS) have all along been striving to promote salt and sugar reduction through five directions, including starting from an early age, enhancing transparency of information, encouraging restaurants to reduce salt and sugar, reformulation of prepackaged food products, as well as strengthening publicity and education.

On starting from an early age, DH has launched the Healthy Drinks at School Charter at kindergartens and child care centres starting from 2018/19 school year. As at to-date, more than 420 kindergartens and child care centres (i.e. about 40% of kindergartens and child care centres in Hong Kong) are participating in the Charter, pledging to provide children with water and healthy drinks, and not using food as a reward. Besides, DH has launched the Salt Reduction Scheme for School Lunches in primary schools since 2017/18 school year. So far, 13 school lunch suppliers joined the Scheme and provided sodium-reduced lunch options to more than 510 primary schools in Hong Kong (i.e. representing nearly 90% of primary schools in Hong Kong). DH's target is to reduce the

average sodium level of primary school lunches by 5% to 10% per year, with a view to cutting the average sodium level of primary school lunches down to not more than 500 mg in ten years. In 2017/18 school year, the average sodium content of primary school lunch decreased by 14%, meeting the Scheme's sodium reduction target for 2018.

On enhancing transparency of information, we launched the "Salt/Sugar" Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products in October 2017 to facilitate the public to identify more easily prepackaged food products which meet the legal definition of "low salt", "no salt", "low sugar" and "no sugar". At present, more than 210 prepackaged food products have participated in the Scheme. We will continue to actively promote the Scheme to manufacturers/importers to enlist their participation. In addition, several large-scale food manufacturers have undertaken to reformulate their prepackaged food products, covering various types of drinks, instant noodles and soups.

On encouraging restaurants to reduce salt and sugar, we launched the Less-salt-and-sugar Restaurants Scheme in early 2019. Up till now, about 960 restaurants have enrolled and provided customers with options of reduced salt and/or sugar or tailor-made less-salt-and-sugar dishes, so that the public can have more healthy choices when eating out. We have also promoted the Scheme to the public through an online restaurant searching platform. From February 2019 till now, the total number of searches for nearby less-salt-and-sugar restaurants through the platform has exceeded 140 million.

Regarding reformulation of prepackaged food products, we set voluntary sodium reduction targets for prepackaged white bread and wholemeal bread in late September 2019. Seven chained bakery shops and manufacturers have been invited to participate in the Salt Reduction Scheme, striving to reduce the sodium content in their bread through product reformulation. Our next step is to extend the Scheme to non-prepackaged white bread and wholemeal bread, and invite more bread manufacturers to join the Scheme.

On strengthening publicity and education, we organised various activities in 2019, including a large-scale publicity event at Tai Kwun in February, a media tea reception in May with seven celebrity chefs to conduct cooking demonstration with less salt and sugar, and staging, for the third time, less-salt-and-sugar cooking demonstrations by four "star chefs" at Food Expo in August. Moreover, we have been disseminating the message of salt and sugar reduction to the public via the Facebook and Instagram pages on "Hong Kong's Action on Salt & Sugar Reduction". We have also produced radio programmes, music videos and Announcements of Public Interest on television, and engaged key opinion leaders of social media to help promote less-salt-and-sugar diet and perform online cooking demonstration with less salt and sugar. Starting from 2019, FHB, CFS, DH and the Education Bureau jointly hold briefings for teachers to promote healthy living and less-salt-and-sugar eating habits.

In 2020-21, we will continue to organise various public education and publicity activities, proactively promote the "Salt/Sugar" Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products to manufacturers/importers, invite more restaurants to participate in the Less-salt-and-sugar Restaurants Scheme and better utilising the online searching platform for promotion etc.

Promoting salt and sugar reduction territory-wide is our ongoing work. FHB incurred $5.82 million, $4 million and about $7.5 million in implementing various public education

and publicity activities in 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 respectively, which included the expenses on engaging consultancy firms that amounted to $2.67 million and $3.26 million in 2018-19 and 2019-20 respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5109)

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

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What is the expenditure on engaging dedicated personnel to manage and maintain the Secretary's personal social media platforms, including Facebook fan page, Instagram and website?

a. What were the number of staff responsible for maintaining the Secretary's social media platforms and the expenditure on each of the staff members (in terms of annual salary) in the past 3 years?

b. Were outside companies engaged to assist in maintaining the social media platforms in the past 3 years? If yes, what were the expenditure and companies involved?

c. What were the number of advertisements posted on social media and the annual expenditure on such advertisements in the past year?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 1149)

Reply:

The social media platforms of the Secretary for Food and Health (SFH) have all along been managed by the Political Assistant (PA) to SFH, among his other duties. From mid-October 2019, we have engaged a project executive to assist PA to SFH in handling this task. The expenditure involved is $105,000 in 2019-20.

We have not engaged external agencies to assist in maintaining SFH's personal social media platforms, nor posted any advertisements on social media.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3393)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding continuing to implement a strategic plan for reducing the levels of salt and sugar in food to promote healthy eating, what was the work progress made in 2019? What are the specific work plan and timetable for 2020, and the estimated manpower and resources required?

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 65)

Reply:

The Government attaches much importance to the work on reducing salt and sugar intake of Hong Kong people. The Food and Health Bureau (FHB), the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Department of Health (DH) and the Committee on Reduction of Salt and Sugar in Food (CRSS) have all along been striving to promote salt and sugar reduction through five directions, including starting from an early age, enhancing transparency of information, encouraging restaurants to reduce salt and sugar, reformulation of prepackaged food products, as well as strengthening publicity and education.

On starting from an early age, DH has launched the Healthy Drinks at School Charter at kindergartens and child care centres starting from 2018/19 school year. As at to-date, more than 420 kindergartens and child care centres (i.e. about 40% of kindergartens and child care centres in Hong Kong) are participating in the Charter, pledging to provide children with water and healthy drinks, and not using food as a reward. Besides, DH has launched the Salt Reduction Scheme for School Lunches in primary schools since 2017/18 school year. So far, 13 school lunch suppliers joined the Scheme and provided sodium-reduced lunch options to more than 510 primary schools in Hong Kong (i.e. representing nearly 90% of primary schools in Hong Kong). DH's target is to reduce the average sodium level of primary school lunches by 5% to 10% per year, with a view to cutting the average sodium level of primary school lunches down to not more than 500 mg in ten years. In 2017/18 school year, the average sodium content of primary school lunch

decreased by 14%, meeting the Scheme's sodium reduction target for 2018. In 2020-21, we will continue to implement these schemes.

On enhancing transparency of information, we launched the "Salt/Sugar" Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products in October 2017 to facilitate the public to identify more easily prepackaged food products which meet the legal definition of "low salt", "no salt", "low sugar" and "no sugar". At present, more than 210 prepackaged food products have participated in the Scheme. We will continue to actively promote the Scheme to manufacturers/importers to enlist their participation. In addition, several large-scale food manufacturers have undertaken to reformulate their prepackaged food products, covering various types of drinks, instant noodles and soups.

On encouraging restaurants to reduce salt and sugar, we launched the Less-salt-and-sugar Restaurants Scheme in early 2019. Up till now, about 960 restaurants have enrolled and provided customers with options of reduced salt and/or sugar or tailor-made less-salt-and-sugar dishes, so that the public can have more healthy choices when eating out. We have also promoted the Scheme to the public through an online restaurant searching platform. From February 2019 till now, the total number of searches for nearby less-salt-and-sugar restaurants through the platform has exceeded 140 million. We will continue to encourage more restaurants to participate in the Scheme and make use of the searching platform for promotion.

Regarding reformulation of prepackaged food products, we set voluntary sodium reduction targets for prepackaged white bread and wholemeal bread in late September 2019. Seven chained bakery shops and manufacturers have been invited to participate in the Salt Reduction Scheme, striving to reduce the sodium content in their bread through product reformulation. Our next step is to extend the Scheme to non-prepackaged white bread and wholemeal bread, and invite more bread manufacturers to join the Scheme.

On strengthening publicity and education, we organised various activities in 2019, including a large-scale publicity event at Tai Kwun in February, a media tea reception in May with seven celebrity chefs to conduct cooking demonstration with less salt and sugar, and staging, for the third time, less-salt-and-sugar cooking demonstrations by four "star chefs" at Food Expo in August. Moreover, we have been disseminating the message of salt and sugar reduction to the public via the Facebook and Instagram pages on "Hong Kong's Action on Salt & Sugar Reduction". We have also produced radio programmes, music videos and Announcements of Public Interest on television, and engaged key opinion leaders of social media to help promote less-salt-and-sugar diet and perform online cooking demonstration with less salt and sugar. Starting from 2019, FHB, CFS, DH and the Education Bureau jointly hold briefings for teachers to promote healthy living and less-salt-and-sugar eating habits. In 2020-21, we will continue to organise various public education and publicity activities.

FHB has earmarked $7.5 million in 2020-21 for promoting salt and sugar reduction territory-wide. The earmarked funds are intended to implement various public education and publicity activities so as to promote a less-salt-and-sugar dietary culture to the public. The manpower and other recurrent expenses concerned have been covered under FHB's overall allocation, and it is difficult to have a separate breakdown.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3400)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned under "Matters Requiring Special Attention" that the Government will continue to study the feasibility of reprovisioning and expanding the Food Safety Laboratory of the Government Laboratory to enhance its testing capability and operational efficiency for tests relating to food safety. In this connection, please advise on the work progress made in 2019, the specific work plan and timetable for 2020, and the estimated manpower and resources required.

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 72)

Reply:

The Government Laboratory (GL), including its Food Safety Laboratory, is currently facing shortage of space. The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and GL have, earlier on, identified a suitable site for the construction of a new complex for GL, and have initially consulted the relevant District Council (DC). Following the consultation, we have reviewed and revised the proposal in the light of the views of the DC, and sought comments from the technical departments. As and when the revised proposal is finalised, we will conduct further consultation. After we have completed the consultation and the technical assessments of the overall development, we will confirm the project details such as the timetable and budget estimates. FHB and GL are handling the above-mentioned work with existing resources.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)183

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6054)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

a. Please set out the quantity, value and stock of surgical masks produced by the Correctional Services Department (CSI masks) that the Food and Health Bureau (FHB) obtained from the Government Logistics Department (GLD) each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of CSI masks obtained	Value of CSI masks obtained	Stock of CSI masks

b. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of surgical masks that FHB obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of surgical masks obtained from GLD (value)	No. of surgical masks procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

c. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of N95 masks that FHB obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of N95 masks obtained from GLD (value)	No. of N95 masks procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

d. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of gowns that FHB obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of gowns obtained from GLD (value)	No. of gowns procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

e. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of protective coverall suits that FHB obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of protective coverall suits obtained from GLD (value)	No. of protective coverall suits procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

f. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of face shields that FHB obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of face shields procured	Value of face shields procured	Stock	Consumption

g. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of goggles that FHB obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of goggles procured	Value of goggles procured	Stock	Consumption

h. Did FHB supply or sell surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, goggles, gowns and protective coverall suits to other organisations in the past 3 years? If yes, please provide the relevant information, including the quantity, consumption and stock, in the following table:

Month/Year	Name of organisations	Manner of provision (e.g. sold or supplied for free)	Surgical masks	N95 masks	Face shields	Goggles	Gowns	Protective coverall suits

i. If FHB is to supply or sell surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, goggles, gowns and protective coverall suits to other organisations, what are the departments and the ranks of the officers responsible for making such decisions? Please provide the ranks of the officers involved in each decision, the date they made the decision and other relevant information.

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 143)

Reply:

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) obtains masks produced by the Correctional Services Department from the Government Logistics Department (GLD) and also procures masks from the market for distribution to its staff. FHB does not maintain information regarding the distribution of masks with different origins to staff members.

With an upsurge in demand for personal protective equipment (PPE) around the globe, the Government is facing keen competition in its procurement. The Government considers it unsuitable at this stage to disclose further information about the stock levels, places of origin, suppliers, quantities procured and amounts paid, delivery schedules and consumption in respect of PPE in individual departments in the past few years and recent months so as not to undermine the bargaining power of GLD and other departments in procuring PPE.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6710)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Some animal rights groups have criticised that some provisions of the Animals (Control of Experiments) Ordinance, which was enacted as early as in 1963, have become very outdated, uncivilised and unnecessary. Will the Government consider amending the Ordinance, such as extending the scope of animal experimentation under control so that it will no longer be limited only to those experiments "performed on an animal and calculated to give pain", or it will only allow those experiments that are related to and necessary for medical research and development? Will the Government consider setting the ultimate goal of banning experiments on animals?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

The Animals (Control of Experiments) Ordinance (Cap. 340) (the Ordinance) provides for the control of experiments on living vertebrate animals. Section 3 of the Ordinance provides that no person except a licensee shall perform any experiments on living vertebrate animals. Section 6 provides that no licensee shall perform any experiment except for the purpose of the advancement by new discovery of physiological knowledge, or of any knowledge which will be useful for saving or prolonging life, or alleviating suffering, or for combating any disease whether of human beings, animals or plants, or for the purpose of testing any former discovery alleged to have been made for the advancement of such types of knowledge.

At present, animal experiments still play an important role in research areas such as understanding disease mechanisms as well as development and testing of new drugs, therapeutic methods and techniques. While non-living experimental techniques are becoming more mature, they cannot completely replace animal experiments. In addition to issuing licences under the Ordinance, the Department of Health also reminds the licensees in writing to observe the "Code of Practice for Care and Use of Animals for Experimental Purposes" published by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department. The

Code urges people who use animals for experimental purposes to treat the animals involved humanely, minimise the number of animals used and where possible, use non-animal alternatives. The Government will keep in view the latest developments and review the existing regulatory arrangements from time to time.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)185

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3963)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-2020, the Food Branch will oversee the development of new public markets at selected locations and the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme to improve facilities of existing public markets. Which new public markets have already been completed? What are the respective expenditures incurred? What are the selected locations where public markets are expected to be developed this year? What are the details, target completion dates and the expenditures incurred?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 104)

Reply:

The Government is taking forward 7 new market projects which are at different stages of planning. They include the development of new public markets in Tin Shui Wai, Tung Chung Town Centre, Tseung Kwan O, Kwu Tung North New Development Area, Tung Chung New Town Extension and Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area as well as the establishment of a temporary market in Tin Shui Wai. The information on the projects is set out at Annex.

Annex

	Project	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date and estimated project cost
1.	Tin Shui Wai temporary Market (Tin Sau Road)	The temporary market will be built at the open space adjacent to Tin Sau Road Park using the modular integrated construction method. It is expected to provide about 40 stalls focusing on sale of fish, meat, vegetables and fruits.	Preparation of construction drawings and pre-construction works are underway	The fourth quarter of 2020. The current estimated project cost is nearly $30 million.
2.	Tin Shui Wai market (a section of Tin Fuk Road)	A decked-over market will be built at the section of Tin Fuk Road near Tin Shui Wai Mass Transit Railway (MTR) Station. It is expected to provide a maximum of about 150 stalls.	The technical feasibility study is underway.	The first half of 2027. The estimated project cost is to be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.
3.	Tung Chung Town Centre market (Area 6)	The market will be located on the lower floors of a commercial building to be built by a developer in Area 6 adjacent to Tung Chung MTR Station. It is expected to provide at least 100 stalls.	The technical feasibility study for the entire commercial building development project (including the public market) is underway.	To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.
4.	Tseung Kwan O market	The market will be located on the lower floors of the proposed joint-user building for community facilities at Tseung Kwan O town centre	The study and preliminary planning on the site selection for the proposed joint-user building for community facilities (including	To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.

	Project	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date and estimated project cost
			the public market) are underway.	
5.	Kwu Tung North New Development Area market	To be confirmed upon completion of preliminary planning	Preliminary planning is underway.	The development of the public markets will tie in with the housing development plan of the districts concerned. The estimated project cost is to be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.
6.	Tung Chung New Town Extension market			
7.	Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area market			

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No.6244)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Regarding the work to "oversee the development of new public markets at selected locations and the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme to improve facilities of existing public markets", please provide the following information:

Location/ District where new market(s) will be developed	Construction cost	Construction period	Commencement date of construction works	Operating cost	No. of stalls	Cost for the study report on the provision of new public markets	Publication date of the study report
1. Deck Over option on Tin Fuk Road, Tin Shui Wai							
2. Temporary market next to Tin Sau Road Park							
3. Area 6 of Tung Chung Town Centre option							
4. Tung Chung New Town Extension Area (opposite Ying Tung Estate)							

District where new market(s) will be developed	Selected site	Construction cost	Construction period	Commencement date of construction works	Operating cost	Size / No. of stalls
1. Hung Shui Kiu						
2. Tseung Kwan O						
3. Kwu Tung North						

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 123)

Reply:

The Government is taking forward 7 new market projects which are at different stages of planning. They include the development of new public markets in Tin Shui Wai, Tung Chung Town Centre, Tung Chung New Town Extension, Tseung Kwan O, Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area and Kwu Tung North New Development Area as well as the establishment of a temporary market in Tin Shui Wai. The information on the projects is set out at Annex.

Annex

	Project	Scope of development	Details of the study report on the provision of new public markets	Estimated project cost	Expected dates of commencement and completion of construction works
1.	Tin Shui Wai market (a section of Tin Fuk Road)	Expected to provide a maximum of about 150 stalls.	The technical feasibility study and assessment is underway. After this work is completed, the project will be implemented as soon as possible according to the established procedure, and we will continue to brief the District Council (DC) in due course.	To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.	The target is to commence the first phase of works in 2022 for the relocation of existing public facilities on the ground and the relevant road works of widening the carriageways, to be followed by the commencement of construction works of the new market in 2023. The project is expected to be completed in the first half of 2027.
2.	Tin Shui Wai temporary Market (Tin Sau Road)	Expected to provide about 40 stalls.	This is a minor works project and no technical study report is available.	The current estimated project cost is nearly $30 million.	Building plans are being prepared and preliminary work being carried out. It is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2020.
3.	Tung Chung Town Centre market (Area 6)	Expected to provide at least 100 stalls.	We will brief DC on project progress in due course.	The technical feasibility study for the entire commercial building development project (including the public market) is underway. To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.	
4	Tseung Kwan O market	The market will be located on the lower floors of the proposed joint-user building for community facilities at Tseung Kwan O town centre. The study and preliminary planning on the site selection for the proposed joint-user building for community facilities (including the		To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.	

	Project	Scope of development	Details of the study report on the provision of new public markets	Estimated project cost	Expected dates of commencement and completion of construction works
		public market) are underway.			
5.	Tung Chung New Town Extension market	To be confirmed upon completion of preliminary planning. We will brief DC on project progress in due course.		The development of the public markets will tie in with the housing development plan of the districts concerned. To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.	
6.	Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area market				
7.	Kwu Tung North New Development Area market				

Note: The operating costs of markets are to be determined.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)187

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No.6245)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Regarding the work to "oversee the development of new public markets at selected locations", please provide the following information:

District where new market(s) will be developed	The number of residents expected to be served by the new market(s)			
	Public housing residents in the district	Home Ownership Scheme residents in the district	Private housing residents in the district	Non-residents of the district
1. Deck Over option on Tin Fuk Road, Tin Shui Wai				
2. Temporary market next to Tin Sau Road Park				
3. Area 6 of Tung Chung Town Centre option				
4. Tung Chung New Town Extension Area (opposite Ying Tung Estate)				
5. Hung Shui Kiu				
6. Tseung Kwan O				
7. Kwu Tung North				

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 124)

Reply:

The Government is taking forward 7 new market projects which are at different stages of planning. They include the development of new public markets in Tin Shui Wai, Tung Chung Town Centre, Tseung Kwan O, Kwu Tung North New Development Area (NDA), Tung Chung New Town Extension and Hung Shui Kiu NDA as well as the establishment of a temporary market in Tin Shui Wai.

In identifying potential sites for the development of new public markets, consideration will be given to their geographical location, existing and planned uses, usable area and ancillary transport facilities nearby, in order to ensure that, upon completion, the markets will be of a substantial scale and viability and that public finances and land resources can be optimised. The current sites selected for the two new markets at a section of Tin Fuk Road in Tin Shui Wai and in Area 6 of Tung Chung Town Centre and the temporary market on Tin Sau Road in Tin Shui Wai are well-connected by public transport and close to Mass Transit Railway stations, Light Rail Transit stations or public transport interchanges, and accessible to members of the public. As to the Tseung Kwan O new public market, the study and preliminary planning on the site selection for the proposed joint-user building for community facilities (including the public market) are underway. According to the data provided by the Census and Statistics Department in the 2016 Population By-census, the populations of Tin Shui Wai, North Lantau New Town (including Tung Chung) and Tseung Kwan O are 286 232, 86 392 and 398 479.

Preliminary planning is underway for the new public market projects in Kwu Tung North NDA, Tung Chung New Town Extension and Hung Shui Kiu NDA, which will tie in with the housing development plan of the districts concerned. Under the relevant development plans, the populations of Kwu Tung North NDA, Tung Chung New Town Extension and Hung Shui Kiu NDA are estimated at about 119 600[1], 145 500[2] and 218 000[3].

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[1] Kwu Tung North Outline Development Plan.

[2] The Planning and Engineering Study on the Remaining Development in Tung Chung – Feasibility Study jointly commissioned by the Planning Department and Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) in January 2012.

[3] The Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area Planning and Engineering Study announced by the Planning Department and the Civil Engineering and Development Department in September 2016.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)188

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5149)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Please set out in tabular form on a quarterly basis the quantities of live pigs imported into Hong Kong from the Mainland in the past 3 years;
2. Please set out in tabular form on a monthly basis the quantities of chilled and frozen pork imported from overseas in the past 3 years;
3. Please set out in tabular form the top ten places of origin for chilled and frozen pork imported from overseas in each of the past 3 years;
4. Please set out in tabular form on a monthly basis the average retail price for fresh pork locally in the past 3 years;
5. Will the Government take further actions by importing live pigs from other countries so as to increase the sources of supply and to stabilise the prices of live pigs? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 604)

Reply:

(1) The quantities of live pigs imported into Hong Kong from the Mainland on a quarterly basis in the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

	1st Quarter	**2nd Quarter**	**3rd Quarter**	**4th Quarter**
2017	352 603	362 647	373 267	366 862
2018	356 932	372 152	373 811	365 255
2019	331 195	237 029	142 765	132 433

(2) According to the records of the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD), the quantities of imported chilled and frozen pork each month in the past 3 years (2017, 2018 and 2019) are tabulated as follows:

	Imported chilled pork（tonnes）			**Imported frozen pork（tonnes）**		
	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
January	763	1 077	946	26 700	27 373	15 530
February	617	929	784	26 925	16 461	10 507
March	964	858	864	28 123	24 885	15 353
April	724	877	697	36 028	24 128	14 789
May	1 085	960	1 147	33 370	24 907	20 487
June	744	735	1 169	26 692	18 557	17 760
July	947	511	1 352	28 781	16 563	17 076
August	1 127	786	950	31 272	15 251	14 052
September	985	811	1 354	29 722	18 471	12 016
October	986	915	2 359	27 791	18 398	14 057
November	965	702	2 315	27 028	18 489	15 663
December	844	648	1 913	26 189	17 098	17 470
Total：	**10 751**	**9 809**	**15 850**	**348 621**	**240 581**	**184 760**

(3) According to C&SD's records, the top ten regions from where chilled and frozen pork was imported in the past 3 years (2017, 2018 and 2019) are tabulated as follows:

	Regions for the import of chilled pork			**Regions for the import of frozen pork**		
	2017	**2018**	**2019**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
1	Mainland China	Mainland China	Mainland China	Brazil	Brazil	Brazil
2	Brazil	Brazil	Thailand	USA	Mainland China	Mainland China
3	Australia	Canada	Brazil	Mainland China	USA	Netherlands
4	Canada	Spain	Australia	Germany	Netherlands	Vietnam
5	Spain	Australia	Spain	Netherlands	Germany	USA
6	Thailand	Thailand	Canada	Poland	Poland	Poland
7	USA	USA	Netherlands	Spain	Spain	Germany
8	France	Japan	USA	Vietnam	Vietnam	Spain
9	Japan	Netherlands	UK	Italy	Italy	Canada
10	Netherlands	France	Japan	Canada	Canada	Belgium

(4) According to C&SD's Monthly Report on the Consumer Price Index, the average retail prices for "pork – lean meat" each month in the past 3 years (2017, 2018 and 2019) are tabulated as follows:

	Average retail prices（HK$/kilogram）		
	2017	2018	2019
January	75.9	73.7	75.7
February	75.2	74.4	80.5
March	75.9	72.7	78.3
April	76.3	73.5	76.5
May	75.0	73.3	85.5
June	73.0	72.3	137.3
July	73.4	70.9	142.6
August	73.9	72.1	156.4
September	73.0	72.8	159.0
October	73.6	73.2	160.3
November	72.4	74.0	159.4
December	72.2	74.8	156.9

(5) Some traders proposed earlier to import live pigs from other countries (South Korea and Malaysia) in order to increase the local supply of live pigs. In general, to import live pigs from other places, the trade must first develop standard operating procedures and contingency plans for consideration by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD). If it is considered feasible, AFCD will discuss with the competent authorities of the exporting places on the specific requirements for the import of live pigs. Coordination of the above work is being undertaken by AFCD. Since the importation of live food animals entails public health and food safety considerations and some neighboring countries are affected by the outbreaks of African Swine Fever, we have to exercise caution.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)189

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5150)

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

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Please set out in tabular form on a monthly basis the quantities of live cattle imported into Hong Kong in the past 3 years;
2. Please set out in tabular form on a monthly basis the average prices in the past 3 years;
3. Will the Government bring in more import agents so as to increase the supply and stabilise the prices of fresh beef? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 605)

Reply:

1. The quantities of live cattle imported into Hong Kong each month in the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Month	**Number of imported live cattle**		
	2017	**2018**	**2019**
January	1 245	1 551	1 476
February	1 407	1 279	1 157
March	1 494	1 422	1 400
April	1 355	1 364	1 302
May	1 473	1 472	1 101
June	1 392	1 378	1 120
July	1 432	1 401	1 304

August	1 451	1 465	1 272
September	1 457	1 360	1 228
October	1 494	1 494	1 346
November	1 519	1 428	1 238
December	1 619	1 548	1 351

2. The average prices of imported live cattle in the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	**Average wholesale prices per picul of imported live cattle ($)**	
	Marbled Meat Cattle	**Beef Cattle**
2017	4,578	3,958
2018	4,686	4,104
2019	4,704	4,169

3. The Government's policy objective is to ensure a stable, diversified and adequate food supply for the general public. In the past 3 years, the supply of imported cattle was stable, and the wholesale prices were also relatively stable. The Government will continue to keep in view the supply and prices of live cattle.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3981)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Over the past 3 years, what was the number of competition horses transporting between Hong Kong and the Conghua Equine Disease Free Zone that have undergone testing by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), as well as the number of posts, salaries and other related expenditures involved in the above work? What is the estimate for all the above items this year?

There was an outbreak of the novel coronavirus in Mainland China in early 2020. As the transport of competition horses between Hong Kong and Conghua is frequent, how does AFCD ensure the health of its staff and the horses to prevent infection and the spread of the virus into Hong Kong?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 261)

Reply:

The Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC)'s Conghua Racecourse, located within the Conghua Equine Disease Free Zone, was officially opened in August 2018. Up to March 2020, a total of about 6 000 horses were transported between Hong Kong and Conghua Racecourse.

To safeguard the health of horses, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has devised a surveillance programme for the movement of horses between Hong Kong and Conghua Racecourse. The Equine Disease Division has been established for the provision of equine disease testing services since June 2017. The expenditure and manpower involved in 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 are tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)			Manpower (number of staff)
	Staff	Operation	Total	

Year	Expenditure ($ million)			Manpower (number of staff)
	Staff	Operation	Total	
2017-18	4.4	3.3	7.7	4
2018-19	5.8	6.8	12.6	4
2019-20 (revised estimate)	6.7	6.2	12.9	6

The Government charges HKJC for conducting the equine disease testing services on a full cost recovery basis.

The manpower resources and expenditure earmarked for equine testing in 2020-21 are similar to that of 2019-20.

To safeguard the health of horses during movement between Hong Kong and Conghua Racecourse, AFCD, HKJC and relevant departments in the Mainland have jointly implemented strict biosecurity and disease surveillance measures, among which mainly include arrangement of horses moving between the 2 places to reside or stay at the facilities of Conghua Racecourse and HKJC only; regular health monitoring for horses; and necessary disease testing and temperature-taking for horses before the movement. In addition, the vehicles for transporting horses are installed with air filters operated with a closed air circulation system, and restricted to transportation routes that have passed the biosecurity risk assessment, and horses are also confined during movement to reduce the risk of infection. As to the staff who are responsible for the movement of horses and related work, they are required to comply with the prevention and control measures on COVID-19 implemented in Hong Kong and the Conghua and the requirements of HKJC. Upon arriving at Conghua Racecourse, they can only stay within the racecourse until their return to Hong Kong along with the horse floats with a view to reducing the risk of contracting and spreading disease.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)191

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3982)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What were the types of the 2 300 stray animals caught by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) in 2019? What were the manpower and expenditure involved? How were the caught stray animals handled? What were the respective numbers and percentages of animals euthanised, sterilised and returned, released to the habitat and rehomed? What were the respective expenditures involved in handling the caught stray animals by using the said various methods?

According to AFCD, the estimated number of stray animals caught in 2020 is 2 300, which is the same as the actual number recorded in 2019. How is the figure derived? What types of animals does AFCD expect to catch? What are the manpower and expenditure involved? Is the number of stray animals caught a factor for rating AFCD's performance?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 262)

Reply:

Stray animals caught will be put in the Animal Management Centres (AMCs) under the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) for observation. For those with a microchip implanted, AMCs will try to locate their owners based on the information on their records. In general, these animals will stay in AMCs for about 10 to 20 days. AMCs will keep the non-microchipped ones for at least 4 days, allowing time for their owners to reclaim them. In cases where the animals being left unclaimed are in good health, and assessed by a veterinary officer as having a gentle temperament and suitable for rehoming, AFCD will arrange their transfer to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) for rehoming by members of the public as far as possible. Only animals that are not suitable for rehoming or eventually not rehomed will be euthanised.

The number and species of stray animals caught, animals surrendered by owners and received through other channels by AFCD, and the number and species of animals reclaimed by owners, rehomed and euthanised in 2019 are tabulated in the **Annex**.

Besides, AFCD has launched the "Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation" (CSR) programme for stray cattle since 2011, under which AFCD captures, sterilises and relocates stray cattle to more remote locations far away from human settlements. In 2019, a total of 125, 207 and 98 stray cattle were captured, sterilised and relocated / returned respectively under the CSR programme. Moreover, AFCD assisted 2 AWOs in implementing the Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) trial programme for stray dogs at the 2 trial sites in Cheung Chau and Yuen Long. Although the TNR trial programme was completed in early 2018, the 2 concerned AWOs have agreed to continue to monitor the number of dogs recorded for the trial programme, and regularly provide AFCD with the information on the condition, average lifespan and changes in the population of the dogs concerned in the coming years. Since the launch of the trial programme up till end 2019, a total of 103 dogs were neutered and returned to the 2 trial sites.

In 2019-20, the revised expenditure and manpower involved in the management of stray animals, including catching operations and handling of stray animals caught, as well as the CSR programme for stray cattle and the TNR programme for stray dogs are $41 million and 195 staff members respectively.

The estimated number and species of stray animals caught in 2020 are expected to be similar to that in 2019. With AFCD's continuous implementation of measures for managing stray animals, the number of stray animals caught has decreased by about 56% from 2015 to 2019. In 2020-21, we have earmarked $43.3 million and 196 staff members for this area of work.

Annex

Year	Stray animals caught			Animals surrendered by owners			Animals received through other channels			Animals reclaimed by owners			Animals rehomed			Animals euthanised		
	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*
2019	965	304	1 031	674	75	69	226	63	2 101^	404	127	9	547	78	44	837	219	2 363^

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs/cattle, poultry/birds, etc.

^ This mainly includes the number of animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3983)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 under this programme, the Government stated that it would implement the New Agriculture Policy to proactively support the modernisation and sustainable development of local agriculture, including preparing for the establishment of the Agricultural Park, processing of applications for the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund and overseeing the consultancy study on designating Agricultural Priority Areas. Will the Government advise this Committee of the manpower and estimated annual salary expense involved in implementing the new agriculture policy in 2020-21?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 263)

Reply:

A total of 50 staff involving a provision of about $20 million for staff cost have been earmarked for the implementation of the New Agriculture Policy.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3646)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the issue of the cattle in the New Territories, would the Government inform this Committee of the following information over the past 3 years:

(a) What were the expenditure and manpower earmarked by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for the said work each year?

(b) What was the distribution of local cattle?

(c) What was the number of injuries and deaths of cattle each year? What was the number of cattle euthanised each year?

(d) What was the number of complaints related to the cattle in the New Territories received each year?

(e) What were the details of the "Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation" programme? What was the number of cattle relocated?

(f) Some members of the public have suggested putting reflective collars on stray cattle to enable motorists to notice cattle on the roads at night with a view to reducing such traffic accidents. Will the Government consider adopting this suggestion? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

(g) Is there any timeframe for the installation of cattle grids? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 171)

Reply:

(a) The expenditure and manpower of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) involved in management of stray cattle (including the "Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation" (CSR) programme) over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2017-18	3.5	7
2018-19	6.7	7
2019-20 (revised estimate)	5.6	8

(b) According to a territory-wide population survey on stray cattle conducted in 2018, there were around 1 140 stray cattle in the rural areas of Hong Kong. The number and distribution of the stray cattle are tabulated as follows:

Species	Number of stray cattle (head)				
	Lantau Island	Sai Kung/ Ma On Shan	North East New Territories	Central New Territories	Total
Buffalo	120	0	0	40	160
Brown cattle	170	400	260	150	980
Total	**290**	**400**	**260**	**190**	**1 140**

(c) AFCD does not have information on the number of injured or dead cattle. The number of cases involving injured or sick cattle received by AFCD and the number of cattle euthanised over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of cases[#] involving injured/sick cattle	Number of cattle euthanised (head)
2017	151	26
2018	250	39
2019	180	7

[#] A case may involve more than one cattle. The same animal may be involved in more than one case.

(d) The number of cattle nuisance complaints received by AFCD over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of cattle related complaints received
2017	63
2018	82
2019	92

(e) AFCD adopts a multi-pronged approach for managing stray cattle. One of the key measures is the CSR programme launched in late 2011, under which AFCD captures, sterilises and relocates stray cattle to remote locations far away from human settlements. AFCD staff monitor the health of the feral cattle herds by conducting inspections regularly at locations where the cattle reside.

The number of cattle handled under the CSR programme over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Captured^ (head)	Sterilised (head)	Relocated/Returned^ (head)
2017	105	43	72
2018	128	105	80
2019	125	207	98

^ Figures include repeated capture and relocation/return of the same cattle.

(f) AFCD notes that certain cattle concern groups have put reflective strips on some cattle. However, AFCD is of the view that the existing measure of relocating cattle to remote country parks with lower traffic flows is more effective than putting reflective strips on cattle in minimising traffic accidents involving cattle.

(g) AFCD and the relevant departments have carried out a detailed study on cattle grids, which found that such facilities are generally used on private land in farms in foreign countries to prevent cattle from going outside the farms. Having regard to overseas experience, it is considered that there are potential safety hazards to road users if cattle grids are installed on local public roads.

In the light of the above, and in the absence of viable options to address the safety concerns, the cattle grid proposal will not be pursued further. AFCD will, however, continue to look into other solutions to reduce the possibility of the cattle returning to the urban area.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3647)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the enforcement of the Rabies Ordinance over the past 3 years, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

(a) What were the expenditures and manpower involved?

(b) What were the number of dog licences granted and the source of the dogs newly issued with dog licences?

(c) What was the expenditure involved in rabies vaccination each year?

(d) What were the number of prosecutions related to and the penalties for animal keepers abandoning their animals without reasonable excuses?

(e) What were the number of prosecutions related to and the penalties for failing to keep dogs under proper control?

(f) What was the number of dog bite cases received each year?

(g) Further to the above question, what were the respective numbers of dogs, cats and other animals put under observation for rabies at Animal Management Centres under the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, veterinary clinics and keepers' homes?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 172)

Reply:

(a) The expenditure and manpower of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) involved in the enforcement of the Rabies Ordinance (Cap. 421) (the Ordinance) over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2017-18	34.0	187
2018-19	38.1	188
2019-20 (revised estimate)	35.6	187

(b) Under the Rabies Regulation (Cap. 421A), a dog aged over 5 months is required to be licensed and vaccinated against this disease every 3 years. The number of dog licences issued by AFCD over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of dog license issued
2017	61 368
2018	59 034
2019	56 092

The number of dog licences newly issued over the past 3 years by their sources is tabulated as follows:

Source of the dogs	Year / Number of dog licenses newly issued		
	2017	2018	2019
Dog breeding establishments and dog trading premises	2 947	2 062	2 868
Legally imported	3 663	2 564	2 958
Handled by government departments such as rehomed under AFCD's rehome scheme through AFCD's partner animal welfare organisations (AWOs), service dogs of government departments, etc	971	811	613
Other sources	9 465	8 955	9 122
Total	**17 046**	**14 392**	**15 561**

"Other sources" mainly include puppies born of privately owned pet dogs and some stray dogs handled by AWOs and individuals.

(c) The expenditure of AFCD on the procurement of anti-rabies vaccine over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)
2017-18	0.5
2018-19	0.9
2019-20 (revised estimate)	1.0

(d) and (e) Under section 22 of the Ordinance, a keeper of any animal who abandons that animal without reasonable excuse is liable to a maximum fine of $10,000 and to imprisonment of 6 months. In adducing evidence to substantiate a case under the aforementioned section, it is difficult for the prosecution to prove beyond reasonable doubt that a person abandons an animal without reasonable excuse, particularly in those cases where there is no witness. To tackle cases involving dogs, the prosecution may press charges against the dog owners concerned for failing to take proper control of their dogs in public places pursuant to section 23 of the Ordinance. The maximum penalty for contravening this provision is a fine of $10,000.

Information on the number of convictions under section 23 of the Ordinance over the past 3 years and the relevant penalties is tabulated as follows:

Year	**Prosecution against improper control of dogs**	
	Number of convicted cases	**Heaviest penalty imposed**
2017	192	A fine of $2,000
2018	140	A fine of $1,500
2019	169	A fine of $3,000

(f) The number of dog biting cases received by AFCD over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	**Number of dog biting cases received**
2017	1 482
2018	1 354
2019	1 067

(g) The number of dogs and cats required to undergo rabies observation in AFCD's Animal Management Centres (AMCs), veterinary clinics and the keepers' homes over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	**AMCs[#]**		**Veterinary clinics[#]**		**Keeper's homes[#]**	
	Dogs	**Cats**	**Dogs**	**Cats**	**Dogs**	**Cats**
2017	185	7	0	2	422	5
2018	169	12	0	0	383	2
2019	102	8	2	0	205	3

[#] There is no case involving other animals that requires rabies observation.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4143)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the farmers who obtained credit through the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department over the past 5 years, please set out in table the repayment amount, the repayment rate, as well as the overdue or default cases concerned.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 106)

Reply:

The Government provides credit facility to farmers through 3 loan funds administered by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department. They are the J.E. Joseph Trust Fund, the Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund, and the Vegetable Marketing Organization Loan Fund. The amount of loans issued by the above loan funds and repayment over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Amount of loans issued ($ million)	Amount of repayment (up to December 2019) ($ million)
2015	6.0	6.0
2016	5.1	5.1
2017	6.1	5.9
2018	5.7	5.3
2019	5.0	0.3

Over the past 5 years, no overdue or default payment by borrowers were found in the abovementioned loan funds.

Repayment rate by year cannot be calculated as borrowers make repayment by instalments and loans may not be fully repaid within the same year they were issued.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4303)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (-) Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

(a) What was the expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) on management of stray animals and promotion of animal welfare over the past 5 years? Please advise of AFCD's estimated expenditure in this respect in 2020-21.

(b) Please provide in detail the number of complaints about wild pigs received and wild pigs captured by the Government in each of the past 5 years.

(c) Please provide in detail the number of cattle relocated to a new location by the Government from their original habitat in each of the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 269)

Reply:

(a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) implements the following measures to safeguard and promote animal welfare:

(i) conducting a review on the existing legislation and overseas experience related to animal welfare, as well as launching a three-month public consultation exercise in 2019 on proposals to enhance animal welfare;

(ii) enhancing public education and publicity programme to promote responsible pet ownership and proper care of animals, advise against the abandonment and needless surrendering of pets, and champion the need for dog licensing and rabies vaccination as well as the benefits of neutering;

(iii) implementing the licensing regime under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B) to regulate pet trading and breeding of dogs for sale;

(iv) devising codes of practices for the proper trading, breeding and keeping of pets and other animals;

(v) enhancing enforcement against pet owners and traders in contravention of relevant legislation;

(vi) improving the handling of reports or complaints on cruelty through an inter-departmental special working group comprising representatives of the relevant government departments and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong);

(vii) strengthening collaboration with, and providing technical and financial support to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) in rehoming of animals and carrying out activities relating to animal welfare and management; and

(viii) implementing the long term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with the relevant AWOs and local communities.

The expenditure and manpower involved in the above work over the past 5 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	**Expenditure ($ million)**	**Manpower (number of staff)**
2015-16	50.5	194
2016-17	53.7	207
2017-18	60.3	216
2018-19	74.7	217
2019-20 (revised estimate)	73.1	218

AFCD has earmarked $78.1 million and 219 staff members for the above work in 2020-21.

(b) The number of complaints about wild pigs received and the number of wild pigs captured by AFCD over the past 5 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	**Number of cases**	**Number of wild pigs captured**
2015-16	510	37
2016-17	643	62
2017-18	787	142
2018-19	1 008	192
2019-20 (up to January 2020)	950	250

(c) AFCD adopts a multi-pronged approach for managing stray cattle. One of the key measures is the "Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation" (CSR) programme launched in

late 2011, under which AFCD captures, sterilises and relocates stray cattle to remote locations far away from human settlements. AFCD monitors the health of the feral cattle herds by conducting inspections regularly at locations where the cattle reside.

The number of cattle captured and relocated under the CSR programme over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	**Number of cattle captured**^	**Number of cattle relocated/returned** ^
2015	88	70
2016	114	69
2017	105	72
2018	128	80
2019	125	98

^ Figures include repeated capture and relocation/return of the same cattle.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4857)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (-) Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work in relation to the Code on Access to Information, will the Government advise this Committee of the following:

(a) Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department from October 2018 to present for which only some of the required information has been provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests for which only some of the required information has been provided; (ii) the reasons for providing some of the information only; (iii) whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application); (iv) whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)? If yes, please provide the details.

From October to December 2018

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice

			that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

2019

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

(b) Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department from October 2018 to present for which the required information has not been provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests refused; (ii) the reasons for refusal; (iii) whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application); (iv) whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)? If yes, please provide the details.

From October to December 2018

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

2019

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

(c) Any person who believes that a department has failed to comply with any provision of the Code on Access to Information may ask the department to review the situation. Please advise this Committee in each of the past 5 years, (i) the number of review cases received; (ii) the number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review; (iii) whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level.

Year in which review cases were received	(i) Number of review cases received	(ii) Number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review	(iii) Whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018			
2019			

(d) With reference to the target response times set out in paragraphs 1.16.1 to 1.19.1 of Guidelines on Interpretation and Application of the Code on Access to Information, please advise this Committee on the following information by year in table form (with text descriptions).

(i) Within 10 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

Within 10 to 21 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

Within 21 to 51 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

(ii) cases in which information could not be provided within 21 days from date of receipt of a request in the past 5 years:

Date	Subject of information requested	Specific reason

(iii) cases in which information could not be provided within 51 days from date of receipt of a request in the past 5 years:

Date	Subject of information requested	Specific reason

(e) Please state in table form the number of those, among the cases in which requests for information were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information, on which the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was consulted when they were being handled in the past 5 years. For cases on which advice had been sought, was it fully accepted in the end? For cases where the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was not accepted or was only partially accepted, what are the reasons?

Date	Subject	Particular exemption provision in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information under which requests for information were refused	Whether the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was fully accepted	Reasons for refusing to accept or only partially accepting the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 424)

Reply:

(a) The information and details regarding the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information (the Code) received by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) from October 2018 to present for which only some of the required information has been provided are tabulated as follows:

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.
October to December 2018			
Information on brown cattle and buffaloes in Hong Kong	Management and operation of the public service, paragraph 2.9 of the Code	Yes	Yes. The disclosure of such information did not involve great public interest, but the public interest in disclosure of such information should not outweigh or offset any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure.
Information on the permits, patrols and prosecutions / warnings in relation to the Lam Tsuen Country Park	Law enforcement, legal proceedings and public safety, paragraph 2.6 of the Code		
2019			
Information relating to a dog found on a ship by AFCD (involving 2 applications)	Privacy of the individual, paragraph 2.15 of the Code	Yes	Yes. The disclosure of such information did not involve great public interest, but the public interest in disclosure of such information should not outweigh or offset any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure.
Information on local farms registered at AFCD	Privacy of the individual, paragraph 2.15 of the Code		
Information provided in the application forms of the approved	Third party information, paragraph 2.14 of the		

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	**(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only**	**(iii) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)**	**(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.**
projects of the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund	Code		
Information on service contracts (involving 2 applications)	Business affairs, paragraph 2.16 of the Code		

(b) The information and details regarding the requests for information under the Code received by AFCD from October 2018 to present for which the required information has not been provided are tabulated as follows:

(i) Content of the requests refused	**(ii) Reasons for refusal**	**(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)**	**(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.**
October to December 2018			
Information on removal of trees in country parks	External affairs, paragraph 2.4 of the Code	Yes	Yes. The disclosure of such information did not involve great public interest, but the public interest in disclosure of such information should not outweigh or offset any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure.
2019			
Study of freshwater tortoises in Hong Kong	Law enforcement, legal proceedings and public safety, paragraph 2.6 of the Code and Damage to the environment, paragraph 2.7 of the Code	Yes	Yes. The disclosure of such information did not involve great public interest, but the public interest in disclosure of such information should not outweigh or offset any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure.

(c) Any person who believes that AFCD has failed to comply with any provision of the Code may request a review of the situation. The information on the number of review cases received by AFCD, number of cases in which further information was disclosed after review in each of the past 5 years and the salary points of the reviewing officers concerned are tabulated as follows:

Year in which review cases were received	(i) Number of review cases received	(ii) Number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review	(iii) Whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level
2015	1	0	The decision was made at the directorate level higher than D2.
2016	2	0	
2017	0	0	
2018	1	1	
2019	1	0	

(d) (i) With reference to the target response times set out in paragraphs 1.16.1 to 1.19.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application of the Code, the figures with respect to AFCD's processing of cases upon receipt of written requests by year are tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided^	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information^	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
Within 10 days from date of receipt of written requests					
2020*	6	0	0	0	0
2019	46	0	0	1	0
2018	50	0	0	0	0
2017	30	0	0	0	0

Year	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided^	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information^	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2016	15	0	0	0	0
Within 11 to 21 days from date of receipt of written requests					
2020*	4	1	0	0	0
2019	15	1	0	0	0
2018	12	0	0	0	0
2017	12	1	0	0	0
2016	3	0	0	2	0
Within 22 to 51 days from date of receipt of written requests					
2020*	0	0	0	0	0
2019	2	0	0	0	0
2018	1	0	0	1	0
2017	2	0	0	0	0
2016	0	0	0	0	0

* As at February 2020

^ This column does not cover cases in which the Department could provide some of the information requested.

(ii) Cases in which AFCD could not make replies to within 21 days from the date of receipt of requests over the past 5 years:

Date	Subject of information requested	Specific reason
10/4/2017	Information relating to wildlife products	Involved a considerable amount of information
16/5/2017	Information relating to local vegetables	Involved a considerable amount of information
23/1/2018	Information about planting programme in the nature reserve	Involved a considerable amount of information
17/10/2018	Information on removal of trees in country parks	Involved external affairs
15/11/2018	Information on brown cattle and buffaloes in Hong Kong	Involved a considerable amount of information
29/12/2018	Information on legal hunting activities prior to 1981	Involved a considerable amount of information
13/3/2019	Information relating to a dog found on a ship by AFCD	Legal advice had to be sought
27/3/2019	Enquiries on the remarks of officials of the Food and Health Bureau	Some of the information had to be provided by other government department(s)
30/3/2019	Information relating to a dog found on a ship by AFCD	Legal advice had to be sought
16/9/2019	Information on service contracts	Involved a considerable amount of information

(iii) There were no cases in which AFCD could not make replies to within 51 days from the date of receipt of requests over the past 5 years.

(e) AFCD had not consulted the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data on any case in which requests for information were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code over the past 5 years.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5267)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the masks for use by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, please provide:

(a) the amount of current stock;

(b) the amounts of monthly stock over the past 5 years;

(c) the amounts produced by the Correctional Services Department in the monthly stock over the past 5 years;

(d) the expenditures incurred over the past 5 years;

(e) the amounts of monthly consumption over the past 5 years;

(f) the amounts of procurement over the past 5 years;

(g) the amounts depleted due to storage problems over the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1871)

Reply:

(a) to (g) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) obtains surgical masks produced by the Correctional Services Department from the Government Logistics Department and procures masks from the market for distribution to and use by colleagues, visitors and individual staff of contractors who provide services at AFCD's facilities. AFCD does not keep any information on the distribution of masks from different sources to individual staff.

With an upsurge in the global demand for personal protective equipment (PPE), the HKSAR Government is facing keen competition in its procurement. The

Government considers it inappropriate at this stage to disclose further information about the stock levels, quantities procured and amounts paid, procurement date and consumption in respect of PPE in individual departments in the past few years and recent months so as not to undermine the bargaining power of the Government in procuring PPE.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)199

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5707)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

At present, how many hectares of agricultural land are available for rehabilitation? Is there any restriction on the size of land for which a person can apply for agricultural rehabilitation? What is the maximum size of land available for agricultural rehabilitation? How many people are on the waiting list? What is the average waiting time?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 534)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department operates the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme through bringing owners of farmland and interested farmers together to work out leasing agreements for the farmland. At present, about 9 hectares of agricultural land is available for leasing and there is no restriction on the size of farmland that each applicant may rent. In 2019, the average waiting time for successful cases was 3.8 years. 445 applicants were on the waiting list as at the end of 2019.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)200

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5708)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Over the past 5 years, what were the respective numbers of applicants under the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund? What were the respective numbers of applications successfully approved? What is the amount of surplus in the Fund?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 535)

Reply:

The $500 million Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund has received a total of 50 applications since its inception in July 2014. So far, 23 applications have been approved, involving a total commitment of about $126 million.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)201

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5709)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Over the past 5 years, how many applications were received and approved respectively regarding the lease of agricultural land under the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme (the Scheme) by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department? What is the area of land leased out under the Scheme? What is the average waiting time for applicants? What is the number of waiting cases for leasing agricultural land at present?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 536)

Reply:

The requested information is tabulated as follows:

Year	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Number of new applications	45	65	58	77	49
Number of successful cases	41	29	9	10	43
- Total land area involved (hectare)	5.4	4.0	2.1	1.4	7.9
- Average waiting time (year)	5.0	4.0	5.5	3.2	3.8
Number of applications on the waiting list up to year-end	287	300	347	413	445

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)202

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5710)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the number of existing locally-operated hydroponic farms, their locations, distribution among districts, areas occupied, total production areas, and respective zonings on the Outline Zoning Plan (such as Agriculture, Green Belt, etc.).

	Location	District	Number	Area occupied	Total production area	Zoning on the Outline Zoning Plan
Agricultural Land						
Industrial Building						

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 537)

Reply:

Information on local hydroponic farms gathered by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) as at December 2019 is tabulated as follows:

Location	District	Number of farms	Area occupied (m^2)	Total production area (m^2)	Zoning on the Outline Zoning Plan
Agricultural land	Yuen Long	9	37 590	7 710	Agriculture
		1	11 000	6 000	Industrial
		1	6 000	3 350	Village Type Development
		1	3 500	2 500	Green Belt
		1	2 500	2 000	Coastal Protection Area
		3	370	480	Open Storage
	North	9	19 185	9 380	Agriculture
	Tuen Mun	1	110	100	Village Type Development
Industrial building	Chai Wan	1	300	210	Industrial
	Kwun Tong	1	15	30	Other Specified Use
		1	200	105	Industrial
	Yau Tong	1	90	180	Other Specified Use
	Kwai Ching	2	230	240	Other Specified Use
		1	30	30	Industrial
	Tsuen Wan	1	90	200	Other Specified Use
		1	325	450	Industrial
	Tuen Mun	2	5 150	5 100	Industrial
	Sha Tin	1	50	50	Industrial
	Tai Po	1	3 000	13 880	Other Specified Use
Others	Kwai Ching	1	25	25	Government, Institution or Community
	Tin Shui Wai	1	140	300	Government, Institution or Community
	Sham Shui Po*	1	250	250	Residential
	Causeway Bay #	1	20	10	Other Specified Use

* The Controlled Environment Hydroponic Research and Development Centre is jointly established and operated by AFCD and the Vegetable Marketing Organization on land under a short-term tenancy which allows operation of a small vegetable factory.

In commercial premises

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5711)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme implemented by the Government, please advise of:

(a) The details of expenditure on implementing the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme, including the departmental manpower and expenditure involved; the number of applications for agricultural land rehabilitation, participating land owners, cases of successful matching, as well as the land area involved in each case.

(b) The number of new applicants for agricultural land rehabilitation, the cumulative number of applicants on the waiting list and the land area involved.

(c) The number of cases of successful matching, the details of the land area and rentals involved in each case, as well as the average and the longest waiting time.

(d) Has the Government put in place any measure to increase the chance of successful matching and reduce the waiting time for agricultural land rehabilitation?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 538)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) operates the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme (ALRS) through bringing owners of farmland and interested farmers together to work out leasing agreements for the farmland. The requested information on ALRS and the relevant statistics on the cases handled in 2019 are tabulated as follows:

Year	**2019**
Number of staff	1
Expenditure ($ million)	0.9
Number of landowners participating in ALRS	32
Number of new applications/land area involved (hectare)	49/7.8
Number of successful cases	43
- Total land area involved (hectare)	7.9
- Range of annual rental (per dau chung*)	$7 to $142,900
- Average/longest waiting time (year)	3.8/5.0
Number of applications on the waiting list as at year-end / land area involved (hectare)	445/81.8

* 1 dau chung is equivalent to 7 260 square feet.

Agricultural land in Hong Kong is mainly in private hands. It is up to landowners to decide whether to lease out their land for farming. AFCD will continue to facilitate the leasing out of fallow farmland through ALRS, and provide farmers with technical advice and services to return fallow land to active farming. In addition, to support the development of the local agriculture, the Government is conducting a consultancy study on Agricultural Priority Areas to identify relatively large areas of quality agricultural land and explore suitable policies and measures to encourage landowners to put fallow agricultural land back into long-term agricultural use.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5712)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (-) Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise this Committee of the following information over the past 5 years:

(a) The number of stray animals captured by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), and among which the respective numbers of animals rehomed and euthanised with a breakdown by animal type and length of their stay at the Department's facilities (number of days);

(b) The number of abandoned animals received and saved by AFCD, and among which the respective numbers of animals rehomed and euthanised with a breakdown by animal type and length of their stay at the Department's facilities (number of days);

(c) The total number of animals euthanised by AFCD and the expenditure involved each year;

(d) The capacity and utilisation rate of AFCD's animal shelter facilities, and the total cost of shelter services;

(e) The number of animals caught with animal traps by AFCD with a breakdown by types of animal traps used and animals caught; and

(f) The number of animals which died due to the use of animal traps with a breakdown by types of animal traps used and animals dead.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 539)

Reply:

(a) to (c) The type and number of animals received and handled by the 4 Animal Management Centres (AMCs) under the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 5 years are tabulated at the **Annex**.

The average period that the received animals were kept by AMCs over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Average period kept in AMCs (days)		
	Dogs	**Cats**	**Others**^
2015	9.5	9.7	15.5
2016	10.9	13.0	53.8
2017	13.1	13.0	65.8
2018	20.1	17.6	29.8
2019	22.6	25.6	15.1

^ Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptiles, pigs, poultry / birds, etc.

The expenditure on euthanasia of animals over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure on euthanasia of animals ($ million)
2015-16	1.4
2016-17	0.9
2017-18	1.0
2018-19	1.3
2019-20 (revised estimate)	1.2

(d) AFCD currently operates 4 AMCs in the New Territories North (NTN), New Territories South (NTS), Kowloon (K) and Hong Kong Island (HK) respectively. The maximum capacity of the AMCs is tabulated as follows:

AMC	Maximum capacity (number)*			
	Dog kennel	**Cat kennel**	**Bird cage**	**Enclosure for other animals**
AMC / NTS	80	30	-	-
AMC / NTN	130	80	25	16
AMC / K	90	30	-	-
AMC / HK	50	30	-	-
Total	**350**	**170**	**25**	**16**

* The holding capacity of the kennels depends on a number of factors, including if the animals are from the same litter or pack, the health status and behaviour of each animal. In general, only one animal will be housed in each kennel as far as possible for the sake of better disease control and animal welfare. AFCD does not keep the utilisation rate of the animal keeping facilities of the 4 AMCs.

The expenditure on catching and handling stray animals caught over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)		
	Catching stray animals	**Handling stray animals caught**	**Total**
2015-16	29.0	3.6	32.6
2016-17	28.5	3.4	31.9
2017-18	28.7	3.6	32.3
2018-19	32.3	4.0	36.3
2019-20 (revised estimate)	33.6	3.9	37.5

(e) The type and number of animals caught with animals traps are tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of animals caught with animal traps				
	Dogs (by cage / snare)	**Cats (by cage)**	**Pigeons (by cage)**	**Monkeys** Note **(by cage / snare)**	**Wild pigs** Note **(by cage, net or dart gun)**
2015	159/142	1 009	473	454/14	28
2016	76/118	564	218	521/31	59
2017	118/103	475	273	291/28	106
2018	40/102	299	0	195/29	197
2019	35/35	186	0	216/14	284

Note: The management of wild animals falls under the policy purview of the Environment Bureau.

(f) AFCD has no record of animals injured or died due to the use of animal traps during the catching operations over the past 5 years.

Annex

Year	Stray animals caught			Animals surrendered by owners			Animals received through other channels			Animals reclaimed by owners			Animals rehomed			Animals euthanised		
	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*
2015	2 412	1 359	1 418	1 284	129	109	378	73	3 590	774	626	11	651	168	83	2 421	696	3 469
2016	1 919	876	1 494	1 003	107	56	343	70	674	637	400	1	513	136	92	1 814	449	748
2017	1 566	674	1 640	1 024	84	39	336	65	204	560	269	10	588	67	94	1 478	381	801
2018	1 235	547	1 369	715	80	43	304	62	4 904#	512	206	9	577	89	87	1 026	333	5 007#
2019	965	304	1 031	674	75	69	226	63	2 101^	404	127	9	547	78	44	837	219	2 363^

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs/cattle, poultry/birds, etc.

\# The increase in number was mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled due to detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

^ This mainly includes the number of animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6608)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the Government's implementation of the New Agriculture Policy to proactively support the modernisation and sustainable development of local agriculture, including preparing for the establishment of the Agricultural Park, processing of applications for the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund (SADF) and overseeing the consultancy study on designating Agricultural Priority Areas, I have the following questions:

(a) How does the New Agriculture Policy proactively support the modernisation and sustainable development of local agriculture? The Government stated that it proactively supports the sustainable development of local agriculture. Please set out the details of the distribution and areas of the agricultural land in Hong Kong by the 18 districts.

(b) The usage of agricultural land varies in Hong Kong. Please set out the details of farmland usage by the 18 districts and the Government's classification or the following types: certified organic farms, traditional farmland, abandoned farmland and brownfield sites.

(c) What were the details concerning organisation / individual applicants and the successful organisation / individual applicants under SADF as well as the financial provision in each of the past 3 years? What are the details of the study on the Agricultural Priority Areas?

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 100)

Reply:

(a) to (c) According to the survey on agricultural land use conducted by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), the total area of agricultural land in Hong Kong is around 4 300 hectares. The estimated area of agricultural land in active farming use, fallow agricultural land and certified organic farm in 2019 is tabulated by district as follows:

District / Estimated area (hectare)	In active farming use*#	Fallow agricultural land*	Certified organic farm
North	290	1 160	25.0
Yuen Long	250	680	28.5
Tai Po	90	600	4.1
Tuen Mun	40	80	1.7
Islands	30	400	1.3
Sai Kung	20	340	1.7
Tsuen Wan	10	100	0.2
Others	20	150	0.1
Total	**750**	**3 510**	**62.6**

* Figures are rounded to the nearest 10 hectares.
# Figures include certified organic and traditional farms.

AFCD has been implementing the New Agriculture Policy since 2016 to promote the modernisation and sustainable development of the local agricultural sector. Details of the key measures are set out as follows:

(i) AFCD will establish an Agricultural Park (Agri-Park) in Kwu Tung South to help nurture agro-technology and knowledge of modern farm management. The Agri-Park will be developed in 2 phases. Phase 1 will be developed in a relatively small scale (about 11 hectares) with a view to enabling its partial commissioning for use by farmers as early as possible. Subject to funding approval of the Finance Committee in 2020, the construction works of Agri-Park Phase 1 will commence as soon as possible, and is expected to be completed in stages by 2021-2023. AFCD is in parallel planning and preparing for Agri-Park Phase 2.

(ii) To support the development of the local agriculture, the Government is conducting a consultancy study on Agricultural Priority Areas to identify relatively large areas of quality agricultural land and explore suitable policies and measures to encourage landowners to put fallow agricultural land back into long-term agricultural use. The consultant is currently reviewing the existing farmland in Hong Kong and studying overseas experience, including regions in Europe, the United States and Asia that have similar experience, before making recommendations. As a considerable size of agricultural land is involved, it is estimated that the study will take several years to complete.

(iii) The Government has set up a $500 million Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund (SADF) to provide financial support for the modernisation and sustainable development of local agriculture which is open for applications since December 2016. Over the past 3 years (2017-2019), a total of 299 applications seeking financial assistance for individual farms to acquire farming equipment and / or materials from the Farm Improvement Scheme under SADF were received. 286 applications have been approved, involving a total funding commitment of

about $8.3 million. 3 applications have been rejected and 6 applications withdrawn by the applicants (including 1 approved application). The rest are being processed. The relevant details are tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of applications	Number of approvals	Grant approved ($ million)
2017	172	158	4.6
2018	66	67	1.9
2019	61	61	1.8
Total	**299**	**286**	**8.3**

In addition, a total of 37 applications seeking funding support for projects that will benefit the local agricultural industry as a whole have been received as at February 2020. Among them, 10 applications have been approved, 13 rejected, 8 withdrawn by the applicants, 2 returned to the applicants (for further information / re-submission if necessary) and 3 found to be ineligible for application. The remaining 1 application is being processed. Applicant organisations include farming organisations, local academic and research institutions, etc. Details of the approved SADF projects are at the **Annex**.

Annex

Approved projects under the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund (as at 29 February 2020)

Item	Project	Applicant organisation	Date of implementation	Grant approved ($ million)
1	Development of sustainable organic fertilisers for output maximisation of outdoor and indoor plant factories	City University of Hong Kong	1/1/2019	2.8
2	Management and operation of the Organic Certification System and its support initiatives	Hong Kong Organic Resource Centre Certification Limited	1/4/2019	15.0
3	Promotion of local organic agriculture and image-building of professional organic certification	Hong Kong Baptist University (Hong Kong Organic Resource Centre)	1/4/2019	14.9
4	Comprehensive support and promotion scheme for agriculture	The Federation of Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Societies, Limited	1/4/2019	14.1
5	Improving pig health and production in Hong Kong	City University of Hong Kong (School of Veterinary Medicine)	1/3/2019	15.0
6	Improving poultry health and production in Hong Kong	City University of Hong Kong (School of Veterinary Medicine)	1/3/2019	15.0
7	Technology demonstration project on application of advanced sewage treatment technologies for local pig farms	Hong Kong Productivity Council	1/1/2019	5.0
8	An interactive and sustainable platform for new farmers (Phase I): agricultural pests commonly found in Hong Kong	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	1/1/2020	2.5

9	Version 3.0 of Hong Kong agriculture: a sustainable development project of vegetable supply chain	Sustainable Ecological Ethical Development Foundation	1/1/2020	5.9
10	Hong Kong Seed Technology and Education Centre	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	1/7/2020 (Tentative)	6.5
			Total	**96.7**

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6609)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Government takes follow-up actions on the implementation of the legislation to ban trawling and better regulate fishing activities in Hong Kong waters, and continues to implement other recommendations of the Committee on Sustainable Fisheries, with the aim of conserving and restoring marine resources. However, some fishermen have relayed to me that illegal fishing by non-local fishing vessels in Hong Kong waters is rampant. In this connection, I have the following questions:

(a) What was the number of non-local fishing vessels that conducted trawling in Hong Kong waters in each of the past 3 years as known by the Government? How did the Government handle these cases? Is there relevant legislation to regulate the situation? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

(b) I was told that many non-local fishing vessels have engaged in fishing activities in Hong Kong waters with the use of electricity or chemicals. Is the Government aware of the situation? If yes, what are the details? If not, what policies will the Government put in place to safeguard local fishermen?

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 101)

Reply:

(a) and (b) To protect the marine environment and fisheries resources in Hong Kong waters, destructive fishing practices are prohibited under the Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171) (the Ordinance). Offenders in contravention of the Ordinance are liable to a maximum fine of $200,000 and an imprisonment for 6 months upon conviction. Destructive fishing practices include fishing with explosive, toxic substances, electricity-transmitting apparatus, suction device, dredging device, and trawling device. In addition, it is an offence to conduct fishing activities in Hong Kong waters on non-local fishing vessels (including Mainland fishing vessels) that are not registered

under the Ordinance. Offenders are liable to a maximum fine of $100,000 and an imprisonment for 6 months upon conviction.

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) is committed to combating illegal fishing and enforcing the relevant legislation through a risk-based approach, deploying resources flexibly to conduct random and targeted patrols in local waters in light of the circumstances and the intelligence gathered. AFCD also maintains close liaison with the Marine Police with a view to mounting joint operations as appropriate. As regards cross-border illegal fishing, AFCD exchanges intelligence with the relevant Mainland authorities (including the Guangdong Provincial Marine and Fisheries Inspection Bureau) and conducts joint enforcement operations when necessary. To enhance the effectiveness of the enforcement action, AFCD plans to apply technology in its enforcement work, such as using real time satellite information to help identify fishing vessels. Over the past 3 years (2017-2019), AFCD has conducted about 1 630, 1 610 and 1 740 patrols respectively to combat illegal fishing.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)207

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6610)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Government administers the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund (SFDF) to help fishermen adopt a sustainable and high value-added operation mode and subsidise relevant programmes and research so as to enhance the overall competitiveness of the industry. In this connection, I have the following question:

What were the details concerning the organisation/individual applicants and the successful organisation/individual applicants under SFDF as well as the financial provision in each of the past 3 years?

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 102)

Reply:

Over the past 3 years (2017-2019), a total of 20 applications were received under the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund. Among them, 12 applications have been approved, involving a funding commitment of about $67 million. The remaining 8 applications are being processed. Details of the approved projects are at the **Annex**.

Annex

Approved projects under the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund

No.	Project	Applicant organisation	Date of implementation	Subvention granted ($ million)
1	Improving Fish Health and Production in Hong Kong	City University of Hong Kong (College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences)	1/9/2018	4.9
2	BEC × AFFS – Awareness and Opportunities	Business Environment Council Limited	1/6/2019	7.5
3	Feasibility Study and Trial on Improvement of Durability and Strength of Fish Containers for Marine Fish	Hong Kong Productivity Council	1/11/2019	3.4
4	Study Tour to Oman Salalah and Dubai	Hong Kong Fishermen Consortium Sustainable Fishery Development Company Limited	28/6/2019	0.8
5	Equipment Improvement Project	New Territories Fishermen Fraternity Association Limited	1/2/2019	7.2
6	Equipment Improvement Project	Changing Business Limited	1/4/2019	7.1
7	Equipment Improvement Project	Alterway Limited	1/4/2019	4.0
8	Equipment Improvement Project	Hong Kong New Territories Fish Culture Association Limited	15/10/2019	4.0
9	Equipment Improvement Project	Hong Kong Fishermen Consortium Sustainable Fishery Development Company Limited	12/9/2019	7.1
10	Equipment Improvement Project	Hong Kong Fishing Rafts Association Limited	1/10/2019	6.9
11	Equipment Improvement Project	Hong Kong Fishermen Consortium Fishery Development Company Limited	1/10/2019	6.9
12	Equipment Improvement Project	Fisheries Development Company Limited	1/12/2019	7.3
			Total	**67.1**

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6611)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Government assists fishermen in switching to sustainable fisheries operations and fish farmers in developing sustainable aquaculture through technical support services and credit facilities, including offering free training on sustainable fisheries operations, issuing new marine fish culture licences and preparing for the designation of new fish culture zone(s). In this connection, please advise this Committee of the following:

(a) The details and number of participants in the free training on sustainable fisheries operations provided by the Government in each of the past 3 years.

(b) The number of new marine fish culture licences issued by the Government in each of the past 3 years and the total number of marine fish culture licences at present.

(c) The Government has stated that it would assist fishermen in switching to sustainable fisheries operations. What are the details of the Government's interpretation on sustainable fisheries operations?

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 103)

Reply:

(a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has been providing free training to help fishermen acquire technical skills and knowledge on sustainable fisheries operations, which includes training courses, seminars, on-site visits, etc. The courses cover practical skills and knowledge on switching to other operations, such as training for local coxswain, development of recreational fishing, aquaculture techniques, etc. The number of training courses provided by AFCD and the number of participants over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of training courses	Number of participants
2017-18	13	340
2018-19	12	338
2019-20	10	293

(b) AFCD has not issued any new marine fish culture licences over the past 3 years. The total number of the licence is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of marine fish culture licences
2017-18	937
2018-19	930
2019-20	923

(c) The goals of the sustainable development of the fisheries industry are to promote modern and sustainable operations of fisheries, enhance fishermen's ability to cope with the changing business operating environment and conserve the local marine ecology and fisheries resources in the long run.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)209

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6621)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What are the current numbers and functions of credit unions and co-operative societies?

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 113)

Reply:

As at February 2020, there are 44 registered credit unions and 171 registered co-operative societies respectively. A credit union receives the savings of its members and makes loans to them exclusively for provident or productive purposes. A co-operative society is established by persons who wish to associate themselves together voluntarily to promote the economic interests of its members in accordance with co-operative principles.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6646)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Could the Government inform this Committee of the number of farmers who have made applications for and are on the waiting list of agricultural rehabilitation, as well as the average waiting time of each farmer as at end February 2020?

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 2038)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department operates the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme through bringing owners of farmland and interested farmers together to work out leasing agreements for the farmland. In 2019, the average waiting time for successful cases was 3.8 years. 444 applicants were on the waiting list as at February 2020.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6677)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding strengthening measures for stray animals management, please advise this Committee of the following:

(a) the number of times for which snares and animal traps were used over the past 5 years;

(b) the criteria for using snares and animal traps;

(c) the number of animals that have been injured by the abovementioned tools in captures (wild pigs, cats, dogs, cattle and others);

(d) Have the members of the dog-catching team and other animal-catching teams of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department received any training? If yes, what are the format and period of such training?

Please set out the above information in tabular form.

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 5001)

Reply:

(a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) keeps no statistics on the number of times that animal traps are used.

(b) and (d) In general, upon receipt of complaints or reports from members of the public regarding nuisance caused by stray animals (mostly cats and dogs), AFCD will conduct inspections at the areas concerned to investigate if there are any stray animals causing nuisance and take follow-up actions including catching operations. AFCD staff responsible for catching stray animals are all trained and instructed by experienced officers for using different types of animal catching tools and handling the animals caught.

All the animal traps including snares and cage traps used by AFCD are specially designed or carefully selected to ensure that they are safe to use on animals. They are widely recognised and used in other countries for catching stray animals. In addition, all the catching operations using animal traps are carried out by trained staff who will take necessary precautionary measures to prevent animals from injury during the process. For instance, when snares are used for catching stray animals, notices at conspicuous places will be put up and the affected area will be fenced off with warning tapes. AFCD staff will ensure that no passers-by or other animals will come close. Once a stray animal is caught, it will be transferred to a cage with the snare immediately loosened, and delivered to an Animal Management Centre for observation and follow-up actions.

(c) AFCD has no record of animals injured or died due to the use of animal traps during the catching operations over the past 5 years.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6693)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise of the following:

(a) The number of stray animals caught in various districts in Hong Kong over the past 3 years (by District Council constituency areas and by animal types (i.e. dogs, cats, cattle and other animals)).

(b) The expenditures on catching stray animals in various districts in Hong Kong in each of the past 3 years and the estimated expenditure in 2020-21.

(c) The names and estimated expenditure of the medication used for euthanising animals in 2020-21.

(d) The size and capacity of animal accommodation for each animal management centre (AMC) at present.

(e) The number of stray animals received and kept by each AMC over the past 3 years.

(f) The number of days on which each of the AMC was filled to capacity with stray animals over the past 3 years.

(g) The whereabouts of the stray animals received and kept by each AMC over the past 3 years (euthanised, rehomed, died of illness or others).

(h) The estimated expenditure of each AMC in 2020-21.

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 6021)

Reply:

(a) The number of stray animals caught by the 4 animal management centres (AMCs) under the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

AMC / Year	Number of stray animals caught								
	2017			2018			2019		
	Dogs	Cats	Others[1]	Dogs	Cats	Others[1]	Dogs	Cats	Others[1]
AMC / Hong Kong (HK)	223	108	13	213	64	7	133	21	7
AMC / Kowloon (K)	370	203	57	210	175	35	143	87	14
AMC / New Territories South (NTS)	359	122	128	204	102	94	259	80	121
AMC / New Territories North (NTN)	614	241	1 337	608	206	1 105	430	116	764
Total	**1 566**	**674**	**1 535**	**1 235**	**547**	**1 241**	**965**	**304**	**906**

[1] Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs, poultry/birds, etc.

AFCD does not keep the statistics by District Council constituency areas.

The number of cattle caught by district over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

District / Year	Number of cattle caught		
	2017	2018	2019
Lantau Island	24	27	14
Sai Kung	49	42	26
Northeast and Central New Territories	32	59	85
Total	**105**	**128**	**125**

(b) and (c) The expenditure on catching stray animals and euthanasia of animals over the past 3 years and in 2020-21 is tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)	
	Catching stray animals	Euthanasia of animals
2017-18	28.7	1.0
2018-19	32.3	1.3
2019-20 (revised estimate)	33.6	1.2
2020-21 (estimate)	36.1	1.2

Ketamine, Xylazine and Pentobarbital Sodium are currently used for the purpose of euthanising animals.

(d) The maximum capacity of the 4 AMCs is tabulated as follows:

AMC	Maximum capacity (number)*			
	Dog kennel	Cat kennel	Bird cage	Enclosure for other animals
AMC / HK	50	30	-	-
AMC / K	90	30	-	-
AMC / NTS	80	30	-	-
AMC / NTN	130	80	25	16
Total	**350**	**170**	**25**	**16**

* The holding capacity of the kennels depends on a number of factors, including if the animals are from the same litter or pack, the health status and behaviour of each animal. In general, only one animal will be housed in each kennel as far as possible for the sake of better disease control and animal welfare.

(e) and (f) The number of animals received by the 4 AMCS under AFCD over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

AMC / Year	2017			2018			2019		
	Dogs	Cats	Others[2]	Dogs	Cats	Others[2]	Dogs	Cats	Others[2]
AMC / HK	451	147	26	342	101	11	282	52	17
AMC / K	584	266	72	409	219	44	294	121	35
AMC / NTS	500	131	128	364	111	100	394	88	134
AMC / NTN	1 391	279	1 552	1 139	258	6033[3]	895	181	2 890[4]
Total	**2 926**	**823**	**1 778**	**2 254**	**689**	**6 188**	**1 865**	**442**	**3 076**

[2] Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs, poultry/birds, etc.

[3] The increase in number was mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled due to detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

[4] This mainly includes the number of animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586).

When there is a large quantity of animals to be received, the 4 AMCs will communicate and coordinate with each other to ensure that there is enough space for accommodation. The keeping facilities of the 4 AMCs have not been filled to capacity over the past 3 years.

(g) The handling methods and number of animals handled by the 4 AMCs under AFCD over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

AMC / Year	2017			2018			2019		
	Reclaimed by owners	Rehomed	Euthanised	Reclaimed by owners	Rehomed	Euthanised	Reclaimed by owners	Rehomed	Euthanised
AMC / HK	229	240	76	191	235	44	103	196	42
AMC / K	239	152	318	193	148	254	171	117	146
AMC / NTS	120	178	413	86	134	243	90	128	327
AMC / NTN	251	179	1 827	257	236	5 786[5]	176	228	2 897[6]

Total	**839**	**749**	**2 634**	**727**	**753**	**6 327**	**540**	**669**	**3 412**

[5] The increase in number was mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled due to detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

[6] This mainly includes the number of animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586).

In addition, the number of animals that died at the 4 AMCs in 2017, 2018 and 2019 was 789, 727 and 669 respectively. These animals were mainly birds and reptile and most of them were already suffering from different levels of injury or illness by the time they were received.

(h) The estimated operational expenditure of the 4 AMCs in 2020-21 is tabulated as follows:

Year	**Operational expenditure ($ million)**			
	AMC / HK	**AMC / K**	**AMC / NTS**	**AMC / NTN**
2020-21 (estimate)	18.8	22.0	18.4	26.6

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)213

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3558)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the imports and exports of fresh food as well as agricultural and fisheries products, please advise of the following:

The total values of locally produced fresh food and agricultural and fisheries products for supply to the local market over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20).

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 60)

Reply:

The total values of locally produced fresh agricultural and fisheries products (including live pigs, live chickens, live and chilled fish and shellfish, vegetables and fruits) supplied to the local market in 2017, 2018 and 2019 were about $2,480 million, $2,650 million and $2,960 million respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3560)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

On the regulation and technical services for the flower cultivation industry, please inform:

(a) the details, respective expenditures and manpower involved in the Government's regulation and technical services for the flower cultivation industry over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20);

(b) the details, estimated expenditure and manpower involved in the Government's regulation and technical services for the flower cultivation industry in 2020-21;

(c) the total amount and quantities of local and imported flowers over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20);

(d) the measures that the Government currently takes to promote the local flower cultivation industry.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 64)

Reply:

(a), (b) and (d) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) provides support services to all crop farmers including florists. The services provided include technical support in respect of cultivation techniques, control of plant pests and diseases and soil analysis, as well as the lending of farm machinery and provision of loans. The resources deployed for these services over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2017-18	8.2	18
2018-19	8.5	18
2019-20 (revised estimate)	8.7	18

The manpower and expenditure involved in providing support services to the flower cultivation industry and promotion of the industry is an integral part of the above provision and there is no separate breakdown.

In 2020-21, AFCD will continue to provide the above services to crop farmers including florists with a similar level of resources as in 2019-20.

(c) AFCD does not have the data in quantities for local production and import of flowers. The value of local production and net import over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	**Local production ($ million)**	**Net import ($ million)**
2017	158	406
2018	149	501
2019	154	400

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3561)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding epidemic prevention for livestock and poultry keeping industry, please advise of the following:

(a) The latest progress of the epidemic prevention work, and the work plan, estimated expenditure and manpower involved in 2020-21.

(b) The types of pig and poultry vaccines introduced into the local industry and the expenditure involved respectively over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20).

(c) The total expenditures involved respectively in vaccinating pigs and poultry over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20). What were the respective average costs? What were the respective numbers of pigs and poultry vaccinated?

(d) Regarding the outbreaks of epidemic diseases in livestock and poultry at different levels of the local supply chain, what were the numbers, locations (e.g. markets, wholesale markets or farms), and virus(es) concerned respectively over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(e) Will the Government implement any new measures to strengthen the work on prevention of influenza related to poultry and livestock?

(f) Will the Government implement any new measures to strengthen the work on prevention of the African Swine Fever?

(g) What was the number of wild pig carcasses found in Hong Kong in each of the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)? What was the number of wild pigs captured each year? Has the Government conducted African Swine Fever testing on the said wild pigs?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 65)

Reply:

(a) and (e) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) prevents and controls the outbreak of animal and zoonotic diseases in local chicken and pig farms through (i) conducting regular inspections of local farms to ensure that the farmers comply with the biosecurity, farm hygiene and other related requirements, including proper vaccination of poultry against Avian Influenza, (AI), and taking enforcement action against non-compliant cases; (ii) providing technical advice and assistance to farmers on proper farm management, prevention and control of animal diseases; and (iii) organising education seminars on farm management and disease prevention for local farmers and their workers. The estimated expenditure and manpower involved in this area of work in 2020-21 are $68 million and 72 staff respectively.

(b) Over the past 3 years, AFCD has required all local chicken farms to apply bivalent vaccine that could guard against both H5 and H7N9 AI viruses, which AFCD has provided technical assistance in the process. This area of work will be absorbed by the existing resources of AFCD, so there is no breakdown in this regard.

(c) Apart from the mandatory AI vaccination programme for chickens in local poultry farms, pig or chicken farmers may decide whether any other vaccines should be used for better protection of their farm animals against any particular diseases. Commonly used vaccines include those against porcine circovirus, Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome, etc. in pigs, and those against New Castle Disease, Infectious Tracheitis and Gumboro Disease, etc. in poultry. All the vaccines used in local farms are purchased by farmers at their own cost. AFCD does not have information on the total expenditure and the average costs involved in vaccinating pigs and poultries.

(d) Over the past 3 years, there were 5 FMD cases in local pig farms, in February (1 case), March (3 cases) and June (1 case), all in 2018 respectively. In addition, there were African Swine Fever (ASF) cases in local slaughterhouse in May (2 cases) and September (1 case) in 2019.

(f) Since the first ASF case was reported in the Mainland in early August 2018, AFCD has been closely monitoring the situation and implementing corresponding measures in a timely manner. Major measures implemented include:

(i) maintaining close contact with pig farmers, and stepping up inspection to all local pig farms;

(ii) advising farmers to implement proper biosecurity measures and providing assistance and loans to facilitate farmers to acquire appropriate facilities to enhance biosecurity;

(iii) requesting all pig farms to step up the cleansing and disinfection of vehicles and personnel entering and leaving pig farms;

(iv) suspending the import of breeders from the Mainland;

(v) banning the storage or use of swill of pork origin as pig feed;

(vi) devising a contingency and surveillance plan for detecting ASF and conducting ASF testing when there is suspected infection of pigs;

(vii) purchasing necessary equipment and conducting drills on culling of pigs to prepare for ASF outbreaks in local pig farms;

(viii) liaising with relevant government departments regarding tightening up on collection of pig waste and carcasses;

(ix) disseminating information on clinical signs of ASF, biosecurity and mode of transmission by posters and the cleansing and disinfection of vehicles for transporting pigs through guidance booklet, etc. for enhancing pig farmers' understanding on prevention of ASF; and

(x) conducting a pilot programme for enhancing the surveillance of ASF in local wild pigs within a designated area since November 2019.

AFCD will remain vigilant and closely monitor the situation with a view to taking further measures as and when necessary.

(g) The number of wild pig carcasses found in Hong Kong by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	**Number of wild pig carcasses found**
2017-18	282
2018-19	218
2019-20 (as of February 2020)	307

The number of wild pigs captured by AFCD over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of wild pigs captured
2017-18	142
2018-19	192
2019-20 (as of February 2020)	261

AFCD and FEHD have launched a pilot programme for enhancing the surveillance of ASF in local wild pigs by conducting testing of ASF on wild pig carcasses found within a designated area since November 2019.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3562)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding antibiotic use in livestock, please advise of the following:

(a) What was the number of cases of using prohibited antibiotic and restricted antibiotic exceeding maximum residue level in local pig farms and chicken farms, as well as chickens and pigs imported from the Mainland over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(b) Further to the above question, what were the respective numbers of prosecutions and convictions?

(c) What were the expenditure and manpower on matters concerning inspections of meat safety, technical support rendered to farmers and publicity on antibiotics over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(d) It is stated in the Hong Kong Strategy and Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance that the Government would explore how to seek proper support and veterinary services for the industry in order to prevent and treat diseases. What is the progress of the work?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 66)

Reply:

(a) and (b) Over the past 3 years (i.e. 2017-2019), there was 1 suspected case of prohibited antimicrobial and 3 suspected cases of restricted antimicrobial exceeding maximum residue level in local pig farms. Prosecution was not initiated by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) for the said cases due to insufficient evidence. During the same period, no suspected cases of prohibited antimicrobial or restricted antimicrobial exceeding maximum residue level were found in local chicken farms. The Food and Environmental Hygiene

Department did not find any related cases among live pigs imported from the Mainland to Hong Kong. As there has been no import of live chickens from the Mainland since 2016, the figures in this respect are not available.

(c) AFCD is responsible for the testing of veterinary drug residues in samples collected from food animals to be slaughtered, and carrying out regular inspections of local livestock farms to monitor the health of pigs and chickens. AFCD also advises local farmers on prudent use of veterinary drugs (including antimicrobials) and the related responsibility. Since the work above forms part of AFCD's supervision of local livestock farms, there is no breakdown of the expenditure and manpower involved.

(d) Following the announcement of the Hong Kong Strategy and Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in July 2017, AFCD has been engaging local veterinary associations, tertiary institutions and the livestock sector with a view to facilitating and supporting projects for the provision of veterinary services to food animal production farms by the non-government veterinary sector. 3 projects under the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund and the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund have been approved for providing veterinary services to local pig farms, local chicken farms and local fish farms. These projects involve formulation of tailor-made farm-specific disease management plans for the purposes of disease prevention and promoting proper and prudent use of antimicrobials, and assisting farmers in sourcing vaccines and other veterinary medications. AFCD maintains liaison with the personnel responsible for implementation of the said plan through on-site inspections and meetings to closely monitor the progress of provision of veterinary services.

In addition, AFCD commissioned a consultancy study in October 2017 to devise a programme to monitor antimicrobial usage as well as the prevalence of bacteria with AMR in local food animal farms including livestock and fish farms. The consultancy study was completed in mid-2019 and the recommended surveillance programmes for fish and livestock farms have been launched since June and July 2019 respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3563)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding co-operative societies, please advise of:

(a) the numbers of co-operative societies related to the fisheries and agriculture industries, as well as other co-operative societies respectively over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20);

(b) the expenditures and manpower involved in co-operative societies related to the fisheries and agriculture industries, as well as other co-operative societies respectively over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20).

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 67)

Reply:

The requested information is tabulated at the **Annex**.

Annex

Year / Industry	2017-18			2018-19			2019-20		
	Number of Co-operative societies*	**Expenditure ($ million)**	**Manpower (number of staff)**	**Number of Co-operative societies***	**Expenditure ($ million)**	**Manpower (number of staff)**	**Number of Co-operative societies#**	**Expenditure (revised estimate) ($ million)**	**Manpower (number of staff)**
Agriculture	54	1.6	3	54	1.4	3	54	1.7	3
Fisheries	56	1.9	4	55	2.0	4	55	2.5	4
Others	64	4.7	9	64	4.4	9	62	5.5	9
Total	**174**	**8.2**	**16**	**173**	**7.8**	**16**	**171**	**9.7**	**16**

* As at the end of the period

\# As at end February 2020

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3564)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding hydroponic farming, please advise of the following:

(a) What were the expenditures and manpower involved in the Controlled Environment Hydroponic Research and Development Centre (the Centre) established at the Cheung Sha Wan Wholesale Vegetable Market over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(b) What are the production area, crop varieties, production quantity, production value, and the number of sales outlets of the Centre?

(c) What are the Government's current policies for facilitating the development of the local hydroponic farming industry? What are the expenditure and manpower involved in facilitating the development of the hydroponic farming industry?

(d) What are the production value, production quantity, the number of hydroponic farms and the distribution of the local hydroponic farming industry (by the 18 districts) respectively?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 68)

Reply:

(a) In 2013, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and the Vegetable Marketing Organization (VMO) jointly set up the Controlled Environment Hydroponic Research and Development Centre (the Centre) for demonstrating hydroponic technology and facilities, with a view to facilitating technology transfer to the trade. The Centre was initially funded by VMO. As extra resources are essential to carry out additional research and development work, the operational expenditure of the Centre has been funded by the Government since April 2018. The expenditure and manpower involved over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2017-18	1.4	5
2018-19	3.0	8
2019-20 (revised estimate)	8.8*	8

* To meet the demand of the hydroponic farming industry for technical support and facilitate the development of the industry, an additional one-off provision of $4.5 million was / is to be allocated in 2019-20 and 2020-21 respectively to support the expansion plan of the Centre.

(b) The Centre has a total area of about 500 square metres, half of which is used for production and the rest for research and development. At present, 7 varieties of baby salad green (i.e. Mizuna, Oak Leaf Lettuce, Red Asian Mustard, Chinese Flat Cabbage, Rocket, Red Komatsuna and Broccoli) and 3 varieties of common local leafy vegetables (i.e. 60-day Choy Sum, Hok Tau Pak Choy and Water Cress) are produced. About 6 kilogrammes of vegetables are produced daily at a wholesale value of about $200 per kilogramme and sold through 11 retail outlets.

(c) The Government encourages the adoption of modern farming practices as well as the development of new agricultural technology and related knowledge transfer. Hydroponics is one such example. The Centre will continue to undertake research and development work including selection and testing of new varieties, introduction of improved hydroponic technology and collaboration with research institutes on testing innovative technology in hydroponics application. In addition, AFCD will also continue to provide technical advice and support to investors who are interested in setting up hydroponic systems as an alternative option for agricultural production. In 2019-20, AFCD allocated 8 staff members and $8.8 million and to support the work and the expansion of the Centre.

(d) Currently, there are 43 local hydroponic farms producing annually over 465 tonnes of vegetables with an estimated value of $75 million. Distribution of the hydroponic farms is tabulated as follows:

District	Number
Yuen Long	16
North	9
Kwai Tsing	4
Tuen Mun	3
Kwun Tong	2
Tsuen Wan	2
Tai Po	1
Yau Tong	1
Sham Shui Po	1
Shatin	1
Chai Wan	1
Causeway Bay	1
Tin Shui Wai	1

District	Number
Total	**43**

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3566)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the Mainland Fishermen Deckhands Scheme (the Scheme) of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, please advise of the following:

(a) What were the expenditures and manpower involved in processing the applications under the Scheme over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(b) What were the numbers of applications for and deckhands involved in different types of fishing vessels (including pair trawlers, stern trawlers, shrimp trawlers, hang trawlers, purse seiners with light, purse seiners, liners and gillnetters, fish carriers, and other fishing vessels) over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(c) What were the numbers of different types of vessels applying for Mainland deckhands over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(d) What were the numbers of cases of contravening the relevant legislation and codes of the Scheme, and the heaviest penalties imposed, over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 70)

Reply:

(a) The expenditure and manpower involved in processing the applications under the Mainland Fishermen Deckhands Scheme (the Scheme) over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)	Manpower (Number of staff)
2017-18	1.3	3
2018-19	1.1	3
2019-20 (revised estimate)	1.2	3

(b) and (c) The number of applications and deckhands involved by types of fishing vessels over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year / Vessel type	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20*	
	Number of#					
	Applications	Deckhands involved	Applications	Deckhands involved	Applications	Deckhands involved
Pair trawler	53 (47)	292	27 (27)	137	24 (24)	139
Stern trawler	46 (45)	191	44 (40)	190	38 (36)	161
Shrimp trawler	55 (53)	251	52 (52)	244	40 (40)	188
Hang trawler	25 (25)	138	20 (20)	113	15 (15)	88
Purse seiner with light and Purse seiner	49 (49)	355	62 (62)	456	56 (54)	434
Liner and Gill netter	74 (72)	483	91 (88)	564	82 (80)	521
Fish carrier	271 (258)	1 790	292 (284)	1 985	267 (254)	1 755
Other fishing vessel	49 (42)	285	39 (37)	231	28 (25)	172
Total	**622 (591)**	**3 785**	**627 (610)**	**3 920**	**550 (528)**	**3 458**

* Up to February 2020

\# The number in the bracket indicates the number of fishing vessels applying for Mainland deckhands by type of fishing vessel.

(d) The number of cases contravening the Scheme in 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 (as at February 2020) is 9, 8 and 10 respectively. The heaviest penalties imposed under the Scheme include cancellation of quota approved for all deckhands for the subject vessel and prohibition of the concerned applicant from applying under the Scheme for 2 years.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3567)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the reprovisioning of livestock farms, please advise of the following:

(a) The distribution of those sites currently designated as (i) livestock waste prohibition areas, (ii) livestock waste control areas and (iii) livestock waste restriction areas (mark the locations and boundaries of such sites in different colours on a map); the respective numbers of (i) pig farms and (ii) chicken farms operating in those 3 types of areas in each of the past 5 years (2015-16 to 2019-20); the differences in respect of the restrictions (including the requirements and procedure regarding application for operating a livestock farm) imposed by the Government on the operation of livestock farms in those 3 types of areas.

(b) The sites which are in compliance with the relevant provisions of the 2 aforesaid pieces of legislation and other relevant legislation and are available to farmers for building new livestock farms or reprovisioning existing farms, as well as the areas of such sites (mark the locations of such sites on a map).

(c) As farmers may, through the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme, identify sites for relocating their livestock farms, has any farmer who had been affected by planned developments succeeded in identifying suitable sites for relocating their farms through the Scheme over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20)? If yes, what are the details? If not, has the Government put in place new measures to help such farmers in reprovisioning their livestock farms and suitably expanding their farms to improve their livestock keeping technology?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 71)

Reply:

Having consulted the Environmental Protection Department, we set out our reply to the various parts of the question as follows:

(a) Under sections 15, 15A and 15AA of the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354) (the Ordinance), Hong Kong is classified into 3 areas, namely livestock waste prohibition, control and restriction areas as shown at the **Annex**. Their control on the operation of livestock farms is generally as follows:

(i) urban areas of Hong Kong are livestock waste prohibition areas, where livestock keeping is banned;

(ii) within livestock waste control areas, a livestock keeper must apply for licence from the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and comply with the Waste Disposal (Livestock Waste) Regulations (Cap. 354A) (the Regulations); and

(iii) within livestock waste restriction areas (i.e. parts of the New Territories and outlying islands), no livestock keeping is allowed, unless the relevant premises had been in use continuously for livestock keeping during the 12 months before 1994 and the livestock keeper holds a licence from AFCD, or is authorised to do so by the Director of Environmental Protection, and the livestock keeping operation complies with the Regulations.

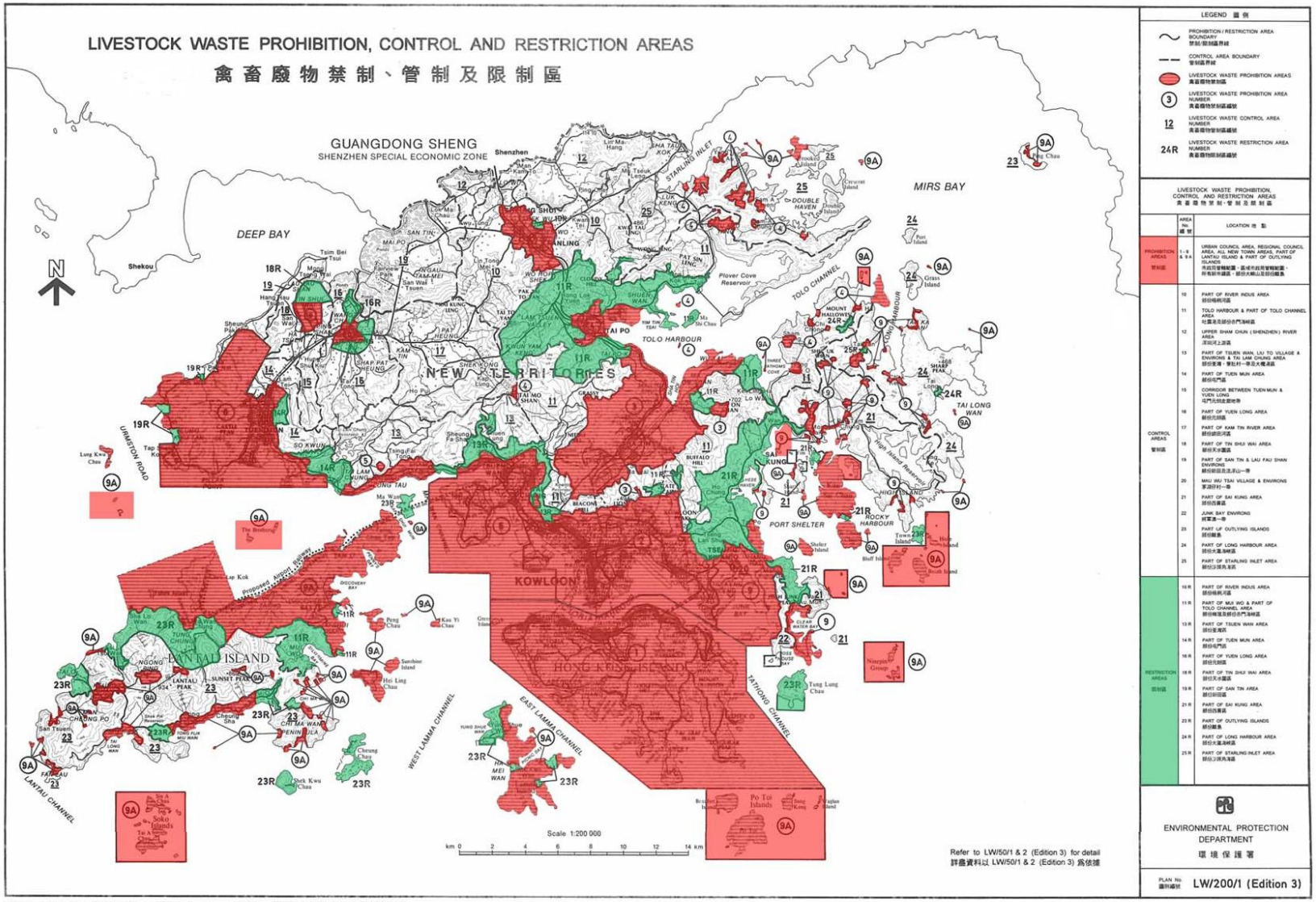
Over the past 5 years, the number of licensed livestock farms in the 3 areas is tabulated as follows:

Year	**Livestock waste prohibition areas**		**Livestock waste control areas**		**Livestock waste restriction areas**	
	Pig farms	**Chicken farms**	**Pig farms**	**Chicken farms**	**Pig farms**	**Chicken farms**
2015	0	0	42	26	1	3
2016	0	0	42	26	1	3
2017	0	0	42	26	1	3
2018	0	0	42	26	1	3
2019	0	0	42	26	1	3

(b) and (c) Since 2017, there has not been any relocation of livestock farm arising from Government development projects. In the event that a licensed livestock farm is affected by Government development projects, the licensee may consider relocation. The relocation site must fulfil the requirements under the Ordinance and the Regulations governing the handling of livestock waste; the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Licensing of Livestock Keeping) Regulation (Cap. 139L) with regard to livestock keeping control, biosecurity, environmental protection, etc. and those related to planning and land controls. Whether an individual site is suitable for relocation is subject to its actual circumstances, and thus we do not have the information of sites and land area available for relocation of livestock farms.

Under the current provisions of Cap. 139L, it is difficult for existing chicken farms to identify other premises in the livestock waste control areas which can satisfy the relevant conditions for relocation. To further minimise the risk of avian flu, the abovementioned regulations have been amended to relax the current statutory requirements of chicken keeping premises so as to strengthen the biosecurity measures of chicken farms and allow those affected by Government development projects to continue with their operations by relocation. The relevant amendment regulation was gazetted on 13 March and tabled in the Legislative Council for vetting on 18 March this year. It is expected to come into operation on 1 July this year.

Livestock farmers requiring assistance in farm relocation may apply for the Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund and the J.E. Joseph Trust Fund which provide low-interest loans to farmers as development and working capital. AFCD will also provide adequate support in accordance with the needs of individual farmers.


LIVESTOCK WASTE PROHIBITION, CONTROL AND RESTRICTION AREAS
禽畜廢物禁制、管制及限制區
GUANGDONG SHENG
SHENZHEN SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE
Shenzhen
DEEP BAY
MIRS BAY
Shekou
NEW TERRITORIES
KOWLOON
HONG KONG ISLAND
LANTAU ISLAND
TOLO HARBOUR
TOLO CHANNEL
PORT SHELTER
ROCKY HARBOUR
TAI LONG WAN
STARLING INLET
DOUBLE HAVEN
Plover Cove Reservoir
Tai Po
Sha Tin
Tsuen Wan
Kwai Chung
Tsing Yi
Ma Wan
Lantau Peak
Sunset Peak
Cheung Chau
Peng Chau
Hei Ling Chau
Lamma Island
Po Toi Islands
Soko Islands
Urmston Road
Lantau Channel
West Lamma Channel
East Lamma Channel
Tathong Channel
Scale 1:200 000
km 0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 km
Refer to LW/50/1 & 2 (Edition 3) for detail
詳盡資料以 LW/50/1 & 2 (Edition 3) 爲依據
LEGEND 圖例
PROHIBITION / RESTRICTION AREA BOUNDARY
CONTROL AREA BOUNDARY
LIVESTOCK WASTE PROHIBITION AREAS
LIVESTOCK WASTE PROHIBITION AREA NUMBER
LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL AREA NUMBER
LIVESTOCK WASTE RESTRICTION AREA NUMBER
LIVESTOCK WASTE PROHIBITION, CONTROL AND RESTRICTION AREAS
AREA No.
LOCATION
PROHIBITION AREAS
CONTROL AREAS
RESTRICTION AREAS
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT
環境保護署
PLAN No. LW/200/1 (Edition 3)
Prepared by Survey & Mapping Office, Lands Department May 1994 地政總署測繪處繪製 一九九四年五月

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3568)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the imports of birds, poultry and ostriches, please advise of the following:

(a) Over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20), what was the number of birds imported? Please set out by bird species (in particular those endangered species which require possession licences) and place of import.

(b) Over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20), what was the number of shops with animal trader licences?

(c) Currently, how many birds in Hong Kong are accompanied with possession licences issued by the Government? Over the past 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20), what was the number of possession licences issued by the Government?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 72)

Reply:

Measures taken by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) to control the import of live birds under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) Regulations (Cap. 139A) and the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) (the Ordinance) are overseen by the Food and Health Bureau and the Environment Bureau respectively. Our reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

(a) The requested information is tabulated in the **Annex**.

(b) The number of holders of animal trader licence for selling birds was 57, 48 and 34 in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively.

(c) According to the Ordinance, possession of live endangered birds which are listed in Appendix I, and of live endangered birds which are listed in Appendix II and are of

wild origin, requires a licence to possess (PL) for each keeping premises if they are kept for commercial purposes. A PL can cover more than 1 species/individual. Currently, there are 30 valid PLs in respect of live endangered birds, covering 4 407 individuals of 54 species.

The number of PLs issued by AFCD (including licences renewed) covering live endangered birds is 17, 6 and 1 in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively.

Annex

Birds Imported into Hong Kong from 2017 to 2019

Year	Species	Quantity (head)	Country/place of export
2017	*Amazona aestiva*[*]	30	Czech Republic
	Amazona ochrocephala[*]	32	Czech Republic
	Ara ararauna[*]	7	Czech Republic
	Ara ararauna x Ara chloroptera[*]	2	Czech Republic
	Ara chloropterus[*]	5	Czech Republic
	Cacatua alba[*]	2	Czech Republic
	Cacatua galerita[*]	2	Czech Republic
	Amandava subflava	290	Guinea, Mali
	Cinnyricinclus leucogaster	50	Guinea
	Copsychus saularis	935	Malaysia
	Crithagra flaviventris	100	Mozambique
	Crithagra mozambicus	3 250	Mozambique
	Dryonastes courtoisi	2	U.K.
	Lamprotornis iris	20	Guinea
	Lamprotornis purpureus	50	Guinea
	Mandingda nitidula	70	Mali
	Melopsittacus undulatus	100	Malaysia
	Nymphicus hollandicus	31	Australia, Malaysia
	Pelecanus onocrotalus	1	Singapore
	Serinus alario	100	Mozambique
	Serinus atrogularis	500	Mozambique
	Serinus citrinipectus	1 000	Mozambique
	Serinus flaviventrs	550	Mozambique
	Serinus leucopygius	7 580	Guinea, Mali
	Serinus mozambicus	6 080	Guinea, Mali, Mozambique
	Serinus sulphuratus	400	Mozambique
	Uraeginthus bengalus	220	Guinea
2018	*Amazona aestiva*[*]	97	Belgium, Czech Republic, Mali
	Amazona ochrocephala[*]	66	Czech Republic, Mali
	Anthobaphes violacea	10	Guinea
	Ara ararauna[*]	54	Czech Republic, Mali
	Ara chloropterus[*]	18	Czech Republic, Mali
	Cacatua alba[*]	4	Czech Republic, Mali
	Cacatua leadbeateri[*]	2	Mali
	Copsychus saularis	1 130	Malaysia
	Cossypha niveicapilla	20	Guinea
	Crithagra atrogularis	550	Mozambique
	Crithagra mozambicus	5 000	Mozambique
	Deroptyus accipitrinus[*]	1	Czech Republic
	Diopsittaca nobilis[*]	4	Mali

Year	Species	Quantity (head)	Country/place of export
	Eclectus roratus[*]	20	Czech Republic, Mali
	Eolophus roseicapilla[*]	28	Belgium, Mali
	Euplectes capensis	300	Guinea
	Euplectes orix	300	Guinea
	Forpus coelestis[*]	6	Taiwan
	Lamprotornis caudatus	50	Mali
	Lamprotornis iris	20	Mali
	Laniarius barbarus	20	Guinea
	Lonchura atricapilla	1 000	Malaysia
	Lonchura maja	1 000	Malaysia
	Lonchura punctulata	1 000	Malaysia
	Myiopsitta monachus[*]	4	Belgium
	Nymphicus hollandicus	90	Czech Republic, Malaysia
	Pionites leucogaster[*]	45	Belgium, Czech Republic, Mali, Singapore
	Pionites melanocephalus[*]	26	Belgium, Czech Republic, Mali
	Pionus chalcopterus[*]	3	Czech Republic
	Pionus fuscus[*]	7	Czech Republic
	Poicephalus gulielmi[*]	300	Democratic Republic of the Congo
	Poicephalus meyeri[*]	3	Mali
	Poicephalus robustus[*]	20	Mali
	Poicephalus senegalus[*]	500	Mali
	Serinus atrogularis	1 150	Mozambique
	Serinus canaria	538	Czech Republic, Mali
	Serinus flaviventrs	1 250	Mozambique
	Serinus leucopygius	12 400	Mali
	Serinus mozambicus	6 900	Guinea, Mali, Mozambique
	Serinus sulphuratus	600	Mozambique
	Uraeginthus bengalus	80	Mali
	Vidua paradisaea	400	Mali
	Zosterops senegalensis	50	Mali
2019	*Alisterus scapularis**	10	Czech Republic
	Amadina fasciata	150	Mali
	Amazona aestiva[*]	67	Czech Republic, Mali, Belgium
	Amazona ochrocephala[*]	46	Czech Republic, Mali, Belgium
	Aprosmictus erytheopterus[*]	10	Czech Republic
	Ara ararauna[*]	27	Czech Republic, Mali
	Ara ararauna x Ara chloropterus[*]	1	Czech Republic
	Ara chloropterus[*]	10	Czech Republic, Belgium
	Cacatua alba[*]	7	Mali, Belgium
	Copsychus saularis	2 240	Malaysia
	Cygnus	4	Malaysia
	Eclectus roratus[*]	30	Mali, Taiwan

Year	Species	Quantity (head)	Country/place of export
	Eolophus roseicapilla[*]	74	Czech Republic, Mali, Belgium
	Estrilda caerulescens	300	Mali
	Estrilda melpoda	150	Mali
	Estrilda troglodytes	150	Mali
	Forpus coelestis[*]	20	Taiwan
	Forpus passerines[*]	40	Czech Republic
	Lagonosticta senegala	250	Mali
	Lonchura cucullata	200	Mali
	Lorius lorry[*]	4	Taiwan
	Melopsittacus undulatus	73	Czech Republic, Japan, Portugal
	Myiopsitta monachus[*]	90	Taiwan
	Pionites leucogaster[*]	82	Czech Republic, Mali, Belgium, Taiwan
	Pionites melanocephalus[*]	20	Taiwan
	Pionus chalcopterus[*]	6	Czech Republic, Belgium
	Pionus maximiliani[*]	2	Czech Republic
	Pionus menstruus[*]	2	Czech Republic
	Pionus senilis[*]	7	Czech Republic, Belgium
	Platycercus elegans[*]	11	Czech Republic
	Platycercus eximius[*]	10	Czech Republic
	Polytelis swainsonii[*]	11	Czech Republic
	Psephotus haematonotus[*]	18	Czech Republic
	Psittacula krameri	8	Belgium
	Psittacus erithacus[*]	11	U.K., Philippines
	Pyrrhura molinae[*]	3	Taiwan
	Serinus atrogularis	800	Mali
	Serinus canaria	160	Czech Republic
	Serinus citrinipectus	200	Mali
	Serinus leucopygius	12 550	Mali
	Serinus mozambicus	9 250	Guinea, Mali
	Serinus sulphuratus	200	Mali
	Taeniopygia guttata	10	Czech Republic
	Uraeginthus bengalus	400	Mali
	Vidua paradisaea	280	Mali

[*] Endangered species under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3569)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 under Programme (1) that the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will "implement the New Agriculture Policy to proactively support the modernisation and sustainable development of local agriculture, including preparing for the establishment of the Agricultural Park and overseeing the consultancy study on designating Agricultural Priority Areas". In this connection, please advise this Committee of the following:

(a) What are the expenditure and manpower related to the Agricultural Park and Agricultural Priority Areas in the coming year? What is the progress of the work? What are the challenges in implementing the New Agricultural Policy?

(b) What is the amount of the consultation fee for the study on the Agricultural Priority Areas? Which countries does AFCD primarily make reference to when studying overseas experiences?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

(a) and (b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will establish an Agricultural Park (Agri-Park) in Kwu Tung South to help nurture agro-technology and knowledge of modern farm management. The Agri-Park will be developed in 2 phases. Phase 1 will be developed in a relatively small scale (about 11 hectares) with a view to enabling its partial commissioning for use by farmers as early as possible. Subject to funding approval of the Finance Committee in 2020, the construction works of Agri-Park Phase 1 will commence as soon as possible, and is expected to be completed in stages by 2021-2023. AFCD is in parallel planning and preparing for Agri-Park Phase 2.

To support the development of the local agriculture, the Government is conducting a consultancy study to identify relatively large areas of quality agricultural land and explore suitable policies and measures to encourage land owners to put fallow agricultural land back into long-term agricultural use. The consultant is currently reviewing the existing farmland in Hong Kong and studying overseas experience, including regions in Europe, the United States and Asia that have similar experience, before making recommendations. As a considerable size of agricultural land is involved, it is estimated that the study will take several years to complete. The cost for conducting the consultancy study on Agricultural Priority Areas (APAs) was about $17.5 million.

In 2020-21, 12 staff members (in addition to their other on-going duties) and $11.5 million have been earmarked for the above work on Agri-Park and APAs.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3573)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 under this Programme that the Government will "follow up on the public consultation on the review of the existing legislation related to animal welfare, including introducing a positive duty of care on animal keepers". In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

(a) The Government originally aimed to launch a three-month public consultation on proposals to enhance animal welfare in mid-2019. However, the public consultation could not be launched eventually with the occurrence of the large-scale social incidents in the second half of 2019 in Hong Kong. Please set out the expenditure and manpower incurred due to the delay. When is the public consultation expected to be held?

(b) What was the number of reported cases of suspected animal cruelty received by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department over the past year? What were the follow-up actions?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)

Reply:

(a) Having launched a three-month public consultation exercise in 2019 on enhancement of animal welfare, the Government is now examining the views received and plans to report the findings of the consultation and the way forward to the Legislative Council Panel concerned in April this year. Upon finalising the legislative proposals, we will commence the drafting work of the legislation.

(b) Upon receiving reports of suspected animal cruelty cases, the Hong Kong Police Force (the Police) and / or the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will conduct investigation. Prosecution will be initiated if there is sufficient evidence. The number of suspected animal cruelty reports received and details of

successful prosecutions under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) initiated by the Police and AFCD in 2019 are tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of suspected animal cruelty reports received*	Number of persons convicted	Penalty imposed	
			Fine ($)	Range of imprisonment
2019 (up to September)	288	19	2,000 to 8,000	20 days to 2 months

* Upon investigation, most of the cases were found to be related to nuisance with no elements of cruelty.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)224

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4546)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Would the Department set out in tabular form the following information regarding (i) wild pigs, (ii) cattle, (iii) goats, (iv) stray cats and (v) stray dogs over the past 5 years:
(a) The number of reports of animals from the public received by the Department;
(b) The number of cases that required follow-ups;
(c) The number of successful captures made by the Department;
(d) The number of animals that were injured or died during the operations; and
(e) The number of animals that had to be euthanised after the operations.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 127)

Reply:

(a) and (b) The number of nuisance complaints and reports for assistance related to animals received by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of nuisance complaints and reports for assistance				
	Wild pigs	Cattle	Goats	Stray cats	Stray dogs
2015	518	215	4	3 140	6 060
2016	583	242	5	2 383	5 171
2017	738	214	5	1 842	4 268
2018	929	332	4	1 141	3 751
2019	1 184	272	12	814	3 259

In general, upon receipt of such complaints/reports from members of the public, AFCD would deploy staff to conduct inspections and take follow up actions as appropriate.

(c) The number of animals caught by AFCD over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of animals caught				
	Wild pigs	**Cattle**	**Goats**	**Stray cats**	**Stray dogs**
2015	28	88	3	1 359	2 412
2016	59	114	4	876	1 919
2017	106	105	3	674	1 566
2018	197	128	2	547	1 235
2019	284	125	5	304	965

(d) AFCD has no record of animals injured or died during the catching operations over the past 5 years.

(e) The number of animals that were euthanised after being caught by AFCD over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of animals euthanised				
	Wild pigs	**Cattle**	**Goats**	**Stray cats**	**Stray dogs**
2015	2	18	1	605	1 424
2016	4	51	0	380	1 039
2017	1	26	0	325	762
2018	1	39	0	271	512
2019	12	7	0	176	390

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)225

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4556)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the establishment of the Agricultural Park,

(a) What was the actual expenditure in 2019-20?

(b) What is the estimated expenditure in 2020-21?

(c) What is the estimated manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 137)

Reply:

(a) to (c) Regarding the establishment of the Agricultural Park, the expenditure (revised estimate) involved in 2019-20 was about $8.5 million. In 2020-21, 12 staff members (in addition to their other on-going duties) and $9.2 million have been earmarked for the above work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5098)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Has the Government deployed staff to carry out sea patrol regularly so as to implement the trawl ban over the past 3 years? What were the details of the manpower arrangement? In addition, has the Government received any request for assistance and complaint in this respect? What were the respective numbers and details of requests for assistance and prosecutions in this respect?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 1138)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and the Marine Police conduct regular and targeted patrols and joint enforcement operations against illegal fishing (including trawling) in Hong Kong waters. AFCD also participates in joint enforcement operations and exchanges intelligence with the Guangdong Provincial Marine and Fisheries Inspection Bureau to combat illegal fishing activities along the boundary waters. Information on enforcement over the past 3 years against illegal trawling is tabulated below.

Year	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Manpower involved[#] (number of staff)	18	18	18
Number of requests for assistance and complaints received	46	46	67
Number of successful prosecutions	1	5	2
Number of persons convicted[^]	5	20	11

[#] The officers concerned conduct enforcement operations to combat illegal fishing, including but not limited to those against trawling.

[^] All prosecuted persons were convicted.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)227

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5104)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the expenditure on engaging dedicated personnel to manage and maintain the Director's personal social media platforms, including Facebook fan page, Instagram and website:

(a) What were the number of staff responsible for maintaining the Director's social media platforms and the staff expenses involved (in terms of annual salary) over the past 3 years?

(b) Were there any outside companies engaged to assist in maintaining the social media platforms over the past 3 years? If yes, what were the expenditure and companies involved?

(c) What were the number of advertisements posted on social media and the annual expenditure on such advertisements in the past year?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 1144)

Reply:

(a) to (c) The Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation does not have any personal social media accounts, pages or websites that are managed by the Department.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3694)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 that AFCD will focus its work on strengthening measures for stray animal management in 2020-21. In this connection, would the Government advise this Committee of the following:

(a) The average number of complaints about stray animal nuisance received by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) in each of the past 3 years (with a breakdown by type of animal);

(b) AFCD's recurrent expenditures for handling complaints upon receipt over the past 3 years;

(c) Apart from collaborating with non-profit animal welfare organisations (AWOs) and entrusting the work on animal rehoming to its partner AWOs, will AFCD consider establishing its own animal rehoming centre? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 84)

Reply:

(a) The number of stray animal nuisance complaints received by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	**Number of stray animal nuisance complaints received (cases)**		
	Dogs	**Cats**	**Others** *
2017	4 268	1 842	276
2018	3 751	1 141	213
2019	3 259	814	186

[*] Including small mammals, reptiles, pigs/cattle, birds, etc.

(b) In general, when complaints related to nuisances caused by stray animals are received, AFCD will conduct site inspections and catch the stray animals. Stray animals caught will be put in Animal Management Centres (AMCs) for observation. For those with a microchip implanted, AMCs will try to locate their owners based on the information on their records. In general, these animals will stay in AMCs for about 10 to 20 days. AMCs will keep the non-microchipped ones for at least 4 days, allowing time for their owners to reclaim them. In cases where the animals being left unclaimed are in good health and assessed by a veterinary officer as having a gentle temperament and suitable for rehoming, AFCD will arrange their transfer to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) for rehoming by members of the public as far as possible.

The expenditure of AFCD involved in catching stray animals and handling animals caught over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	**Expenditure ($ million)**		
	Catching stray animals	**Handling stray animals caught**	**Total**
2017-18	28.7	3.6	32.3
2018-19	32.3	4.0	36.3
2019-20 (revised estimate)	33.6	3.9	37.5

(c) AFCD is currently collaborating with non-profit making AWOs to arrange rehoming of suitable animals. The AWOs concerned provide animal rehoming services in various districts across the territory, which include assessing the suitability of prospective adopters and their living environment for animal adoption, and following up with adopters to see if the adopters take proper care of the animals rehomed. They are armed with relevant experience and adopter network, and could provide members of the public with more service locations and better meet the current needs of the community. Meanwhile, AFCD is actively liaising with other AWOs with a view to further increasing the number of partnering organisations.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3735)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Would the Bureau provide the balance, government injection amount, investment or other income, and total expenditure of the following funds in 2018-19? If there are other funds under the ambit of the Bureau but not included below, please also provide information as per the items above.

(a) Agricultural Products Scholarship Fund;
(b) Co-operative for American Relief Everywhere Loan Fund;
(c) Fisheries Development Loan Fund;
(d) Fish Marketing Organization Loan Fund (FMOLF) including the Fishing Moratorium Loan Scheme set up under FMOLF;
(e) J.E. Joseph Trust Fund;
(f) Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund;
(g) Marine Fish Scholarship Fund;
(h) Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund;
(i) Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund;
(j) Vegetable Marketing Organization Agricultural Development Fund;
(k) Vegetable Marketing Organization Loan Fund; and
(l) World Refugee Year Loan Fund.

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department currently administers 12 funds related to the agriculture and fisheries sectors. The requested information about the funds is tabulated at the **Annex**.

Annex

Amount of government injection, income, expenditure and fund balance of various funds related to the agricultural and fisheries sectors

Item	Fund	Government injection ($ million) (up to 31 December 2019)	2019		
			Income[#] ($ million)	Expenditure[^] ($ million)	Fund balance ($ million) (up to 31 December 2019)
(a)	Agricultural Products Scholarship Fund	-	0.1	0.4	5.4
(b)	Co-operative for American Relief Everywhere Loan Fund	-	-	-	0.2
(c)	Fisheries Development Loan Fund	1,100.0[*]	10.2	41.5	197.6
(d)	Fish Marketing Organization Loan Fund[@]	60.0[*]	0.8	93.0	57.3
(e)	J.E. Joseph Trust Fund	0.8	0.3	1.2	19.0
(f)	Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund	2.0	0.2	3.2	11.8
(g)	Marine Fish Scholarship Fund	-	<0.1	0.4	3.8
(h)	Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund	500.0[*]	-	37.6	452.8
(i)	Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund	500.0[*]	-	15.9	454.3
(j)	Vegetable Marketing Organization Agricultural Development Fund	-	0.4	19.3	21.0
(k)	Vegetable Marketing Organization Loan Fund	-	0.2	1.6	13.1
(l)	World Refugee Year Loan Fund	-	<0.1	-	2.1

[*] Government commitment

[#] Including interest income from loan borrowers, bank deposits and government bonds

[^] Including grants / loans issued

[@] Including the Fishing Moratorium Loan Scheme set up under the Fish Marketing Organization Loan Fund

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4444)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

(a) Please set out the quantity, value and stock of surgical masks produced by the Correctional Services Department (CSI masks) that the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) obtained from the Government Logistics Department (GLD) each month over the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	Number of CSI masks obtained	Value of CSI masks obtained	Stock of CSI masks

(b) Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of surgical masks that AFCD obtained from GLD or procured each month over the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	Number of surgical masks obtained from GLD (value)	Number of surgical masks procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

(c) Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of N95 masks that AFCD obtained from GLD or procured each month over the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	Number of N95 masks obtained from GLD (value)	Number of N95 masks procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

(d) Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of gowns that AFCD obtained from GLD or procured each month over the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	Number of gowns obtained from GLD (value)	Number of gowns procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

(e) Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of protective coverall suits that AFCD obtained from GLD or procured each month over the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	Number of protective coverall suits obtained from GLD (value)	Number of protective overall suits procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

(f) Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of face shields that AFCD obtained from GLD or procured each month over the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	Number of face shields procured	Value of face shields procured	Stock of face shields	Consumption

(g) Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of goggles that AFCD obtained from GLD or procured each month over the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	Number of goggles procured	Value of googles procured	Stock of googles	Consumption

(h) Did AFCD supply or sell surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, goggles, gowns and protective coverall suits to other organisations over the past 3 years? If yes, please provide the relevant information, including the quantity, consumption and stock, in the following table:

Month/Year	Name of organisations	Manner of provision (e.g. sold or supplied for free)	Surgical masks	N95 masks	Face shields	Goggles	Gowns	Protective coverall suits

(i) If AFCD is to supply or sell surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, goggles, gowns and protective coverall suits to other organisations, what are the departments and the ranks of the officers responsible for making such decisions? Please provide the ranks of the officers involved in each decision, the date they made the decision and other relevant information.

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 116)

Reply:

(a) to (i) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) obtains surgical masks produced by the Correctional Services Department from the Government Logistics Department and procures masks from the market for distribution to and use by colleagues, visitors and individual staff of contractors who provide services at AFCD's facilities. AFCD does not keep any information on the distribution of masks from different sources to individual staff.

With an upsurge in the global demand for personal protective equipment (PPE), the HKSAR Government is facing keen competition in its procurement. The Government considers it inappropriate at this stage to disclose further information about the stock levels, quantities procured and amounts paid, procurement date and consumption in respect of PPE in individual departments in the past few years and recent months so as not to undermine the bargaining power of the Government in procuring PPE.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 | Reply Serial No. **FHB(FE)231**

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6700)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

(a) What are the current number and geographical distribution of community brown cattle and buffaloes in Hong Kong?

(b) Please set out, by year, the Department's total expenditure involved in dealing with the community cattle, as well as a breakdown of all the expenditure involved over the past 5 years and in the financial year 2020-21.

(c) Please set out the current staff establishment of the Cattle Management Team by rank, and provide, by year, the Department's total expenditure and an exhaustive breakdown of all expenditure on the "Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation" programme (the programme), including expenditure involved in handling public complaints, the purchase of medicines, capturing stray cattle, contraception control/sterilisation for stray cattle, relocation operation, total staff cost, and administrative expenses, etc. over the past 5 years and in the financial year 2020-21.

(d) In August 2019, the Department devised a stray cattle management plan, setting out short to long-term goals. What are the details of the plan, the staff establishment, total expenditure and a breakdown of all expenditure involved in the plan in the past and that in the financial year 2020-21?

(e) How effective is the programme? What are the way forward and target of the programme?

(f) How effective is the study on contraceptive vaccine for cattle? Has the Department collected enough samples for pregnancy analysis? What are the respective success rates of contraception of the vaccines for brown cattle and buffaloes? What counter-measures does the Department have if the target for the controlling of their number of cattle is unable to be achieved?

(g) Please set out, by year and with an exhaustive account, the following breakdown statistics related to the relocation programme over the past 5 years:
   (i) The number of complaints/reports related to cattle;
   (ii) The number of operations;
   (iii) The number of cattle caught and the districts where they were caught;
   (iv) The number of cattle that have received contraceptive vaccines and that of the sterilised cattle;
   (v) The number of cattle sterilised at treatment centres or on site;
   (vi) The number of relocated cattle and their age;
   (vii) The number of cattle staying in the relocated sites;
   (viii) The number of cattle euthanised due to sickness, injury in traffic accidents or during transit or other incidents.

(h) What are the objective grounds for determining whether the survival conditions of cattle can be satisfied? Will the Department stop relocating cattle to sites like the Chong Hing Water Sports Centre, where grass and water supply is not sufficient?

(i) The Department stated last year that it "would continue to identify suitable sites for the relocation of cattle". What are the progress and result concerned?

(j) The Department stated last year that it would engage stakeholders (including rural committees concerned and cattle concern groups) in identifying sites for relocation of cattle to explore how to step up the stray cattle management measures in various districts. What stakeholders has the Department engaged in the related work? What are the details of expenditure and manpower involved? Will the Department consider adopting the suggestion put forward by certain civil organisations to develop sites like Sha Tau Kok, which are suitable for the survival of cattle?

(k) The Department stated last year that it would implement the long term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with relevant animal welfare organisations (AWOs) and local communities. What are the AWOs and local communities concerned? What are the details of expenditure and manpower involved? What long-term strategies has the Department planned, formulated or implemented for stray cattle management?

(l) Currently, there are some civil organisations volunteering to look after community cattle, and handle cattle shelters, traffic incidents involving cattle and capturing operations. Will the Department cooperate with these organisations or assist them in stray cattle management?

(m) It was mentioned in last year's Audit Report that AFCD should honour its pledge and brief the relevant AWOs and stakeholders on the stray cattle management plan. What is the current progress concerned? Has AFCD introduced the plan to the AWOs and stakeholders concerned? If yes, what are the details?

(n) Please set out, by year and district, the number of times AFCD deployed staff to conduct site inspection of the relocation sites and monitor the health of cattle over the past 5 years. The Department has stated that the internationally recognised "Body Condition Scoring System" is currently used for assessing the health condition of

cattle. Herd health is monitored and checked by observing the posture, gait, appetite and excretion of the cattle. The cattle will be treated accordingly by a veterinary surgeon when any abnormalities are identified. What were the details and frequency of abnormalities identified in the past, as well as the number and location involved?

(o) The Department has launched the "Herdsman Program" on Lantau Island since February 2018. What are the details of the programme, expenditure and manpower involved? How many complaints have been received each year since the launch of the programme? How many surprised inspections on the performance of the herdsmen has been conducted each month? How is the performance of the herdsmen? How can the public contact the herdsmen?

(p) The Department has stated that the way in which the Department handles cattle is different from that of private veterinary surgeons providing treatment for pets, and thus it is not necessary to keep medical records of the cattle handled in accordance with section 18 of the Code of Practice for the Guidance of Registered Veterinary Surgeons. What are the legal grounds for this practice?

(q) The Department has stated that it will not disclose the medical records of community animals handled by the Department as advised by the Veterinary Surgeons Board of Hong Kong in order to safeguard the interests of the attending veterinary surgeons. Nonetheless, the Department of Justice advised that the said issue can be handled in accordance with the Code on Access to Information. It is difficult to determine whether the public fund involved is used properly if the public are not informed of the performance of the veterinary surgeons in handling community animals. Apart from having a fear of public scrutiny, what are other reasons for the Department to allow the public's right to know to be overridden by personal interests of the veterinary surgeons?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)

Reply:

(a) According to a territory-wide population survey on stray cattle conducted in 2018, there were around 1 140 stray cattle in the rural areas of Hong Kong. Their number and distribution are tabulated as follows:

Species	**Number of stray cattle**				
	Lantau Island	**Sai Kung/ Ma On Shan**	**North East New Territories**	**Central New Territories**	**Total**
Buffalo	120	0	0	40	160
Brown cattle	170	400	260	150	980
Total	**290**	**400**	**260**	**190**	**1 140**

(b) and (c) The expenditure and manpower of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) involved in stray cattle management (including the "Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation" (CSR) programme) over the past 5 years and

the estimated expenditure and manpower for such work in 2020-21 are tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2015-16	3.0	6
2016-17	3.2	6
2017-18	3.5	7
2018-19	6.7	7
2019-20 (revised estimate)	5.6	8*
2020-21 (estimate)	5.3	8*

* Comprising 1 Veterinary Officer, 2 Field Officer II, 4 Field Assistant and 1 Motor Driver posts.

The expenditure on the CSR programme over the past 5 years, and the estimated expenditure in this respect in 2020-21 are tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)
2015-16	2.3
2016-17	2.4
2017-18	2.7
2018-19	4.0
2019-20 (revised estimate)	3.3
2020-21 (estimate)	3.2

AFCD does not have a separate breakdown of the above expenditure.

(d) and (e) AFCD launched the stray cattle management plan in 2019 to continue the implementation of the CSR programme and sterilise cattle based on their respective populations in various districts with a view to maintaining their populations at a controllable level. As mentioned in (b) and (c) above, AFCD has earmarked $5.3 million and 8 staff for stray cattle management in 2020-21 and will also commission a consultant to regularly review the effectiveness of the existing cattle management measures, including the CSR programme.

(f) AFCD is now studying the feasibility of controlling the fertility of cattle with the use of a contraceptive drug called Gonacon. In the first phase of the study, AFCD has vaccinated 33 captive female brown cattle and the result indicated that the vaccine yielded a success rate of approximately 70% in rendering infertility in the captive brown cattle. In the second and the third phases of the study,

AFCD has vaccinated a total of 64 wild female brown cattle and 33 wild female buffaloes. The result indicated that the vaccine was able to render infertility in most of the wild brown cattle but was unable to render infertility in wild buffaloes effectively. AFCD is now carrying out the fourth phase of the study to continue to monitor the effectiveness of the vaccine in cattle (especially buffaloes). The whole study will be completed in late 2020 and AFCD will assess whether the vaccine is suitable to be applied to stray cattle in Hong Kong. No matter whether the vaccine will be used, AFCD will continue to surgically sterilise stray cattle to control the populations of cattle.

(g) (i) The number of cattle nuisance complaints received by AFCD over the past 5 years is tabulated by district as follows:

	Number of cases				
District/Year	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Lantau Island	71	91	39	30	27
Sai Kung	13	11	10	9	5
North East New Territories and Central New Territories	19	22	14	43	60
Total	**103**	**124**	**63**	**82**	**92**

(ii) Inspections of relocated stray cattle are conducted by AFCD for around 3 times a week, amounting to at least 200 inspections annually for Sai Kung and Lantau Island where the CSR programme is implemented.

(iii) to (vi) The number of cattle handled by AFCD under the CSR programme over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

	Number of cattle		
Year	**Captured** [#]	**Sterilised**	**Relocated/Returned** [#]
2015	88	16	70
2016	114	64	69
2017	105	43	72
2018	128	105	80
2019	125	207	98

[#] Figures include repeated capture and relocation/return of the same cattle.

AFCD does not have information on the age of the cattle concerned.

The number of cattle captured is tabulated by district as follows:

District/Year	**Number of cattle captured**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Lantau Island	21	33	24	27	14
Sai Kung	50	51	49	42	26
North East New Territories and Central New Territories	17	30	32	59	85
Total	**88**	**114**	**105**	**128**	**125**

AFCD has been studying the feasibility of sterilising cattle chemically with the use of Gonacon in parallel with the CSR programme. Up to February 2020, a total of 172 cattle have been involved in the study.

(vii) In general, AFCD relocates the nuisance-causing stray cattle to country parks nearby. Since the cattle can inhabit and roam around freely in the country parks, AFCD does not have the number of cattle staying in the relocated sites over the past 5 years.

(viii) The number of cattle euthanised due to sickness or injury over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of cattle
2015	18
2016	51
2017	26
2018	39
2019	7

(h) To reduce the nuisance caused by lingering cattle in urban areas or roads and assure the safety of cattle and road users, AFCD captures, sterilises and relocates stray cattle to country parks. AFCD will carry out on-site inspections to ensure adequacy of grass, water, woodland in the potential relocated sites for cattle inhabitation before deciding on the sites for cattle relocation.

Cattle herds have been found dwelling at grassland of the Chong Hing Water Sports Centre in the Sai Kung Country Park. Since no fences have been erected around the grassland, cattle can inhabit and roam around freely in the Sai Kung Country Park.

(i) and (j) In recent years, residents affected by stray cattle and the animal welfare organisations (AWOs) hold differing views on stray cattle management. In the previous public consultation exercises, relevant community groups, District Councils and local communities and groups that are concerned about stray cattle are, in general, supportive of AFCD's multi-pronged approach for stray cattle management, including the CSR programme and the "Herdsman Program", etc.

Regarding the identification of suitable cattle relocation sites, AFCD has also been maintaining liaison with cattle concern individuals and groups on Lantau Island, Rural Committees, Area Committee of Lantau Island and Islands District Council, and has been studying the potential sites on Lantau Island and other outlying islands. Nevertheless, suitable or feasible sites have yet been identified. Currently, AFCD does not have any plan to relocate stray cattle in other districts to Sha Tau Kok.

AFCD does not have a separate breakdown of the expenditure and manpower involved in the above work.

(k) and (l) AFCD has been implementing the CSR programme in collaboration with stakeholders such as the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, local cattle concern groups and individuals, etc. They report nuisance or injury cases caused by lingering cattle in urban areas or roads to AFCD for follow-up actions.

AFCD does not have a separate breakdown of the expenditure and manpower involved in the above work.

(m) AFCD has briefed the Working Group on Managing Animal Population under the Animal Welfare Advisory Group, which comprises AWOs' representatives and veterinarians, on the stray cattle management plan and has solicited their support. AFCD has already started implementing the plan.

(n) As mentioned in (g)(ii) above, AFCD has been conducting inspections of relocated stray cattle for around 3 times a week, amounting to at least 200 inspections annually for Sai Kung and Lantau Island where the CSR programme is implemented over the past 5 years. No abnormalities caused by relocation were found among the cattle during the inspections.

(o) AFCD has implemented the "Herdsman Program" on Lantau Island since February 2018. At present, 4 staff are deployed to lead stray cattle away from roads and nuisance black spots in different areas of Lantau South. The herdsmen will advise visitors not to feed cattle to safeguard health and welfare of the cattle.

The herdsmen is requested to sign in for work at specific locations every day and AFCD will conduct surprise checks at least once a week. Since the launch of the programme, the number of complaints about cattle nuisance on Lantau Island has shown a downward trend (see (g) above for the figures concerned). Local residents may forward their requests for service at specific locations or

their suggestions on herdsmen to AFCD, which will take follow-up actions as appropriate.

In 2019-20, the expenditure (revised estimate) involved in the "Herdsman Program" was about $600,000.

(p) As stipulated in section 18 of the Code of Practice for the Guidance of Registered Veterinary Surgeons (CoP) promulgated by the Veterinary Surgeons Board of Hong Kong (VSB) under the Veterinary Surgeons Registration Ordinance (Cap. 529), all registered veterinary surgeons in Hong Kong shall keep medical records for the animals attended by them and the Veterinary Officers of AFCD shall also comply with CoP to keep medical records for the animals seen or treated by them.

(q) In addition to the Government's Code on Access to Information (the Code), relevant provisions of CoP should also be complied with when considering whether the medical records of stray animals attended by AFCD's Veterinary Officers should be released upon request by members of the public. Section 18.1.2 of the Code of Practice for the Guidance of Registered Veterinary Surgeons stipulates that "A medical record documents the basis for the clinical management of a patient. It reflects on the quality of care and is necessary for continuity of care. It protects the legal interests of the patient and veterinary surgeons." Based on the above considerations, AFCD is of the view that VSB's advice should be sought regarding the scope of applicability of the said provision.

After consideration, VSB is of the view that, in general, medical records are only released upon request by the owner or agent of the animal, or for sharing of information among veterinary surgeons in providing treatment for the animal concerned (subject to owners' consent), or when such records are required for legal purpose under the Law. Thus, medical records should not be released to any persons other than the owner. Regarding the medical records of stray animals, VSB is of the view that such records shall not be released to any persons, except with the consent of the record owner. VSB also agrees that, in some cases, personal interests of the attending veterinary surgeons who are responsible for keeping medical records for stray animals, are overridden by public interests when the medical records concerned are released. To conclude, the owner of medical records has the right to decide whether and to whom such information should be released. As the owner of the medical records compiled by Veterinary Officers, AFCD will handle the requests for medical records of stray animals in accordance with the Code and make reference to the above advice provided by VSB.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6702)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

(a) What are the types and numbers of the existing animal traps kept by the Department? What is the total expenditure of procuring such animal traps?

(b) Please set out the type and number of animals captured by the Department over the past 5 years, with a breakdown by reason of capture.

(c) Please set out the type and number of animals injured during the captures by the Department's staff over the past 5 years.

(d) Will the Department consider ceasing the use of animal traps, e.g. snares, which cause injuries to animals easily? Will the Department explore the use of other tools or methods that are less likely to cause injuries to animals in captures?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

(a) At present, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has a total of 182 cage traps for catching cats and dogs, 56 snares for catching dogs, 40 cage traps for catching feral pigeons, 12 snares and 54 cage traps for catching monkeys, and 10 cage traps for catching wild pigs[Note].

The expenditure of AFCD on purchasing and maintaining animal traps over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($' 000)
2017-18	20
2018-19	80
2019-20 (revised estimate)	50

Note: The management of wild animals falls under the policy purview of the Environment Bureau.

(b) In general, upon receipt of complaints or reports from members of the public regarding nuisance caused by stray animals (mostly cats and dogs) or wild animals (e.g. wild pigs and monkeys), AFCD will conduct inspections to the areas concerned to investigate if there are any animals causing nuisance and take follow-up actions as necessary, including catching or chasing away animals.

The type and number of animals caught with animal traps by AFCD over the past 5 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	**Number of animals caught with animal traps**				
	Dogs (by cage/ snare)	**Cats (by cage)**	**Pigeons (by cage)**	**Monkeys (by cage/ snare)**	**Wild pigs (by cage, net or dart gun)**
2015	159/142	1 009	473	454/14	28
2016	76/118	564	218	521/31	59
2017	118/103	475	273	291/28	106
2018	40/102	299	0	195/29	197
2019	35/35	186	0	216/14	284

(c) AFCD has no record of animals injured or died due to the use of animal traps during the catching operations over the past 5 years.

(d) All the animal traps including snares and cage traps used by AFCD are specially designed or carefully selected to ensure that they are safe to use on animals. They are widely recognised and used in other countries for catching animals. In addition, all the catching operations using animal traps are carried out by trained staff who will take necessary precautionary measures to prevent animals from injury during the process. For instance, when snares are used for catching animals, notices at conspicuous places will be put up and the affected area will be fenced off with warning tapes. AFCD staff will ensure that no passers-by or other animals will come close. Once a target animal is caught, it will be transferred to a cage with the snare immediately loosened, and delivered to an Animal Management Centre for observation and follow-up actions.

AFCD will continue to use snares or cages for catching animals where appropriate.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6711)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

(a) The Government has been granting subventions to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) since 2013. Please set out by year and with an exhaustive breakdown the names of the organisations that have submitted applications to the Department, the projects and amounts of subventions applied for, the application results and the amounts of subventions granted, etc. since the inception of the scheme.

(b) Among the AWOs having been granted subventions, is there any organisation that has been granted more than once? If yes, please set out the name(s) of the organisation(s), year(s) of application, the project(s) and amount(s) of subvention(s) applied for and the amount(s) of subvention(s) granted.

(c) In the financial year 2019-20, the Government will allocate $1 million for supporting the Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden (KFBG) to carry out a rehabilitation programme for wild animals in Hong Kong. What are the details of the programme and expenditures involved? Would the Government regularise such funding support?

(d) Starting from 2019-20, the Government will earmark $1 million each year for KFBG to apply for funding to support part of the operating expenses of its wild animal rehabilitation programme. What are the funding terms and performance indicators of the programme? Has KFBG applied for the subvention? If yes, what are the details of the project(s) approved or rejected and amount(s) of subvention(s) applied for, and the amount(s) of subvention(s) granted?

(e) Over the past 5 years, has the Government received any application for government land and subvention from civil organisations for operation of premises for activities related to animal right? If yes, please set out by year the details of the project(s) approved or rejected / amount(s) of subvention(s) applied for, the applicants, the location(s) of government land permitted to be used for the said purpose/the amount(s) of subvention(s) granted, etc.

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 4)

Reply:

(a) and (b) Details of projects under application as well as the amounts of subvention applied for, given and released to different animal welfare organisations (AWOs) over the past 5 years are set out at **Annex 1**. Information on AWOs receiving subvention more than once is at **Annex 2**.

(c) and (d) The Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden (KFBG) has been assisting the Government in rescuing and rehabilitating wild animals in Hong Kong. Starting from 2019-20, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has earmarked $1 million each year for KFBG to apply for funding to support part of the operating expenses of its wild animal rehabilitation programmes.

In 2019-20, a subvention of $1 million was granted to KFBG for rescuing and rehabilitating wild animals, public education and technical training. When vetting KFBG's application in 2019-20, an array of factors were considered, including the evaluation of the objectives and effectiveness of the programmes concerned, the cost-effectiveness of the programmes concerned, whether the proposed expenditures are justified, the operation and execution capability of the subvented organisations, etc. Reference has also been made to the Guide to Corporate Governance for Subvented Organisations drawn up by the Efficiency Unit to ensure proper and effective use of the public funds.

(e) According to the information from the Development Bureau (DEVB), 1 short term tenancy (STT) application in relation to a vacant government site for animal adoption use was approved over the past 5 years (i.e. 2015-16 up to end of December 2019). The non-governmental organisation (NGO) has also applied for financial assistance under DEVB's "Funding Scheme to Support the Use of Vacant Government Sites by Non-governmental Organisations" to carry out essential restoration works. The details are as follows:

Year	Site location	Name of NGO	Proposed short term uses	Ceiling of funding approved
2019-20	Ko Po San Tsuen, Kam Tin, Yuen Long	House of Joy & Mercy	Animal boarding establishment	$7.4 million

From January 2018 to December 2019, a total of 3 STT applications for animal adoption use were received but were later withdrawn by the applicants or rejected. In general, it is not appropriate for Lands Department (LandsD) to disclose the details of those rejected / withdrawn cases. LandsD does not keep the number of the relevant applications prior to 2018.

(i) <u>Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2014-15 and released in 2015-16)</u>

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount sought ($)	Amount approved ($)	Amount released ($)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To operate an adoption centre and conduct animal welfare projects	160,000	90,000	76,679
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To conduct an adult dog rehome scheme	224,000	150,000	150,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To purchase medications and feeds for rehoming animals and conduct publicity and education programmes	1,808,000	120,000	120,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To conduct education programmes and provide medical treatment for rabbits	135,000	49,000	48,181
5	Hong Kong Rescue Puppies	To produce a publicity booklet entitled "Responsible Pet Ownership" and conduct a rehome scheme	185,232	40,000	0*
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To conduct various animal management programmes	227,000	45,000	45,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To conduct education, publicity, rescue and adoption programmes	80,000	30,000	30,000
		Total	**2,819,232**	**524,000**	**469,860**

* No claim for reimbursement from the AWO concerned has been received.

(ii) <u>Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2015-16 and released in 2016-17)</u>

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount sought ($)	Amount approved ($)	Amount released ($)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To conduct adoption promotion programmes, produce educational materials and further improve the Foundation's website	180,000	80,000	73,934
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To operate an adult dog rehome scheme	204,000	125,000	125,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To provide medical treatment and food for rehoming animals	1,571,000	100,000	100,000
4	Society for Abandoned Animals	To conduct various education programmes	388,155	40,000	38,591
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick or injured rabbits	129,000	45,000	41,620
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	235,000	45,000	45,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	80,000	28,000	28,000
8	Hong Kong Cats	To conduct adoption promotion programmes, produce educational materials and further improve the organisation's website	54,000	24,000	16,365
9	Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong)	To conduct an Animal Caring Ambassador Programme	200,000	45,000	44,854
		Total	**3,041,155**	**532,000**	**513,364**

(iii) <u>Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for and approved in 2016-17 and released in 2017-18)</u>

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount sought ($)	Amount approved ($)	Amount released ($)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programmes	120,000	85,000	84,602
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide vaccination and food for rehoming animals	218,400	130,000	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To provide preventive medical treatment for rehoming animals	1,962,000	100,000	100,000
4	Society for Abandoned Animals	To produce educational materials for promoting animal welfare and responsible pet ownership	53,040	42,000	42,000
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	62,000	48,000	45,120
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide preventive medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	320,000	46,000	46,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	80,000	28,000	28,000
8	Hong Kong Cats	To promote adoption, produce educational materials and further improve the organisation website	40,500	21,000	18,300
9	Hong Kong Paws Guardian	To catch stray dogs for neutering, vaccination and treatment	120,000	0	-
10	Conservation of Earth and Animal Association	To purchase mobile surgical equipment for veterinary treatment and provide human counselling service	3,200,000	0	-
		Total	**6,175,940**	**500,000**	**494,022**

(iv) <u>Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2017-18 and released in 2018-19)</u>

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount sought ($)	Amount approved ($)	Amount released ($)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programme	140,000	85,000	83,329
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive care and food for rehoming animals	324,000	130,000	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To enhance rehoming facilities	1,629,579	82,000	82,000
4	SPCA	To promote animal welfare on public transport	210,000	0	-
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	60,000	48,000	47,960
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide preventive medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	400,150	48,000	48,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	80,000	28,000	28,000
8	Hong Kong Cats	To produce educational materials for promotion of animal welfare and adoption	24,700	20,500	16,522
9	Hong Kong Paws Guardian	To conduct education and publicity for responsible pet ownership	92,000	24,000	0*
10	Conservation of Earth and Animal Association	To conduct animal ophthalmology project / dental health plan / purchase mobile medical vehicle	5,140,000	0	-
11	Kirsten's Zoo	To provide preventive care and food for rescued and rehomed animals	270,000	45,000	45,000
12	Animal Friends	To provide medical treatment for rehoming animals	250,000	45,000	45,000
13	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	To enhance public awareness on animal welfare and adoption	62,390	45,000	45,000
		Total	**8,682,819**	**600,500**	**570,811**

* No claims for reimbursement from the AWO concerned have been received.

(v) <u>Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2018-19 and released in 2019-20)</u>

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount sought ($)	Amount approved ($)	Amount released ($)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programme	130,000	120,000	117,552
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive care and food for rehoming animals	345,600	250,000	250,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To educate children on responsible pet ownership and adoption	926,000	120,000	120,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	125,000	120,000	118,450
5	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	401,537	150,000	150,000
6	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	80,000	53,500	53,500
7	Hong Kong Cats	To conduct publicity for adoption	16,000	10,000	4,408
8	Society for Abandoned Animals	To refurbish the electric power system of the animal centre	189,450	120,000	120,000
9	Kirsten's Zoo	To provide preventive care and food for rescued and rehomed animals	285,000	120,000	120,000
10	Animal Friends	To provide medical treatment for rehoming animals	300,000	150,000	150,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	To enhance public awareness on animal welfare and adoption	63,079	50,000	50,000
		Total	**2,861,666**	**1,263,500**	**1,253,910**

Annex 2

List of AWOs receiving AFCD subvention funding more than once

AWOs/Year		Amount released in ($)				
		2015-16	**2016-17**	**2017-18**	**2018-19**	**2019-20**
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	76,679	73,934	84,602	83,329	117,552
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	150,000	125,000	130,000	130,000	250,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	120,000	100,000	100,000	82,000	120,000
4	Society for Abandoned Animals	-	38,591	42,000	-	120,000
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	48,181	41,620	45,120	47,960	118,450
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	45,000	45,000	46,000	48,000	150,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	30,000	28,000	28,000	28,000	53,500
8	Hong Kong Cats	-	16,365	18,300	16,522	4,408
9	Kirsten's Zoo	-	-	-	45,000	120,000
10	Animal Friends	-	-	-	45,000	150,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	-	-	-	45,000	50,000

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6717)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

(a) Please set out, by year, the total expenditure and an exhaustive breakdown of all expenditures, staff establishment, and overall expenditure on salaries of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) involved in (i) catching, (ii) rehoming and (iii) euthanising animals over the past 5 years and in the financial year 2020-21. If the abovementioned figures are not available, will AFCD keep such figures starting from this year to enable the public to have a better understanding of the proper use of the public money involved?

(b) What are the staff establishment and overall expenditure on salaries of the 4 Animal Management Centres (AMCs) of AFCD respectively?

(c) What are the respective types and numbers of the animals given up by owners, caught by AFCD or received through other channels over the past 5 years? What are the respective types and numbers of animals reclaimed, rehomed or euthanised over the past 5 years?

(d) How long did the animals that were caught by AFCD, microchipped or non-microchipped stay at AMCs on average before they were euthanised over the past 5 years? What were the shortest and longest periods that they were kept?

(e) It is stated in the Audit Report last year that AFCD's guidelines on handling stray dogs and cats should be improved as it did not adequately cover for how long a dog/cat should be observed before the Department could determine whether it became more suitable for rehoming. In this connection, are there any improvement measures?

(f) Will the Department consider developing policies that are targeted at increasing the rehoming rate and gradually reducing euthanasia (including the gradual transition of expenditure from euthanasia of animals to the Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) programme, opening the AMCs for animal rehoming, and the application for provision to expand

the current AMCs or set up more animal rehoming centres)? If yes, what are the details and timetable in this respect? If not, what are the reasons?

(g) If AMCs are to be open for animal rehoming, what is the estimated expenditure involved?

(h) The Department has stated that it remains open towards assisting animal welfare organisations in conducting the TNR programme at specific locations since its completion in January 2018. In this connection, what are the details and expenditure involved in the Department's work in this respect? Will the Department consider implementing the TNR programme in various districts of Hong Kong, in particular rural areas, redevelopment areas and development areas?

(i) To reduce large-scale abandonment resulting from development / redevelopment, will the Department consider devising in advance supporting policies for development / redevelopment areas (districts such as the New Territories North, Yuen Long South and Kam Tin South), e.g. conducting surveys of the animals in the districts, evaluating the impacts of the development / redevelopment towards the animals in the districts and neighbouring communities, devising animal rehoming plans and providing transportation, financial or administrative support to residents with difficulties in relation to microchipping, neutering and vaccinating dogs and applying for dog licences? If yes, what are the details and timetable in this respect? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

(a) and (b) The 4 animal management centres (AMCs) under the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) are responsible for, among other duties, handling stray animals, including catching, rehoming and euthanising animals as necessary. The expenditure and manpower of AFCD involved in catching stray animals and handling stray animals caught over the past 5 years, and the estimated expenditure and manpower involved in 2020-21 are tabulated as follows:

Year	**Expenditure ($ million)**			**Salary expenditure ($ million)**	**Manpower (number of staff)**
	Catching stray animals	**Handling stray animals caught (breakdown on euthanasia of animals)**	**Total**		
2015-16	29.0	3.6 (1.4)	**32.6**	17.5	179
2016-17	28.5	3.4 (0.9)	**31.9**	23.7	187
2017-18	28.7	3.6 (1.0)	**32.3**	25.0	187
2018-19	32.3	4.0 (1.3)	**36.3**	27.9	188
2019-20 (revised estimate)	33.6	3.9 (1.2)	**37.5**	30.2	187
2020-21 (estimate)	36.1	3.9 (1.2)	**40.0**	31.0	188

There are currently 4 Veterinary Officers and 183 technical / frontline staff members at the 4 AMCs, which are overseen by 1 Senior Veterinary Officer.

(c) The requested information is tabulated at the **Annex**.

(d) The average period that the received animals were kept by AMCs over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Average period kept in AMCs (days)		
	Dogs	Cats	Others^
2015	9.5	9.7	15.5
2016	10.9	13.0	53.8
2017	13.1	13.0	65.8
2018	20.1	17.6	29.8
2019	22.6	25.6	15.1

^ Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs, poultry / birds, etc.

AFCD does not keep the information on the shortest and longest periods for which the received animals were kept by AMCs over the past 5 years.

(e) AFCD has established guidelines on handling stray animals. As the health conditions and temperament of animals vary, in cases where the dogs being left unclaimed are in good health and assessed by a veterinary officer as having a gentle temperament and suitable for adoption, AFCD will in general arrange their transfer to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) for adoption by members of the public. AFCD will determine for how long after the animals have been kept under observation are fit for adoption according to the professional judgement of veterinary surgeons with a view to allowing as many animals to be rehomed as possible.

(f) and (g) To minimise the number of animals being euthanised, AFCD has strengthened collaboration with and provided support to rehoming partners in rehoming services, which includes providing free desexing operations to animals that are rehomed through these rehoming partners. The Government has also been providing subventions to eligible AWOs and supporting their work as far as possible, subject to the availability of resources. AFCD has also set up a dedicated team to devise and implement public education and publicity programmes to promote responsible pet ownership and proper care of animals. Over the past 5 years, the number of dogs and cats euthanised has dropped by 65% and 69% respectively. AFCD will continue to implement and enhance these measures to achieve greater effectiveness.

As a matter of fact, the World Organisation for Animal Health agrees that in situations where the number of stray dogs caught remain high or the dogs are not fit for adoption despite the deployment of various stray dog management measures, euthanasia would be an appropriate and humane solution. Besides, there are animals that need to be euthanised due to illness or injury.

The 18 rehoming partners of AFCD provide animal rehoming services in various districts across the territory. These services include assessing the suitability of prospective adopters and their living environment for animal adoption, and following up with adopters to see if the adopters take proper care of the animals rehomed. These partners are armed with relevant experience and adopter network, and can provide members of the public with more service locations and better meet the current needs of the community. For biosecurity and public health reasons, AFCD will not arrange for adoption by members of the public at the 4 AMCs. Instead, they may do so through the arrangements of the rehoming partners. AFCD does not have any estimate on the expenditure involved if AMCs are to be open for animal adoption.

(h) While the Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) trial programme did not achieve the predetermined performance targets, AFCD keeps an open mind towards rendering assistance to AWOs in conducting similar programmes in other specific locations. To this end, AFCD issued letters to AWOs inviting their views on sites that may be suitable for conducting the TNR trial programme. The letter is also available on the Department's thematic website (www.pets.gov.hk). AFCD will consider a range of factors, including population density, community facilities in the vicinity and traffic condition, in order to determine if a specific location is suitable for conducting such a programme. If a location is found suitable, AFCD will facilitate the liaison between the coordinating AWOs and the District Councils concerned as well as the local stakeholders in order to introduce the programme, with a view to enlisting their support and seeking approval from the Legislative Council for the relevant legislative exemption.

So far, AFCD has not received any formal proposals from AWOs to launch a programme at a specific location, and no resources have been earmarked specifically for this purpose at this stage. Subject to the availability of suitable location(s), we will review the resources requirement.

(i) AFCD has been working closely with the relevant government departments to promote and appeal to residents affected by government development projects to make appropriate arrangements for their pets as early as practicable (such as transferring their pets to relatives or friends). Animal owners are also advised to approach AFCD for assistance in a timely manner so as to enable the department and AWOs to make early preparation for receiving their animals. AFCD will also proactively liaise with AWOs to try and arrange them to accommodate animals affected by the development projects and strengthen the work in animal neutering and adoption in the affected areas. AFCD will also send officers to assist local residents in vaccinating their dogs against rabies and obtaining licences if so required. Starting from 2019-20, AFCD's resources for subventing AWOs to conduct events and provide services to promote animal welfare, including that of rehoming, have been increased. AWOs interested in operating animal rehoming centres for animals affected by development projects may consider vacant government sites under the management of the Lands Department that are available for leasing by non-governmental organisations for community purposes on short-term basis. Non-profit making AWOs may also

apply from a funding scheme run by the Development Bureau for subsidies to carry out one-off, basic and necessary restoration works so as to put the vacant government sites fit-for-use as rehoming centres. Under the prevailing policies, except for the baseline studies (including those for wild plants and animals) conducted for specific development projects on ecological grounds, relevant departments do not compile statistics on other animals affected by development projects.

Annex

Year	Stray animals caught			Animals surrendered by owners			Animals received through other channels			Animals reclaimed by owners			Animals rehomed			Animals euthanised		
	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*
2015	2 412	1 359	1 418	1 284	129	109	378	73	3 590	774	626	11	651	168	83	2 421	696	3 469
2016	1 919	876	1 494	1 003	107	56	343	70	674	637	400	1	513	136	92	1 814	449	748
2017	1 566	674	1 640	1 024	84	39	336	65	204	560	269	10	588	67	94	1 478	381	801
2018	1 235	547	1 369	715	80	43	304	62	4 904#	512	206	9	577	89	87	1 026	333	5 007#
2019	965	304	1 031	674	75	69	226	63	2 101^	404	127	9	547	78	44	837	219	2 363^

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs/cattle, poultry/birds, etc.

\# The increase in number was mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled due to detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

^ This mainly includes the number of animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6718)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

(a) Regarding the enforcement of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance, what were the details of work, the expenditure involved and the breakdown of all expenditure over the past 5 years and that expected in the financial year 2020-21?

(b) Regarding the protection of animal rights, what were the details of work and the expenditure involved over the past 5 years and that expected in the financial year 2020-21?

(c) Please set out by year the number of suspected animal cruelty complaints, the total number of animal cruelty cases, the number of prosecutions initiated, the type and number of animals involved in the cases, the number of persons arrested, the number of persons convicted and their respective penalties (amounts of fine and terms of imprisonment) over the past 5 years.

(d) Apart from amending the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance, would the Government consider enacting the Animal Welfare Act or implementing other sustainable policies for protecting domestic and community animals in Hong Kong, so as to promote harmony between humans and animals and transform Hong Kong into an animal-friendly and civilised city? If yes, what are the details and timetable? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 2)

Reply:

(a) Upon receiving reports of suspected animal cruelty cases, the Hong Kong Police Force (the Police) and / or the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will conduct investigation. Prosecution will be initiated if there is sufficient evidence.

The expenditure of AFCD involved in the above work over the past 5 years and the estimated expenditure in 2020-21 are tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($million)
2015-16	2.6
2016-17	2.9
2017-18	3.0
2018-19	3.2
2019-20 (revised estimate)	3.3
2020-21 (estimate)	3.3

(b) AFCD implements the following measures to safeguard and promote animal welfare:

(i) conducting a review on the existing legislation and overseas experience related to animal welfare, as well as launching a three-month public consultation exercise in 2019 on proposals to enhance animal welfare;

(ii) enhancing public education and publicity programme to promote responsible pet ownership and proper care of animals, advise against the abandonment and needless surrendering of pets, and champion the need for dog licensing and rabies vaccination as well as the benefits of neutering;

(iii) implementing the licensing regime under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B) to regulate pet trading and breeding of dogs for sale;

(iv) devising codes of practices for the proper trading, breeding and keeping of pets and other animals;

(v) enhancing enforcement against pet owners and traders in contravention of relevant legislation;

(vi) improving the handling of reports or complaints on cruelty to animals through the inter-departmental special working group comprising representatives of the relevant government departments and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong);

(vii) strengthening collaboration with, and providing technical and financial support to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) in rehoming of animals and carrying out activities relating to animal welfare and management; and

(viii) implementing the long term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with the relevant AWOs and local communities.

The expenditure and manpower involved in the above work over the past 5 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure ($ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2015-16	50.5	194
2016-17	53.7	207
2017-18	60.3	216
2018-19	74.7	217
2019-20 (revised estimate)	73.1	218

In 2020-21, $78.1 million and 219 staff members have been earmarked for the above work.

(c) The number of suspected animal cruelty reports received by the Police and AFCD over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of suspected animal cruelty reports
2015	236
2016	262
2017	275
2018	368
2019 (up to September)	288

Upon investigation, most of the cases were found to be related to nuisance with no elements of cruelty. The Government does not have the information on the type and number of animals involved in the cases.

The number of successful prosecutions under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) and the relevant penalties over the past 5 years are as follows:

Year	Number of persons convicted	Penalties imposed	
		Fine ($)	Range of imprisonment
2015	10	2,000	14 days to 2 months
2016	11	5,000	28 days to 6 months
2017	24	4,000	7 days to 1 year
2018	21	2,000 to 6,000	14 days to 8 months
2019 (up to September)	19	2,000 to 8,000	20 days to 2 months

(d) AFCD will continue to implement the above measures to safeguard and promote animal welfare. In addition, having launched a three-month public consultation exercise in 2019 on enhancement of animal welfare, the Government is now examining the views received and plans to report the findings of the consultation and the way forward to the Legislative Council Panel concerned in April this year. Upon finalising the legislative proposals, we will commence the drafting work of the legislation.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3944)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What are the manpower and expenditure of the Government for strengthening the promotion of animal welfare over the past 3 years? Has the Government assessed the effectiveness of the related work? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 86)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) implements the following measures to safeguard and promote animal welfare:

(i) conducting a review on the existing legislation and overseas experience related to animal welfare, as well as launching a three-month public consultation exercise in 2019 on proposals to enhance animal welfare;

(ii) enhancing public education and publicity programme to promote responsible pet ownership and proper care of animals, advise against the abandonment and needless surrendering of pets, and champion the need for dog licensing and rabies vaccination as well as the benefits of neutering;

(iii) implementing the licensing regime under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B) to regulate pet trading and breeding of dogs for sale;

(iv) devising codes of practices for the proper trading, breeding and keeping of pets and other animals;

(v) enhancing enforcement against pet owners and traders in contravention of relevant legislation;

(vi) improving the handling of reports or complaints on cruelty through an inter-departmental special working group comprising representatives of the relevant government departments and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong);

(vii) strengthening collaboration with, and providing technical and financial support to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) in rehoming of animals and carrying out activities related to animal welfare and management; and

(viii) implementing the long-term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with the relevant AWOs and local communities.

The expenditure and manpower involved in the above work over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	**Expenditure ($ million)**	**Manpower (number of staff)**
2017-18	60.3	216
2018-19	74.7	217
2019-20 (revised estimate)	73.1	218

The above measures have started to bear fruit in recent years. With the strengthening of public education, more and more people have come to recognise the responsibility and commitments as a pet owner. Over the past 5 years, the number of complaints received by AFCD about animal-related nuisances has decreased by 55%, whereas the number of stray cats and dogs caught by AFCD and those given by owners, has dropped by 66% and 47% respectively, and the proportion of animals rehomed is increasing. We will continue to take forward the abovementioned work to safeguard and promote animal welfare.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)237

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3945)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the trial programme for neutering stray dogs by the Government in the past, would the Government advise this Committee of the following:

(a) What were the number of stray dogs neutered in each of the past 3 years and the manpower and expenditure involved?

(b) Has the Government evaluated the effectiveness of the programme? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

(c) What were the respective numbers of subvented projects run by non-profit making animal welfare organisations in each of the past 3 years? Please set out the names of the subvented organisations, the amount of subvention, the content and progress of the subvented programmes in tabular form.

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 87)

Reply:

(a) and (b) The three-year Trap-Neuter-Return trial programme (the trial programme) for stray dogs was launched in early 2015. 2 animal welfare organisations (AWOs) were responsible for deploying staff to conduct the programme in Cheung Chau and Yuen Long respectively while the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) was responsible for overseeing and handling related complaints and commissioning an independent consultant to conduct surveys and analysis. The expenditure involved was borne by the AWOs concerned and AFCD respectively. Although the trial programme was completed in early 2018, the 2 concerned AWOs have agreed to continue to monitor the number of dogs recorded for the trial programme, and regularly provide AFCD with the information on the condition, average lifespan and changes in the population of the dogs concerned in the coming years. AFCD will make use of the data concerned for assessment in due course.

AFCD's expenditure on implementation of the trial programme and the number of stray dogs neutered at the 2 trial sites over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	**Expenditure ($'000)**[^]	**Number of neutered dogs**[*]
2017-18	1,020	0
2018-19	560	2
2019-20	50 (revised estimate)	1 (up to February 2020)

[^] AFCD's expenditure in 2017-18 and 2018-19 covered the cost of commissioning an independent consultant to conduct surveys and analysis while the expenditure in 2019-20 was incurred by AFCD on monitoring the programme.

[*] Since the launch of the trial programme in 2015 up till end 2019, a total of 103 dogs were neutered and returned to the 2 trial sites.

(c) The requested information is tabulated in the **Annex**. All projects were completed in respective years as planned.

Annex

(i) Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2016-17 and released in 2017-18)

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount released ($)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programmes	84,602
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide vaccination and food for rehoming animals	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To provide preventive medical treatment for rehoming animals	100,000
4	Society for Abandoned Animals	To produce educational materials for promoting animal welfare and responsible pet ownership	42,000
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	45,120
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide preventive medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	46,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	28,000
8	Hong Kong Cats	To promote adoption, produce educational materials and further improve the organisation website	18,300
		Total	**494,022**

(ii) <u>Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2017-18 and released in 2018-19)</u>

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount released ($)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programmes	83,329
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive care and food for rehoming animals	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To enhance rehoming facilities	82,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	47,960
5	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide preventive medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	48,000
6	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	28,000
7	Hong Kong Cats	To produce educational materials for promotion of animal welfare and adoption	16,522
8	Hong Kong Paws Guardian	To conduct education and publicity for responsible pet ownership	0*
9	Kirsten's Zoo	To provide preventive care and food for rescued and rehomed animals	45,000
10	Animal Friends	To provide medical treatment for rehoming animals	45,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	To enhance public awareness on animal welfare and adoption	45,000
		Total	**570,811**

* No claims for reimbursement from the AWO concerned have been received.

(iii) <u>Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2018-19 and released in 2019-20)</u>

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount released ($)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programmes	117,552
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive care and food for rehoming animals	250,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To educate children on responsible pet ownership and adoption	120,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	118,450
5	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	150,000
6	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	53,500
7	Hong Kong Cats	To conduct publicity for adoption	4,408
8	Society for Abandoned Animals	To refurbish the electrical power system of the animal centre	120,000
9	Kirsten's Zoo	To provide preventive care and food for rescued and rehomed animals	120,000
10	Animal Friends	To provide medical treatment for rehoming animals	150,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	To enhance public awareness on animal welfare and adoption	50,000
		Total	**1,253,910**

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3769)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 under Programme (3), that the Department will strengthen the promotion of animal welfare, will the administration advise the Committee of the details, targets, implementation timetable and latest progresses to promote animal welfare.

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.:80)

Reply:

In 2020-21, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will implement the following measures and initiatives to safeguard and promote animal welfare:

(a) following up on the public consultation exercise on the review of the existing legislation related to animal welfare;

(b) enhancing public education and publicity programme to promote responsible pet ownership and proper care of animals, advise against the abandonment and needless surrendering of pets, and champion the need for dog licensing and rabies vaccination as well as the benefits of neutering;

(c) implementing the licensing regime under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B) to regulate pet trading and breeding of dogs for sale;

(d) devising codes of practices for the proper trading, breeding and keeping of pets and other animals;

(e) enhancing enforcement against pet owners and traders in contravention of relevant legislation;

(f) improving the handling of reports or complaints on cruelty through an inter-departmental special working group comprising representatives of the relevant government departments and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong);

(g) strengthening collaboration with, and providing technical and financial support to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) in rehoming of animals and carrying out activities relating to animal welfare and management;

(h) implementing the long-term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with the relevant AWOs and local communities; and

(i) liaising with various AWOs to implement preventive and control measures on stray animals and actively promote animal rehoming in new development areas.

Regarding following up on the public consultation exercise on the review of the existing legislation related to animal welfare in the abovementioned item (a), the Government, having launched a three-month public consultation exercise in 2019, is now examining the views received and plans to report the findings of the consultation and the way forward to the Legislative Council Panel concerned in April this year. Upon finalising the legislative proposals, we will commence the drafting work of the legislation.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)239

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5143)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Animal Traders) Regulations (Cap. 139B) has come into force since 2017. Could the Government advise this Committee of the following:

(a) The number of staff of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (the Department) responsible for issuing licences and implementing regulation on private breeders. What are the specific details of the work and respective salaries of the staff in this regard?

(b) The latest numbers of applicants and various licences issued under Cap. 139B.

(c) The numbers of complaints received monthly in relation to illegal breeding establishments and those breeding establishments that failed to meet the requirements.

(d) The numbers of inspections conducted by the Department at various breeding establishments with different licences.

(e) The numbers of decoy operations conducted by the Department on the internet and on-site at the breeding establishments, as well as the number of prosecutions instituted.

(f) The numbers of breeding establishments that were successfully prosecuted and convicted, as well as their respective penalties.

(g) Please set out the respective numbers of new applications for dog licences over the past 2 years by the following categories:
(i) dogs bred by licenced dog breeding establishments;
(ii) legally imported dogs;
(iii) dogs naturally bred and rehomed;
(iv) other sources.

(h) According to past statistics, the total number of applications for dog licences far outnumbered that of (i) the number of dogs bred by licenced dog breeding establishments and (ii) the number of legally imported dogs. How would the Department interpret these statistics?

(i) Has the Department worked closely with the Customs and Excise Department to investigate into cases of illegal smuggling of animals? What was the number of arrests and seizures over the past 3 years? What were the Department's manpower and establishment for investigating into animal smuggling cases?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 408)

Reply:

(a) In 2019-20, 30 staff members of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) were responsible for administering the licensing regime under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Animal Traders) Regulations (Cap. 139B) (the Regulations). Major areas of work include:

(i) processing applications for licences which involve verification of information provided by applicants, inspecting the proposed premises concerned to ensure the facilities therein are in compliance with the required standards, and collecting relevant information for assessing the suitability of the applicants to hold the licence;

(ii) inspecting licensed animal trading and dog breeding premises to ensure compliance with the licensing requirements;

(iii) collecting samples from breeding dogs and offspring for DNA testing to verify the parentage and the source of dogs; and

(iv) carrying out investigations upon complaints or irregularities detected.

The rank and salary on the Government's Master Pay Scale (MPS) of officers carrying out the above duties are as follows: Veterinary Officer (MPS 31-44), Senior Field Officer (MPS 29-33), Field Officer I (MPS 22-28), and Field Officer II (MPS 8-21).

(b) Since the Regulations came into effect in March 2017 and up to February 2020, the number of applications for Animal Trader Licences (ATL), Dog Breeder Licences (DBL) and one-off permits received, approved, under processing and rejected (including those withdrawn by applicants) by AFCD is tabulated as follows:

Licence / Permit	**Number of applications**			
	Received	**Approved**	**Under processing**	**Rejected / Withdrawn by applicants**
ATL	991	911	22	58
DBL (category A)	51	33	4	14

Licence / Permit	Number of applications			
	Received	**Approved**	**Under processing**	**Rejected / Withdrawn by applicants**
DBL (category B)	87	60	11	16
One-off permit	11	7	0	4

(c) to (f) The information requested between March 2017 and February 2020 is tabulated as follows:

Number of complaints received	76
Number of inspections (including routine ones and surprise checks) conducted	1 205
Number of decoy operations conducted on the internet	28
Number of physical decoy and enforcement operations	11
Number of convicted cases*	12

* The cases involved selling of dogs without a permit or dog breeding establishments in breach of licensing requirements.

(g) and (h) The number of new dog licences issued in 2018 and 2019 by their sources is tabulated as follows:

Source of the dogs	**Year / Number of new dog licences issued**	
	2018	**2019**
Dog breeding establishments and dog trading premises	2 062	2 868
Legally imported	2 564	2 958
Handled by government departments such as dogs rehomed under AFCD's rehome scheme through AFCD's partner animal welfare organisations (AWOs), service dogs of government departments, etc.	811	613
Other sources	8 955	9 122
Total	**14 392**	**15 561**

"Other sources" mainly include puppies born of privately owned pet dogs and some stray dogs handled by AWOs and individuals.

(i) AFCD works closely with the Customs and Excise Department to combat illegal import of live animals and birds through sharing of intelligence and conducting joint operations and investigation. Investigation of suspected illegal import of live animals and birds is part of the duties of AFCD's Airport and Boundary Control Team which comprises 93 posts headed by a Veterinary Officer. There is no separate breakdown of manpower involved in investigation of illegal import of live animals and birds.

The number of illegally imported live animals and birds seized by AFCD over the past 3 years is as follows:

Year	Cats / Dogs	Other mammals	Birds	Pet reptiles	Food poultry	Food reptiles
2017	27	417	3	3 205	1	3 kg
2018	7	3	533	4 258	0	0
2019	24	31	623	2 159	3	48 kg and 292 reptiles

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5144)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

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

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It was estimated in the consultancy report on the development of the veterinary profession in Hong Kong published by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department in 2017 that there were 681 600 pets in Hong Kong last year, among which about 510 000 were pet cats and dogs, marking an increase of nearly 80% within 10 years. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

(a) The number of veterinary surgeons registered under the Veterinary Surgeons Registration Ordinance in Hong Kong and among which the number of veterinary specialists over the past 5 years (set out by specialty).

(b) The number of general veterinary clinics, veterinary clinics in which surgeries can be conducted as well as those with veterinary specialists, in each of the 18 districts in Hong Kong.

(c) The number of complaints received by the Veterinary Surgeons Board by year, the major reasons for such complaints, the number of complaints accepted and then put under investigation, the number of substantiated cases of misconduct, the penalties imposed and whether there is any veterinary surgeon having his/her licences revoked due to the complaints.

(d) The City University of Hong Kong began to offer the Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine programme in the 2017/18 academic year, and the students of the programme are expected to take up their practical training in local veterinary clinics. Has the Department followed up such practical training?

(e) Does the Department consider that the veterinary medicine programme can provide sufficient personnel to the industry to cope with the surging population of pets? If not, what measures does the Department put in place to appeal to foreign veterinary professionals to practise in Hong Kong?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 409)

Reply:

(a) According to the Veterinary Surgeons Board of Hong Kong (VSB), the number of local registered veterinary surgeons over the past 5 years (as at the end of each year) is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of registered veterinary surgeons
2015	823
2016	861
2017	920
2018	988
2019	1 049

The number of registered veterinary surgeons in Hong Kong who were authorised to advertise as, or profess to be, specialists over the past 5 years (as at the end of each year) is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of authorised specialists
2015	18
2016	24
2017	32
2018	39
2019	41

Some veterinary surgeons have more than one specialty. Details of the specialities (showing position as at the end of 2019) are tabulated as follows:

Speciality	Number of veterinary surgeons
Anesthesia and Analgesia	3
Avian Practice	2
Canine and Feline Practice	2
Companion Animals (Internal Medicine)	1
Dental Practice	1
Dermatology	2
Emergency and Critical Care	2
Equine Surgery	1
Exotic Companion Mammal Practice	2
Internal Medicine (Cardiology)	3
Internal Medicine (Oncology)	3
Neurology	1
Ophthalmology	4

Speciality	Number of veterinary surgeons
Poultry Practice	1
Public Health and Food Hygiene	1
Public Health (Population Medicine)	1
Small Animal Internal Medicine	5
Small Animal Surgery	4
Veterinary Pathology	6
Zoological Medicine	1

(b) VSB is established under the Veterinary Surgeons Registration Ordinance (Cap. 529) and charged with responsibility for the regulation of the practice of veterinary surgery, the registration of veterinary surgeons, and the disciplinary oversight of the professional conduct of registered veterinary surgeons. Although VSB does not keep the number of clinics regularly, according to the report of study on the development of the veterinary profession in Hong Kong (study report) published by VSB in 2017, there were 146 private veterinary clinics in Hong Kong, of which 35 were located on Hong Kong Island, 5 in Kowloon East, 38 in Kowloon West, 29 in New Territories East, and 39 in New Territories West in mid-2016. However, further breakdown of the locations is not available. The study also indicated that apart from general consultation (e.g. health examination, vaccination, microchipping), among the clinics, the vast majority (99.3%) provided routine/simple surgeries; about half (50.3%) provided advanced surgeries and about one-fifth (21.3%) provided specialty services. In addition, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department also provides a list of veterinary clinics for the reference of the public on its thematic website (pets.gov.hk) (this list only includes those clinics which have voluntarily agreed to be listed).

(c) In accordance with the Rules of the Veterinary Surgeons Board (Disciplinary Proceedings), all complaints received by VSB are first investigated by the Preliminary Investigation Committee, which will determine and advise on whether VSB should conduct a disciplinary inquiry. VSB will then consider whether or not the complaint cases should be referred to the Inquiry Committee for disciplinary inquiry.

The number of complaints about registered veterinary surgeons received by VSB, the number of complaint cases referred to the Inquiry Committee (as at February this year), and the number of cases found substantiated upon completion of disciplinary inquiry hearings over the past 5 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of complaints received	Number of complaints dismissed after preliminary investigation	Number of complaints referred to Inquiry Committee	Number of inquiry hearings completed within the year	Number of complaints found substantiated upon inquiry hearings
2015	57	43	14	3	3
2016	54#	39	13	12	12
2017	56#	42	5	8	4
2018	51#	25	0	8	7
2019	41#	14	0	2	1

Some of the cases are still being investigated.

The complaints received were mainly related to the process or results of the diagnosis and treatment or surgery provided by the veterinary surgeons.

Over the past 5 years, a total of 27 cases in relation to disciplinary offences of misconduct or neglect in a professional respect of veterinary surgeons were found substantiated by the Inquiry Committee after conducting inquiry hearings with the following orders made:

Order concerned	Number of cases involved
Removal of name from the register for 3 months	2
Reprimand and compulsory participation in continuing professional development programme/professional seminar	23
Reprimand	1
Compulsory participation in continuing professional development programme	1
Total	**27**

(d) The City University of Hong Kong (CityU) is offering a Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine degree course, the programme of which includes practical training. CityU has informed VSB that accreditation of the programme by the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council is being conducted with a view to seeking VSB's recognition of the programme for registration of its graduates for practising in Hong Kong. VSB will continue to keep track of CityU's accreditation progress.

(e) The veterinarian-to-pet ratio is a common indicator for assessing the overall situation of veterinary services: the lower the ratio, the greater the number of veterinary surgeons. According to the Thematic Household Survey Report No. 66 compiled by

the Census and Statistics Department, there were about 221 100 dogs and 184 100 cats being kept by households in Hong Kong in 2018. According to VSB's data on the number of registered veterinary surgeons in 2018, the veterinarian-to-pet (dogs and cats) ratio was about 1:410 that year. The said ratio is far below than the ratios of other places (e.g. Singapore (1:2 543), the United Kingdom (1:2 374) and the United States (1:3 072)) (the data is retrieved from the study report published by VSB in 2017). With locally trained veterinary surgeons expected to be available in a few years' time, pet owners should be able to seek suitable veterinary services for their pets in Hong Kong.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4890)

Head: (48) Government Laboratory

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

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Government Chemist (Dr SIN Wai-mei)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work in relation to the Code on Access to Information, will the Government advise this Committee on the following:

1) Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Government Laboratory from October 2018 to present for which only some of the required information has been provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests for which only some of the required information has been provided; (ii) the reasons for providing some of the information only; (iii) whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application); (iv) whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)? If yes, please provide the details of how the requests have been handled eventually.

From October to December 2018

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on

			Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

2019

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

2）Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Government Laboratory from October 2018 to present for which the required information has not been provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests refused; (ii) the reasons for refusal; (iii) whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application); (iv) whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)? If yes, please provide the details of how the requests have been handled eventually.

From October to December 2018

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that

		Interpretation and Application)	could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

2019

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

3) Any person who believes that a department has failed to comply with any provision of the Code on Access to Information may ask the department to review the situation. Please advise this Committee in each of the past 5 years, (i) the number of review cases received; (ii) the number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review; (iii) whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level.

Year in which review cases were received	(i) Number of review cases received	(ii) Number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review	(iii) Whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018			

2019			

4) With reference to the target response times set out in paragraphs 1.16.1 to 1.19.1 of Guidelines on Interpretation and Application of the Code on Access to Information, please advise this Committee on the following information by year in table form (with text descriptions).

(a) Within 10 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

Within 10 to 21 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge

			under request		
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

Within 21 to 51 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

(b) cases in which information could not be provided within 21 days from date of receipt of a request in the past 5 years:

Date	Subject of information requested	Specific reason

(c) cases in which information could not be provided within 51 days from date of receipt of a request in the past 5 years:

Date	Subject of information requested	Specific reason

5) Please state in table form the number of those, among the cases in which requests for information were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information, on which the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was consulted when they were being handled in the past 5 years. For cases on which advice had been sought, was it fully accepted in the end? For cases where the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was not accepted or was only partially accepted, what are the reasons?

Date	Subject	Particular exemption provision in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information under which requests for information were refused	Whether the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was fully accepted	Reasons for refusing to accept or only partially accepting the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 460)

Reply:

Concerning the request for information under the Code on Access to Information (the Code) received by the Government Laboratory (GL) from October 2018 to September 2019, there was no case for which only some of the required information was provided and 1 case for which the request for providing the required information was refused.

2. Regarding the abovementioned case for which the request for providing the required information was refused, GL refused to provide the applicant with the information which relates to the performance of duties and the conduct of investigations by a law enforcement department, in accordance with paragraph 2.6 of the Code on the basis of "law enforcement, legal proceedings and public safety". The decision was made by an officer at D2 level after applying the "harm or prejudice test". In that case, the public interest in disclosure is found to be outweighed by the harm or prejudice that would result.

3. From 2015 to September 2019, GL received 1 request for review. No further information was disclosed after the review. The decision was made by an officer at D3 level.

4. From 2016 to September 2019, GL received 1 written request for information under the Code. GL responded to the enquirer within 10 to 21 days from the date of receipt of the request and refused to provide the required information according to the exemption provision(s) in Part 2 of the Code. GL had not sought the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data on this case.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)242

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5428)

Head: (48) Government Laboratory

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

Programme: (1) Statutory Testing

Controlling Officer: Government Chemist (Dr SIN Wai-mei)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Please provide the reasons for failure to complete examinations for food complaint cases within 25 working days in the past 5 years.
2. Please provide the information concerning examinations for food complaint cases completed in the past 5 years with a breakdown by food type.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1339)

Reply:

1. The time which the Government Laboratory (GL) requires to complete the testing and analysis of individual food complaint cases varies according to the number and type of samples involved, the number and complexity of the testing parameters, the overall workload, and the need to prioritise among different types of statutory testing. GL has been deploying its resources flexibly to conduct testing work for the food complaint cases. As shown in the table below, GL has met or even more than fully met the performance target of testing and analysis of food complaint cases in the past 5 years.

Item	**Year**	**Target**	**Actual**
Testing of food complaint cases completed within 25 working days	2015	83%	89%
	2016	84%	85%
	2017	84%	90%
	2018	84%	93%
	2019	86%	96%

For a small number of food complaint cases, the testing work could not be completed within 25 working days mainly because of the large number of testing parameters and the great complexity of the process involved.

GL has been raising the performance target continuously, aiming at completing the testing of food complaint cases within 25 working days as far as practicable. The target for 2020 will be further raised to 88%.

2. A breakdown by food type of the numbers of tests completed for food complaint cases in the past 5 years is as follows:

	Number of tests (Number of food complaint cases)				
Food type	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Meat, poultry, milk, aquatic products, and their related products	5 866 (1 532 cases)	4 948 (1 270 cases)	6 283 (1 528 cases)	5 906 (1 480 cases)	3 174 (1 092 cases)
Fruit, vegetables, cereals, and their related products	4 389 (720 cases)	4 045 (645 cases)	3 413 (582 cases)	3 104 (586 cases)	1 493 (358 cases)
Others	4 062 (937 cases)	3 429 (800 cases)	5 193 (1 007 cases)	3 839 (875 cases)	1 887 (487 cases)
Total	**14 317 (3 189 cases)**	**12 422 (2 715 cases)**	**14 889 (3 117 cases)**	**12 849 (2 941 cases)**	**6 554 (1 937 cases)**

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 | Reply Serial No. **FHB(FE)243**

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3404)

Head: (48) Government Laboratory

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

Programme: (1) Statutory Testing

Controlling Officer: Government Chemist (Dr SIN Wai-mei)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As regards the testing of other food samples within reporting time averaging 19 working days, it was recommended in the Office of The Ombudsman's investigation report on "Food and Environmental Hygiene Department's System of Safety Control for Imported Fruits and Vegetables" in 2017 that more resources (including manpower, machinery, space, etc.) should be put to speed up laboratory tests on food samples. In this connection, does the Government have any plans to allocate additional resources so as to shorten the reporting time of the item? If yes, what are the manpower and resources involved and what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 76)

Reply:

The time required for food testing depends on a number of factors including the sampling plan, the number and type of samples involved, the number and complexity of testing parameters covered, and priorities indicated by client departments. The Government Laboratory (GL) strives its best to complete the testing of all types of samples within the shortest possible time. To this end, the GL communicates closely with client departments, and makes arrangements and deploys resources flexibly in response to their service requirements. The testing of urgent samples relating to food incidents is given priority and targeted to be completed within 2 working days, whereas the testing of other food samples is completed according to requirements of client departments, depending on the aforesaid factors. In line with the said target, the GL completed the testing of all urgent samples relating to food incidents within 2 working days in 2019. The GL conducts reviews regularly with reference to service demand forecasts provided by client departments and deploys resources flexibly in the light of actual circumstances.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)244

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6044)

Head: (48) Government Laboratory

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

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Government Chemist (Dr SIN Wai-mei)

Director of Bureau: Not Specified

Question:

a. Please set out the quantity, value and stock of surgical masks produced by the Correctional Services Department (CSI masks) that the Government Laboratory obtained from the Government Logistics Department (GLD) each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of CSI masks obtained	Value of CSI masks obtained	Stock of CSI masks

b. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of surgical masks that the Government Laboratory obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of surgical masks obtained from GLD (value)	No. of surgical masks procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

c. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of N95 masks that the Government Laboratory obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of N95 masks obtained from GLD (value)	No. of N95 masks procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

d. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of gowns that the Government Laboratory obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of gowns obtained from GLD (value)	No. of gowns procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

e. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of protective coverall suits that the Government Laboratory obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of protective coverall suits obtained from GLD (value)	No. of protective coverall suits procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

f. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of face shields that the Government Laboratory obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of face shields procured	Value of face shields procured	Stock of face shields	Consumption

g. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of goggles that the Government Laboratory obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of goggles procured	Value of goggles procured	Stock of goggles	Consumption

h. Did the Government Laboratory supply or sell surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, goggles, gowns and protective coverall suits to other organisations in the past 3 years? If yes, please provide the relevant information, including the quantity, consumption and stock, in the following table:

Month/Year	Name of organisations	Manner of provision (e.g. sold or supplied for free)	Surgical masks	N95 masks	Face shields	Goggles	Gowns	Protective coverall suits

i. If the Government Laboratory is to supply or sell surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, goggles, gowns and protective coverall suits to other organisations, what are the departments and the ranks of the officers responsible for making such decisions? Please provide the ranks of the officers involved in each decision, the date they made the decision and other relevant information.

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 133)

Reply:

The Government Laboratory obtained masks produced by the Correctional Services Department from the Government Logistics Department (GLD), as well as procured them from the market for staff consumption. The Government Laboratory has not collated or consolidated information about the distribution of masks from different sources to individual officers.

With an upsurge in demand for personal protective equipment (PPE) around the globe, the Government is facing keen competition in its procurement. The Government considers it unsuitable at this stage to disclose further information about the stock levels, places of origin, suppliers, quantities procured and amounts paid, delivery schedules and consumption in respect of PPE in individual departments in the past few years and recent months so as not to undermine the bargaining power of the GLD and other departments in procuring PPE.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3980)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the details and effectiveness of pest control work in 2019. Please also advise whether sufficient resources have been earmarked with relevant measures drawn up, including the deployment of manpower and allocation of resources, to prevent the spread of mosquito-borne diseases; if yes, please give details of the work, the manpower and the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 260)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is responsible for pest prevention and control work, such as the control of mosquitoes, rodents and other disease vectors. The Department has carried out a series of anti-mosquito operations, including removal of water accumulation, as well as mosquito prevention and control work at potential mosquito breeding places over the territory. Emphasis will be placed on the surrounding areas of residential buildings, schools, construction sites, public housing estates, hospitals, illegal cultivation sites, waterfront public and private cargo handling areas, cross boundary check points, typhoon shelters, cross boundary ferry terminals, etc. The Department adopts multi-pronged strategies for effective rodent disinfestation in designated target areas through elimination of the survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, by improving environmental hygiene, stepping up rodent disinfestation and enforcement actions. Emphasis will be placed on locations at markets, municipal services buildings, hawker bazaars, typhoon shelters, lanes adjacent to food premises and other problematic spots as well as their surroundings. For effective control of disease vectors, the prevention and control measures have to be targeted at sites where the pests frequent.

The Department carries out vector surveillance programmes to monitor the distribution and seasonal variation of vector mosquitoes and rodents including vector surveillance of dengue fever, Japanese encephalitis and malaria as well as rodent infestation surveys, rat-flea surveys and ad hoc surveys on other insect pests. To prevent the spread of vector-borne diseases, the Department also conducts vector surveys in surrounding areas of all locations visited by the patients. The Department will continue to step up public education and

publicity and provide support and technical advice to other departments on mosquito and rodent prevention and control. It will also provide training for staff of other departments to enhance their knowledge and skills in pest control.

The Department has been proactively applying technologies in the provision of pest control services. Dedicated staff are assigned to explore technologies on pest control and put on trials these technologies with a view to assessing their applicability and effectiveness before putting them into use in the territory.

In 2020-21, the Department's estimated expenditure on pest control services is $667 million. About 740 in-house staff and 2 040 staff engaged by the contractors will provide pest control services.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3985)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

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:

It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 that the Department will continue to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme to improve the design and facilities of existing public toilets by phases.

(1) What are the details of the phases and improvement measures for refurbishing the public toilets?

(2) Please provide the list of public toilets to be refurbished. What are the criteria for selecting the toilets?

(3) Apart from enhancing the cleanliness and hygiene of the public toilets to be refurbished, will the Department also improve other facilities, e.g. provide unisex toilets to address the needs of the elderly, the disabled and transgender persons? What are the details?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 265)

Reply:

(1) & (2) It was announced in the 2019-20 Budget that the Government would make an additional allocation of over $600 million to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme (Enhanced PTRP), under which the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will roll out the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 240 public toilets under its management by phases in 5 years starting from 2019-20, so as to improve their facilities and hygiene level. The Department is working closely with the Architectural Services Department and has rolled out the refurbishment or facelifting projects for 42 public toilets in the first year. The facelifting works for 7 public toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. A list of the 42 public toilets with their works schedules is at Annex I. Refurbishment or facelifting projects for 49 public toilets are being planned in 2020-21, and a list of the public toilets is at Annex II. The Department will prioritise the remaining public toilets for

inclusion in the Enhanced PTRP having regard to their utilisation rates, locations, maintenance conditions and the time lapsed since they were constructed or last refurbished, with special attention to those with high utilisation and in ageing conditions. Subject to the progress of the programme, the Department will consider bidding for additional resources to expedite the refurbishment of the remaining public toilets in due course.

(3) If circumstances permit, the Department will provide accessible unisex toilets and universal toilets when the public toilets are refurbished.

Annex I

List of 42 Public Toilets under the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2019-20 (As at 6 March 2020)

(A) 20 Refurbishment Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[1]
1.	Lok Ku Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to June 2021
2.	Ladder Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to June 2021
3.	Rumsey Street Multi Storey Car-park Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to April 2021
4.	Sheung Shui Wai Po Sheung Tsuen Public Toilet	North	From April to December 2021
5.	Tseng Lan Shue Public Toilet	Sai Kung	From August 2021 to April 2022
6.	Ma Liu Shui Waterfront Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From December 2020 to August 2021
7.	Science Park Road Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From August 2020 to April 2021
8.	Shan Mei Street Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From February to September 2021
9.	Shap Yi Watt Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From August 2021 to April 2022
10.	Tai Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From April to November 2021
11.	To Tau Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From April to November 2021
12.	No. 16 Aberdeen Main Road Public Toilet	Southern	From October 2021 to April 2022
13.	Fong Ma Po Public Toilet	Tai Po	From November 2020 to August 2021
14.	Ma Wo Public Toilet	Tai Po	From April to December 2021
15.	Tap Mun Pier Public Toilet	Tai Po	From April to December 2021
16.	Sunny Bay Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2020 to July 2021
17.	Wang Lung Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to November 2021
18.	Morrison Hill Road Public Toilet	Wan Chai	From February to August 2021
19.	Science Museum Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From February to September 2021
20.	Hong King Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	From March to December 2021

[1] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

(B) 22 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[2]
1.	Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall Public Toilet	Central & Western	From March to June 2020
2.	Wing Lok Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	From March to June 2020
3.	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	Islands	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
4.	Tat Tung Road Public Toilet	Islands	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
5.	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	From October 2019 to April 2020
6.	Kwai Hing Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	From October 2019 to April 2020
7.	Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Kwun Tong	From March to June 2020
8.	Shung Yan Street Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	From February to June 2020
9.	Mong Kok Road Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From June to October 2020
10.	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From September 2020 to February 2021
11.	Sai Yee Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From May to October 2020
12.	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	From June to November 2019 (completed)
13.	Pei Ho Street Market G/F & 1/F Toilet	Sham Shui Po	1/F: From September to December 2019 (completed) G/F: From April to July 2020
14.	Yen Chow Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	From December 2019 to May 2020
15.	Chai Wan Kok Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to June 2020
16.	Chuen Lung Village Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
17.	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
18.	Shing Mun Road Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to June 2020
19.	Wan Chai Market Public Toilet	Wan Chai	From April to October 2020
20.	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From September 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
21.	Jordan Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
22.	Market Street Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yau Tsim	From October 2019 to May 2020

[2] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

Annex II

List of 49 Public Toilets under the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2020-21

(A) 20 Refurbishment Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Wellington Street Public Toilet (Male Only)	Central & Western	Junction of Wellington Street and Queen's Road Central, Central
2.	Wa Hing Lane Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Central & Western	Junction of Shing Wong Street and Wa Hing Lane, Sheung Wan
3.	Ice House Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	Opposite No. 16 Ice House Street, Central
4.	Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Central & Western	2/F, Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building, No. 470 Queen's Road West, Shek Tong Tsui
5.	Stanley Tytam Village Public Toilet	Southern	Stanley Tytam Village near Hong Kong Sea School
6.	South Bay Public Toilet	Southern	South Bay Road near South Bay Beach
7.	Round Table I Village Public Toilet	Islands	Round Table I Village, Cheung Chau
8.	Ma Wan Chung Public Toilet	Islands	Ma Wan Chung, Tung Chung
9.	Anchor Street Playground Public Toilet	Mong Kok	Anchor Street Playground
10.	Chung Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Chung Uk Tsuen
11.	Kin Lung Street Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Kin Lung Street, Tuen Mun (near Shek Pai Tau Playground)
12.	Tai Tong Road Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yuen Long	Sai Ching Street (near Manhattan Plaza), Yuen Long
13.	Kuk Ting Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Kuk Ting Street, Yuen Long
14.	Luk Keng Public Toilet	North	Luk Keng Road near Chan Fung Kee Store, Sha Tau Kok
15.	Yue Kok Public Toilet	Tai Po	Yue Kok Village, Tai Po
16.	Tung Ping Chau Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tung Ping Chau
17.	Tap Mun Ha Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun Ha Wai, Tai Po
18.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village North Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village, Tai Po
19.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village South Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village, Tai Po
20.	Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Chun Yat Street

(B) 29 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Kennedy Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	Junction of Kennedy Road and Garden Road, Central
2.	Macau Ferry Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Central & Western	At side of Macau Ferry Bus Terminus, Sheung Wan
3.	Hospital Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	Basement, Centre for Food Safety, No. 4 Hospital Road, Sai Ying Pun
4.	Quarry Bay Market Public Toilet	Eastern	No. 38 Quarry Bay Street
5.	Pak Fuk Road Public Toilet	Eastern	Junction of Pak Fuk Road and Healthy Street Central
6.	Yip Fat Street Public Toilet	Southern	Near No. 12 Yip Fat Street, Wong Chuk Hang
7.	Sok Kwu Wan Public Toilet	Islands	Sok Kwu Wan Ferry Pier, Lamma
8.	Lo Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Islands	Lo Uk Tsuen, Lantau
9.	Shui Hau Public Toilet	Islands	Shui Hau Village, Lantau
10.	Pok Man Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	No. 1 Sham Mong Road, Olympic Station
11.	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus
12.	Lung Kong Road Public Toilet	Kowloon City	No. 30-32, Lung Kong Road
13.	Kei Yip Lane Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	Near Kwun Tong Ferry Pier Bus Terminus at Kei Yip Lane, Kwun Tong
14.	Tai Lin Pai Road Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	Tai Lin Pai Road near Kung Yip Street
15.	Ta Chuen Ping Street Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	Ta Chuen Ping Street near a carpark
16.	Tin Sum San Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Tin Sum San Tsuen
17.	San Wai Public Toilet	Yuen Long	San Wai, San Sik Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
18.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)	Yuen Long	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)
19.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western	Yuen Long	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
	Corridor (2)		
20.	Wo Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	North	At side of a carpark in Wo Hing Tsuen, Fanling
21.	Shui Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	Shui Wai Village, Tai Po
22.	Tai Po Tau South Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tai Po Tau Village
23.	Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Junction of Sha Tin Wai Road and Ngau Pei Sha Street
24.	Wo Liu Hang Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Wo Liu Hang Village
25.	Fo Tan Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Near Shan Mei Street, Fo Tan Village
26.	Pak Kong Tsuen Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Opposite lamp post No. EB31651 at Pak Kong Road
27.	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village
28.	Tai Mong Tsai Public Toilet	Sai Kung	At side of Tai Mong Tsai Carpark
29.	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan) Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan)

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 | Reply Serial No. **FHB(FE)247**

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3986)

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:

Please advise this Committee on the number of prosecutions instituted against unlicensed hawkers by the Hawker Control Teams, as well as the number of successful prosecution cases in the past 3 years. Please also advise on the operational expenses, manpower and full-year expenditure on salaries of the Hawker Control Teams in the past 3 years, as well as the estimated expenditure for 2020-21.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 266)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

Annex

Number of prosecutions against and convictions of unlicensed hawkers

Year	Number of prosecutions against unlicensed hawkers	Number of convictions of unlicensed hawkers*
2017	6 402	6 270
2018	5 564	4 859
2019	4 475	3 609

* Prosecution instituted in a year may be convicted in the following year.

Manpower for and expenditure on hawker control

Financial year	Manpower	Total expenditure# ($ million)
2017-18	2 264	1,074.2
2018-19	2 264	1,134.2
2019-20	2 253	1,159.6 (revised estimate)
2020-21	2 253	1,205.7 (estimate)

\# Enforcement against unlicensed hawkers is only part of the duties of hawker control staff. Further breakdown of salary expenditure is not available.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)248

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3987)

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:

How many unisex toilets are there in the territory? Please provide their addresses with a breakdown by the 18 districts. Does the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department have any plan to continuously increase the number of unisex toilets? If yes, please provide the details.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 267)

Reply:

385 public toilets under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department are provided with accessible unisex toilets (AUTs). A list of these toilets is provided at **Annex**. If circumstances permit, AUTs will be provided in accordance with *The Design Manual on Barrier Free Access 2008* when new public toilets are built or existing ones are reprovisioned or refurbished. Access to AUTs does not necessitate traversing an area reserved for one sex only.

List of Public Toilets with Accessible Unisex Toilets

Serial No.	District	Name of public toilet	Address
1	Central & Western	Belcher's Street Public Toilet	Behind No. 2-12 Belcher's Street, Sai Wan
2	Central & Western	Centre Street Public Toilet	Near Centre Street Market, First Street, Sai Ying Pun
3	Central & Western	Exchange Square Public Toilet	G/F of Exchange Square near the bus terminus, Central
4	Central & Western	Hatton Road Public Toilet	Junction of Hatton Road and Harlech Road, Mid-levels
5	Central & Western	Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall Public Toilet	Rear of Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall, Central
6	Central & Western	Ice House Street Public Toilet	Opposite to No. 16 Ice House Street, Central
7	Central & Western	In Ku Lane Public Toilet	No. 8 In Ku Lane, Sheung Wan
8	Central & Western	Kennedy Road Public Toilet	Junction of Kennedy Road and Garden Road, Central
9	Central & Western	Kennedy Town Bus Terminus Sai Ning Street Public Toilet	Junction of Victoria Road and Sai Ning Street, Kennedy Town
10	Central & Western	Lan Kwai Fong Public Toilet	Lower level below Lan Kwai Fong Sitting-out Area, Central
11	Central & Western	Macau Ferry Bus Terminus Public Toilet	At side of Macau Ferry Bus Terminus, Sheung Wan
12	Central & Western	Man Fai Street Public Toilet	Junction of Man Fai Street and Man Kwong Street, Central
13	Central & Western	Man Yiu Street Public Toilet	Man Yiu Street near No. 7 Pier, Central
14	Central & Western	Mui Fong Street Temporary Public Toilet	Inside Mui Fong Street Sitting-out Area, Mui Fong Street, Sai Ying Pun
15	Central & Western	Pound Lane Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Junction of Pound Lane and Tai Ping Shan Street, Sheung Wan
16	Central & Western	Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	2/F, Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building, No. 470 Queen's Road West, Shek Tong Tsui
17	Central & Western	Smithfield Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	G/F, Smithfield Municipal Services Building, 12K Smithfield, Kennedy Town
18	Central & Western	Star Ferry Multi Storey Car-park Public Toilet	Junction of Edinburgh Place and Connaught Road Central, Central
19	Central & Western	Water Street Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Junction of Water Street and Pok Fu Lam Road, Sai Ying Pun
20	Central & Western	Wing Wo Street Public Toilet	Opposite to 23-27 Wing Wo Street, Central

Serial No.	District	Name of public toilet	Address
21	Eastern	Hoi Ning Street Public Toilet	Junction of Hoi Ning Street and Hing Man Street
22	Eastern	Java Road Public Toilet	Java Road outside North Point Vehicular Ferry Pier
23	Eastern	Kam Wa Street Public Toilet	Junction of Kam Wa Street and Wang Wa Street
24	Eastern	Nam On Street Public Toilet	No. 81 Nam On Street
25	Eastern	Ning Foo Street Public Toilet	Ning Foo Street near the bus terminus
26	Eastern	North Point Ferry Pier Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	North Point Ferry Pier Public Transport Interchange
27	Eastern	Quarry Bay Market Public Toilet	No. 38 Quarry Bay Street
28	Eastern	Sheung On Street Public Toilet	Opposite to New World Bus Depot Sheung On Street
29	Eastern	Tong Shui Road Public Toilet	Junction of Tong Shui Road and Chun Yeung Street
30	Eastern	Tung Hei Road Public Toilet	No. 28 Tung Hei Road
31	Wan Chai	Amoy Street Public Toilet	G/F, The Aveune Phase 2, 200 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai
32	Wan Chai	Bowen Road Public Toilet	Bowen Road near Wan Chai Gap Road
33	Wan Chai	Canal Road Public Toilet	Junction of Canal Road and Lockhart Road (next to Wan Chai Fire Station)
34	Wan Chai	Cross Lane Public Toilet	Junction of Cross Lane and Bullock Lane
35	Wan Chai	Expo Drive East Public Toilet	Expo Drive East (next to Golden Bauhinia Square)
36	Wan Chai	Hing Fat Street Public Toilet	Hing Fat Street near the entrance of Victoria Park
37	Wan Chai	Kat On Street Public Toilet	Junction of Kat On Street and Kennedy Street
38	Wan Chai	Moreton Terrace Public Toilet	Tung Lo Wan Drive (at side of the bus terminus)
39	Wan Chai	Morrison Hill Road Public Toilet	Morrison Hill Road near Sports Road
40	Wan Chai	Sing Woo Road Public Toilet	Junction of Sing Woo Road and Yik Yam Street
41	Wan Chai	Southorn Centre Public Toilet	G/F, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road
42	Wan Chai	Tai Hang Road Public Toilet	Junction of Tai Hang Road and Lai Tak Tsuen Road
43	Wan Chai	Wan Chai Market Public Toilet	No. 258 Queen’s Road East

Serial No.	District	Name of public toilet	Address
44	Wan Chai	Wan Chai North Temporary Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Adjacent to the bus terminus at Wan Chai Ferry Concourse
45	Wan Chai	Warren Street Public Toilet	Junction of Warren Street and Shepherd Street
46	Wan Chai	Wing Hing Street Public Toilet	No. 15 Wing Hing Street
47	Wan Chai	Wong Nai Chung Road Public Toilet	Opposite to 95 Wong Nai Chung Road
48	Southern	Apleichau Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Ap Lei Chau Municipal Services Building, No. 8 Hung Shing Street, Ap Lei Chau
49	Southern	Lee Lok Street Public Toilet	Junction of Lee Lok Street and Lee Wing Street, Ap Lei Chau
50	Southern	No.16 Aberdeen Main Road Public Toilet	No. 16 Aberdeen Main Road, Aberdeen
51	Southern	Pokfulam Road near Queen Mary Hospital Public Toilet	Pokfulam Road near Queen Mary Hospital
52	Southern	Repulse Bay Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Repulse Bay Road near the bus terminus (opposite to No. 109 Repulse Bay Road)
53	Southern	Repulse Bay Public Toilet (near No. 16 Repulse Bay Beach Road)	Near No. 16 Repulse Bay Beach Road
54	Southern	Shek O Village Public Toilet	Shek O Village near Shek O Rocky Bay Beach Drainage Services Department Shek O Preliminary Treatment Works
55	Southern	Shum Wan Road Public Toilet	Shum Wan Road near Marine Police Station
56	Southern	Stanley Link Road Public Toilet	Stanley Link Road near Stanley Main Beach
57	Southern	Stanley Main Street Public Toilet	Stanley Pak Kan Village near Stanley Main Street
58	Southern	Stanley Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Stanley Municipal Services Building, Stanley Market Road
59	Southern	Stanley Waterfront Public Toilet	Stanley Waterfront
60	Southern	Wu Nam Street Public Toilet	Wu Nam Street near Aberdeen Bus Terminus
61	Southern	Yip Fat Street Public Toilet	Near No. 12 Yip Fat Street, Wong Chuk Hang
62	Kowloon City	Baker Street Public Toilet	No. 65 Baker Street
63	Kowloon City	Dyer Avenue Public Toilet	No. 1 Dyer Avenue

Serial No.	District	Name of public toilet	Address
64	Kowloon City	Gillies Avenue South Public Toilet	Junction of Gillies Avenue South and Station Lane
65	Kowloon City	Hok Yuen Street Public Toilet	No. 12A Hok Yuen Street
66	Kowloon City	Hung Hom Complex Public Toilet	1/F, Hung Hom Complex, 11 Ma Tai Wai Road
67	Kowloon City	Kowloon City Complex Public Toilet	1/F, Kowloon City Complex, Hau Wong Road
68	Kowloon City	Kowloon City Road Public Toilet	No. 3 Kowloon City Road
69	Kowloon City	Kowloon Tong Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong
70	Kowloon City	Lung Kong Road Public Toilet	No. 30-32 Lung Kong Road
71	Kowloon City	Ma Tau Kok Road Public Toilet-cum-bathhouse	No. 180 Kowloon City Road
72	Kowloon City	New Hung Hom Ferry Pier Public Toilet	New Hung Hom Ferry Pier
73	Kowloon City	Pui Ching Road Public Toilet	No. 5 Pui Ching Road
74	Kowloon City	San Ma Tau Street Public Toilet	No. 30 San Ma Tau Street
75	Kowloon City	Shek Ku Lung Road Public Toilet	Junction of Shek Ku Lung Road and Carpenter Road
76	Kowloon City	Tung Tsing Road Public Toilet	Tung Tsing Road at side of Carpenter Road Park
77	Wong Tai Sin	Choi Hung Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Choi Hung Bus Terminus (opposite to Choi Hung Estate)
78	Wong Tai Sin	Hong Keung Street Public Toilet	Junction of Shung Ling Street and Hong Keung Street, San Po Kong
79	Wong Tai Sin	Lok Fu Public Toilet	Junction of Tung Tau Tsuen Road and Junction Road
80	Wong Tai Sin	Nga Tsin Wai Village Public Toilet	Tung Kwong Road outside Nga Tsin Wai Village
81	Wong Tai Sin	Ngau Chi Wan Village Public Toilet	No. 1 Lung Chi Path, Ngau Chi Wan
82	Wong Tai Sin	Sheung Yuen Street Public Toilet	G/F, Plaza Hollywood, Sheung Yuen Street
83	Yau Tsim	Battery Street Public Toilet	No. 42 Battery Street
84	Yau Tsim	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	At side of Astor Plaza, junction of Gascoigne Road and Nathan Road
85	Yau Tsim	Jordan Road Public Toilet	Inside King George V Park, Jordan.
86	Yau Tsim	Lin Cheung Road Public Toilet	West Kowloon Station Bus Terminus

87	Yau Tsim	Market Street Public Toilet and Bathhouse	No. 1 Market Street
Serial No.	**District**	**Name of public toilet**	**Address**
88	Yau Tsim	Parkes St. Public Toilet and Public Bathhouse	No. 107 Parkes Street
89	Yau Tsim	Science Museum Road Public Toilet	Concordia Plaza, 1 Science Museum Road
90	Yau Tsim	Shanghai Street/Waterloo Road Public Toilet	Junction of Shanghai Street and Waterloo Road
91	Yau Tsim	Tsim Sha Tsui East Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Tsim Sha Tsui East (Mody Road) Bus Terminus (next to Wing On Plaza)
92	Yau Tsim	Tsim Sha Tsui Ferry Concourse Public Toilet	Tsim Sha Tsui Ferry Concourse
93	Yau Tsim	Yau Ma Tei Market Public Toilet	Yau Ma Tei Market, No. 20 Kansu Street
94	Mong Kok	Anchor Street Playground Public Toilet	Anchor Street Playground
95	Mong Kok	Larch Street Public Toilet	105 Larch Street
96	Mong Kok	Mong Kok Road Public Toilet	661B Shanghai Street, junction of Shanghai Street and Mong Kok Road (inside Mong Kok Road Playground)
97	Mong Kok	Nelson Street Public Toilet	1024 Canton Road (near Mong Kok Langham Hotel)
98	Mong Kok	Pok Man Street Public Toilet	1 Sham Mong Road, Olympic Station
99	Mong Kok	Portland Street Public Toilet	193 Portland Street (near Langham Place Shopping Mall)
100	Mong Kok	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Sai Yee Street Garden (near Newport Cinema)
101	Mong Kok	Sai Yee Street Public Toilet	188 Sai Yee Street (near Mong Kok Flower Market)
102	Sham Shui Po	Apliu Street Public Toilet	215 Apliu Street
103	Sham Shui Po	Cheung Shun Street Public Toilet	At side of No. 22 Chueng Shun Street
104	Sham Shui Po	Lai Chi Kok Government Offices Public Toilet	19 Lai Wan Road
105	Sham Shui Po	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus
106	Sham Shui Po	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	193 Nam Cheong Street
107	Sham Shui Po	Sai Chuen Road Public Toilet	4 Sai Chuen Road
108	Sham Shui Po	Tai Nan Street Public Toilet	Junction of Tai Nan Street and Boundary Street

109	Sham Shui Po	Tonkin Street Public Toilet	38A Tonkin Street
Serial No.	**District**	**Name of public toilet**	**Address**
110	Sham Shui Po	Yee Kuk Street Public Toilet	557 Yee Kuk Street
111	Sham Shui Po	Yen Chow Street Public Toilet	75 Yen Chow Street
112	Kwun Tong	Cha Kwo Ling Road Public Toilet	At side of No. 90 Cha Kwo Ling Main Street
113	Kwun Tong	Chun Wah Road Public Toilet	Chun Wah Road Bus Terminus, Ngau Tau Kok
114	Kwun Tong	Hip Wo Street Interim Public Toilet	At side of Hip Wo Street Public Light Bus Terminus, Kwun Tong
115	Kwun Tong	Kei Yip Lane Public Toilet	Near Kwun Tong Ferry Pier Bus Terminus at Kei Yip Lane, Kwun Tong
116	Kwun Tong	Kwun Tong Road Public Toilet	Kwun Tong Road Bus Terminus
117	Kwun Tong	Lai Yip Street Public Toilet	Junction of Lai Yip Street and Wai Yip Street
118	Kwun Tong	Lei Yue Mun (Ling Nam Sun Tsuen) Public Toilet	Lei Yue Mun Path, Lei Yue Mun
119	Kwun Tong	Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Entrance of Ma Wan Village, Lei Yue Mun
120	Kwun Tong	Ngau Tau Kok Public Toilet/Bathhouse	No.1 Ting Fu Street, Ngau Tau Kok
121	Kwun Tong	Shung Yan Street Public Toilet	At side of No. 39 Shung Yan Street Kwun Tong
122	Tuen Mun	Chung Wong Toi Public Toilet	Chung Wong Toi
123	Tuen Mun	Fuk Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	Fuk Hang Tsuen
124	Tuen Mun	Hung Cheung Road Public Toilet	Hung Cheung Road, Tuen Mun (at side of a public carpark)
125	Tuen Mun	Kin Fung Circuit Public Toilet	Kin Fung Circuit, Tuen Mun (near Ho Tin LRT station)
126	Tuen Mun	Kin Lung Street Public Toilet	Kin Lung Street, Tuen Mun (near Shek Pai Tau Playground)
127	Tuen Mun	Lam Tei Market Public Toilet	Lam Tei Market
128	Tuen Mun	Luen On San Tsuen Public Toilet	Luen On San Tsuen
129	Tuen Mun	Lung Kwu Tan Public Toilet	Lung Kwu Tan near Lung Kwu Tan Village Office
130	Tuen Mun	Po Tong Ha Tsuen Public Toilet	Po Tong Ha Tsuen
131	Tuen Mun	Siu Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	Siu Hang Tsuen
132	Tuen Mun	Siu Hong Public Toilet	Siu Hong Court near Ng Lau Road

133	Tuen Mun	So Kwun Wat Chan Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Chan Uk Tsuen, So Kwun Wat
134	Tuen Mun	Sun Fung Wai Public Toilet	Sun Fung Wai
Serial No.	**District**	**Name of public toilet**	**Address**
135	Tuen Mun	Tin Hau Road Public Toilet	Tin Hau Temple Plaza near Tin Hau Road
136	Tuen Mun	Tin Hau Temple Plaza Public Toilet	Tin Hau Temple Plaza near Hung Cheung Road
137	Tuen Mun	Tseng Tau Chung Tsuen Public Toilet	Tseng Tau Chung Tsuen, Tuen Mun
138	Tuen Mun	Tsing Chuen Wai Public Toilet	Tsing Chuen Wai
139	Tuen Mun	Tsing Yeung Circuit Public Toilet	Tsing Yeung Circuit, Tuen Mun (at side of a public carpark)
140	Tuen Mun	Tsz Tin Tsuen Public Toilet (at side of RCP)	At side of Tsz Tin Tsuen RCP
141	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Ferry Pier Public Toilet	Tuen Mun Ferry Pier, Tuen Mun
142	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Road Bus-Bus Interchange Public Toilet (Kowloon Bound)	Tuen Mun Road (Kowloon direction)
143	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Road Bus-Bus Interchange Public Toilet (Tuen Mun Bound)	Tuen Mun Road (Tuen Mun direction)
144	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Tsz Tin Road Public Toilet	Tsz Tin Road, Tuen Mun, New Territories
145	Tuen Mun	Wo Ping San Tsuen Public Toilet	Siu Tong Raod, Wo Ping San Tsuen
146	Tuen Mun	Wu Shan Road Public Toilet	Wu Shan Road
147	Tuen Mun	Yeung Siu Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	Yeung King Road, Tuen Mun (at side of Wealthy Villa)
148	Tuen Mun	Yip Wong Road Public Toilet	Yip Wong Road
149	North	Che Ping Street Public Toilet	In front of Sha Tau Kok Market, Che Ping Street, Sha Tau Kok
150	North	Chow Tin(1) Public Toilet	Chow Tin Tsuen, Ta Kwu Ling
151	North	Chuk Yuen Village Public Toilet	Chuk Yuen, Ta Kwu Ling
152	North	Fanling Lau Public Toilet	At side of Fanling Lau Garden, Fanling Lau Road, Fanling
153	North	Fanling Station Road Public Toilet	Inside Fanling Station Sitting-out Area
154	North	Fanling Wai (South) Public Toilet	San Wan Raod in front of Nam Hing Tong, Fanling Wai (South)
155	North	Fanling Wai Public Toilet	At side of Fanling Wai Playground, Fanling Wai
156	North	Hang Tau (Ngai Yuen) Public Toilet	Hang Tau (Ngai Yuen Tsuen), Sheung Shui

157	North	Hang Tau Road Public Toilet	Opposite to No. 100 Hang Tau Road, Sheung Shui
Serial No.	**District**	**Name of public toilet**	**Address**
158	North	Ho Sheung Heung Public Toilet (III)	At side of Cycle Track, Ho Shueng Heung Pai Fung Road, Sheung Shui
159	North	Hung Leng Public Toilet	Hung Leng Tsuen in front of House No. 13E, Sha Tau Kok Road
160	North	Kam Tsin (North) Public Toilet	Kam Tsin Village (North), Kam Tsin Road, Sheung Shui
161	North	Kan Lung Wai Public Toilet	Kan Lung Wai, Lung Yeuk Tau, Fanling
162	North	Kwu Tung (Tiu Yuen) Public Toilet	Rear of Kwu Tung Vegetable Marketing and Credit Co-operative Society, Sheung Shui
163	North	Luen Cheong Street Public Toilet	Luen Cheong Street at side of Footbridge NF252, Fanling
164	North	Lung Wan Street Public Toilet	Landmark North Bus Terminus, Lung Wan Street, Sheung Shui
165	North	Ma Mei Ha Public Toilet	Ma Mei Ha Tsuen, Sha Tau Kok Road
166	North	Ma Mei Ha Tsuen Public Toilet	Ma Mei Ha Tsuen, Sha Tau Kok Road
167	North	Man Kam To Public Toilet	Man Kam To Vehicle Holding Area
168	North	Nam Chung (Lo Uk) Public Toilet	Nam Chung Lo Uk Tsuen, Sha Tau Kok
169	North	Ngar Yiu Public Toilet	Ngar Yiu, Ta Kwu Ling
170	North	On Po Tsuen Public Toilet	On Po Tsuen Carpark, Sheung Shui
171	North	Ping Che Tsuen (2) Public Toilet	Junction of Ping Che Road and Ng Chau Road, Sha Tau Kok
172	North	Ping Yeung Old Village Public Toilet	Ping Yeung Sitting-out Area, Ping Yeung Old Village, Sha Tau Kok
173	North	Po Kak Tsai, Lau Shui Heung Public Toilet	Po Kak Tsai, Lau Shui Heung, Fanling
174	North	San Shing Avenue Public Toilet	Junction of San Shing Avenue and Fu Hing Street, Sheung Shui
175	North	San Uk Ling Public Toilet	At side of House No. 18, Lane 1, San Uk Ling Tsuen, Sheung Shui
176	North	San Uk Tsai Public Toilet	At side of San Uk Tsai (Greenland Garden), Sha Tau Kok Road
177	North	Sha Ling, Cheung Po Tau Public Toilet	Man Kam To Road at the entrance to Cheung Po Tau, Sha Ling
178	North	Shan Tsui Public Toilet	At side of Shan Tsui Tsuen Rest Garden, Sha Tau Kok
179	North	Shek Tsai Ling Public Toilet	Ho Sheung Heung Road near Bor Lau Road, Sheung Shui

180	North	Shek Wu Hui Public Toilet	Sheung Shui Entry/Exit Hub, San Wan Road, Sheung Shui
Serial No.	**District**	**Name of public toilet**	**Address**
181	North	Shek Wu San Tsuen Public Toilet	Shek Wu San Tsuen, Sheung Shui (near Ng Tung River)
182	North	Sheung Ma Tseuk Leng Public Toilet	At side of Ma Tseuk Leng Children's Playground, Sha Tau Kok
183	North	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Carpark Public Toilet	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Carpark
184	North	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Public Toilet	Inside Sheung Shui Heung Sitting-out Area No. 9
185	North	Sheung Shui Wai Po Sheung Tsuen Public Toilet	At side of Sheung Shui Heung Playground, Po Sheung Tsuen, Sheung Shui Wai
186	North	Sheung Shui Wai Wai Noi Tsuen Public Toilet	At side of Sheung Shui Heung Rural Area Committee, Wai Noi Tsuen, Sheung Shui Wai
187	North	Shung Him Tong Public Toilet	Entrance to Shung Him Tong Tsuen, Fanling
188	North	Siu Hang San Tsuen Public Toilet	Near Lamp Post VD9771, Siu Hang San Tsuen, Fanling
189	North	So Kwun Po Tsuen Public Toilet	Junction of San Wan Road and Chi Cheong Road, Sheung Shui
190	North	Tin Kwong Hui Temporary Wholesale Market On Lok Tsuen Public Toilet	At side of Tin Kong Hui Wholesale Market, On Lok Tsuen, Fanling
191	North	Tsiu Keng Pang Uk Public Toilet	Tsiu Keng Pang Uk, Sheung Shui
192	North	Tsung Pak Long (North) Public Toilet	Opposite to Tsung Pak Long Village Office, Sheung Shui
193	North	Wa Shan Tsuen Public Toilet	Wa Shan Tsuen, Sheung Shui
194	North	Wo Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	Carpark at side of Wo Hing Tsuen, Fanling
195	North	Wo Hop Shek Tsuen Public Toilet	Carpark at the junction of Wo Hing Road and Tai Po Road, Fanling
196	North	Ying Pun Tsuen Public Toilet	At side of House No. 15 Ying Pun Sheung Tsuen, Sheung Shui
197	North	Yuen Ha Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Ha Tsuen, Ta Kwu Ling
198	North	Ng Uk Tsuen (Chung Chai Yuen) Public Toilet	Ng Uk Tsuen (Chung Chai Yuen)
199	Yuen Long	Chau Tau Tsuen Public Toilet	Chau Tau Tsuen, Chau Tau West Road, Lok Ma Chau, Yuen Long
200	Yuen Long	Chuk Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	Fan Kam Road, Pat Heung (near the entrance of Chuk Hang Tsuen Village) Yuen Long

201	Yuen Long	Chung Hau Tsuen (1) Public Toilet	Chung Hau Tsue, Yuen Long
Serial No.	**District**	**Name of public toilet**	**Address**
202	Yuen Long	Chung Pak Nai (1) Public Toilet	Ngau Hom Shek, Sheung Pak Nai, Nim Wan Road, Lau Fau Shan, Yuen Long
203	Yuen Long	Chung Pak Nai (2) Public Toilet	Nim Wan Road (near Ha Pak Nai), Lau Fau Shan
204	Yuen Long	Fraser Village Public Toilet	Fraser Village, Tai Tong Road, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long
205	Yuen Long	Fu Tso Tsuen Public Toilet	Deep Bay Road, Lau Fau Shan, Yuen Long
206	Yuen Long	Fung Cheung Road Public Toilet	Fung Cheung Road (near Fung Kam Street Sports Centre), Yuen Long
207	Yuen Long	Fung Kong Tsuen (Entrance) Public Toilet	Ping Ha Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
208	Yuen Long	Ha Che West Public Toilet	Ha Che Tsuen, Fan Kam Road, Pat Heung, Yuen Long
209	Yuen Long	Ha Mei San Tsuen Public Toilet	Ha Mei San Tsuen, Ha Mei San Tsuen Road, Yuen Long
210	Yuen Long	Ha Tsuen Shi, VMO Public Toilet	Ha Tsuen Shi, Tin Ha Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
211	Yuen Long	Ha Wan Tsuen Public Toilet	Ha Wan Tsuen, San Tin, Yuen Long
212	Yuen Long	Hang Mei Tsuen Public Toilet (Bio-treatment)	Hang Mei Tsuen, Ping Ha Road, Ping Shan, Yuen Long
213	Yuen Long	Hong King Street Public Toilet	Hong King Street (next to the minibus station), Yuen Long
214	Yuen Long	Hung Shui Kiu Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Tin Sam Road, Hung Shui Kiu, Yuen Long
215	Yuen Long	Kam Hing Wai Public Toilet	Kam Hing Wai, Chi Ho Road, Kam Tin, Yuen Long
216	Yuen Long	Kam Sheung Road Public Toilet	Kam Sheung Road Public Transport Interchange, Tung Wui Road, Kam Tin, Yuen Long
217	Yuen Long	Kam Tin Bor Tei Pulbic Toilet	Kam Tin Bor Tei Road, Kam Tin, Yuen Long
218	Yuen Long	Kam Tin Market Public Toilet	Kam Tin Shing Mun San Tsuen (next to Kam Tin Market), Kam Tin Road, Kam Tin, Yuen Long
219	Yuen Long	Ki Lun Shan Public Toilet	Ki Lun Tsuen, San Tin, Yuen Long
220	Yuen Long	Kik Yeung Road Public Toilet	Kik Yeung Road (next to the bus terminus), Yuen Long
221	Yuen Long	Ku Miu Cheung Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Cheung Uk Tsuen, Sheung Tsuen, Pat Heung, Yuen Long
222	Yuen Long	Kuk Ting Street Public Toilet	Kuk Ting Street, Yuen Long

223	Yuen Long	Lau Fau Shan Roundabout Public Toilet (Vacuum Toilet)	Lau Fau Shan Road, Lau Fau Shan, Yuen Long
Serial No.	**District**	**Name of public toilet**	**Address**
224	Yuen Long	Lo Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Lo Uk Tsuen, Ping Ha Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
225	Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau Control Point (North) Public Toilet	Lok Ma Chau Control Point (North)
226	Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau Control Point (South) Public Toilet	Lok Ma Chau Control Point (South)
227	Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau Lookout Public Toilet	Lok Ma Chau (Lookout)
228	Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau PTI Public Toilet	Lok Ma Chau Public Transport Interchange
229	Yuen Long	Ma Tin Pok Public Toilet	Ma Tin Pok, Kiu Hing Road, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long
230	Yuen Long	Ma Tin Tsuen Public Toilet	Ma Tin Tsuen, Ma Tin Road, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long
231	Yuen Long	Mei Po Lung Tsuen Public Toilet	Mai Po Lung Tsuen, Mai Po Lung Road, San Tin, Yuen Long
232	Yuen Long	Nam Bin Wai Public Toilet	Nam Bin Wai Yuen Long Kau Hui Road, Yuen Long
233	Yuen Long	Ng Ka Tsuen Public Toilet	Ng Ka Tsuen, Kam Sheung Road, Pat Heung, Yuen Long
234	Yuen Long	Nga Yiu Tau Tsuen Public Toilet	Nga Yiu Tau Tsuen, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long
235	Yuen Long	Ngau Tam Mei East Public Toilet	Ngau Tam Mei Road, Ngau Tam Mei, Yuen Long
236	Yuen Long	Pah Sha Tsuen (1) Public Toilet	Pak Sha
237	Yuen Long	Pak Hok Chau Public Toilet	Tam Kon Chau, Tam Kon Chau Road, Mai Po, Yuen Long
238	Yuen Long	Pak Nai (Picnic spot) Public Toilet	Sheung Pak Nai, Nim Wan Road, Yuen Long
239	Yuen Long	Pang Ka Tsuen Public Toilet	Pang Ka Tsuen, Kam Tin Road, Yuen Long
240	Yuen Long	Ping Shan Sun Tsuen Public Toilet	Ping Shan San Tsuen, Ping Yeung Lane, Ping Shan, Yuen Long
241	Yuen Long	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)
242	Yuen Long	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)
243	Yuen Long	Sai Pin Wai (2) Public Toilet	Sai Pin Wai, Yuen Long
244	Yuen Long	San Sang Tsuen Public Toilet	San Sang Tsuen, Tin Ha Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long

245	Yuen Long	San Tin Public Toilet	Castle Peak Road, San Tin, Yuen Long
Serial No.	**District**	**Name of public toilet**	**Address**
246	Yuen Long	San Wai Public Toilet	San Wai, San Sik Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
247	Yuen Long	Sha Kiu Sheung Wan Public Toilet	Sha Kiu Tsuen, Deep Bay Road Lau Fau Shan, Yuen Long
248	Yuen Long	Sham Chung Tsuen Public Toilet	Sham Chung Tsuen, Yuen Long
249	Yuen Long	Shan Pui Tsuen Public Toilet	Shan Pui Tsuen, Shan Pui Road, Yuen Long
250	Yuen Long	Shek Po Tsuen Public Toilet	Shek Po Tsuen, Shek Po Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
251	Yuen Long	Shui Bin Tsuen Public Toilet	Shui Pin Tsuen, Castle Peak Road-Ping Shan, Yuen Long
252	Yuen Long	Shui Lau Tin Tsuen Public Toilet	Shui Lau Tin Tsuen, Pat Heung, Yuen Long
253	Yuen Long	Shui Tsiu Lo Wai (2) Public Toilet	Shui Tsiu Lo Wai, Tai Tong Road, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long
254	Yuen Long	Sik Kong Tsuen Public Toilet	Sik Kong Tsuen, Ha Mei Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
255	Yuen Long	Siu Hom Tsuen Public Toilet	Siu Hum Tsuen, Ka Lung Road, San Tin, Yuen Long
256	Yuen Long	Small Traders New Village (1) Public Toilet	Siu Sheung San Tsuen, Tin Shing Wai, Yuen Long
257	Yuen Long	Tai Kei Leng Public Toilet	Tai Kei Leng, Tai Shu Ha Road East, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long
258	Yuen Long	Tai Sang Wai (2) Public Toilet	Tai Sang Wai, Yuen Long
259	Yuen Long	Tai Shu Ha Public Toilet	Tai Shu Ha Road West, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long
260	Yuen Long	Tai Tong Road Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Sai Ching Street (near Manhattan Plaza), Yuen Long
261	Yuen Long	Tan Kwai Tsuen Road Public Toilet	Tan Kwai Tsuen Road Garden, Tan Kwai Tsuen Road, Hung Shui Kiu, Yuen Long
262	Yuen Long	Tin Fuk Road Public Toilet	Tin Fuk Road, Tin Shui Wai
263	Yuen Long	Tin Sam Tsuen Public Toilet	Near the junction of Tin Ha Road and Hung Shui Kiu Tin Sam Road, Yuen Long
264	Yuen Long	Tin Shui Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Tin Yan Road, Tin Shui Wai
265	Yuen Long	To Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Nam Hing West Road, Pat Heung, Yuen Long
266	Yuen Long	Tong Tau Po Tsuen Public Toilet	Tong Tau Po Tsuen, Tai Shu Ha Road East, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long

267	Yuen Long	Tsz Tong Tsuen Public Toilet	Tsz Tong Tsuen, Kam Sheung Road, Kam Tin, Yuen Long
Serial No.	**District**	**Name of public toilet**	**Address**
268	Yuen Long	Wang Yip Street Public Toilet	Tung Tau Industrial Area, Wang Yip Street East, Yuen Long
269	Yuen Long	Wang Yip Street South Public Toilet	Tung Tau Industrial Area, Wang Yip Street South, Yuen Long
270	Yuen Long	Wong Nai Tun (2) Public Toilet	Wong Nai Tun Tsuen, Shui Tsiu San Tsuen Road, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long
271	Yuen Long	Yan Shau Wai Public Toilet	Yan Shau Wai, Castle Peak Road-San Tin, San Tin, Yuen Long
272	Yuen Long	Yuen Kong San Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Kong San Tsuen, Pat Heung Road, Pat Heung, Yuen Long
273	Tai Po	Cheung Shue Tan Village Site 1 Public Toilet	Cheung Shu Tan Village, Tai Po
274	Tai Po	Chong San Road Public Toilet	Chong San Road, Tai Po
275	Tai Po	Fong Ma Po Public Toilet	Fong Ma Po, Lam Tsuen, Tai Po
276	Tai Po	Kei Ling Ha Sun Wai Public Toilet	Kei Ling Ha Sun Wai
277	Tai Po	Ma Wo Public Toilet	Ma Wo Village, Tai Po
278	Tai Po	Nam Hang Public Toilet	Nam Hang Village, Tai Po
279	Tai Po	Nam Wa Po Public Toilet	Nam Wa Po, Tai Po (near Tsung Tsin Church)
280	Tai Po	Pak Shing Street Public Toilet-cum-Bathhouse	Pak Shing Street, Tai Po
281	Tai Po	Tai Hang Public Toilet	Tai Hang Tsz Tong Tsuen, Tai Po
282	Tai Po	Tai Mei Tuk Public Toilet	Tai Mei Tuk Village, Tai Po
283	Tai Po	Tai Po Centre Public Toilet	Blk 20, Tai Po Centre, Tai Po
284	Tai Po	Tai Po Market MTR Station Public Toilet	Tai Po Market Station, Tai Po
285	Tai Po	Tai Po Old Market Public Toilet	Tai Po Old Market, Tai Po
286	Tai Po	Tai Po Plaza Public Toilet	Tai Po Plaza, Tai Po
287	Tai Po	Tai Po Tau Village North Public Toilet	Tai Po Tau Village, Tai Po
288	Tai Po	Tai Wo Village Public Toilet	Tai Wo Village
289	Tai Po	Tat Wan Road Public Toilet	Tat Wan Road, Tai Po
290	Tai Po	Tung Ping Chau Public Toilet	Tung Ping Chau
291	Islands	Arrival Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza Public Toilet	Arrival Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port
292	Islands	Arrival Private Car Clearance Plaza Public Toilet	Arrival Private Car Clearance Plaza, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port
293	Islands	Cheung Chau Peak Road Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Peak Road, Cheung Chau

294	Islands	Chung Hau Village Public Toilet, Mui Wo	Chung Hau Village, Mui Wo
Serial No.	**District**	**Name of public toilet**	**Address**
295	Islands	Chung Hing Back Street Public Toilet	Chung Hing Back Street, Cheung Chau
296	Islands	Departure Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza Public Toilet	Departure Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port
297	Islands	Departure Private Car Clearance Plaza Public Toilet	Departure Private Car Clearance Plaza, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port
298	Islands	Mui Wo Ferry Pier Public Toilet	Mui Wo Ferry Pier Road, Lantau
299	Islands	Ngong Ping Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Ngong Ping Bus Terminus, Lantau
300	Islands	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	Ngong Ping Road Interchange, Ngong Ping, Lantau
301	Islands	Ngong Ping Road Public Toilet	Ngong Ping Road, Lantau
302	Islands	Pak Ngan Heung Public Toilet	Pak Ngan Heung, Lantau
303	Islands	Pak She Street Public Toilet	Pak She Street, Cheung Chau
304	Islands	Peng Chau Wing On Side Street Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Wing On Side Street, Peng Chau
305	Islands	San Hing Back Street Public Toilet	San Hing Back Street, Cheung Chau
306	Islands	Shek Pik Public Toilet, Wang Pui Road, Lantau	Shek Pik Wang Pui Road, Lantau
307	Islands	Sheung Ling Pei Public Toilet	Sheung Ling Pei, Tung Chung
308	Islands	Shun Fai Road Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Shun Fai Road Public Transport Interchange, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port
309	Islands	Sok Kwu Wan Public Toilet	Sok Kwu Wan Ferry Pier, Lamma
310	Islands	Tai O Road Public Toilet	Tai O Road, Tai O, Lantau
311	Islands	Tai O Tai Ping Street Public Toilet	Tai Ping Street, Tai O, Lantau
312	Islands	Tai Tei Tong Public Toilet	Tai Tei Tong, Lantau
313	Islands	Tat Tung Road Public Toilet	Tat Tung Road, Tung Chung
314	Islands	Tung Chung Hau Wong Temple Public Toilet	Hau Wong Temple, Tung Chung
315	Islands	Tung Chung Waterfront Promenade Public Toilet	Tung Chung Waterfront Road, Lantau
316	Islands	Yung Shue Wan Public Toilet	Yung Shue Wan Main Street, Yung Shue Wan, Lamma

317	Sai Kung	Boon Kin Village Public Toilet	Tin Ha Wan Road near Lamp Post No. EA 1500
Serial No.	**District**	**Name of public toilet**	**Address**
318	Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Second Beach Carpark Public Toilet	Near Clear Water Bay Second Beach Car Park
319	Sai Kung	Duckling Hill Public Toilet	Duckling Hill
320	Sai Kung	Hang Hau PTI Public Toilet	Inside the public transport interchange at Hang Hau MTR Station
321	Sai Kung	Ho Chung Public Toilet	Near Ho Chung Car Park
322	Sai Kung	Luk Mei Tsuen Public Toilet	Luk Mei Tsuen near Lamp Post N9103
323	Sai Kung	Mang Kung Uk Lower Village Public Toilet	Mang Kung Uk Lower Village
324	Sai Kung	Nam Shan Village Public Toilet	At side of Nam Shan Village No. 27
325	Sai Kung	Pak Sha Wan Church Public Toilet	Pak Sha Wan Church
326	Sai Kung	Sha Kok Mei Public Toilet (II)	No. 18 Sha Kok Mei Village
327	Sai Kung	Sheung Sze Wan Public Toilet	Sheung Sze Wan Village
328	Sai Kung	Sheung Yeung Public Toilet	Sheung Yeung Tsuen
329	Sai Kung	Ta Ku Ling Sun Tsuen Public Toilet	Ta Ku Ling Sun Tsuen No. 3A
330	Sai Kung	Tai Au Mun Public Toilet	Near Tai Au Mun Car Park
331	Sai Kung	Tai Wan Tsuen Public Toilet	Tai Mong Tsai Road near Lamp Post No. 2555-7
332	Sai Kung	Tiu Keng Leng PTI Public Toilet	Inside the public transport interchange at Tiu Keng Leng MTR Station
333	Sai Kung	Tsak Yue Wu Village Public Toilet	Tsak Yue Wu Village near Lamp Post No. EA 0897
334	Sai Kung	Tsam Chuk Wan Public Toilet	Near the Anti-Japanese Martyrs Monuments in Tsam Chuk Wan
335	Sai Kung	Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate Public Toilet	Chun Yat Street
336	Sai Kung	Tseung Kwan O Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Inside the public transport interchange at Tseung Kwan O MTR Station
337	Sai Kung	Tseung Kwan O Village Public Toilet	Opposite to Lamp Post No. EA 1064, Po Hong Road
338	Sai Kung	Tui Min Hoi (Chui Tong) Public Toilet	Tui Min Hoi (Chui Tong)
339	Sai Kung	Tun Cheung Upper Village Public Toilet	Tun Cheung Upper Village near a lamp post

340	Sai Kung	Yan King Road Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Yan King Road Metro City Plaza II Bus Terminus
341	Sai Kung	Yi Chun Street Public Toilet	Yi Chun Street
Serial No.	**District**	**Name of public toilet**	**Address**
342	Kwai Tsing	Cheung Ching Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Cheung Ching Bus Terminus
343	Kwai Tsing	Cheung Fai Road Public Toilet	Near Cheung Fai Road Promenade
344	Kwai Tsing	Cheung Tat Road Public Toilet	Near No. 28 Cheung Tat Road
345	Kwai Tsing	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	New Kwai Fong Garden
346	Kwai Tsing	Kwai Hing Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Near Kwai Hing Government Building
347	Kwai Tsing	Kwai Shun Street Public Toilet	Kwai Shun Street near Kwai Shun Cooked Food Market
348	Kwai Tsing	Lantau Link Viewing Platform Public Toilet	Lantau Link View Point Carpark, North West Tsing Yi Interchange, Tsing Yi
349	Kwai Tsing	San Kwai Street Public Toilet	San Kwai Street near Training Centre Complex
350	Kwai Tsing	Shing Mun Road Public Toilet	Shing Mun Road, Kwai Chung
351	Kwai Tsing	Ta Chuen Ping Street Public Toilet	Ta Chuen Ping Street near a carpark
352	Kwai Tsing	Tai Lin Pai Road Public Toilet	Tai Lin Pai Road near Kung Yip Street
353	Kwai Tsing	Tai Yuen Street Public Toilet	Tai Yuen Street near Kwok Shui Road
354	Kwai Tsing	Tam Kon Shan Road (I) Public Toilet	Tam Kon Shan Road near Lamp Post No. FB0659
355	Kwai Tsing	Tam Kon Shan Road (II) Public Toilet	Next to No. 89 Tam Kon Shan Road
356	Kwai Tsing	Tsing Yi New Ferry Terminus Public Toilet	Tsing Yi New Ferry Terminus
357	Tsuen Wan	Chai Wan Kok Public Toilet	Junction of Chai Wan Kok and Hoi Shing Road, Tsuen Wan
358	Tsuen Wan	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	At side of Heung Che Street Market, Tso Kung Square, Tsuen Wan
359	Tsuen Wan	Lo Wai Road Public Toilet	Lo Wai Road, Tsuen Wan
360	Tsuen Wan	Lung Yue Road Public Toilet	Near Yuen Tun Village, Lung Yue Road, Tsing Lung Tau
361	Tsuen Wan	Sham Tseng Public Toilet	Sham Tseng Tsuen Road, Sham Tseng
362	Tsuen Wan	Sunny Bay Public Toilet	Sunny Bay Public Transport Interchange

363	Tsuen Wan	Tai Ho Road (Near Ferry Pier) Public Toilet	Opposite to the entrance of Tsuen Wan West Rail Station, Tai Ho Road, Tsuen Wan
Serial No.	**District**	**Name of public toilet**	**Address**
364	Tsuen Wan	Tak Wah Park Public Toilet	Opposite to No. 67-95 Tsuen Wan Market Street, Tsuen Wan
365	Tsuen Wan	Tsuen Wan 13.5 Miles Public Toilet	Castle Peak Road (13.5 Milestone)
366	Tsuen Wan	Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Car Park Building Public Toilet	G/F, Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Carpark Building, Sai Lau Kok Road, Tsuen Wan
367	Tsuen Wan	Wang Lung Street Public Toilet	At side of No. 98 Wang Lung Street, Tsuen Wan
368	Sha Tin	30, Wo Liu Hang Road Public Toilet	30 Wo Liu Hang Road, Fo Tan
369	Sha Tin	Cheung Lek Mei Street Public Toilet	Near Fo Tan Nullah Cheung Lek Street, Fo Tan
370	Sha Tin	Fu Kin Street, Ha Keng Hau Village Public Toilet	Fu Kin Street, Ha Keng Hau Village Public Toilet
371	Sha Tin	Hin Kwai Lane, Hin Tin Village Public Toilet	Hin Kwai Lane near Hin Keng Street
372	Sha Tin	Hin Tin Street, Sheung Keng Hau Village Public Toilet	Hin Tin Street near Hin Keng Street
373	Sha Tin	Kak Tin Street Public Toilet	Ha Kak Tin Village, Tai Wai
374	Sha Tin	Kwei Tei Street Public Toilet	10-14 Kwei Tei Street, Fo Tan
375	Sha Tin	Ma Liu Shui Waterfront Public Toilet	Pak Shek Kok, Ma Liu Shui
376	Sha Tin	Ma Liu Shui off Tolo Highway Public Toilet	Near Ma Liu Shui Pier Off Tolo Highway
377	Sha Tin	Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet	Junction of Sha Tin Wai Road and Ngau Pei Sha Street
378	Sha Tin	Science Park Road Public Toilet	Science Park Road, Ma Liu Shui
379	Sha Tin	Sha Tin Tau Public Toilet	Sha Tin Tau, Fung Shek Street, Sha Tin
380	Sha Tin	Shan Mei Street Public Toilet	Near Fo Tan Cooked Market Shan Mei Street, Fo Tan
381	Sha Tin	Siu Lek Yuen Village Public Toilet	Siu Lek Yuen, Kwong Sin Street, Sha Tin
382	Sha Tin	Shing Ho Road Public Toilet	31 Shing Ho Road, Tai Wai
383	Sha Tin	Tai Wai PTI Public Toilet	Adjoining Tai Wai Public Transport Interchange
384	Sha Tin	Tin Sam Tsuen Public Toilet	Tin Sum Village Car Park, Tin Sum Street
385	Sha Tin	University Station Public Toilet	University Station Cycling Entry/Exit Hub, Chak Cheung Street, Sha Tin, N.T.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3988)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of yearly calendars, monthly calendars, Chinese New Year blessings, red packets, posters and pamphlets printed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, as well as the expenditure involved, in the past year.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 268)

Reply:

In 2019, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department printed about 3.42 million copies of calendars, Chinese New Year blessings, red packets, posters and leaflets for publicity purposes. The expenditure incurred was about $4.1 million. Details are as follows:

Items	Volume (copies)	Expenditure ($ million)
Calendars, Chinese New Year blessings and red packets for promotion of markets and food safety	189 000	0.2
Posters, leaflets and booklets for promotion of environmental hygiene, markets, food safety and green burial	3 228 000	3.9
Total	**3 417 000**	**4.1**

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3659)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

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 combatting illegal deposit of refuse, please advise this Committee on:

a. the number of complaints received against illegal deposit of refuse, with a breakdown by district in each of the past 3 years;

b. the number of prosecutions instituted against illegal deposit of refuse in each of the past 3 years, as well as the maximum and minimum penalties imposed;

c. the amount of illegally deposited refuse cleared in urban area and the expenditure involved;

d. the expenditure and manpower for combatting illegal deposit of refuse in each of the past 3 years, as well as the number of inspections;

e. the number of closed circuit television systems currently installed at blackspots for monitoring purpose, and the number of offenders successfully prosecuted; and

f. the measures in place against illegal deposit of refuse.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 184)

Reply:

a. The numbers of complaints about street cleansing received in 2017, 2018 and 2019 were 66 046, 62 834 and 69 423 respectively. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep a separate breakdown on cases of illegal deposit of refuse on streets.

b. Under the Public Cleansing and Prevention of Nuisances Regulation (Cap. 132 BK), any person depositing litter in a street or public place will be prosecuted and liable on conviction to a fine of up to $25,000 and to imprisonment for 6 months. The same offence may also be caught under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and

Obstruction) Ordinance (Cap. 570), which empowers an enforcement officer to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) currently at $1,500. The Department issued 39 239, 43 360 and 41 911 FPNs as well as 224, 206 and 145 summonses in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively. The maximum and minimum penalties imposed were $4,500 and $200 respectively.

c. The Department does not keep statistics on the amount of illegally deposited refuse cleared in urban area.

d. Combatting illegal deposit of refuse is part of the normal duties of enforcement officers of the Department. The Department does not keep a separate breakdown of the expenditure and manpower as well as the number of inspections in this respect.

e. The Department has so far installed Internet Protocol (IP) cameras at over 150 illegal refuse deposit spots across the territory. In 2019-20 (as at 29 February), the Department issued 559 summonses to owners of the vehicles used for illegal deposit of refuse based on the footage captured.

f. Apart from installing IP cameras to combat illegal deposit of refuse, since mid-2017, the Department has set up 31 dedicated enforcement teams (DETs), primarily to step up enforcement action against various public cleanliness offences. Up to February 2020, DETs have issued some 18 000 FPNs, and the hygiene condition of some 400 illegal refuse deposit blackspots has been markedly improved. This year, the Department will set up 5 additional DETs to strengthen law enforcement, convey environmental hygiene messages and distribute leaflets and warning notices to arouse public awareness of maintaining street cleanliness and proper disposal of refuse. In consultation with respective District Councils, the Department has extended the opening hours of some targeted refuse collection points with additional manpower to meet local demand at midnight or in the early morning. This arrangement has brought about noticeable improvements in the hygiene condition.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4147)

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 the columbaria services of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please advise this Committee of:

(a) the number of new niches available for interment of ashes of the deceased in the columbaria under the Department in 2020-21, with a breakdown by columbarium;
(b) the number of cases currently on the waiting list for niches managed by the Department;
(c) the average waiting time for interment of ashes in niches managed by the Department after cremation of the deceased in each of the past 3 years; and
(d) the number of niches vacated for re-allocation each year after the relaxation of the cap on the number of sets of ashes that may be stored in a niche.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 110)

Reply:

(a) The number of new public niches available for allocation from 2020 to 2021 is provided as follows:

Location	Number of niches	Year of completion
Tsang Tsui, Tuen Mun	22 900* (all 163 320 niches to be allocated by 8 phases)	2020
Wo Hop Shek Cemetery, Fanling	22 050 (all 44 100 niches to be allocated by 2 phases)	2020
Cheung Chau Columbarium Extension	580	2020
Lai Chi Yuen Cemetery Extension	790	2020

* Not including a small quantity of niches not yet allocated in the first phase of niche allocation for Tsang Tsui Columbarium in Tuen Mun.

(b) At present, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department allocates new extendable niches to eligible applicants by open drawing of lots and computer balloting rather than on a first-come, first-served basis. In late 2019, the Department completed a niche allocation exercise for 2 new public columbaria, namely Tsang Tsui Columbarium (first phase) in Tuen Mun (providing around 20 000 niches) and Wong Nai Chung Road Columbarium (providing 855 niches). In the next few years, with new columbarium projects being completed one after another, it is estimated that at least 20 000 niches will be available for allocation each year.

(c) The Department does not keep statistics on the average waiting time for interment of ashes in public niches after cremation of the remains.

(d) The Department has removed the cap on the number of sets of cremated ashes that may be interred in a public niche since January 2014. The information sought is provided as follows:

Year	**Number of niches returned**
2014	8
2015	12
2016	4
2017	1
2018	3
2019	3

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4148)

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 the implementation of the regulatory regime of private columbaria under the Private Columbaria Ordinance (Cap. 630), please advise on:

1. the attendance rate of members of the Private Columbaria Licensing Board;

2. the number of applications that have been examined by the Private Columbaria Licensing Board , and among them, the number of licence applications refused and the number of licence applications granted; and

3. the number of applications pending examination and the estimated time required for the Licensing Board to complete the examination.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 111)

Reply:

1. From the establishment of the Private Columbaria Licensing Board (PCLB) in September 2017 to early March 2020, the PCLB has held 54 meetings and the overall average attendance rate of members was 85%.

2. As at 6 March 2020, the PCLB has granted 5 licences and approved in principle 2 licence applications and 1 application for a temporary suspension of liability. It has also refused 15 sets of applications for specified instruments (including 12 licence applications).

3. As at 6 March 2020, the PCLB was processing 287 applications for specified instruments submitted by 116 private columbaria. The time the PCLB takes to process a licence application depends on the actual circumstances of the case, particularly on whether the private columbarium has complied with all the requirements for licence application stipulated in the Private Columbaria Ordinance (Cap. 630) and those specified by the PCLB (including the requirements relating to planning, land, buildings, fire safety, electrical and mechanical safety, management

plan, right to use the premises, environmental protection, etc.), and whether the applicant has submitted sufficient documents to prove that the private columbarium has complied with the requirements. Upon receiving the documents or information required for an application, the Private Columbaria Affairs Office (PCAO) will invite the relevant departments to provide comments. The applicant will then be asked to take the necessary follow-up actions and submit reports, which will be forwarded to the relevant departments for their vetting. After confirming that a licence application has complied with the application requirements, the PCAO will arrange for the submission of the application to the PCLB for determination.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4224)

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:

1. Will the Department conduct studies on the provision of new public markets at suitable locations in the territory in 2020-21? If yes, what are the details and expenditure involved?

2. Will the Department carry out comprehensive improvement works for public markets, including full installation of air-conditioning and ventilation systems, improvement of hygiene, widening of passageways and upgrade of lighting in 2020-21? If yes, what are the details and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 190)

Reply:

1. The Government is taking forward 7 new market projects which are at different stages of planning. They include the development of new public markets in Tin Shui Wai, Tung Chung Town Centre, Tseung Kwan O, Kwu Tung North New Development Area, Tung Chung New Town Extension and Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area as well as the establishment of a temporary market in Tin Shui Wai. The information on the projects is set out at **Annex**.

2. The Government has earmarked $2 billion for the implementation of the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project of the MMP is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) briefed the relevant committee of the Southern District Council on the details and progress of the project in February 2020. ArchSD is engaging consultants and will commence the detailed design of plan and preparation of tender documents, etc. as soon as possible. The expenditure of the works can only be accurately estimated upon completion of the design work. Upon completion of the preparatory work, we will seek funding approval from the Legislative Council as soon as practicable and expect to commence the overhaul works in 2021.

At the same time, we plan to overhaul another 3 public markets in Kowloon and the New Territories and expect to take forward the consultation and preparatory work later this year. We also plan to kick-start minor refurbishment and improvement works for at least 3 other public markets in different districts across the territory. The project estimates for taking forward the above minor refurbishment and improvement works, as well as engagement of consultants and the preliminary work for the Aberdeen Market project, is about $68 million. The estimated expenditure of these projects in 2020-21 is about $13 million.

With the implementation of the MMP, Tai Wai Market is the last public market to have air-conditioning system installation as the major part of the improvement project. The works concerned commenced in May 2019 in phases and are expected to complete in the third quarter of 2020 at a project cost of about $110 million.

Apart from the above projects, FEHD has been taking forward measures to improve the operating environment of public markets, including replacement of aged lifts and escalators, improvement of ventilation, lighting systems and fire service equipment, refurbishment of external walls and toilets, etc. as appropriate. There are a total of 39 related works items which are underway or planned for 2020-21. The total project cost is about $200 million.

Annex

	Project	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date
1.	Tin Shui Wai temporary market (Tin Sau Road)	The temporary market will be built at the open space adjacent to Tin Sau Road Park using the modular integrated construction method. It is expected to provide about 40 stalls focusing on sale of fish, meat, vegetables and fruits.	Preparation of construction drawings and pre-construction works are underway.	The fourth quarter of 2020
2.	Tin Shui Wai market (a section of Tin Fuk Road)	A decked-over market will be built at the section of Tin Fuk Road near Tin Shui Wai Mass Transit Railway (MTR) Station. It is expected to provide a maximum of about 150 stalls.	The technical feasibility study is underway.	The first half of 2027
3.	Tung Chung Town Centre market (Area 6)	The market will be located on the lower floors of a commercial building to be built by a developer in Area 6 adjacent to Tung Chung MTR Station. It is expected to provide at least 100 stalls.	The technical feasibility study for the entire commercial building development project (including the public market) is underway.	To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.
4.	Tseung Kwan O market	The market will be located on the lower floors of the proposed joint-user building for community facilities at Tseung Kwan O town centre.	The study and preliminary planning on the site selection for the joint-user building for community facilities (including the new public market) are underway.	To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.

	Project	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date
5.	Kwu Tung North New Development Area market	To be confirmed upon completion of preliminary planning.	Preliminary planning is underway.	The development of the public markets will tie in with the housing development plan of the districts concerned.
6.	Tung Chung New Town Extension market			
7.	Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area market			

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4225)

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:

1. Will the Department re-issue hawker licences in 2020-21? If yes, what are the details and expenditure involved?

2. Will the Department designate new hawker areas at suitable locations in the territory in 2020-21? If yes, what are the details and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 191)

Reply:

1. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department launched the scheme of Re-allocation of Fixed Hawker Pitches and Issue of New Licences at the end of September 2019. Under the scheme, 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches located at 7 districts will be open for application by persons who are interested in the hawking business and able to meet the required conditions. Successful applicants will operate at the pitches after a licence is granted. After launching the scheme, the Department received a total of 14 126 applications, of which 12 788 applicants were initially eligible. The Department conducted an open computer random sequencing cum manual ballot exercise to determine the priority order of applicants for pitch selection at the end of November 2019. Applicants have been invited for the selection of vacant pitches starting from early December. As at 29 February 2020, 349 applicants were invited for pitch selection. Among them, 236 have selected the pitches (77 of them have been granted with the fixed pitch hawker licence), 109 have given up pitch selection, and 4 were considered not eligible for the scheme. The pitch selection exercise is scheduled for completion in late April 2020. The work is mainly performed by 12 departmental staff at an estimated expenditure of $8.04 million in 2020-21.

   The list of eligible applicants who have not been allocated a hawker pitch will be kept for 3 years for use in the allocation of vacant pitches that could be made available within the 3-year period.

2. The Department's priority task is to re-allocate vacant pitches in existing fixed-pitch hawker areas to respond to the stakeholders' aspirations. We have no plan to set up new hawker areas at the moment.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)255

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4226)

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:

Please set out the number of complaints about obstruction by unlicensed hawkers received by the Department in each of the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 192)

Reply:

The number of complaints against unlicensed hawking and obstruction is at Annex. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not maintain a separate breakdown of the complaints about obstruction.

Number of complaints against unlicensed hawking and obstruction

Year	No. of complaints
2015	13 428
2016	10 512
2017	10 729
2018	10 031
2019	10 432

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4227)

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:

Please set out the number of food poisoning cases reported as a result of patronising unlicensed cooked food hawkers in each of the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 193)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has over the years been taking stringent enforcement actions against unlicensed hawking activities involving the sale of cooked food. In the past 5 calendar years, the Department has not received any reports of food poisoning cases as a result of patronising unlicensed cooked food hawkers.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)257

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4228)

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:

1. Please set out the number of unlicensed hawkers arrested by the Department in each of the past 5 years.

2. Please set out the number of unlicensed hawkers prosecuted by the Department in each of the past 5 years.

3. Please set out the number of complaints against illegal hawking received by the Department in each of the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 194)

Reply:

1-3. The information sought is provided at Annexes I to III.

Number of arrests taken out against unlicensed hawkers

Year	No. of arrests
2015	6 945
2016	4 420
2017	1 766
2018	1 435
2019	1 076

Number of prosecutions instituted against unlicensed hawkers

Year	No. of prosecutions
2015	23 054
2016	15 310
2017	6 402
2018	5 564
2019	4 475

Number of complaints against unlicensed hawking (and obstruction)

Year	No. of complaints
2015	13 428
2016	10 512
2017	10 729
2018	10 031
2019	10 432

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4449)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
(4) Public Education and Community Involvement

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the burial services provided by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please advise this Committee of the following:

(a) the number of cases of using the Department's service of scattering of cremains in Gardens of Remembrance in each of the past 3 years;

(b) the number of cases of using the Department's service of scattering of cremains at sea, as well as the utilisation rate of the service quota, in each of the past 3 years;

(c) whether the Department will continue to increase the service quota for scattering of cremains at sea in 2020-21; if yes, the details and the estimated expenditure in this respect; if no, the reason(s);

(d) whether the Department has drawn up any plan for continuing the publicity work on scattering of cremains in Gardens of Remembrance and at sea in 2020-21; if yes, details of the plan, including a breakdown of the estimated expenditure by publicity channel or event, as well as the timetable and estimated indicators for the events concerned; if no, the reason(s); and

(e) the number of webpages dedicated to the memory of the deceased in the "memorial.gov.hk" website managed by the Department, the number of new memorial webpages created in each of the past 3 years, and the number of visitors of the website in each of the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 354)

Reply:

(a) The number of cases of scattering ashes in the Gardens of Remembrance managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the past 3 calendar years is as follows:

Year	Number of cases of scattering cremated ashes in Gardens of Remembrance
2017	4 966
2018	5 352
2019	6 280

(b) The number of applications received and the utilisation rates of the free ferry service provided by the Department for scattering cremated ashes at sea in the past 3 calendar years are as follows:

Year	Number of applications received	Service capacity	Utilisation rate
2017	906	1 175	77%
2018	878	1 225	72%
2019	810	1 250	65%

(c) The Department reviews the service capacity for the free ferry service from time to time, and will consider enhancing the service to meet the needs of the public.

(d) In 2020-21, the Department will continue to promote green burial through different channels, including broadcasting Announcements in the Public Interest on television, radio and online platforms, producing promotional videos, displaying posters and banners, launching a mobile application and a dedicated website, collaborating with non-governmental organisations and running promotional activities at senior exhibitions, etc. To further enhance public awareness of the service of scattering ashes at sea, the Department has invited the public to visit the service of scattering ashes at sea at no charge since April 2019. During these visits, which are organised on a monthly basis, dedicated staff will introduce the service to the visitors. The estimated amount of provision earmarked for promoting green burial in 2020-21 is about $17.2 million.

While the total number of green burial cases handled by the Department has increased by about 21% from 2017 to 2019, it takes time for the community at large to accept green burial as a sustainable form of handling cremated human ashes. We will continue to improve the green burial facilities and services and step up our publicity and public education efforts.

(e) As at 31 December 2019, there were 14 140 memorial webpages for the deceased created at the Internet Memorial Service website of the Department. Information on the number of newly created memorial webpages and the hit count of such webpages in the past 3 calendar years is provided as follows:

Year	Number of newly created memorial webpages	Hit count
2017	1 493	675 947
2018	1 691	641 891
2019	1 612	445 456

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4881)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work in relation to the Code on Access to Information, will the Government advise this Committee on the following:

1) Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department from October 2018 to present for which only some of the required information has been provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests for which only some of the required information has been provided; (ii) the reasons for providing some of the information only; (iii) whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application); (iv) whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details of how the requests have been handled eventually.

From October to December 2018

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on

			Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

2019

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

2) Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department from October 2018 to present for which the required information has not been provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests refused; (ii) the reasons for refusal; (iii) whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application); (iv) whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details of how the requests have been handled eventually.

From October to December 2018

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that

		Interpretation and Application)	could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

2019

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.

3) Any person who believes that a department has failed to comply with any provision of the Code on Access to Information may ask the department to review the situation. Please advise this Committee in each of the past 5 years, (i) the number of review cases received; (ii) the number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review; (iii) whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level.

Year in which review cases were received	(i) Number of review cases received	(ii) Number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review	(iii) Whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018			
2019			

4) With reference to the target response times set out in paragraphs 1.16.1 to 1.19.1 of Guidelines on Interpretation and Application of the Code on Access to Information, please advise this Committee on the following information by year in table form (with text descriptions).

(a) Within 10 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

Within 10 to 21 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge

			request		
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

Within 21 to 51 days from date of receipt of a written request:

	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2020					
2019					
2018					
2017					
2016					

(b) Cases in which information could not be provided within 21 days from date of receipt of a request in the past 5 years:

Date	Subject of information requested	Specific reason

(c) Cases in which information could not be provided within 51 days from date of receipt of a request in the past 5 years:

Date	Subject of information requested	Specific reason

5) Please state in table form the number of those, among the cases in which requests for information were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information, on which the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was consulted when

they were being handled in the past 5 years. For cases on which advice had been sought, was it fully accepted in the end? For cases where the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was not accepted or was only partially accepted, what are the reasons?

Date	Subject	Particular exemption provision in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information under which requests for information were refused	Whether the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data was fully accepted	Reasons for refusing to accept or only partially accepting the advice of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 450)

Reply:

(1)
Of the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information (the Code) received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department from October to December 2018, 1 was provided with partial information. The information sought is as follows:

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.
The cut score for the written examination for recruitment of Health Inspectors II in 2017	Having regard to paragraph 2.11 of the Code, the withheld information was "information which would harm or	Yes	A "harm or prejudice test" was conducted. The public interest in disclosure of such information did not outweigh the harm or

	prejudice the management of the public service".		prejudice that could result from disclosure.

Of the requests for information under the Code received by the Department from January to September 2019, 7 were provided only with partial information. The information sought is as follows:

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding some of the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.
Court summons	Having regard to paragraph 2.6(c) of the Code, the withheld information was "information which related to proceedings which had been completed, terminated or stayed, or which related to investigations which had resulted in or might have resulted in proceedings, whether any such proceedings were criminal or civil".	Yes	A "harm or prejudice test" was conducted. The public interest in disclosure of such information did not outweigh the harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure.
Contact information of tea suppliers	Having regard to paragraphs 2.13(b), 2.14(a) and 2.15 of the Code, the withheld information was "information held only for preparing statistics	Yes	A "harm or prejudice test" was conducted. The public interest in disclosure of such information did not outweigh the harm or prejudice that could

	or carrying out research, and which related to individuals, companies or products which would not be identified in reports of that research, or in published statistics", "third party information" and related to "privacy of the individual".		result from disclosure.
Questions of the written recruitment examinations for Health Inspectors II and passing marks in the past 5 years	Having regard to paragraphs 2.9(c) and 2.11 of the Code, the withheld information was "information the disclosure of which would harm or prejudice the proper and efficient conduct of the operations of a department" and "information which would harm or prejudice the management of the public service".	Yes	A "harm or prejudice test" was conducted. The public interest in disclosure of such information did not outweigh the harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure.
Information on a complaint case	Having regard to paragraphs 2.11 and 2.15 of the Code, the withheld information was "information which would harm or prejudice the management of the public service" and related to "privacy of the individual".	Yes	A "harm or prejudice test" was conducted. The public interest in disclosure of such information did not outweigh the harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure.
Tenderers participated in the tender exercises in 2017 and 2018 and contract specifications of the tenders accepted	Having regard to paragraphs 2.9(d) and 2.16 of the Code, the withheld information was "information which could only be made available by unreasonable diversion of a department's	Yes	A "harm or prejudice test" was conducted. The public interest in disclosure of such information did not outweigh the harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure.

	resources" and "information including commercial, financial, scientific or technical confidences, trade secrets or intellectual property the disclosure of which would harm the competitive or financial position of any person".		
Information on a case of contravention of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance	Having regard to paragraph 2.6(d) of the Code, the withheld information was "information which would be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege".	Yes	A "harm or prejudice test" was conducted. The public interest in disclosure of such information did not outweigh the harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure.
Information on a trial case	Having regard to paragraph 2.15 of the Code, the withheld information was related to "privacy of the individual".	Yes	A "harm or prejudice test" was conducted. The public interest in disclosure of such information did not outweigh the harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure.

(2)
Of the requests for information under the Code received by the Department from October to December 2018, 2 were refused. The information sought is as follows:

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes,

			please provide the details.
Information on the Fixed Penalty Notices issued by staff of the Department	Having regard to paragraph 2.6(d) of the Code, the withheld information was "information which would be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege".	Yes	A "harm or prejudice test" was conducted. The public interest in disclosure of such information did not outweigh the harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure.
Plans submitted by shops in their applications for licences	Having regard to paragraph 2.14(a) of the Code, the withheld information was related to "third party information".	Yes	A "harm or prejudice test" was conducted. The public interest in disclosure of such information did not outweigh the harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure.

Of the requests for information under the Code received by the Department from January to September 2019, 1 was refused. The information sought is as follows:

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level (according to paragraph 1.8.2 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application)	(iv) Whether the decision on withholding the information was made subject to a "harm or prejudice test", i.e. whether the public interest in disclosure of such information outweighs any harm or prejudice that could result from disclosure (according to paragraph 2.1.1 of the Guidelines on Interpretation and Application). If yes, please provide the details.
Feasibility studies on public market sites	Having regard to paragraph 2.10(b)(ii) of the Code, the withheld information was "information the disclosure of which would inhibit the	Yes	A "harm or prejudice test" was conducted. The public interest in disclosure of such information did not outweigh the harm or prejudice that could

	frankness and candour of discussion within the Government, and advice given to the Government".		result from disclosure.

(3)
The Department received 9 review cases from January 2015 to September 2019. The information sought is as follows:

Year in which review cases were received	(i) Number of review cases received	(ii) Number of cases, among the review cases received in the year, in which further information was disclosed after review	(iii) Whether the decisions on review were made at the directorate (D1 or D2) level
2015	2	0	The decisions on review were made at D3 level
2016	2	0	The decisions on review were made at D3 level
2017	3	1	The decisions on review were made at D1 or D3 level
2018	0	N.A.	N.A.
2019 (January to September)	2	1	The decisions on review were made at D3 level

(4a)
Information on the response times to the requests for information under the Code received by the Department from January 2016 to September 2019 (including cases where only partial information was provided) is as follows:

Within 10 days from date of receipt of a written request:

Year	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they

			to another department which held the information under request	Information	did not accept the charge
2019 (as at September)	239	0	44	0	0
2018	266	0	59	0	0
2017	291	0	62	0	0
2016	241	0	69	0	0

Within 10 to 21 days from date of receipt of a written request:

Year	Number of requests for which the information requested was provided	Number of requests involving third party information for which the information requested could not be provided	Number of requests for which the information requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	Number of requests for information which were refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	Number of applications which the applicants indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2019 (as at September)	161	0	0	1	0
2018	204	0	0	2	0
2017	190	1	0	2^	0
2016	119	0	0	1	0

^ Including the number of requests for information which were refused under the provision of "third party information" in Part 2 of the Code.

Within 21 to 51 days from date of receipt of a written request:

Year	Number of requests for which the information	Number of requests involving third party	Number of requests for which the information	Number of requests for information which were	Number of applications which the applicants

	requested was provided	information for which the information requested could not be provided	requested could not be provided since the requests had to be transferred to another department which held the information under request	refused under the exemption provisions in Part 2 of the Code on Access to Information	indicated that they did not wish to proceed with and withdrew since they did not accept the charge
2019 (as at September)	77	0	0	6	0
2018	124	0	1	3	0
2017	77	0	0	4	0
2016	39	2	0	5^	0

^ Including the number of requests for information which were refused under the provision of "third party information" in Part 2 of the Code.

(4b)

All requests for access to information were handled according to the time limits stipulated in the Code. As required by the Code, information should be provided within 10 calendar days from date of receipt of a request by the Department. If that is not possible, the time limit may be extended to 21 days and be further extended up to 51 days from date of receipt of the request.

From January 2015 to September 2019, there were 386 cases in which final replies were given by the Department to applicants within 22 to 51 days from date of receipt of requests. The information requested was mainly related to enforcement and prosecution actions, records of irregularities by restaurants, testing reports on food, water seepage investigation reports and investigations on environmental hygiene issues. The reasons for taking longer time to handle the cases include the need to seek legal advice, the complexity of information requested and the necessity of notifying third parties and giving them a reasonable time to consider either consent to disclosure of information or objection with representation.

(4c)

From January 2015 to September 2019, there were 7 cases in which final replies were given by the Department to applicants after 51 days from date of receipt of requests. The information requested was mainly related to the structural plans of public toilets, plans of shops and food premises, water seepage cases and food compliance under relevant legislation. The reasons for taking longer time to handle the cases include the need to seek legal advice, notify third parties and give them a reasonable time to consider either consent to disclosure of information or objection with representation.

(5)
There was no need to seek advice from the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data on any of the cases in which requests for information were refused under provisions in Part 2 of the Code from January 2015 to September 2019.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)260

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5179)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide i) the number of outsourced service contracts; ii) the total amount paid to outsourced service contractors; iii) the total number of staff engaged by outsourced service contractors; iv) the number of cleansing workers under outsourced service contracts; and v) the number of security guards under outsourced service contracts of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1655)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

		2019-20 (as at 31 December 2019)
i)	Number of outsourced service contracts	169
ii)	Total amount paid to outsourced service contractors	2.9344 billion[Note 1]
iii)	Number of staff engaged by outsourced service contractors	13 595[Note 3]
iv)	Number of cleansing workers under outsourced service contracts[Note 2]	10 330[Note 3]
v)	Number of security guards under outsourced service contracts	530[Note 3]

Note 1：Revised estimate for 2019-20

Note 2：Including toilet attendants and operatives

Note 3：The number of outsourced workers is the number of functional posts stipulated in the contracts

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)261

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5180)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the outsourced service contracts of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the past 5 years, please set out the number of service contracts, the total sum of payment to service contractors, the total number of staff employed by the contractors, the number of supervisors, the number of workers, the distribution of hourly wages and monthly wages of staff employed by the contractors in respect of the following outsourced services: (a) street cleansing service; (b) pest control service; (c) market and cooked food market cleansing service; (d) waste collection service; (e) recyclables collection service; and (f) animal carcass collection service.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1656)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

Annex

Outsourced Service Contracts of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

(a) Street Cleansing

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at 31.12.2019)
No. of outsourced street cleansing contracts	29	30	33	34	34
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	$926.1 million	$953.0 million	$1,093.1 million	$1,263.0 million	$1,650.4 million [Note 1]
No. of staff engaged by outsourced service providers [Note 2]					
· Total	6 995	6 973	7 715	7 839	8 847
· Supervisor	593	616	697	726	856
· Workman	6 402	6 357	7 018	7 113	7 991
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff [Note 3]					
. >$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $20,001-$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $16,001-$20,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $13,001-$16,000	-	13	13	-	157
. $10,001-$13,000	240	351	496	842	3 363
. $9,001-$10,000	985	925	1 137	2 242	4 416
. $8,001-$9,000	5 770	5 684	5 722	4 168	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2019-20.

Note 2: The number of staff engaged by the outsourced service providers is the number of functional posts specified in the contracts.

Note 3: Only the monthly salary range of non-skilled workers is available. The Department does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

(b) Pest Control

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at 31.12.2019)
No. of outsourced pest control contracts	19	19	19	19	19
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	$262.6 million	$268.1 million	$276.8 million	$320.6 million	$346.3 million Note 1
No. of staff engaged by outsourced service providers Note 2					
· Total	1 672	1 672	1 756	1 788	1 862
· Supervisor	285	285	299	303	310
· Workman	1 387	1 387	1 457	1 485	1 552
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff Note 3					
. >$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $20,001-$30,000	-	-	-		-
. $16,001-$20,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $13,001-$16,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $10,001-$13,000	114	169	282	326	935
. $9,001-$10,000	666	839	911	883	617
. $8,001-$9,000	892	664	480	416	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2019-20.

Note 2: The number of staff engaged by the outsourced service providers is the number of functional posts specified in the contracts.

Note 3: Only the monthly salary range of non-skilled workers is available. The Department does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

(c) Market Cleansing (including market cleansing and market management services)

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at 31.12.2019)
No. of outsourced market cleansing contracts	20	20	20	21	21
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	$176.8 million	$176.2 million	$176.7 million	$190.9 million	$208.1 million [Note 1]
No. of staff engaged by outsourced service providers [Note 2]					
· Total	1 211	1 200	1 171	1 265	1 262
· Supervisor	180	180	182	197	195
· Workman	1 031	1 020	989	1 068	1 067
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff [Note 3]					
. >$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $20,001-$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $16,001-$20,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $13,001-$16,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $10,001-$13,000	62	49	36	-	132
. $9,001-$10,000	28	60	54	522	942
. $8,001-$9,000	1 121	1 091	1 000	553	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2019-20.

Note 2: The number of staff engaged by the outsourced service providers is the number of functional posts specified in the contracts.

Note 3: Only the monthly salary range of non-skilled workers is available. The Department does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

(d) Waste Collection

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at 31.12.2019)
No. of outsourced waste collection contracts	16	18	16	16	16
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	$172.5 million	$205.8 million	$210.0 million	$207.6 million	$212.5 million [Note 1]
No. of staff engaged by outsourced service providers [Note 2]					
· Total	292	328	322	322	320
· Supervisor	185	207	208	210	208
· Workman	107	121	114	112	112
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff [Note 3]					
. >$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $20,001-$30,000	-	-	10	10	10
. $16,001-$20,000	1	1	1	1	1
. $13,001-$16,000	32	121	149	130	130
. $10,001-$13,000	93	66	40	44	40
. $9,001-$10,000	35	59	60	60	94
. $8,001-$9,000	131	81	49	41	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2019-20.

Note 2: The number of staff engaged by the outsourced service providers is the number of functional posts specified in the contracts.

Note 3: Only the monthly salary range of non-skilled workers is available. The Department does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

(e) Recyclables Collection

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at 31.12.2019)
No. of outsourced recyclables collection contracts	2	2	2	3	3
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	$12.7 million	$12.8 million	$13.2 million	$18.0 million	$21.0 million [Note 1]
No. of staff engaged by outsourced service providers [Note 2]					
· Total	38	38	38	38	38
· Supervisor	17	17	17	20	20
· Workman	21	21	21	18	18
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff [Note 3]					
. >$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $20,001-$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $16,001-$20,000	-	1	1	-	-
. $13,001-$16,000	-	-	-	4	4
. $10,001-$13,000	16	25	25	14	14
. $9,001-$10,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $8,001-$9,000	22	12	12	-	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2019-20.

Note 2: The number of staff engaged by the outsourced service providers is the number of functional posts specified in the contracts.

Note 3: Only the monthly salary range of non-skilled workers is available. The Department does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

(f) Animal Carcass Collection

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at 31.12.2019)
No. of outsourced animal carcass collection contracts	1	1	1	1	1
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	$4.9 million	$4.8 million	$4.7 million	$4.8 million	$4.8 million Note 1
No. of staff engaged by outsourced service providers Note 2					
· Total	10	11	11	12	12
· Supervisor	5	6	6	7	7
· Workman	5	5	5	5	5
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff Note 3					
. >$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $20,001-$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $16,001-$20,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $13,001-$16,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $10,001-$13,000	5	6	6	5	5
. $9,001-$10,000	-	-	-	-	-
. $8,001-$9,000	5	5	5	-	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2019-20.

Note 2: The number of staff engaged by the outsourced service providers is the number of functional posts specified in the contracts.

Note 3: Only the monthly salary range of non-skilled workers is available. The Department does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)262

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5181)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Central Investigation Team (CIT) has been set up by the Department to follow up complaints against contractors' non-compliance with employment requirements. Please provide the following information with regard to the CIT in the past 3 years: i) the number of inspections conducted; ii) the number of workplaces inspected; iii) the number of complaints received against contractor's non-compliance with the requirements of the employment contracts and those of the Employment Ordinance (with a breakdown by the type of complaint); iv) the number of substantiated complaints; v) the number of cases in which contractors were penalised due to substantiation of their complaints and the penalties imposed.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1657)

Reply:

The Central Investigation Team (CIT) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department conducted 269, 267 and 312 inspections on the contractors' compliance with employment-related regulations in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively. Instead of conducting physical inspections of the workplaces, the CIT examines the employment-related documents, including Standard Employment Contracts, wage records, attendance records, etc. The contractors' staff concerned are interviewed to ascertain the contractors' compliance with the contractual requirements and/or the relevant labour legislation. Hence, the Department does not keep information on the number of workplaces inspected. Details of the complaints received by the CIT are provided as follows:

Year	Types of complaints					Number of complaints	Number of substantiated cases
	Under-payment	No signing of Standard Employment Contract	Exceeding maximum working hours	Failure to grant severance / long service payment	Others^		
2017	6	0	1	3	6	16	1
2018	8	0	0	1	7	16	2
2019	8*	0	1	2*	6*	14	0

^ Including late payment of wages, failure to make contributions to the Mandatory Provident Fund, etc.

* 3 of the complaint cases involved more than 1 type of complaint.

For substantiated cases, the Department will issue default notices and/or warning letters to the contractors concerned. Deductions from the relevant contract payments will also be made as appropriate. Contractors found to be in breach of certain contractual obligations will receive demerit points, which may affect their future bids for similar government contracts.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5182)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the number of reported cases of injury at work received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in respect of non-skilled outsourced cleansing workers, parts of body involved and the reason(s) for the injuries, details of the follow-up actions taken by the Department regarding the reported cases of injury at work in the past 5 years. If no follow-up actions have been taken, please state the reason(s). If figures relating to the reported cases are not available, please state the reason(s). Has the Department considered increasing manpower to monitor the occupational safety and health of outsourced workers, and how will it ensure the occupational safety and health of outsourced workers?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1658)

Reply:

The contracts signed between the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and its service contractors stipulate that in the event of the injury or death of any of the contractor's employees in the course of executing the contract or arising out of the contract (whether or not a claim for compensation is involved), the contractor should, within 7 clear working days, give notice in writing of such injury or death to the Department. The contractors are also required to comply with all the legislation in relation to the execution of the service contracts, including the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance (Cap. 509) (the Ordinance). The number of reported cases received by the Department on injury at work of cleansing workers employed under cleansing service contracts in the past 5 years is given as follows:

Year	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (As at 29.2.2020)
No. of reported cases on injury at work	94	65	68	63	19

The injuries sustained by cleansing workers at work in the reported cases were mainly sprains, strains, bruises, cuts and wounds in different parts of the body. Unintended collisions (for instance, with a bicycle or a hand cart), slips, trips or falls on same level and lifting were common causes of injuries. If the Department suspects a breach of the Ordinance in a reported case, the case will be referred to the Labour Department (LD) for investigation. If it is confirmed after investigation that the contractor has committed an offence under the Ordinance, the LD will take appropriate actions including instituting prosecution against the contractor. The Department will also take action in accordance with the contract terms, including the issuance of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices as well as withholding/deducting monthly payment of service charge.

The contractors have a duty to ensure, as far as practicable, their employees' safety and health at work under the Occupational Safety and Health Regulation (Cap. 509A). In the Department's services contracts involving non-skilled workers, the contractors undertake that the contractor personnel should have the necessary training which includes training in occupational safety and health for provision of the services, and the contractors should ensure that all their employees wear tidy and clean uniforms or special protective clothing which the Government may consider necessary or appropriate while they are providing the services. The contractors are obliged to provide and replace uniforms and special protective clothing for their staff. The Department adds a clause to newly awarded contracts to require the contractors to submit a plan for the supply and allocation of uniforms and special protective clothing within 2 weeks after the commencement of the contracts for approval. The contractors are also required to keep a record of allocation of such items to each employee with his/her acknowledgement of receipt, and produce the record at the Department's request for inspection. Staff of the Department carry out regular and surprise inspections to check the contractors' performance and ensure their compliance with the contractual requirements. Any breach of contractual obligations by the contractors will lead to the issuance of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices as well as deduction of monthly payment of service charge.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5183)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What are the meal break arrangements for workers employed by the outsourced service contractors of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department? Are these workers entitled to meal breaks and paid meal breaks? Does the Department provide meal-taking facilities for the non-skilled outsourced workers? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1659)

Reply:

According to the terms in the service contracts of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, there is a meal break of 1 hour for non-skilled workers engaged by the contractors on any work shift of 8 hours or longer. If the non-skilled workers are on a work shift of less than 8 hours, they will be allowed to take refreshments at workplace at an appropriate time during working hours, given that the services are properly provided. Whether the non-skilled workers are entitled to paid meal breaks depends on the mutual agreement between the contractors and the non-skilled workers.

When providing public cleansing services, the non-skilled workers engaged by the contractors may have their meals in the attendant rooms, roll call points or other appropriate places where circumstances permit.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5184)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the number of refuse collection points (RCPs) managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department; the locations of RCPs which are provided with (i) changing facilities, (ii) common rooms, (iii) drinking facilities, (iv) mobile refuse compactors and (v) automatic refuse bin washing machines; and the area of common rooms (if any). Does the Department have any plans to provide other RCPs with changing facilities, common rooms, drinking facilities, mobile refuse compactors and automatic refuse bin washing machines? Will any space in the newly built RCPs be reserved for providing changing facilities, common rooms, drinking facilities, mobile refuse compactors and automatic refuse bin washing machines? If yes, what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1660)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department currently manages 161 permanent off-street refuse collection points (RCPs), 58 of which are provided with mobile refuse compactors (MRCs). All RCPs have drinking water facilities. Generally speaking, RCPs with roll call points are provided with changing rooms but not separate common rooms. For some RCPs without changing facilities owing to space constraints, the Department allows contractors to provide temporary changing and storage facilities where circumstances permit.

The Department has kick-started a pilot scheme to carry out improvement works at the roll call points in 24 RCPs for provision or enhancement of changing and storage facilities. For newly built RCPs or when RCPs are refurbished, changing and storage facilities will be provided for in-house or contractors' staff if circumstances permit. MRCs will also be provided having regard to the operational needs and site situation of RCPs, but the Department has no plan to introduce automatic refuse bin washing machines. There is no separate breakdown of the expenditure on provision of the above facilities. A breakdown of the RCPs provided with changing facilities, drinking facilities and MRCs is at Annex.

Annex

Facilities of RCPs under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

District	Changing facilities provided	Drinking water facilities provided	Mobile refuse compactors provided
Central & Western	14	16	5
Wan Chai	10	10	3
Eastern	12	12	4
Southern	7	7	0
Islands	3	3	1
Yau Tsim Mong	16	18	15
Sham Shui Po	11	11	5
Kowloon City	11	19	3
Wong Tai Sin	6	6	1
Kwun Tong	8	8	0
Kwai Tsing	6	7	0
Tsuen Wan	6	6	3
Tuen Mun	9	10	3
Yuen Long	8	9	6
North	3	3	2
Tai Po	2	5	4
Sha Tin	6	6	1
Sai Kung	4	5	2
Total	142	161	58

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)266

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5185)

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:

Please set out the number of public toilets managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department; the locations of public toilets which are provided with (i) attendant rooms, (ii) drinking facilities and (iii) roll call rooms nearby; the area of attendant rooms (if any); and whether ventilation facilities are provided. Will enhancement be made to the facilities of public toilets, including providing resting and drinking facilities for staff? Will any space in the newly built public toilets be reserved for providing resting and drinking facilities for staff? If yes, what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1661)

Reply:

Of the 799 public toilets managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, 276 are provided with toilet attendants. Of these toilets, 238 are provided with attendant rooms and drinking water for attendants. The sizes of attendant rooms vary with the ground situations. Generally speaking, attendants may sign in and out at public toilets.

It was announced in the 2019-20 Budget that the Government would make an additional allocation of over $600 million to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme, under which the Department would roll out the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 240 public toilets under its management by phases in 5 years since 2019-20, so as to improve their facilities and hygiene level. Consideration will be given to the provision or enhancement of attendant rooms when new toilets are built or existing ones reprovisioned or refurbished. Resting facilities will be provided to staff as far as practicable. Contractors will provide drinking water to their staff.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5186)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the respective numbers of cases in which the Department imposed punishments on its cleansing service contractors in each of the past 5 years for breaching (a) the contractual obligations relating to the demerit point system and (b) other contractual obligations, as well as the following details of such cases: (i) names of contractors; (ii) number of breaches; (iii) details of the breaches; (iv) the respective numbers of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices issued; and (v) the total amount of the monthly service charges deducted.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1662)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

(a) Contractual obligations relating to the demerit point system

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
No. of substantiated cases of non-compliance with contractual obligations relating to the demerit point system	0	1	0	1	1
Details of the breaches	--	Exceeding maximum working hours	--	Underpayment of wages	Payment of wages not by means of autopay
No. of written warnings issued	0	1	0	0	0
No. of default notices	0	0	0	1	1

issued					
No. of demerit points recorded	0	0	0	1	1
Amount of service charge payments deducted ($)	0	0	0	8,045	8,045

(b) Other contractual obligations

Year	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
No. of verbal warnings issued	2 165	2 792	2 160	2 742	2 412
No. of written warnings issued	156	108	122	128	91
No. of default notices issued	1 403	937	1 089	1 621	1 418
Amount of service charge payments deducted ($ million)	3.022	1.727	2.086	3.915	3.757

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

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)268

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5187)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the respective number of complaints received by the Department in each of the past 5 years about its non-skilled outsourced service contractors (i) underpaying wages; (ii) defaulting on wage payments; (iii) failing to sign the Standard Employment Contract; (iv) exceeding working hour limits; and (v) breaching the Employment Ordinance (Cap. 57) and the Employees' Compensation Ordinance (Cap. 282), the number of complaints found substantiated, the number of contractors penalised as a result (with a breakdown by form of punishment) and the number of contractors debarred from tendering due to conviction.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1663)

Reply:

In the past 5 years, the number of employment-related complaints received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department against outsourced service contractors is as follows:

Year	Types of complaints					Total no. of substantiated cases	No. of default notices issued	No. of warning letters issued
	Under-payment	Non-payment of wages	No signing of Standard Employment Contract	Exceeding maximum working hours	Non-compliance with Employment Ordinance (Cap. 57) and/or Employees' Compensation Ordinance (Cap. 282) ^			
2015	14	0	0	1	7	1	0	1
2016	5	0	1	4	2	3	0	3
2017	6	0	0	1	9	1	1	0
2018	8	0	0	0	8	2*	4	0
2019	8#	0	0	1	8#	0	0	0

^ Including late payment of wages, failure to grant severance/long service payment, etc.

* 1 of the cases involved 3 service contracts and each was issued with a default notice.

3 of the complaint cases involved more than 1 type of complaint.

In the past 5 years, no outsourced service contractor was debarred from tendering for service contracts that rely heavily on the deployment of non-skilled workers due to previous conviction(s).

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)269

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5188)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In the past 5 years, what were the total expenditure incurred for outsourcing the cleansing services for the markets managed by the Department, the total amount of fines imposed on the Department's market cleansing service contractors for breaching contract conditions (with a breakdown by company), and the number of warnings issued to such contractors for breaching contract conditions (with a breakdown by company)?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1664)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex I and Annex II.

Expenditure incurred for outsourcing services for markets including cleansing services

Financial Year	$ million
2015-16	169.9
2016-17	172.4
2017-18	173.7
2018-19	182.0
2019-20	192.7 (revised estimate)

Deduction of payment and number of warnings issued to contractors related to market cleansing services for breaching contract conditions

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Deduction of payment ($ million)	1.395	1.898	0.329	0.479	0.168
Number of written warnings issued	17	240	121	39	10

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5189)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In the past 5 years, what were the total number of cleansing workers employed by the Department's public cleansing service contractors, the number of workers employed by each outsourced cleansing service contractor, the total expenditure incurred by the Department for outsourcing public cleansing services, the amount of fines imposed on such contractors for breaching contract conditions (with a breakdown by company), and the number of warnings issued to such contractors for breaching contract conditions (with a breakdown by company)?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1665)

Reply:

The expenditure incurred by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department for outsourced public cleansing services in 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 (revised estimate) is $1,163.8 million, $1,223.7 million, $1,386.0 million, $1,617.2 million and $2,056.0 million respectively.

The total number of cleansing workers employed by the Department's public cleansing service contractors, the number of times contract enforcement action was taken against breach of contract provisions and the amount of monthly service charge deducted in the past 5 calendar years are provided as follows:

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of cleansing workers employed by the Department's public cleansing service contractors	6 777	6 591	6 939	7 368	7 959
Number of verbal warnings issued	2 165	2 792	2 160	2 742	2 412
Number of written warnings issued	156	109	122	128	91
Number of default notices issued	1 403	937	1 089	1 622	1 419
Amount of monthly service charges deducted ($ million)	3.022	1.727	2.086	3.923	3.765

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)271

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5190)

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:

(1) What is the total number of dog excreta collection bins over the territory?

(2) Please provide the details of their locations in each district.

(3) What are the criteria for placing dog excreta collection bins?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1666)

Reply:

(1) About 1 900 dog excreta collection bins are placed on the streets by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department.

(2) The Department does not keep a breakdown of the locations of dog excreta collection bins.

(3) To keep the streets clean, dog toilets or dog excreta collection bins are provided by the Department at appropriate locations for the convenience of dog walkers. In general, consideration is given to providing dog excreta collection bins at locations which are frequently visited by dog walkers or where dog fouling problem exists.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)272

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5191)

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:

What were the changes in the number of dog excreta collection bins in each of the 18 districts in the territory over the past 5 years? What are the reason(s) for the increases and/or decreases, and the details?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1667)

Reply:

To keep the streets clean, dog toilets or dog excreta collection bins are provided by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department at appropriate locations, particularly those which are frequently visited by dog walkers or where dog fouling problem exists. The number of dog excreta collection bins provided in the 18 districts in the territory over the past 5 calendar years is set out at Annex.

Annex

Number of Dog Excreta Collection Bins Provided in the 18 Districts in the Territory

District	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Central & Western	226	226	226	220	220
Wan Chai	136	146	146	146	146
Eastern	129	122	125	129	129
Southern	129	129	129	139	139
Islands	57	57	59	135	135
Yau Tsim Mong	74	76	74	74	74
Sham Shui Po	67	67	67	67	67
Kowloon City	176	176	181	185	185
Wong Tai Sin	36	36	36	36	36
Kwun Tong	48	48	48	48	48
Kwai Tsing	31	33	42	42	42
Tsuen Wan	71	71	71	71	71
Tuen Mun	74	74	74	74	74
Yuen Long	74	74	74	74	74
North	57	57	57	57	59
Tai Po	115	115	119	119	119
Sha Tin	94	94	94	94	112
Sai Kung	180	180	180	181	181
Total	**1 774**	**1 781**	**1 802**	**1 891**	**1 911**

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 | Reply Serial No. **FHB(FE)273**

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5369)

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 the service of temporary storage of cremains provided by the Department, please provide this Committee with the following information: (1) the number of cases with storage period longer than 2 months in the past 5 years; (2) the longest storage period; (3) whether there will be an increase in the expenditure for providing the service; if yes, the amount of the increase; and (4) the number of additional temporary storage facilities planned and their storage capacity.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1645)

Reply:

All crematoria under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department provide the service of temporary storage of ashes free of charge in the first 2 months following cremation. The public may then apply for extension of the storage period at a monthly fee of $80. In the past 5 calendar years, there were a total of 6 764 cases where the duration of temporary storage exceeded 2 months. The longest storage period was 66 months.

In 2020-21, the Department will provide the service of temporary storage of ashes with the existing resources. The estimated expenditure on cemeteries and crematoria services is about $484 million. The Department does not keep a separate breakdown on the expenditure involved in the service of temporary storage of ashes.

At present, the Department provides some 64 000 temporary storage spaces for ashes. It is estimated that some 12 000 additional storage spaces for ashes will be available by the end of 2020. The Department will keep the usage of the relevant temporary storage facilities under review.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)274

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5370)

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:

Please provide this Committee with the following information: (1) the number of new public columbarium facilities provided in the past 5 years, as well as the locations and the number of new niches provided by these facilities (please present the information in tabular form); (2) further to the above, the expenditure on the new public columbarium facilities; (3) the estimated expenditure for constructing public columbarium facilities in 2020-21; and (4) the number and locations of planned new niches.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1646)

Reply:

(1) & (2) The information sought is provided as follows:

Location	Number of niches	Year of completion	Project cost ($ million)
Peng Chau Columbarium Extension	360	2018	0.49
Hong Kong Cemeteries and Crematoria Office (Part) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department at Wong Nai Chung Road, Wan Chai	855	2019	7.25
Cheung Chau Columbaruim Extension (Stage 1)	670	2019	4.05

(3) & (4) Details of the public columbaria that are scheduled for completion between 2020 and 2022 are provided as follows:

Location	Number of niches	Anticipated year of completion	Estimated project cost ($ million)
Tsang Tsui, Tuen Mun	163 320	2020	2,874.30
Wo Hop Shek Cemetery (Phase 1), Fanling	44 100	2020	945.60
Cheung Chau Columbarium Extension (Stage 2)	580	2020	1.05
Lai Chi Yuen Cemetery Extension, Mui Wo	790	2020	23.35
A site on Cape Collinson Road opposite the Chai Wan Chinese Permanent Cemetery Columbarium and next to Wan Tsui Estate Park	25 000	2022	791.70

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)275

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5371)

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:

Please advise this Committee on (1) the number of convicted cases in the past 5 years in relation to the prosecutions instituted by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department against environmental hygiene related offences, with a breakdown by type of hawkers (licensed hawkers, unlicensed hawkers, market stalls, …); (2) the number of inspections conducted by the Department in relation to hawkers, pitches and market stalls, the number of prosecutions instituted, the number of convicted cases, as well as the manpower and administrative charges involved, in each of the past 5 years (please set out the information in tabular form); and (3) the estimated number of unlicensed hawkers in each of the past 5 years, with a breakdown by district.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1647)

Reply:

(1) The number of convictions of licensed hawkers, unlicensed hawkers and market stalls in public markets in the past 5 years (from 2015 to 2019) is provided at Annex I.

(2) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep separate statistics on the number of inspections of hawker stalls and public market stalls. The number of prosecutions against and convictions of licensed hawkers or public market tenants, as well as the manpower and expenditure involved in hawker control and management of public markets in the past 5 years (from 2015 to 2019) are provided at Annex II.

Taking enforcement actions is part of the duties of the Department's hawker control and market management staff. Further breakdown of the manpower for and expenditure on prosecution is not available.

(3) The estimated number of unlicensed hawkers in 18 districts over the past 5 years (from 2015 to 2019) is provided at Annex III.

Annex I

Number of convictions of licensed hawkers, unlicensed hawkers and market stalls in public markets (2015 - 2019)

Year	No. of convictions		
	Licensed hawkers	Unlicensed hawkers	Market stalls
2015	5 622	23 473	1 523
2016	3 431	14 372	1 911
2017	3 201	6 270	1 916
2018	2 838	4 859	1 637
2019	3 194	3 609	1 767

Annex II

Enforcement actions
against licensed hawkers and public market tenants

	Licensed hawkers		Public market tenants	
Year	**Number of prosecutions**	**Number of convictions**	**Number of prosecutions**	**Number of convictions**
2015	4 493	5 622	1 658	1 523
2016	3 787	3 431	2 065	1 911
2017	3 765	3 201	1 893	1 916
2018	3 733	2 838	1 697	1 637
2019	3 637	3 194	1 790	1 767

Note: Prosecution instituted in a year may be convicted in the following year.

Manpower and expenditure involved in
hawker control and management of public markets

	Licensed hawkers		Public market tenants	
Financial year	**Number of staff**	**Expenditure ($ million)**	**Number of staff**	**Expenditure ($ million)**
2015-16	2 210	1,025.2	376	720.4
2016-17	2 243	1,108.8	390	840.0
2017-18	2 264	1,074.2	386	807.1
2018-19	2 264	1,134.2	416	838.8
2019-20	2 253	1,159.6 (revised estimate)	434	865.7 (revised estimate)

Annex III

Estimated number of unlicensed hawkers

District	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Central and Western	143	143	141	142	142
Wan Chai	26	16	39	41	56
Eastern	55	48	48	59	83
Southern	49	42	33	30	29
Islands	15	16	18	16	16
Yau Tsim Mong	281	295	301	273	247
Sham Shui Po	411	388	460	523	192
Kowloon City	64	64	61	61	62
Wong Tai Sin	35	49	16	15	34
Kwun Tong	100	79	63	63	59
Kwai Tsing	68	63	63	61	62
Tsuen Wan	7	6	2	3	3
Tuen Mun	51	51	45	44	46
Yuen Long	26	22	28	36	40
North	72	72	62	57	48
Tai Po	35	29	23	22	24
Sha Tin	42	31	52	46	43
Sai Kung	8	16	10	17	12
Inside public housing estates*	106	24	9	2	3
Total	**1 594**	**1 454**	**1 474**	**1 511**	**1 201**

Remark: * Figures provided by the Housing Department. No further breakdown by district is available.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)276

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5372)

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:

Please advise this Committee of the following: (1) with regard to the raids conducted by the Hawker Control Teams, the estimated expenditure involved and the number of raids conducted in each of the past 5 years, and the average number of in-house staff involved in each operation; and (2) with regard to the Department's action against hawker blackspots, the estimated expenditure involved and the number of operations conducted in each of the past 5 years, and the average number of in-house staff involved in each operation.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1648)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep separate statistics on the manpower involved in each hawker control operation or operation against hawker blackspots, which depends on the circumstances specific to each case. The number of raids and the expenditure on hawker management in the past 5 years is provided as follows:

Year	No. of raids	Financial year	Expenditure on hawker management ($ million)
2015	116 702	2015-16	1,025.2
2016	117 045	2016-17	1,108.8
2017	120 059	2017-18	1,074.2
2018	118 068	2018-19	1,134.2
2019	117 020	2019-20	1,159.6 (revised estimate)

There is no further breakdown of the expenditure involved in conducting raids or action against hawker blackspots.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)277

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5373)

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:

Please advise this Committee on (1) the number of raids conducted by the Hawker Control Teams during the first 5 days of the Chinese New Year in each of the past 5 years, as well as the average number of in-house staff and expenditure involved in each operation; and (2) the number of joint departmental operations against illegal hawking during the first 5 days of the Chinese New Year in each of the past 5 years, as well as the average number of in-house staff and expenditure involved in each operation.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1649)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep separate statistics on the numbers of raids and joint operations against illegal hawking with other departments, or the manpower and expenditure involved in hawker control operations during the Lunar New Year period.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)278

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5374)

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:

Please advise this Committee on (1) the number of joint departmental operations conducted by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department against illegal hawking, as well as the government departments involved, in each of the past 5 years; and (2) the criteria adopted by the Department in deciding whether the raids were conducted in the form of joint operation and what government departments were involved.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1650)

Reply:

Hawker management and enforcement duties are undertaken by the Hawker Control Team of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. Other government departments, such as the Hong Kong Police Force and the Housing Department, will be invited to assist in some of the operations as necessary. Whether the raids are conducted in the form of joint operation and whether other departments are involved depend on circumstances specific to each operation, including whether there is real or potential threat to law and order, and whether the operation involves illegal hawkers operating inside public housing estates, etc.

The number of joint operations against illegal hawking in the past 5 calendar years is provided as follows:

Year	Number of inter-departmental operations
2015	1 984
2016	2 009
2017	1 951
2018	2 198
2019	1 871

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5375)

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:

Please advise this Committee (1) on the resources and manpower allocated by the Department for taking forward and promoting the new hawker policy, as well as the routine duties involved; (2) whether the Department has reviewed the effectiveness of the new hawker policy since its implementation, including striking a balance among the interests of District Councils, residents, tourists and hawkers; and whether the Department will take the initiative to mediate in stakeholders' disputes (if no, the reason(s)); (3) on the number of disputes or conflicts between law enforcement officers and hawkers or members of the public during raids and joint operations in each of the past 5 years; and whether there were any injuries during the operations (if yes, the number); and (4) whether the Department has reviewed the approaches adopted by law enforcement officers in raids and joint operations (if no, the reason(s)).

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1651)

Reply:

(1)&(2) The Subcommittee on Hawker Policy set up under the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene was briefed in March 2015 on the principles underpinning the Government's current policy on the management of hawkers. In gist, the Government seeks to formulate a hawker policy which can strike an optimal balance between allowing licensed hawking business to thrive and meeting other legitimate concerns such as avoiding unreasonable nuisance to the local community in addition to ensuring food safety, environmental hygiene and public safety.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department launched the scheme of Re-allocation of Fixed Hawker Pitches and Issue of New Licences (the scheme) at the end of September 2019. Under the scheme, 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches located at 7 districts will be open for application by persons who are interested in the hawking business and able to meet the required conditions. Successful applicants will operate at the pitches after a licence is granted. The Department has consulted the trade, the 7 District Councils (or their committees) concerned and

the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene to collect views on the arrangement for pitch allocation with a view to upholding the basic principles of fairness and impartiality.

After launching the scheme, the Department received a total of 14 126 applications, of which 12 788 applicants were initially eligible. The Department conducted an open computer random sequencing cum manual ballot exercise to determine the priority order of applicants for pitch selection at the end of November 2019. Applicants were invited for selection of vacant pitches starting from early December. The pitch selection exercise is scheduled for completion at the end of April 2020. After the applicants have collected their licences and commenced their hawking business, the Department will carry out routine inspection pursuant to the relevant legislation and licensing conditions, and monitor the operation of the stalls according to the established mechanism.

The work of re-allocation of hawker pitches is mainly performed by 12 departmental staff at an estimated expenditure of $8.04 million in 2020-21.

(3) The Department does not keep statistics on the number of disputes or conflicts between hawker control officers and hawkers or members of the public during raiding and joint operations. The number of hawker control team staff injured while on duty in the past 5 calendar years is as follows:

Year	**No. of hawker control team staff injured**
2015	40
2016	44
2017	40
2018	30
2019	21

(4) To ensure that hawker management operations are effectively carried out, the Department has issued operational guidelines and provided regular refresher training courses to its staff covering issues such as safety consideration during raiding operations, as well as arrest and prosecution procedures. The guidelines also state clearly that the safety of hawkers, passers-by and hawker control officers is of primary importance. These guidelines are reviewed from time to time in view of changes in operational requirements and feedback from staff.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)280

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5376)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise this Committee in tabular form of the following information in the past 5 years:

(1) the quantities of "import of live food animals"; and

(2) the respective quantities and places of origin as regards "import of live food animals".

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1652)

Reply:

The number of live food animals imported into Hong Kong in the past 5 years and their places of origin are as follows:

	Quantity (head/number) imported into Hong Kong					**Place of origin**
	2015	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	
Live cattle	17 911	17 493	17 338	17 162	15 295	Mainland China
Live goats	4 381	3 396	3 465	3 513	1 594	Mainland China
Live pigs	1 583 398	1 439 568	1 455 379	1 468 150	843 422	Mainland China
Live chickens	61 300	32 000	0	0	0	Mainland China
Other live poultry	465 305	590 598	76 720	0	0	Mainland China

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5377)

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:

Please set out in tabular form the "hawker blackspots" in the 18 districts and provide the definition of "hawker blackspot". Please also provide the estimated number of "unlicensed hawkers" in the 18 districts over the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1653)

Reply:

The list of hawker blackspots in 18 districts is provided at Annex I. Hawker blackspots are locations where unlicensed hawkers congregate. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department conducts surveys quarterly to identify hawker blackspots and update the list. Whether a location is classified as a hawker blackspot depends on the number of unlicensed hawkers trading at the location during the specific time when the survey was conducted.

The estimated number of unlicensed hawkers in 18 districts over the past 5 calendar years is provided at Annex II.

Location of hawker blackspots

District	Location
Central and Western	The vicinity of Statue Square and the Court of Final Appeal
	The vicinity of Charter Garden and Murray Road
	Footbridge along Connaught Road Central and its vicinity
Wan Chai	Wan Chai Road (between Johnston Road and Cross Street), Tai Yuen Street, Cross Street, Stone Nullah Lane (between Johnston Road and Cross Street) and the vicinity
	Bowrington Road (between Hennessy Road and Sharp Street West) and Wan Chai Road (between Canal Road West and Tin Lok Lane)
Eastern	Area near Chai Wan Market including the open space outside Walton Estate, Yee Shun Street, Yee Tai Street, Yee Fung Street and the lane in front of Winner Centre
	Kam Wa Street area including Mong Lung Street and Tai Tak Street
	Marble Road area including North Point MTR Exits, Kam Hong Street, Shu Kuk Street, a section of King's Road between Kam Hong Street and Tin Chiu Street as well as the vicinity of Java Road Market
	Chun Yeung Street area including North Point Road, Tong Shui Road, a section of King's Road around Kam Hong Street, and Fortress Hill MTR Exits
	Siu Sai Wan area along Siu Sai Wan Road from Bus Terminus up to Fullview Garden
	Kut Shing Street and Chai Wan Footbridge outside Chai Wan MTR Station
	The streets around Sai Wan Ho Market including Tai On Street and section of Shau Kei Wan Road in front of Tai On Building, the vicinity of Quarry Bay Market including Quarry Bay Footbridge, a section of King's Road between Finnie Street and Hong On Street and outside Aeon area
Southern	Pavement between Aberdeen West Typhoon Shelter and Aberdeen Promenade
Islands	The areas in the vicinity of Cheung Chau Ferry Pier and Praya Street, Cheung Chau
	The areas at the junction of Yat Tung Street and Chung Yan Road, Tung Chung, Lantau Island

District	Location
Yau Tsim Mong	Nathan Road section between Argyle Street and Dundas Street
	Sai Yeung Choi Street South section between Argyle Street and Dundas Street
	The vicinity of former FEHD Mong Kok Market bounded by Nelson Street, Canton Road, Argyle Street and Tong Mi Road
	Fa Yuen Street section between Nullah Road and Dundas Street
	Sai Yee Street section between Argyle Street and Soy Street
	Portland Street section between Argyle Street and Dundas Street
Sham Shui Po	Tung Chau Street (between Yen Chow Street and Nam Cheong Street)
	Pei Ho Street (between Un Chau Street and Lai Chi Kok Road)
	Kweilin Street (between Apliu Street and Yu Chau Street)
Kowloon City	Bulkeley Street (between Gillies Ave South and Dock Street)
Wong Tai Sin	Tai Shing Street, Tai Tung Street and its vicinity
	Ngau Chi Wan Village and its vicinity
	Lung Cheung Road Shatin Pass Road
	Lok Fu MTR Station area near Wang Tau Hom East Road and its vicinity
	Ching Tak Street and its vicinity
	Tai Yau Street and its vicinity in San Po Kong Industrial Area
Kwun Tong	Tsun Yip Street/How Ming Street/Hip Wo Street/Shui Wo Street/Hoi Yuen Road
	Footbridges of Telford Plaza linking Kowloon Bay MTR Station/Ngau Tau Kok Road of Amoy Plaza/Wang Hoi Road
	Lam Tin Estate passageway between Tak Tin Street and Ping Tin Street at side of Lam Tin Estate Bus Terminus
	On Wah Street/On Tak Road/Jordan Valley Road North/Ngau Tau Kok Road adjacent to Lower Ngau Tau Kok Estate, Kwun Tong
Kwai Tsing	Sheung Ko Tan Street, Chung Mei Village, Tsing Yi

District	Location
Tuen Mun	The vicinity of Sam Shing Estate
	Kai Man Path
	Mei Lok Lane
Yuen Long	Hop Choi Street
North	Sheung Shui MTR Station and its vicinity (including surrounding footbridges, Choi Yuen Road and San Wan Road)
	Fanling MTR Station and its vicinity (including Fanling Station Road and from adjoining footbridge to Pak Wo Road and Yat Ming Road)
Sha Tin	Under flyover between Lung Hang Estate and Sun Chui Estate
	Near Fun City, Lek Yuen Street
	Mei Tin Road

Note: There are no hawker blackspots in Sai Kung, Tai Po and Tsuen Wan Districts.

Annex II

Estimated number of unlicensed hawkers

District	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Central and Western	143	143	141	142	142
Wan Chai	26	16	39	41	56
Eastern	55	48	48	59	83
Southern	49	42	33	30	29
Islands	15	16	18	16	16
Yau Tsim Mong	281	295	301	273	247
Sham Shui Po	411	388	460	523	192
Kowloon City	64	64	61	61	62
Wong Tai Sin	35	49	16	15	34
Kwun Tong	100	79	63	63	59
Kwai Tsing	68	63	63	61	62
Tsuen Wan	7	6	2	3	3
Tuen Mun	51	51	45	44	46
Yuen Long	26	22	28	36	40
North	72	72	62	57	48
Tai Po	35	29	23	22	24
Sha Tin	42	31	52	46	43
Sai Kung	8	16	10	17	12
Inside public housing estates*	106	24	9	2	3
Total	**1 594**	**1 454**	**1 474**	**1 511**	**1 201**

*Note: Figures provided by the Housing Department. No further breakdown by district is available.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)282

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5776)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

(1) Has the Department received and used Correctional Services Industries (CSI) masks produced by the Correctional Services Department (CSD)? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

(2) If CSI masks produced by the CSD have been received and used, what are the respective figures on the CSI masks received and used in each of the past 5 years?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 603)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has received masks produced by the Correctional Services Department from the Government Logistics Department (GLD) for distribution to in-house staff for use in performing duties. With an upsurge in demand for personal protective equipment (PPE) around the world, the Government is facing keen competition in procurement. The Government considers it not appropriate to disclose at this stage further specific information, such as the stock in respect of PPE (including masks) in individual departments in the past few years and recently, lest the bargaining power of GLD and other departments in procuring PPE be undermined.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)283

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6696)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1) What is the frequency of inspection by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department on the tools and wages provided by cleansing contractors? Please set out the contractor(s) who were issued non-compliance warning(s) in each of the past 5 years. What were the numbers of and reason(s) for the warnings issued?

2) According to the Department's record, how many cases of "bogus headcount" or inadequate manpower took place due to the manpower shortage of cleansing contractors? How did the Department follow up the cases?

On novel coronavirus outbreak:

3) Since the outbreak of the epidemic (in January 2020), how many times has the Department deployed a) in-house cleansing workers and b) outsourced cleansing workers and what is the number of each type of workers deployed each time to perform epidemic-related cleansing work, including (1) entering units with infection cases, (2) collecting refuse from the units, (3) cleansing streets or facilities in the vicinity of the units, (4) cleaning isolation centres, (5) cleaning premises visited or transport carriers taken by infected patients, and (6) collecting refuse from self-isolation units in various districts?

4) Has the Government required contractors to perform cleansing duties in buildings upon outbreak of epidemic in outsourced cleansing contracts renewed after SARS in 2003 and 2009? If yes, what are the contents of the contracts in detail?

5) Will the confirmed cases of cleansing workers being infected on the said cleansing duties be treated as occupational disease or injury at work?

6) Has the Government provided cleansing workers with training on proper use of anti-infection tools (such as face masks and protective clothing)? If no, how can it be assured that cleansing workers can use the tools properly?

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 6024)

Reply:

1)&2) Staff of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department conduct routine and surprise inspections every day to monitor the performance of public cleansing service contractors, including checking the attendance records of cleansing workers. If any contractor is found to be in breach of contract terms, the Department will take appropriate follow-up actions, including the issuance of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices with deduction of monthly payment of service charge. From 2017 to 2019, the Department detected respectively 156, 278 and 186 cases of failure to provide sufficient manpower by public cleansing service contractors according to contract requirements and issued written warnings or default notices to the contractors concerned. The Department does not keep a breakdown on actions taken against failure to provide tools by contractors. In parallel, staff of the Department will check the wage information of workers, on a random and monthly basis, through the wage and attendance records of cleansing workers submitted by public cleansing service contractors. The Department will also conduct audit inspections to every single public cleansing service contract at least once a year. From 2015 to 2019, 1 case of breach of service contract for payment of wages by means of autopay to non-skilled workers was substantiated upon examination by the Department. The contractor concerned was issued a default notice, deducted contract payment and given demerit point(s).

3) It is a key responsibility of the Department to maintain a hygienic environment. In the light of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) epidemic, the Department has stepped up the cleansing of public facilities under its management. The street cleansing service of public places, including locations where littering and other public cleanliness offences are prevalent, has also been strengthened as appropriate and when necessary to maintain environmental hygiene. The Department has also arranged cleansing and disinfection of the residences of confirmed patients by cleansing workers according to the instructions of the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) and enhanced sweeping and washing of public places in the vicinity of the buildings concerned. Between 23 January and 12 March 2020, the Department carried out cleansing and disinfection for the residences of confirmed patients, public places in the vicinity of the buildings with confirmed cases, isolation centres and the premises visited or transport carriers taken by confirmed patients with the frequency and number of cleaners deployed at **Annex**.

In addition, CHP of DH has implemented home quarantine measures since 4 February 2020. If necessary, confinees may request the Department, via the Home Affairs Department, to provide daily household refuse collection service during their quarantine period. The frequency and number of in-house cleansing workers deployed to collect household refuse from the residences of confinees between 5 February and 12 March 2020 are set out at **Annex**.

4) According to the terms of its street cleansing service contracts, the Department may, if necessary, request the contractors to provide a specified number of cleansing workers with adequate and suitable personal protective gear, cleansing

tools and equipment, disinfectants, etc. for cleansing and disinfection of designated locations.

5) According to the Employees' Compensation Ordinance (Cap. 282), if an employee sustains an injury or dies as a result of an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, or suffers from an occupational disease prescribed, his employer is in general liable to pay compensation.

6) The Department attaches great importance to the safety and occupational safety and health arrangements of staff (including in-house cleansing workers and those employed by outsourced contractors). The Department and public cleansing service contractors conduct risk assessment on various working environment settings and take appropriate precautionary measures, which include providing employees with adequate and suitable protective gear and safety training. Cleansing workers will wear protective gear such as face masks, gloves, sleeves, aprons, non-slippery rubber boots, face shields or goggles, coveralls and caps/hats as appropriate. The Department and service contractors will follow closely the latest information and health advice on COVID-19 epidemic released by CHP of DH, and will relay the information to cleansing workers so as to enhance their epidemic prevention knowledge.

Annex

Frequency of Cleansing/Disinfection/Collection of Household Refuse and Number of Cleaners Deployed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department between 23 January and 12 March 2020 in the light of COVID-19

	Frequency of cleansing/ disinfection/ collection of household refuse	**No. of in-house cleansing workers deployed (man-time)**	**No. of outsourced cleansing workers deployed (man-time)**
Disinfection for the residences of confirmed patients	72	43	116
Cleansing and disinfection of public places in the vicinity of the buildings with confirmed cases	934	259	2 606
Cleansing and disinfection in isolation centres	23	8	69
Cleansing and disinfection of the premises visited or transport carriers taken by confirmed patients	47	2	80
Collection of household refuse at the residences of confinees	288	92	40

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3556)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the wholesale of live cattle, please advise on:

(a) the total number, the average daily number, as well as the highest and the lowest daily wholesale numbers of live cattle supplied to Hong Kong in each of the past 3 years (i.e. from 2017-18 to 2019-20);

(b) the monthly average, the highest and the lowest prices of live cattle supplied to Hong Kong in each of the past 3 years (i.e. from 2017-18 to 2019-20); and

(c) the total expenditure and average expenditure per head of cattle by the Government in handling live cattle (such as the arrangements for slaughterhouses and quarantine management), as well as the manpower involved.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 58)

Reply:

(a) Information on the number of live cattle imported in the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Total number of live cattle imported	Daily number of live cattle imported		
		Average	Highest	Lowest
2017	17 338	48	88	13
2018	17 162	47	99	9
2019	15 295	42	102	12

(b) Information on the wholesale prices of live cattle imported in the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Wholesale price per picul of live cattle imported (HK$)					
	Marbled meat cattle			Beef cattle		
	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest
2017	4,578	4,690	4,540	3,958	4,070	3,920
2018	4,686	4,740	4,540	4,104	4,170	3,920
2019	4,704	4,900	4,640	4,169	4,470	4,070

(c) The revised estimate of the expenditure on live food animal inspection in slaughterhouses in 2019-20 was $47.4 million, involving 92 staff posts from the Centre for Food Safety of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. In the year, the average expenditure on inspection of each live food animal (including pigs, cattle and goats) slaughtered was about $48.9. The expenditure for handling live cattle cannot be separately quantified.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3570)

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 the efforts against street obstruction and littering of parallel traders, please provide information:

(a) of the number of warnings issued and prosecutions instituted against street obstruction and littering of parallel traders, the locations involved, as well as the nature of these cases, in 2019-20; and

(b) whether additional manpower or resources will be allocated to deal with frequent street obstruction and littering of parallel traders in order to keep the pavements unobstructed and maintain environmental hygiene.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 4)

Reply:

(a) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is concerned about the environmental hygiene problems caused by parallel trading activities in the North District and Yuen Long District. In order to maintain environmental hygiene and tidiness in the districts, the Department has stepped up street cleansing services and enforcement actions at parallel trading blackspots, including issuing Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) to persons who have committed public cleanliness offences, and also taking part in inter-departmental enforcement actions against non-compliant shops so as to combat obstruction problems caused by parallel trading activities. In 2019-20 (as at 29 February), the Department issued 4 483 FPNs to offenders at parallel trading blackspots.

(b) An additional dedicated enforcement team (DET) was set up in October 2019 in the North District to combat public cleanliness offences, including irregularities of parallel traders. The Department has provided 20 additional contractual cleansing workmen in the street cleansing service contracts for the North District which commenced in October 2019 to enhance street sweeping and waste removal services. In parallel, an additional DET was set up in December 2019 in the Yuen Long District to combat

public cleanliness offences, including irregularities of parallel traders. The Department will provide 39 additional contractual cleansing workmen in the new street cleansing service contracts for the Yuen Long District which will commence in July 2020 to enhance street sweeping and waste removal services.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3571)

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 relation to the clean-up exercise since June, please provide information on the following:

(a) What was the number of complaints received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department from June to 24 November 2019 with requests for clean-up of the so-called "Lennon Walls" in the territory? How many clean-ups have been completed by the Department? How many repeated clean-ups have been conducted? What was the number of obstructions encountered in the clean-ups? What were the manpower and expenditure involved?

(b) What is the number of complaints received by the Department after 24 November 2019 with requests for clean-up of the "Lennon Walls" in the territory? How many clean-ups have been completed by the Department? How many repeated clean-ups have been conducted? What is the number of obstructions encountered in the clean-ups? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?

(c) What is the additional expenditure incurred by the clean-up of the "Lennon Walls"?

(d) With the "Lennon Walls" springing up in the community from time to time, will the Government step up efforts and adopt any strategy for the clean-up exercise? Please provide the details.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department closely monitors the display and affixation of bills in various districts. Joint operations are mounted by the Department in collaboration with relevant government departments to clean up bills affixed without permission in public places on government land, while individual departments are responsible for cleaning up the same at venues under their purview. As at 29 February 2020, some 950 joint operations have been conducted at 295 locations across the territory to clean up bills displayed or affixed without permission.

The number of complaints against bills affixed without permission in public places on government land received by the Department and the number of obstructions encountered in our clean-ups between June 2019 and February 2020 are tabulated as follows:

	No. of complaints against bills affixed without permission	**No. of joint operations**	**No. of operations cancelled due to conflicts with the public or safety consideration**
June to 24 November 2019	7 644	298	26
25 November 2019 to 29 February 2020	1 955	652	0

The Department does not maintain the information on the number of repeated clean-ups against unauthorised display or affixation of bills and the breakdown of manpower and expenditure involved. Outsourced contractors have been engaged to enhance mid-night cleansing service, including clean-ups of bills displayed or affixed without permission, in 2019-20 (as at February 2020). The additional expenditure involved was about $4 million.

The Department has reinforced joint operations to progressively clean up bills affixed without permission in public places on government land. The exercise will continue as long as the ground situation permits and it is safe to do so. We will strive for early completion of the exercise.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3572)

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:

Regarding damage to facilities under the management of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please provide information on:

(a) the number of facilities (e.g. refuse bins) managed by the Department, which were damaged between June 2019 and 24 November 2019, as well as the types, quantities and value of such facilities; and

(b) the number of facilities (e.g. refuse bins) managed by the Department, which have been damaged since 24 November 2019, as well as the types, quantities and value of such facilities.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 6)

Reply:

(a) Between June and November 2019, about 1 180 litter containers, 80 cigarette butt containers, 20 dog excreta collection bins and 110 recyclables collection bins (RCBs) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department were sabotaged. The replacement cost of these facilities is about $1.6 million.

(b) Between December 2019 and February 2020, about 100 litter containers, 20 cigarette butt containers and 10 RCBs of the Department were sabotaged. The replacement cost of these facilities is about $100,000.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3574)

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:

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 under this Programme that the Department will "continue to implement the Private Columbaria Ordinance by supporting the Private Columbaria Licensing Board in processing applications for a licence or other specified instruments for operating a private columbarium, and taking enforcement actions under the Ordinance". Please advise this Committee on the following:

In 2020-21, what are the manpower and expenditure earmarked for supporting the work of the Licensing Board? As at February 2020, how many applications were received by the Licensing Board? How many applications for a licence from private columbaria have been processed? How many applications have been refused? For those private columbaria whose applications have been refused, how many niches are involved? What is the progress of examination of the licence applications at present? What difficulties have been encountered? What is the estimated time required for completing the examination?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

The expenditure of the Private Columbaria Licensing Board (PCLB) and the manpower for providing executive support for the PCLB are included in the estimated expenditure of the Private Columbaria Affairs Office (PCAO) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. In 2020-21, the PCAO will have about 70 staff and the estimated expenditure is $83.6 million.

As at 29 February 2020, PCLB has granted 5 licences; approved in principle 2 licence applications and 1 application for a temporary suspension of liability; refused 15 sets of applications for specified instruments (including 12 licence applications); and was processing 288 applications for specified instruments. The refusal cases, excluding the 4 private columbaria with appeals being processed, involved around 2 300 sets of ashes.

The time the PCLB takes to process a licence application depends on the actual circumstances of the case, particularly on whether the private columbarium has complied

with all the requirements for licence application stipulated in the Private Columbaria Ordinance (Cap. 630) and those specified by the PCLB (including the requirements relating to planning, land, buildings, fire safety, electrical and mechanical safety, management plan, right to use the premises, environmental protection, etc.) and whether the applicant has submitted sufficient documents to prove that the private columbarium has complied with the requirements. Upon receiving the documents or information required for an application, the PCAO will invite the relevant departments to provide comments. The applicant will then be asked to take the necessary follow-up actions and submit reports, which will be forwarded to the relevant departments for their vetting. After confirming that a licence application has complied with the application requirements, the PCAO will arrange for the submission of the application to the PCLB for determination.

The regulatory regime of private columbaria is an unprecedented system established from scratch. The processing of applications for specified instruments involves the settling of problems of historical legacy and time is required for various parties concerned to explore how to finalise the arrangement details at the early stage of implementation. The PCLB has provided guidelines and templates to help applicants and relevant departments understand the requirements and has continuously enhanced the guidelines and mechanisms in the light of actual experience. The PCAO will continue to liaise closely with the applicants and the relevant departments, striving to assist the PCLB in expediting the vetting work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3575)

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:

As mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 under this Programme, the Department will "continue to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme to improve the design and facilities of existing public toilets by phases" with the allocation of $600 million for refurbishing 240 public toilets by phases in 5 years following the passage of last year's Budget. In this connection,

(a) what are the locations, geographical distribution as well as estimated cost and progress of the works of these public toilets?

(b) will the social events in the second half of 2019 lead to significant delay and deferral of the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme? Will additional expenditure and manpower be thus required?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)

Reply:

(a) It was announced in the 2019-20 Budget that the Government would make an additional allocation of over $600 million to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme, under which the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department would roll out the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 240 public toilets under its management by phases in 5 years starting from 2019-20, so as to improve their facilities and hygiene level. The Department has been working closely with the Architectural Services Department to roll out the refurbishment or facelifting projects for 42 public toilets in the first year, with a project estimate of about $151 million. The facelifting works for 7 public toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. A list of the 42 public toilets with their works schedules is at Annex I. The Department is planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifting works for 49 public toilets in 2020-21, and a list of the public toilets is at Annex II.

(b) The social events in the second half of 2019 have not hindered the progress of the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme and thus no additional expenditure or manpower has been involved.

Annex I

List of 42 Public Toilets under the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2019-20 (As at 6 March 2020)

(A) 20 Refurbishment Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[1]
1.	Lok Ku Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to June 2021
2.	Ladder Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to June 2021
3.	Rumsey Street Multi Storey Car-park Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to April 2021
4.	Sheung Shui Wai Po Sheung Tsuen Public Toilet	North	From April to December 2021
5.	Tseng Lan Shue Public Toilet	Sai Kung	From August 2021 to April 2022
6.	Ma Liu Shui Waterfront Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From December 2020 to August 2021
7.	Science Park Road Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From August 2020 to April 2021
8.	Shan Mei Street Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From February to September 2021
9.	Shap Yi Watt Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From August 2021 to April 2022
10.	Tai Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From April to November 2021
11.	To Tau Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From April to November 2021
12.	No. 16 Aberdeen Main Road Public Toilet	Southern	From October 2021 to April 2022
13.	Fong Ma Po Public Toilet	Tai Po	From November 2020 to August 2021
14.	Ma Wo Public Toilet	Tai Po	From April to December 2021
15.	Tap Mun Pier Public Toilet	Tai Po	From April to December 2021
16.	Sunny Bay Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2020 to July 2021
17.	Wang Lung Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to November 2021
18.	Morrison Hill Road Public Toilet	Wan Chai	From February to August 2021
19.	Science Museum Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From February to September 2021
20.	Hong King Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	From March to December 2021

[1] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

(B) 22 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[2]
1.	Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall Public Toilet	Central & Western	From March to June 2020
2.	Wing Lok Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	From March to June 2020
3.	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	Islands	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
4.	Tat Tung Road Public Toilet	Islands	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
5.	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	From October 2019 to April 2020
6.	Kwai Hing Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	From October 2019 to April 2020
7.	Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Kwun Tong	From March to June 2020
8.	Shung Yan Street Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	From February to June 2020
9.	Mong Kok Road Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From June to October 2020
10.	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From September 2020 to February 2021
11.	Sai Yee Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From May to October 2020
12.	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	From June to November 2019 (completed)
13.	Pei Ho Street Market G/F & 1/F Toilet	Sham Shui Po	1/F: From September to December 2019 (completed) G/F: From April to July 2020
14.	Yen Chow Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	From December 2019 to May 2020
15.	Chai Wan Kok Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to June 2020
16.	Chuen Lung Village Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
17.	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
18.	Shing Mun Road Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to June 2020
19.	Wan Chai Market Public Toilet	Wan Chai	From April to October 2020
20.	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From September 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
21.	Jordan Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
22.	Market Street Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yau Tsim	From October 2019 to May 2020

[2] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

Annex II

List of 49 Public Toilets under the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2020-21

(A) 20 Refurbishment Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Wellington Street Public Toilet (Male Only)	Central & Western	Junction of Wellington Street and Queen's Road Central, Central
2.	Wa Hing Lane Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Central & Western	Junction of Shing Wong Street and Wa Hing Lane, Sheung Wan
3.	Ice House Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	Opposite No. 16 Ice House Street, Central
4.	Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Central & Western	2/F, Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building, No. 470 Queen's Road West, Shek Tong Tsui
5.	Stanley Tytam Village Public Toilet	Southern	Stanley Tytam Village near Hong Kong Sea School
6.	South Bay Public Toilet	Southern	South Bay Road near South Bay Beach
7.	Round Table I Village Public Toilet	Islands	Round Table I Village, Cheung Chau
8.	Ma Wan Chung Public Toilet	Islands	Ma Wan Chung, Tung Chung
9.	Anchor Street Playground Public Toilet	Mong Kok	Anchor Street Playground
10.	Chung Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Chung Uk Tsuen
11.	Kin Lung Street Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Kin Lung Street, Tuen Mun (near Shek Pai Tau Playground)
12.	Tai Tong Road Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yuen Long	Sai Ching Street (near Manhattan Plaza), Yuen Long
13.	Kuk Ting Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Kuk Ting Street, Yuen Long
14.	Luk Keng Public Toilet	North	Luk Keng Road near Chan Fung Kee Store, Sha Tau Kok
15.	Yue Kok Public Toilet	Tai Po	Yue Kok Village, Tai Po
16.	Tung Ping Chau Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tung Ping Chau
17.	Tap Mun Ha Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun Ha Wai, Tai Po
18.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village North Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village, Tai Po
19.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village South Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village, Tai Po
20.	Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Chun Yat Street

(B) 29 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Kennedy Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	Junction of Kennedy Road and Garden Road, Central
2.	Macau Ferry Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Central & Western	At side of Macau Ferry Bus Terminus, Sheung Wan
3.	Hospital Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	Basement, Centre for Food Safety, No. 4 Hospital Road, Sai Ying Pun
4.	Quarry Bay Market Public Toilet	Eastern	No. 38 Quarry Bay Street
5.	Pak Fuk Road Public Toilet	Eastern	Junction of Pak Fuk Road and Healthy Street Central
6.	Yip Fat Street Public Toilet	Southern	Near No. 12 Yip Fat Street, Wong Chuk Hang
7.	Sok Kwu Wan Public Toilet	Islands	Sok Kwu Wan Ferry Pier, Lamma
8.	Lo Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Islands	Lo Uk Tsuen, Lantau
9.	Shui Hau Public Toilet	Islands	Shui Hau Village, Lantau
10.	Pok Man Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	No. 1 Sham Mong Road, Olympic Station
11.	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus
12.	Lung Kong Road Public Toilet	Kowloon City	No. 30-32, Lung Kong Road
13.	Kei Yip Lane Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	Near Kwun Tong Ferry Pier Bus Terminus at Kei Yip Lane, Kwun Tong
14.	Tai Lin Pai Road Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	Tai Lin Pai Road near Kung Yip Street
15.	Ta Chuen Ping Street Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	Ta Chuen Ping Street near a carpark
16.	Tin Sum San Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Tin Sum San Tsuen
17.	San Wai Public Toilet	Yuen Long	San Wai, San Sik Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
18.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)	Yuen Long	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)

19.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)	Yuen Long	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)
Serial no.	**Name of public toilet**	**District**	**Address**
20.	Wo Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	North	At side of a carpark in Wo Hing Tsuen, Fanling
21.	Shui Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	Shui Wai Village, Tai Po
22.	Tai Po Tau South Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tai Po Tau Village
23.	Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Junction of Sha Tin Wai Road and Ngau Pei Sha Street
24.	Wo Liu Hang Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Wo Liu Hang Village
25.	Fo Tan Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Near Shan Mei Street, Fo Tan Village
26.	Pak Kong Tsuen Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Opposite lamp post No. EB31651 at Pak Kong Road
27.	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village
28.	Tai Mong Tsai Public Toilet	Sai Kung	At side of Tai Mong Tsai Carpark
29.	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan) Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3576)

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:

As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 under this Programme, the Department will "follow up proactively the recommendations in the Audit Report released in November 2019 and the Public Accounts Committee report concerned to further enhance the planning, provision and management of public toilets". Please advise this Committee on:

(a) the expenditure and manpower involved in implementing the recommendations in the reports; and

(b) the specific plans or measures adopted by the Department in putting forward the recommendations in the reports, and the timetable for implementation.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 11)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is proactively following up the recommendations in the Audit Report released in November 2019 and the Public Accounts Committee report. With regard to the proposals of planning for public toilets, the Department will review its guidelines and criteria on construction and reprovisioning of public toilets. In reviewing the adequacy of public toilet facilities at tourist spots, the Department will continue to liaise with the Tourism Commission with a view to serving the needs of tourists. It will communicate with the Tourism Commission on a regular basis to listen to the views of the industry on the refurbishment or facelifting works of the public toilets at major tourist spots. In parallel, the procedures of public consultation will be rationalised to minimise delays of works. The revamped electronic Contract Management System has been fully implemented since November 2019 to better monitor the management outcome of public toilets. Since March 2020, the Department has applied the newly developed mobile application "minor works order record system" to make repair requests to the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, as well as to track the progress and enhance the efficiency of repair works. It is also proactively planning to conduct surveys to collect the views of

public toilet users and other stakeholders. The Department will continue to adopt new technology for headcount and review the utilisation rates of public toilets on a regular basis, so as to further enhance the planning, provision and management of public toilets. The expenditure for the review and planning of the above measures will be absorbed by existing resources, and therefore no additional recurrent expenditure will be incurred.

It was announced in the 2019-20 Budget that the Government would make an additional allocation of over $600 million to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme, under which the Department will roll out the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 240 public toilets under its management by phases in 5 years since 2019-20, so as to improve their facilities and hygiene level. The Department has been working closely with ArchSD to roll out the refurbishment or facelifting projects for 42 public toilets in the first year, with a project estimate of about $151 million. The facelifting works for 7 public toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. Refurbishment or facelifting projects for 49 public toilets are being planned in 2020-21.

The number of public toilets refurbished in the past 5 financial years is listed in the table below:

Year	**Number of refurbished/facelifted public toilets**
2015-16	19
2016-17	7
2017-18	9
2018-19	13
2019-20	41[#]

As at 6 March 2020, including 7 facelifting projects

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3577)

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:

It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 under the Programme that the Department will "continue to explore and apply new technology and automation to enhance environmental hygiene services and strengthen related enforcement and prosecution work". In this connection, please advise this Committee of the following:

As at March this year, what new technologies and automation methods have been applied to enhance environmental hygiene services and strengthen related enforcement and prosecution work? What are the expenditure and manpower deployment involved?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 12)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has been proactively applying technologies to enhance environmental hygiene services and the efficiency of prosecution work through the use of machines and automation. A summary of the technologies and automation methods used for enhancing environmental hygiene services and enforcement efficiency in 2019-20 is provided at Annex. The revised estimate of expenditure is $70 million.

Application of Technologies in Enhancing Environmental Hygiene

(a) Internet Protocol (IP) Cameras
IP cameras have been installed at over 150 illegal refuse deposit spots across the territory, and the number will progressively increase to over 300 by mid-2021.

(b) 360 Degrees Cameras
360 degrees cameras have been installed at 15 Marine Refuse Priority Sites on a trial basis since March 2020.

(c) Solar-powered Aluminium Refuse Collection Points (RCPs)
Solar-powered aluminium RCPs were put on trial at 26 rural sites from September 2019 to February 2020. The effectiveness is being assessed.

(d) Atomised Ozonated Water Technology
The Atomised Ozonated Water Technology is currently put on trial at RCPs to abate odour.

(e) Mini-mechanical Sweepers
Mini-mechanical sweepers have been used for street cleansing in designated areas of Tai Po and Yuen Long Districts. As the results are found satisfactory, suitable locations in other districts are being identified for their wider use.

(f) Solar-powered Compacting Refuse Bins (CRBs)
Solar-powered CRBs with an improved design have been put on trial since April 2019. The effectiveness is being assessed.

(g) Street Leaf Vacuum Cleaners
A trial run of street leaf vacuum cleaners at suitable locations in the New Territories is planned for the second quarter of 2020.

(h) Solar-powered Mobile Refuse Compactors (MRCs)
Solar-powered MRCs were put on trial in Tai Po District from May to June 2019. As the preliminary results are found satisfactory, a further trial will be conducted at suitable RCPs in rural areas of Yuen Long District in mid-2020.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3578)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 under the Programme that the Department will "take forward initiatives to enhance pest control services, particularly in respect of mosquitoes and rodents, to strengthen response to vector-borne diseases and vector surveillance programmes". Please advise this Committee on the Government's work and objectives with regard to rodent control, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved in the coming year.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

In 2020, on top of routine anti-rodent work, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will organise a territory-wide inter-departmental anti-rodent campaign to strengthen rodent prevention and control and step up public education. The first phase of the anti-rodent campaign was launched in January 2020 and the second phase will commence in July 2020. Moreover, the Department will launch 2 anti-rodent operations in designated target areas, each lasting for 8 weeks, in May and November 2020. Multi-pronged strategies, including elimination of food sources and hiding places of rodents as well as blockage of their passages, will be adopted in the operations. The Department will continue to step up public education and publicity, and provide support and technical advice to other departments on rodent prevention and control.

The Department adopts an integrated approach to rodent prevention and control. Such approach is premised on the recommendations and technical guidelines of the World Health Organization (WHO) and is in line with the anti-rodent approach adopted by the Mainland and other countries such as Malaysia, Singapore, as well as those in Europe and North America. The Department will continue to carry out rodent surveillance programmes, and the number of survey locations will be increased from 41 to 50. The Department will also keep in view the rodent prevention and control measures recommended by WHO and adopted by other countries, and explore the feasibility of applying technologies to improve the rodent surveillance and control work.

The estimated expenditure in 2020-21 on rodent prevention and control is $209.1 million. About 740 in-house staff and 2 040 staff engaged by the contractors will provide pest control services.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3579)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 under this Programme, the Department will "follow up proactively the recommendations in the Audit Reports released in November 2018 and the Public Accounts Committee reports concerned to strengthen the functions of the Centre for Food Safety in food safety management and food import control". Please advise this Committee on:

(a) the expenditure and manpower to be involved in implementing the recommendations in the reports in the coming year.

(b) the specific plans or measures to be adopted by the Department in the coming year in putting forward the recommendations in the reports and the timetable for implementation.

(c) the difficulties encountered in implementing the recommendations in the reports.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

In 2019, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department set up a task group led by the Controller, CFS, to take forward the recommendations of the Audit Commission (Audit) and the Legislative Council (LegCo) Public Accounts Committee (PAC) concerning its work of food safety management and import control. The task group has completed its comprehensive reviews on CFS's operational manuals and guidelines, staff management and supervision arrangements, training requirements, and manpower and resource requirements. CFS has rolled out concrete and effective short, medium and long-term measures to enhance its effectiveness by phases, including updating its guidelines and introducing a mechanism for regular updates to deal with the inadequacies or ambiguities therein, enhancing training and supervision of frontline staff, strengthening law enforcement mindset among its staff and improving the keeping of data and records. The specific measures taken and their

implementation were set out in the Government minutes submitted to LegCo in May and December 2019.

In addition, CFS set up a dedicated team at the end of 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. CFS also launched the Food Trader Portal (FTP) in stages at the end of 2019 as a platform for electronic communication with the trade. Through the FTP, food traders can complete registration as importers or distributors by electronic means. In the first quarter of 2020, CFS further introduced an online service to facilitate food traders to apply online for import licences and import permission in respect of meat, poultry and game.

In 2020-21, CFS will continue to implement specific measures to follow up on the recommendations of Audit and PAC and enhance its IT systems in the order of priorities. The estimated expenditure of CFS in 2020-21 is about $49 million more than the revised estimate for 2019-20. This includes the expenditure incurred for the creation of 15 additional civil service posts to enhance the protection of food safety.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3580)

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:

As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 under this Programme, the Department will "continue to plan new public market facilities at suitable locations and take forward the proposed projects". Please advise this Committee on:

(a) the expenditure and manpower involved in implementing the proposed projects in the coming year; and

(b) the number of suitable locations being considered and the districts which they are in.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

(a) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up a dedicated team to develop new markets and take forward the Market Modernisation Programme and other reviews. In 2020-21, there are 44 posts in the team and the estimated expenditure is about $40 million.

(b) The Government is taking forward 7 new market projects which are at different stages of planning. They include the development of new public markets in Tin Shui Wai, Tung Chung Town Centre, Tseung Kwan O, Kwu Tung North New Development Area, Tung Chung New Town Extension and Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area as well as the establishment of a temporary market in Tin Shui Wai.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3581)

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:

As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 under this Programme, the Department will "continue the comprehensive review on public markets, with a view to formulating concrete improvement proposals for the management of public markets". Please advise this Committee on:

(a) the expenditure and manpower involved in conducting the review in the coming year; and

(b) the work plan or objective in the coming year, as well as the difficulties currently faced.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is conducting a comprehensive review of its existing public markets and will formulate specific improvement measures for their facilities and management in a systematic manner. These include rental policy, tenancy renewal, trade mix and daily management, etc. as well as looking into ways to enhance the functions of the Market Management Consultative Committees. We will consider adopting new operation mode for new public markets, which includes ways to enhance the role of service contractors in market management, such as formulating promotion and development strategies for markets, advising on the trade mix in markets and enforcing tenancy agreements, etc. With the aim to serve the overall interest of the community, we will listen to stakeholders' views during the process of formulating specific recommendations.

The Department has set up a dedicated team to develop new markets and take forward the Market Modernisation Programme and other reviews, including the review of the usage of existing markets. In 2020-21, there are 44 posts in the team and the estimated expenditure is about $40 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3582)

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:

As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 under this Programme, the Department will "continue to implement the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP) to improve facilities of existing public markets". Please advise this Committee on:

(a) the expenditure and manpower involved in implementing the MMP in the coming year; and

(b) the markets of which the MMP project is underway, the districts in which such markets are located and the types of market facilities to be improved.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 17)

Reply:

The Government has earmarked $2 billion for the implementation of the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project of the MMP is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) briefed the relevant committee of the Southern District Council on the details and progress of the project in February 2020. ArchSD is engaging consultants and will commence the detailed design of plan and preparation of tender documents, etc. as soon as possible. The expenditure of the works can only be accurately estimated upon completion of the design work. Upon completion of the preparatory work, we will seek funding approval from the Legislative Council as soon as practicable and expect to commence the overhaul works in 2021.

At the same time, we plan to overhaul another 3 public markets in Kowloon and the New Territories and expect to take forward the consultation and preparatory work later this year. We also plan to kick-start minor refurbishment and improvement works for at least 3 other public markets in different districts across the territory. The project estimates for taking forward the above minor refurbishment and improvement works, as well as engagement of consultants and the preliminary work for the Aberdeen Market project, is about $68 million. The estimated expenditure of these projects in 2020-21 is about $13 million.

Subject to the situation of markets, the project scope of the MMP may include installation of air-conditioning systems; re-design and re-zoning of stalls; re-configuration of layout; drainage improvement; improvement of fire service installations, electricity supply, toilet facilities, ventilation, lighting, signage; replacement of floor tiles; provision of barrier free access; façade and external wall decoration; works for lifts and escalators, etc.

FEHD has set up a dedicated team to develop new markets and take forward the MMP and other reviews. In 2020-21, there are 44 posts in the team and the estimated expenditure is about $40 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3583)

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 the environmental nuisances relating to dripping air-conditioners, please provide information on:

(a) the financial provision allocated to and the staff establishment of the Joint Offices for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints (JOs) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the coming year;

(b) the number of cases on dripping air-conditioners in the past 3 years in which JOs visited the flats concerned and conducted investigation; the number of cases with source identified; the number of cases with source not identified and investigation terminated, and the number of prosecutions instituted; and

(c) the difficulties faced by the Department in investigating cases on dripping air-conditioners, as well as the measures that will be taken to reduce the number of cases with source not identified and investigation terminated.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

(a) In 2020-21, the staff establishment of the Joint Offices (JOs) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department for investigation of reports of water seepage is 241 and the estimated expenditure is about $146 million.

(b) The information sought is provided as follows:

	2017	**2018**	**2019**
No. of complaint cases received[Note1]	26 055	25 175	24 934
No. of nuisance notices issued[Note2]	4 149	3 675	4 664
No. of prosecutions instituted	93	61	91

Note1: When the source of dripping air-conditioner is identified, a nuisance notice will be issued requiring the responsible person to abate the nuisance within a specified period.

Note2: Prosecution action will be taken when a nuisance notice is unheeded.

(c) When handling cases of dripping air-conditioners, the Department will carry out investigation at the flat suspected of causing nuisance. Some of the complaint cases may involve several suspected flats upstairs, which require more time for investigation. If the investigation is not completed by the time the weather turns cooler, the Department will re-open the case and continue with the investigation before the ensuing summer. To cope with the massive workload brought by the investigation, the Department will increase its manpower by employing contract staff in summer to assist in the handling of cases.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3585)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

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 improving municipal facilities,

(a) how many public markets were installed with closed-circuit television (CCTV) in each of the past 3 years (from 2017-18 to 2019-20)?

(b) nearly 60 out of some 98 public markets managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department are not installed with CCTV. What are the reasons? How will the Department ensure the security of the markets concerned?

(c) does the Government have any plan to install CCTV in public markets that currently have no or insufficient CCTV? If yes, what are the details? Will all public markets be covered? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 73)

Reply:

Close-circuit televisions (CCTVs) were installed in 39, 39 and 40 public markets managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department for security reasons in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively.

The outsourced service contractors are responsible for the security of the existing 97 public markets managed by the Department. The security service contractors undertake to deploy staff to support the day-to-day security operation of markets, including patrolling, maintaining order and calling for police assistance in case of crime. The Department deploys staff to monitor the work and performance of the contractors to ensure their compliance with the terms and conditions of the service contracts.

In general, the Department will consider upgrading facilities in public markets, including the installation of CCTVs, taking into account operational needs and actual circumstances of individual public markets.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3586)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
(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:

(a) Regarding the estimated expenditure for improving municipal facilities, did the Government further enhance the labour benefits of cleansing workers in the past year? If yes, please provide the details; if no, please give the reason(s).

(b) Did the Government improve the resting facilities of cleansing workers and replenish the cleansing equipment in the past year? Please provide the specific details.

(c) Given that the cleansing workers are employed by management service contractors on inadequate employment terms and conditions, will the Government take any improvement measures? If yes, please provide the details; if no, please give the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 77)

Reply:

(a) & (c)

In accordance with the measures announced by the Chief Executive in October 2018, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has adopted the following enhancement measures for service tenders issued on or after 1 April 2019 to protect non-skilled workers employed by its outsourced service contractors:

(i) the weighting of technical assessment of the marking scheme increases from the current 30% to 50%;

(ii) the weighting of wage level increases to 25 points out of 100 points (25%) in the technical assessment;

(iii) a contractual gratuity being 6% of the total wages earned by a non-skilled worker is provided for the worker with no less than one year's service of a continuous contract upon completion of an employment contract or termination of employment (save for summary dismissal as a serious disciplinary action);

(iv) statutory holiday pay is provided for a non-skilled worker having been employed under a continuous contract for not less than a month; and

(v) if a non-skilled worker is required to work when typhoon signal no. 8 or above is hoisted, the amount of wages for that day/shift's work should be at least 150% of the wages that the worker is originally entitled to.

For service contracts for which tenders were issued or planned, or which were awarded during the period between the announcement of the new policy on 10 October 2018 and 31 March 2019, FEHD has reached an agreement with the service contractors concerned to incorporate new clauses into the contracts so that the relevant staff can benefit from the new measures with effect from 1 April 2019.

(b) There is no specific statutory or contractual requirement on the provision of changing and locker facilities. Nevertheless, many venues of FEHD with contractors engaged have changing facilities which can be used by employees of the contractors. Generally speaking, there is sufficient space in public markets managed by FEHD for use by contractors' staff and for keeping cleansing equipment and supplies. For newly built refuse collection points (RCPs), changing and storage facilities are provided for both in-house staff and contractors' staff if circumstances permit. FEHD has also kick-started a pilot scheme to carry out improvement works in existing roll call points, including RCPs, for provision of changing and storage facilities. Changing and storage facilities will be provided if circumstances permit when the RCPs are refurbished. FEHD has conducted a comprehensive review of the facilities in the attendant rooms of public toilets. If circumstances permit, oscillating fans, exhaust fans, power sockets, etc. will be installed in existing attendant rooms. In addition, attendant rooms and related facilities will be provided in new public toilets and when public toilets are refurbished.

FEHD attaches great importance to the safety and occupational safety and health arrangements of staff (including in-house staff and those employed by outsourced contractors). FEHD and public cleansing service contractors assess the risks of various working environment settings and take appropriate precautionary measures, which include providing employees with adequate and suitable protective gear and staff with safety training. Under FEHD's cleansing services contracts, contractors are required to provide staff with suitable and adequate uniforms, tools and equipment as well as proper work environment and facilities. If any contractor contravenes the requirements, FEHD will issue a notice of default to the contractor and refer the case to the Labour Department for follow-up action.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4530)

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 the work of providing new public markets and the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme to improve facilities of existing public markets, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. What are the timetable for the development, target completion date and size of the public market in Tung Chung?

2. Will the Department consider providing a temporary market before the completion of the market in Tung Chung? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

3. Regarding the timetable for the development of the public market in Tin Shui Wai, has the Department set a target completion date? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

4. Will the Department considering providing a temporary market before the completion of the market in Tin Shui Wai? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

5. Will the Department consider providing another public market in Tin Shui Wai North? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

6. Does the Department plan to provide public markets in other districts in the territory? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 111)

Reply:

1, 3, 4 & 6 The Government is taking forward 7 new market projects which are at different stages of planning. They include the development of new public markets in Tin Shui Wai, Tung Chung Town Centre, Tseung Kwan O, Kwu

Tung North New Development Area, Tung Chung New Town Extension and Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area as well as the establishment of a temporary market in Tin Shui Wai. The information on the projects is set out at **Annex**.

2. For provision of temporary markets, the facilities will need to fulfill the relevant hygiene and safety requirements. Considerable amount of resources will also be required to provide the basic facilities, such as ceiling, stall partitions, electrical installations, water supply system, drainage system, sewage system, ventilation facilities, lighting systems, fire safety system, refuse handling facilities, loading and unloading areas, etc. Experience also suggests that there are often many challenges in identifying suitable locations for the provision of temporary markets in developed areas. The difficulty in planning and providing temporary markets cannot be underestimated.

5. In considering whether to build new public markets, the Government takes into account a host of factors, including demographic mix of the area, community needs, availability of market facilities and number of fresh provision retail outlets in the vicinity. On the suitability of any potential sites for a new public market when the need for it is confirmed, consideration will be given to their geographical location, existing and planned uses, usable area and ancillary transport facilities nearby, in order to ensure that, upon completion, the markets will be of a substantial scale and viability and that public finances and land resources can be optimised. The current site selected for the new public market in Tin Shui Wai is well-connected by public transport and close to Mass Transit Railway station and public transport interchanges, and accessible to members of the public. The Government is studying the technical feasibility of the project. When the assessment is completed, the project will be implemented as soon as possible according to the established procedures. Depending on the actual progress, the market is expected to be completed in the first half of 2027.

Annex

	Project	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date
1.	Tin Shui Wai temporary market (Tin Sau Road)	The temporary market will be built at the open space adjacent to Tin Sau Road Park using the modular integrated construction method. It is expected to provide about 40 stalls focusing on sale of fish, meat, vegetables and fruits.	Preparation of construction drawings and pre-construction works are underway.	The fourth quarter of 2020
2.	Tin Shui Wai market (a section of Tin Fuk Road)	A decked-over market will be built at the section of Tin Fuk Road near Tin Shui Wai Mass Transit Railway (MTR) Station. It is expected to provide a maximum of about 150 stalls.	The technical feasibility study is underway.	The first half of 2027
3.	Tung Chung Town Centre market (Area 6)	The market will be located on the lower floors of a commercial building to be built by a developer in Area 6 adjacent to Tung Chung MTR Station. It is expected to provide at least 100 stalls.	The technical feasibility study for the entire commercial building development project (including the public market) is underway.	To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.

	Project	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date
4.	Tseung Kwan O market	The market will be located on the lower floors of the proposed joint-user building for community facilities at Tseung Kwan O town centre.	The study and preliminary planning on the site selection for the joint-user building for community facilities (including the new public market) are underway.	To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.
5.	Kwu Tung North New Development Area market	To be confirmed upon completion of preliminary planning.	Preliminary planning is underway.	The development of the public markets will tie in with the housing development plan of the districts concerned.
6.	Tung Chung New Town Extension market			
7.	Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area market			

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4532)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
(4) Public Education and Community Involvement

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the following information in the past 5 years in tabular form:

(1) the number of burials;

(2) the number of applications for niches in public columbaria and the number of approved cases of interment of cremains;

(3) the number of applications for scattering cremains at sea, the number of applications approved, and the number of applications rejected and the reason(s) for rejection;

(4) the number of applications for scattering cremains in the Gardens of Remembrance, the number of applications approved, the number of applications rejected and the reason(s) for rejection, and the number of cases of scattering cremains in each of the 12 Gardens of Remembrance; and

(5) the costs for providing the services of scattering cremains at sea and scattering cremains in the Gardens of Remembrance for each deceased person to be borne by the Government.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 113)

Reply:

(1) & (2) The information sought is provided as follows:

Year	No. of Burials	Public Niches			
		New Niches*		Re-allocated Niches*	
		No. of applications	No. of niches allocated	No. of applications	No. of niches re-allocated
2015	3 355	11 627	14 573	7 164	394
2016	3 253		5 239	6 923	271
2017	2 962			7 931	346

2018	3 136			8 410	448
2019	2 780	30 107	751	2 878^	258

* The year in which new niches and re-allocated niches are allocated may not be the same as that in which the applications are made.

^ The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has ceased to accept applications for allocation of used niches since 26 April 2019. Also, the waiting list for this type of niches has been frozen.

(3) & (4) Information on the number of applications received and approved by the Department for scattering of ashes at sea and in Gardens of Remembrance in the past 5 calendar years is provided as follows:

Year	**Scattering of ashes**			
	At sea		**In Gardens of Remembrance**	
	No. of applications received	**No. of approved cases***	**No. of applications received**	**No. of approved cases***
2015	877	877	3 196	3 196
2016	900	900	4 004	4 004
2017	966	966	4 966	4 966
2018	972	972	5 352	5 352
2019	899	899	6 280	6 280

* All applications for scattering of ashes at sea and in Gardens of Remembrance were accepted and there was no rejected case in the past 5 calendar years.

The breakdown of the number of cases of scattering ashes in Gardens of Remembrance managed by the Department is provided as follows:

Name of Garden of Remembrance	**No. of cases of scattering ashes each year**				
	2015	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Cape Collinson (New)	510	620	884	924	1 055
Cape Collinson (Old)	1	3	5	24	18
Diamond Hill (New)	1 783	2 162	2 560	2 795	3 323
Diamond Hill (Old)	97	90	88	5	10
Kwai Chung (New)*					222
Kwai Chung (Old)	326	464	538	555	587
Fu Shan	127	172	237	272	315
Wo Hop Shek Phase V	285	453	611	740	720
Wo Hop Shek Phase III	66	38	37	24	23
Cheung Chau	1	1	5	12	5
Peng Chau	0	1	1	1	2
Lamma Island	0	0	0	0	0
Total	**3 196**	**4 004**	**4 966**	**5 352**	**6 280**

* The New Kwai Chung Garden of Remembrance was opened on 23 January 2019.

(5) The expenditure incurred by the Department in providing cemeteries and crematoria services, including the service for scattering of ashes at sea and in Gardens of Remembrance, in 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 was $327.4 million, $332.5 million, $345.6 million, $355.4 million and $407.6 million (revised estimate) respectively. There is no separate breakdown of the expenditure by type of service.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4540)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
(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 the work of delivering the food waste collected from public markets and cooked food centres to the new Organic Waste Treatment Facility for treatment, please inform this Committee of the following:

(1) Please provide the expenditure involved and the breakdown of the expenditure, the number and names of the selected markets and cooked food centres and the selection criteria.

(2) According to the reply last year, a pilot scheme would be launched in the second half of 2018. Please provide the latest details of the pilot scheme, including the implementation date, collection details, the estimated amount of food waste to be collected and actual amount of food waste collected.

(3) How will the Department evaluate the effectiveness of the work done?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 121)

Reply:

The pilot scheme of collection and delivery of food waste from government premises to the Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 1 (O · PARK1) contributes to the waste management policy of the Environment Bureau.

To encourage the commercial and industrial sectors to recycle food waste properly and support waste-to-energy facilities, the Government has implemented the first phase of a pilot scheme for 2 years to separate food waste at source from 40 public markets and cooked food venues managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department among other participating venues for delivery to the O · PARK1 for recycling. The pilot scheme was launched on 1 July 2018 for a period of 2 years.

Under the pilot scheme, FEHD engages service contractors to collect source-separated food waste generated from the selected public markets and cooked food venues. Stall operators will be encouraged to donate recyclable food waste on a voluntary basis and FEHD will arrange a contractor to deliver the food waste to the O ▪ PARK1.

The pilot scheme was designed to identify and determine key operational and logistics issues in collecting and transporting food waste to the O ▪ PARK1. To enhance the quality of the food waste to be collected and encourage the stall operators to recycle and handle food waste properly, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has arranged a non-governmental organisation to provide practical guidance to the stall operators on how to separate food waste at source, conduct talks to explain the arrangement and visit individual stall operators to give advice at the beginning and during the implementation of the pilot scheme.

FEHD's markets and cooked food venues covered in the pilot scheme are selected with regard to their proximity to the O ▪ PARK1, accessibility of land transport, the amount of food waste generated, and site availability in support of separation of food waste at source. A list of the markets and cooked food venues participating in the first phase of the pilot scheme is at Annex.

Since the implementation of the first phase of the pilot scheme for free collection of food waste, the amount of food waste collected from FEHD's markets and cooked food venues is about 200 tonnes per month. The expenditure involved in 2019-20 is about $22.7 million.

To further promote recycling of food waste, EPD is gearing up for the implementation of the second phase of the pilot scheme in 2020-21, which will include the extension of free collection of food waste to other organisations as well as other markets and cooked food venues managed by FEHD.

Based on the report "Monitoring of Solid Waste in Hong Kong" compiled by EPD, the statistics on the quantity of food waste disposed of and generated at landfills as well as the recovery rate concerned from 2014 to 2018 are set out in the table below. In 2018, the average daily quantity of food waste disposed of at landfills was 3 565 tonnes, which has decreased by 2.6% as compared to 2017. The recovery rate has increased as compared to the past year. Since July 2018, the O ▪ PARK1 has started receiving and treating food waste from the commercial and industrial sectors, including the approximate 200-tonne food waste collected monthly from FEHD's markets and cooked food venues. This, coupled with the second phase of the pilot scheme to be implemented to transport some of the food waste from the commercial, industrial and domestic sources to the food waste treatment facilities for processing, will help reduce waste disposal and promote waste recycling in the long run.

Year	Overall municipal food waste		
	Amount of food waste disposed of (Tonnes per day)	Amount of food waste generated (Tonnes per day)	Recovery rate
2014	3 640	3 659	0.5%
2015	3 382	3 420	1.1%
2016	3 600	3 643	1.2%
2017	3 662	3 702	1.1%

2018	3 565	3 639	2.0%

Remarks: The relevant statistical data on waste for 2019 is still being compiled by EPD.

Selected public markets and associated cooked food centres in the first phase of the pilot scheme

District	Name of public markets/cooked food centres
Central and Western	Sheung Wan Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Smithfield Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Shek Tong Tsui Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Sai Ying Pun Market
Eastern	Sai Wan Ho Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Yue Wan Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Java Road Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Chai Wan Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Quarry Bay Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Electric Road Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Aldrich Bay Market and Cooked Food Centre
Southern	Aberdeen Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Yue Kwong Road Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Tin Wan Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Ap Lei Chau Market and Cooked Food Centre
Wan Chai	Causeway Bay Market
	Wan Chai Market
	Bowrington Road Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Lockhart Road Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Wong Nai Chung Market and Cooked Food Centre
Kowloon City	Kowloon City Market and Cooked Food Centre
	To Kwa Wan Martket and Cooked Food Centre
	Hung Hom Market and Cooked Food Centre
Mong Kok	Fa Yuen Street Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Tai Kok Tsui Market and Cooked Food Centre
Sham Shui Po	Po On Road Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Pei Ho Street Market and Cooked Food Centre

District	Name of public markets/cooked food centres
Wong Tai Sin	Tai Shing Street Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Ngau Chi Wan Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Choi Hung Road Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Sheung Fung Street Market
Yau Tsim	Kwun Chung Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Yau Ma Tei Market
	Haiphong Road Temporary Market cum Haiphong Road Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar
Kwai Tsing	North Kwai Chung Market
	Wing Fong Street Market
	Tsing Yi Market
Tsuen Wan	Tsuen Wan Market
	Yeung UK Road Market
	Heung Che Street Market and Cooked Food Centre

- End -

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4541)

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:

(1) Please set out in tabular form the details and expenditure of the "anti-mosquito" work in the past 5 years. How effective was the work in each year? What is the estimated expenditure in 2020-21?

(2) Please set out in tabular form the details and expenditure of the "anti-rodent" work in the past 5 years. How effective was the work in each year? What is the estimated expenditure in 2020-21?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 122)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department carries out a series of anti-mosquito operations that mainly include removal of water accumulation, as well as mosquito prevention and control work in mosquito breeding places and potential mosquito breeding places over the territory. Emphasis will be placed on the surrounding areas of residential buildings, schools, construction sites, hospitals, illegal cultivation sites, waterfront public and private cargo handling areas, cross boundary check points, typhoon shelters, cross boundary ferry terminals, etc. The Department conducts an inter-departmental anti-mosquito campaign in 3 phases annually. Apart from stepping up mosquito control measures, education and publicity work will also be strengthened. In particular, members of the public will be reminded to eliminate the mosquito breeding places. After the anti-mosquito campaign, 2 phases of the special thematic mosquito prevention and control operation will be arranged from 30 March 2020 to 17 April 2020 and from 29 June 2020 to 17 July 2020 to sustain the momentum of the mosquito control work at strategic areas.

For rodent control, the Department adopts multi-pronged strategies and carries out anti-rodent operations in designated target areas through elimination of the 3 survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, by improving environmental hygiene, stepping up rodent disinfestation and enforcement actions. Emphasis will be placed on locations at markets, municipal services buildings, hawker bazaars, typhoon shelters, lanes adjacent to food premises and other problematic spots as well as their

surroundings. Apart from the routine anti-rodent work, the Department conducts a territory-wide and inter-departmental anti-rodent campaign annually, with a view to stepping up rodent prevention and control in designated target areas and reminding the public of the importance of rodent prevention and control. The first phase of the anti-rodent campaign was launched in January 2020 and the second phase will commence in July 2020. Moreover, 2 anti-rodent operations, each lasting for 8 weeks, will be conducted in designated target areas in the territory in May and November 2020 respectively. Measures to be taken include elimination of food sources and hiding places of rodents as well as blockage of their passages, so as to keep the areas clean. The Department will step up public education and publicity during the anti-rodent operations and arrange health talks for building managers of private buildings, persons-in-charge of food premises, operators of market and hawker stalls, etc. to provide information and technical advice on rodent prevention and control.

In addition, the Department provides technical advice to other government departments on pest control matters. The Department also carries out vector surveillance programmes to monitor the distribution and seasonal variation of vector mosquitoes and rodents including vector surveillance of dengue fever, Japanese encephalitis and malaria as well as rodent infestation surveys, rat-flea surveys and ad hoc surveys. To prevent the spread of vector-borne diseases, the Department also conducts vector surveys in surrounding areas of all locations visited by the patients.

The expenditure on mosquito and rodent prevention and control work for the past 5 financial years and 2020-21 is provided below:

	Financial year					
	2015-16	**2016-17**	**2017-18**	**2018-19**	**2019-20** (Revised Estimate)	**2020-21** (Estimate)
Expenditure on mosquito prevention and control work ($ million)	253.8	260.4	275.9	309.6	317.2	322.0
Expenditure on rodent prevention and control work ($ million)	160.9	164.8	172.6	198.3	207.1	209.1

Information on mosquito and rodent prevention and control work over the past 5 calendar years is provided below:

Mosquito prevention and control work carried out in the past 5 years					
Year	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Number of inspections	845 514	898 169	917 842	909 247	847 088
Number of mosquito breeding places eliminated	55 353	57 103	57 701	63 635	65 795
Summons taken against mosquito breeding	61	45	292	206	173
Number of mosquito surveys	4 369	5 322	5 284	6 077	6 585

Rodent prevention and control work carried out in the past 5 years					
Year	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Number of rodent trappings	54 533	53 477	54 438	60 432	68 490
Number of rodents caught	12 942	13 192	14 704	16 504	23 727
Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	52 397	57 209	70 121	93 815	98 322
Number of rodents poisoned	22 895	23 977	26 334	27 874	30 259
Number of rodent surveys	1 784	1 838	1 969	2 033	1 958

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4542)

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 connection with the Department's efforts to "apply new technology to enhance environmental hygiene services", please advise on the expenditure, the items involved and the details over the past 5 years. Please set out the relevant information, including the descriptions, quantities and prices of the items of new technology procured. What is the estimated expenditure for 2020-2021?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 123)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has been proactively applying technologies to enhance environmental hygiene services through the use of machines and automation. A summary of the technologies being used or piloted is provided at Annex.

The total expenditure from 2017-18 to 2019-20 was $80 million and the estimated expenditure for 2020-21 is $140 million.

Application of Technologies in Enhancing Environmental Hygiene

(a) Internet Protocol (IP) Cameras
IP cameras have been installed at over 150 illegal refuse deposit spots across the territory, and the number will progressively increase to over 300 by mid-2021.

(b) 360 Degrees Cameras
360 degrees cameras have been installed at 15 Marine Refuse Priority Sites on a trial basis since March 2020.

(c) Solar-powered Aluminium Refuse Collection Points (RCPs)
Solar-powered aluminium RCPs were put on trial at 26 rural sites from September 2019 to February 2020. The effectiveness is being assessed.

(d) Atomised Ozonated Water Technology
The Atomised Ozonated Water Technology is currently put on trial at RCPs to abate odour.

(e) Mini-mechanical Sweepers
Mini-mechanical sweepers have been used for street cleansing in designated areas of Tai Po and Yuen Long Districts. As the results are found satisfactory, suitable locations in other districts are being identified for their wider use.

(f) Solar-powered Compacting Refuse Bins (CRBs)
Solar-powered CRBs with an improved design have been put on trial since April 2019. The effectiveness is being assessed.

(g) Street Leaf Vacuum Cleaners
A trial run of street leaf vacuum cleaners at suitable locations in the New Territories is planned for the second quarter of 2020.

(h) Solar-powered Mobile Refuse Compactors (MRCs)
Solar-powered MRCs were put on trial in Tai Po District from May to June 2019. As the preliminary results are found satisfactory, a further trial will be conducted at suitable RCPs in rural areas of Yuen Long District in mid-2020.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4553)

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:

As far as the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme is concerned,

(1) which public toilets had commenced and completed refurbishment works in 2018-19 and 2019-20? What were the actual expenditures involved for each of the years?

(2) what are the names of public toilets which are expected to commence refurbishment works in 2020-21? How long will the works take? When (year/month) will the works be completed? What will be the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 134)

Reply:

(1) It was announced in the 2019-20 Budget that the Government would make an additional allocation of over $600 million to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme, under which the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will roll out the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 240 public toilets under its management by phases in 5 years starting from 2019-20, so as to improve their facilities and hygiene level. The Department has been working closely with the Architectural Services Department to roll out the refurbishment or facelifting projects for 42 public toilets in the first year, with a project estimate of about $151 million. The facelifting works for 7 public toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. A list of the 42 public toilets with their works schedules is at **Annex I**.

(2) The Department is planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifting works for 49 public toilets in 2020-21, with a project estimate of about $134 million. A list of the public toilets is at **Annex II**. Details of the works are not available at the present stage.

Annex I

List of 42 Public Toilets under the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2019-20 (As at 6 March 2020)

(A) 20 Refurbishment Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[1]
1.	Lok Ku Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to June 2021
2.	Ladder Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to June 2021
3.	Rumsey Street Multi Storey Car-park Public Toilet	Central & Western	From September 2020 to April 2021
4.	Sheung Shui Wai Po Sheung Tsuen Public Toilet	North	From April to December 2021
5.	Tseng Lan Shue Public Toilet	Sai Kung	From August 2021 to April 2022
6.	Ma Liu Shui Waterfront Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From December 2020 to August 2021
7.	Science Park Road Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From August 2020 to April 2021
8.	Shan Mei Street Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From February to September 2021
9.	Shap Yi Watt Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From August 2021 to April 2022
10.	Tai Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From April to November 2021
11.	To Tau Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	From April to November 2021
12.	No. 16 Aberdeen Main Road Public Toilet	Southern	From October 2021 to April 2022
13.	Fong Ma Po Public Toilet	Tai Po	From November 2020 to August 2021
14.	Ma Wo Public Toilet	Tai Po	From April to December 2021
15.	Tap Mun Pier Public Toilet	Tai Po	From April to December 2021
16.	Sunny Bay Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2020 to July 2021
17.	Wang Lung Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to November 2021
18.	Morrison Hill Road Public Toilet	Wan Chai	From February to August 2021
19.	Science Museum Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From February to September 2021
20.	Hong King Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	From March to December 2021

[1] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

(B) 22 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[2]
1.	Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall Public Toilet	Central & Western	From March to June 2020
2.	Wing Lok Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	From March to June 2020
3.	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	Islands	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
4.	Tat Tung Road Public Toilet	Islands	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
5.	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	From October 2019 to April 2020
6.	Kwai Hing Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	From October 2019 to April 2020
7.	Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Kwun Tong	From March to June 2020
8.	Shung Yan Street Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	From February to June 2020
9.	Mong Kok Road Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From June to October 2020
10.	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From September 2020 to February 2021
11.	Sai Yee Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	From May to October 2020
12.	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	From June to November 2019 (completed)
13.	Pei Ho Street Market G/F & 1/F Toilet	Sham Shui Po	1/F: From September to December 2019 (completed) G/F: From April to July 2020
14.	Yen Chow Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	From December 2019 to May 2020
15.	Chai Wan Kok Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to June 2020
16.	Chuen Lung Village Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
17.	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
18.	Shing Mun Road Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	From April to June 2020
19.	Wan Chai Market Public Toilet	Wan Chai	From April to October 2020
20.	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From September 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
21.	Jordan Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
22.	Market Street Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yau Tsim	From October 2019 to May 2020

[2] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

Annex II

List of 49 Public Toilets under the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2020-21

(A) 20 Refurbishment Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Wellington Street Public Toilet (Male Only)	Central & Western	Junction of Wellington Street and Queen's Road Central, Central
2.	Wa Hing Lane Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Central & Western	Junction of Shing Wong Street and Wa Hing Lane, Sheung Wan
3.	Ice House Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	Opposite No. 16 Ice House Street, Central
4.	Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Central & Western	2/F, Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building, No. 470 Queen's Road West, Shek Tong Tsui
5.	Stanley Tytam Village Public Toilet	Southern	Stanley Tytam Village near Hong Kong Sea School
6.	South Bay Public Toilet	Southern	South Bay Road near South Bay Beach
7.	Round Table I Village Public Toilet	Islands	Round Table I Village, Cheung Chau
8.	Ma Wan Chung Public Toilet	Islands	Ma Wan Chung, Tung Chung
9.	Anchor Street Playground Public Toilet	Mong Kok	Anchor Street Playground
10.	Chung Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Chung Uk Tsuen
11.	Kin Lung Street Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Kin Lung Street, Tuen Mun (near Shek Pai Tau Playground)
12.	Tai Tong Road Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yuen Long	Sai Ching Street (near Manhattan Plaza), Yuen Long
13.	Kuk Ting Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Kuk Ting Street, Yuen Long
14.	Luk Keng Public Toilet	North	Luk Keng Road near Chan Fung Kee Store, Sha Tau Kok
15.	Yue Kok Public Toilet	Tai Po	Yue Kok Village, Tai Po
16.	Tung Ping Chau Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tung Ping Chau
17.	Tap Mun Ha Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun Ha Wai, Tai Po

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
18.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village North Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village, Tai Po
19.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village South Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village, Tai Po
20.	Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Chun Yat Street

(B) 29 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Kennedy Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	Junction of Kennedy Road and Garden Road, Central
2.	Macau Ferry Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Central & Western	At side of Macau Ferry Bus Terminus, Sheung Wan
3.	Hospital Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	Basement, Centre for Food Safety, No. 4 Hospital Road, Sai Ying Pun
4.	Quarry Bay Market Public Toilet	Eastern	No. 38 Quarry Bay Street
5.	Pak Fuk Road Public Toilet	Eastern	Junction of Pak Fuk Road and Healthy Street Central
6.	Yip Fat Street Public Toilet	Southern	Near No. 12 Yip Fat Street, Wong Chuk Hang
7.	Sok Kwu Wan Public Toilet	Islands	Sok Kwu Wan Ferry Pier, Lamma
8.	Lo Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Islands	Lo Uk Tsuen, Lantau
9.	Shui Hau Public Toilet	Islands	Shui Hau Village, Lantau
10.	Pok Man Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	No. 1 Sham Mong Road, Olympic Station
11.	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus
12.	Lung Kong Road Public Toilet	Kowloon City	No. 30-32, Lung Kong Road
13.	Kei Yip Lane Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	Near Kwun Tong Ferry Pier Bus Terminus at Kei Yip Lane, Kwun Tong
14.	Tai Lin Pai Road Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	Tai Lin Pai Road near Kung Yip Street
15.	Ta Chuen Ping Street Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	Ta Chuen Ping Street near a carpark
16.	Tin Sum San Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Tin Sum San Tsuen

17.	San Wai Public Toilet	Yuen Long	San Wai, San Sik Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
18.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)	Yuen Long	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)
Serial no.	**Name of public toilet**	**District**	**Address**
19.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)	Yuen Long	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)
20.	Wo Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	North	At side of a carpark in Wo Hing Tsuen, Fanling
21.	Shui Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	Shui Wai Village, Tai Po
22.	Tai Po Tau South Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tai Po Tau Village
23.	Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Junction of Sha Tin Wai Road and Ngau Pei Sha Street
24.	Wo Liu Hang Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Wo Liu Hang Village
25.	Fo Tan Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	Near Shan Mei Street, Fo Tan Village
26.	Pak Kong Tsuen Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Opposite lamp post No. EB31651 at Pak Kong Road
27.	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village
28.	Tai Mong Tsai Public Toilet	Sai Kung	At side of Tai Mong Tsai Carpark
29.	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan) Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4558)

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 African Swine Fever (ASF), please advise this Committee of the following:

(1) Since the outbreak of ASF, how many food samples have been taken for ASF virus testing? Please set out in tabular form with a breakdown by food type the number of food samples taken, the places of origin of the food products sampled, the number of unsatisfactory samples detected, the quantity of food products recalled and the number of days required for conducting tests on food samples.

(2) Please list the number of cases involving seizure of smuggled pork by the Department at various border control points since the outbreak of ASF. Has manpower been stepped up to combat pork smuggling at border control points? Please advise on the departments involved and the manpower situation.

(3) What are the Department's corresponding actions for the ASF epidemic? Please advise on the departments and the manpower and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 139)

Reply:

(1) African Swine Fever (ASF) is not a zoonotic disease and there are no food safety concerns. However, to prevent the spread of ASF in Hong Kong, the Government will collect samples from pigs for testing of ASF under the current inspection mechanism once suspected cases are found. Positive test results have been announced by the Government on 10 May, 31 May and 3 September 2019.

(2) From August 2018 to February 2020, the Customs and Excise Department referred 492 cases of suspected illegal import of pork intercepted at border control points to the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department for follow-up action and more than 2 000 kg of pork was seized for disposal. CFS has ensured that proper manpower is deployed at border control points to safeguard food safety at the

import level. As at March 2020, there are 108 officers from the Food Import and Export Section of CFS on shift duty at various border control points.

(3) Since the first ASF outbreak on the Mainland in August 2018, the Government has been closely monitoring the development of the epidemic to stay alert and implement preventive measures accordingly. Each consignment of food pigs is subject to import inspection upon arrival in Hong Kong and must be accompanied by a valid animal health certificate issued by the Mainland authority attesting that the animals are clinically healthy and originate from a registered farm recognised by the General Administration of Customs, People's Republic of China. Live pigs will also undergo health inspection by veterinary officers at the control point. Besides, transportation trucks are disinfected before admission to the animal inspection station. All pigs admitted into the slaughterhouses must pass ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection before they are supplied to the market. When suspected ASF cases are found, inspection officers at the control point or the slaughterhouses will follow the existing inspection mechanism to take samples for testing of ASF by the Veterinary Laboratory of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department.

To enhance bio-security and prevent the spread of the ASF virus, cleansing and disinfection within the slaughterhouses (including incoming and outgoing vehicles and personnel, the lairages and the pig slaughtering lines) have also been strengthened. In addition, a daily clearance arrangement has been implemented in Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse and Tsuen Wan Slaughterhouse since 6 June 2019, whereby live pigs will be slaughtered within 24 hours upon admittance into the slaughterhouse. Under the new arrangement, lairages in different areas of the slaughterhouse will be cleared and thoroughly cleansed and disinfected every day. Since the period of stay for pigs in the slaughterhouses is short, and the slaughterhouses are fully cleansed and disinfected daily, the risk of ASF spreading in Hong Kong is significantly reduced.

Apart from quarantine, CFS has enhanced publicity on ASF through various channels, including broadcasting messages on the radio, displaying posters at border checkpoints, MTR trains and escalators, placing advertisements in newspapers and on the Internet, and adding posts on social media such as the Facebook, with a view to reminding the public that while ASF is not a zoonotic disease related to food safety, pork must be cooked thoroughly before consumption. CFS also makes use of simple and easy-to-understand infographics and short videos to conduct publicity on social media to facilitate the public in learning about ASF.

The revised estimate of expenditure on managing slaughterhouses and providing meat inspection services in 2019-20 was $57.92 million, involving the expenditure for 66 posts. The cost for handling ASF cannot be separately identified.

The revised estimate of expenditure on live food animal inspections and quarantine detector dog services at boundary control points and in slaughterhouses in 2019-20 was $68.10 million, involving the expenditure for 143 posts in CFS. The cost for handling ASF cannot be separately identified.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4563)

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:

Please set out in tabular form the number of "food factories" which are issued with a "food factory licence" and located in a shopping mall, with a breakdown by type of business.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 144)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

Business Type	Number of food factory licences
Takeaway fast food shops	3 319
Manufacture of bakery products	940
Processing of frozen/chilled/fresh food commodities	453
Manufacture of cooked food for wholesale	327
Manufacture of lunch/meal boxes	219
Others*	3 795
Total	**9 053**

* The figure denotes the number of food factories manufacturing or processing other types of food items such as bean curds, Chinese puddings, sauces, flour products, prepackaged drinks, ice, as well as distilled and mineral water, etc.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep statistics on the number of licensed food factories with a breakdown by building type.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4564)

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:

Please set out the following in tabular form:

(1) the total number of liquor licence applications received in the past 5 years; among them, the number of refused applications and the reasons for refusal;

(2) the number of liquor licence renewal applications processed by the Liquor Licensing Board in the past 5 years in private and public sessions respectively; among them, the number of applications with liquor licence issued and the number of refused applications;

(3) the number of applications received in the past 5 years from previous non-compliant restaurants or licensees that have sold liquor without a licence; among them, the number of liquor licences issued; and

(4) the number of applications received in the past 5 years from restaurants or licensees that have connections with the members of the Liquor Licensing Board and warrant a declaration.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 145)

Reply:

(1) The numbers of liquor licence applications received and refused in the past 5 calendar years are as follows:

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total number of liquor licence applications received (including new issue, renewal, transfer and amendment applications)	8 936	6 520	6 324	6 865	7 565
Total number of liquor licence applications refused (including new issue, renewal, transfer and amendment applications)	40	34	41	22	26

For the unsuccessful applications, the main reasons for refusal are: (a) the applicant is not a fit and proper person to hold the licence; (b) the premises to which the application relates are not suitable for selling or supplying intoxicating liquor, having regard to the location and structure of the premises, and the fire safety and hygienic conditions at the premises; and (c) the grant of licence would be contrary to public interest.

(2) The numbers of liquor licence renewal applications processed at closed door meetings and open hearings are as follows:

Year	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	Closed door meeting[2]	Open hearing[3]	Closed door meeting[2]	Open hearing[3]	Closed door meeting[2]	Open hearing[3]	Closed door meeting[2]	Open hearing[3]	Closed door meeting[2]	Open hearing[3]
Total number of liquor licence renewal applications processed	969	175	872	97	1 010	84	1 104	100	928	127
Total number of liquor licences renewed [1]	969 (0)	166 (0)	871 (1)	90 (0)	1 010 (0)	73 (0)	1 103 (1)	91 (0)	928 (0)	122 (1)
Total number of applications refused	0	9	0	7	0	11	0	9	0	4

[1] Figures in brackets indicate the numbers of applications abandoned by the applicants.

[2] When the Liquor Licensing Board (LLB) receives adverse comment(s) but not objection(s) in relation to a liquor licence application from members of the public or the Government departments, the case will be deliberated at a closed door meeting. Moreover, at the LLB meeting on 24 September 2019, it was passed that "closed door meeting" be renamed "house meeting".

[3] When LLB receives objection(s) in relation to a liquor licence application from members of the public or the Government departments, it will conduct an open hearing to listen to representations from the applicant, objector(s) and the relevant Government departments.

(3) The information sought is provided as follows:

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total number of liquor licence applications received from restaurants or licensees with records of selling liquor without a licence	4 (3)	2 (1)	5 (5)	4 (3)	1 (1)

Note: Figures in brackets indicate the numbers of liquor licences issued.

(4) The information sought is provided as follows:

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total number of declarations of interest	17	9	6	8	3

made by LLB members at the meeting					

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4565)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under the co-operation agreement between the Government and the Shenzhen Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureau, frozen meat imported into Hong Kong from overseas are allowed to be stored temporarily in Qianhaiwan Bonded Port Area (QBPA) in Shenzhen. In this connection,

(1) please set out the items of expenditure and amounts incurred for implementing the agreement in the past 5 years, and the estimated expenditure for 2020-2021.

(2) please provide the details of the inspection of frozen meat by the Department at the control point, including the inspection rate and number of inspections conducted.

(3) does the Department have any plans to monitor the implementation of the agreement at Qianhai and what measures will be taken for continued surveillance of the operation of cold stores in QBPA? If yes, what are the details? What testing method(s) will be used? Will surprise checks be conducted? If yes, what is the estimated expenditure?

(4) please provide the requirements set by the Department for cold stores in QBPA. Are the requirements on temperature control, facilities standards, etc. identical with the existing statutory requirements for cold stores in Hong Kong? If not, what is/are the difference(s) and the reason(s)?

(5) please provide in tabular form the names of approved and unapproved cold stores in QBPA, their respective sizes and operators, as well as the reason(s) for rejection of approval.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 146)

Reply:

Under the co-operation agreement between the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Shenzhen authorities, frozen meat from overseas for import into Hong

Kong may be stored temporarily in the Qianhaiwan Bonded Port Area (QBPA) for subsequent delivery to Hong Kong in batches. The Shenzhen authorities are responsible for the inspection and quarantine of frozen meat entering the QBPA, including monitoring the facilities and temperatures of the cold stores in which the frozen meat is kept, in order to ensure hygiene and food safety. The storage requirements in the QBPA are consistent with Hong Kong's licensing requirements for cold stores, including requiring the frozen meat to be kept at a temperature of -18^{o}C or below.

After leaving the QBPA, frozen meat conveyance vehicles must enter Hong Kong via the Man Kam To Control Point for inspection by the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Department. Every consignment of frozen meat must be accompanied by a health certificate issued by an issuing entity of the place of origin recognised by the Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene, and a transhipment certificate issued by the Shenzhen authorities certifying that the frozen meat was properly imported into the QBPA and not subject to spoilage or deterioration during the period of temporary storage in the QBPA. Besides, the importer is required to obtain an import licence from the Department. CFS will collect samples of frozen meat for testing under a risk-based approach. CFS makes use of its existing resources to carry out work in relation to import of frozen meat from the QBPA. We do not have breakdown figures for this area of work.

At present, there is one registered cold store for temporary storage of frozen meat in the QBPA under the co-operation agreement. The cold store is operated by China Merchants International Cold Chain (Shenzhen) Co. Ltd. and has a floor area of about 1 750 square metres.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)310

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4566)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

On monitoring online sale of food,

(1) has the Government conducted sampling tests on food available for sale online over the past 5 years? Please provide in tabular form the sample size, the ways of purchase, the places of origin of the food items concerned, their food types and the test results.

(2) please provide the number of inspections conducted on food suppliers or in places of food production in each of the past 5 years.

(3) please provide the number of cases of irregularities detected, summons issued, prosecutions instituted and cases convicted over the past 5 years.

(4) what are the details of the Department's work plan on "online sale of food"? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 147)

Reply:

(1) The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department takes samples of locally produced and imported food products for testing through purchasing directly from various websites and online platforms having regard to the risk-based principle under its Food Surveillance Programme. CFS collected a total of 18 691 online food samples from 2015 to 2019. The figures, with a breakdown by year, are as follows:

	2015	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Number of online food samples	1 502	4 053	4 091	4 164	4 881

The testing results of all, except 16, of the aforementioned samples were satisfactory. Of the unsatisfactory samples, 9 were aquatic products, 5 were vegetables, fruits and cereal grain products, 1 was a meat product and 1 was honey. The unsatisfactory samples were detected to have metallic contamination, pesticide residues or preservatives exceeding the relevant safety standards.

(2) The number of inspections of food premises conducted by the Department in the past 5 calendar years is as follows:

	2015	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Number of inspections	239 301	247 422	248 452	230 254	225 944

We do not have a breakdown on the number of inspections conducted on food suppliers with respect to online food sale.

(3) The numbers of prosecutions and convictions against unlicensed online food sale in the past 5 calendar years are as follows:

	2015	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Number of prosecutions	24	26	36	68	38
Number of convictions	24	25	34	67[Note]	28[Note]

Note As at 31 March 2020, hearing results of 1 prosecution instituted in 2018 and 10 prosecutions instituted in 2019 are pending.

(4) The Department has been closely monitoring online food sale, including keeping an eye on online food traders that are not involved in food production and do not have physical premises. If the Department suspects that an online food sale activity involves unlicensed business operation or has doubts about the source and safety of the food concerned, it will conduct investigations, including mounting decoy operations to collect evidence and information, and take appropriate actions. Moreover, health inspectors of the Food Surveillance Unit and the Food Labelling Unit of CFS will continue to take samples of food put up for sale online. These 2 units, which also undertake other duties, have an establishment of 40 staff members. Their estimated staff cost is $26.88 million in 2020-21.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4567)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to genetically modified (GM) food, please advise this Committee:

(1) whether the Department plans to develop an official certification scheme for GM food. If yes, please provide the timetable, details of work and estimated expenditure; if no, the reason(s).

(2) whether the Government has conducted sample testing or examination on GM food over the past 5 years. Please provide tabulated information on the sample size, the places of origin of the food items concerned, their food types and the test results.

(3) whether the Government has statistics on the number of cases requiring medication or hospital admission due to discomfort after consumption of GM food over the past 5 years. If yes, please provide the figures and details.

(4) of the details of the Department's work plan on GM food and the estimated expenditure in 2020-21.

(5) whether the Department has made reference to overseas studies on GM food legislation. If yes, please provide the details.

(6) whether the Department has conducted market surveys on GM food available for sale in Hong Kong. If yes, the details; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 148)

Reply:

According to the World Health Organization, genetically modified (GM) food currently available on the international market has passed the safety assessments of the respective food safety regulatory authorities and is not likely to be harmful to human health. In addition, the Codex Alimentarius Commission considers that governments of different places may make their own decisions on whether or not to label GM food.

All food products for sale in Hong Kong for human consumption (including GM food) must comply with the same set of statutory standards on safety, quality and labelling of food and are covered by the Food Surveillance Programme of the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. CFS adopts a risk-based principle in taking food samples at the import, wholesale and retail levels for testing to ensure food safety. CFS does not have a breakdown on the number of GM food samples collected. In the past 5 years, CFS has not received any report of food poisoning in relation to GM food.

Besides, CFS has issued the "Guidelines on Voluntary Labelling of Genetically Modified Food" which set out the principles on labelling of GM food and provide reference for the trade to give accurate and user-friendly information on the GM food labels. CFS will continue to promote the voluntary labelling regime to traders and keep in view international development in GM technology and food labelling standards to formulate policies in a timely manner. CFS will make use of its existing manpower and resources to carry out the above work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4568)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to nutrition labelling of food items, the Centre for Food Safety is requested to list the following information by year.

(1) Has the Government conducted food samplings for the checking of irregularities in nutrition labelling over the past 5 years? Please provide tabulated information on the sample size, places of origin of the food items, food types and the test results.

(2) Please provide the number of samplings/inspections conducted, cases of irregularities detected, summons issued, prosecutions instituted and cases convicted in each of the past 5 years, with a breakdown by retail outlet inspected.

(3) Please provide the details of the Department's work plan on food samplings and inspections in relation to nutrition labelling. What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 149)

Reply:

(1) The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has all along adopted a risk-based approach in checking the nutrition labels of prepackaged food products. The results of checking from 2015 to 2019, with breakdowns by nature of non-compliance and food type, are tabulated below:

	Number of cases					
	2015	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**Total**
Number of prepackaged food products checked	5 369	5 625	7 023	7 170	7 035	32 222

Number of non-compliant cases	29	54	34	62	80	259
(a) Breakdown of non-compliant cases by nature of non-compliance						
Nature of non-compliance	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**Total**
No nutrition label or incomplete labels on the energy content and seven core nutrients (i.e. "1 + 7" nutrition label)	17	18	8	19	32	94
Inappropriate nutrition label format	1	0	2	0	7	10
Inappropriate nutrient claim	0	0	1	2	1	4
Inappropriate language	0	2	4	6	1	13
Involving more than one type of the abovementioned irregularities	0	0	0	1	0	1
Discrepancy between declared nutrient value and chemical analysis result	11	34	19	34	39	137
Total	29	54	34	62	80	259
(b) Breakdown of non-compliant cases by food type						
Food type	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**Total**
Bakery and cereal products	5	9	4	21	16	55
Candies and snacks	15	13	14	23	15	80
Drinks	1	7	2	2	10	22
Oils, sauces and condiments	2	12	10	9	4	37
Others	6	13	4	7	35	65
Total	29	54	34	62	80	259

(2) The number of prepackaged food products sampled by CFS for checking of nutrition labels in each year from 2015 to 2019 is set out in the table of (1) above. In these 5 years, 32 222 samples were checked and 259 non-compliant cases were detected. CFS instituted prosecution on 128 cases, of which 117 cases were convicted, 10 were pending a court decision and 1 was withdrawn upon the advice of the Department of Justice (DoJ). A breakdown on the number of the prosecution cases by year is as follows:

	Number of prosecution cases					
	2015	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**Total**
Number of summons	17	19	18	28	46	128
Number of convictions	16*	19	18	28	36#	117

* 1 case was withdrawn upon DoJ's advice.

\# 10 cases were pending court decision.

(3) CFS will continue to adopt a risk-based approach to take samples for nutrition label checking and chemical analysis. Non-compliant cases would be followed up and prosecution actions would be taken if there is sufficient evidence. The expenditure on enforcement of nutrition labelling requirements forms part of the expenditure on food surveillance and complaint handling and cannot be separately identified. The estimated expenditure for food surveillance and complaint handling in 2020-21 is $78 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4569)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the following information, with a breakdown by year:

(1) the number of samples tested for heavy metals in food in the past 5 years, the border points from which the food products sampled were imported into Hong Kong, the types of food concerned, their places of origin, the test results and the exceedances found (if any);

(2) the number of samples tested for bacteria in food in the past 5 years, the border points from which the food products sampled were imported into Hong Kong, the types of food concerned, their places of origin, the test results and the exceedances found (if any); and

(3) the number of samples tested for radiation levels in food in the past 5 years, the border points from which the food products sampled were imported into Hong Kong, the types of food concerned, their places of origin, the test results and the exceedances found (if any).

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 150)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department takes food samples at the import, wholesale and retail levels having regard to the risk-based principle under its Food Surveillance Programme (FSP) to safeguard food safety. CFS does not have the breakdown figures of food samples by place of origin and boundary control point of food import.

(1) The number of food samples tested for metallic contaminants under the FSP in the past 5 years by food group (rounded to the nearest ten) is as follows:

Food group	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Vegetables, fruits and related products	1 980	1 620	1 690	3 040	3 240	11 580
Meat, poultry and related products	40	50	150	120	320	660
Aquatic products and related products	1 090	1 090	1 190	1 110	1 430	5 910
Cereals and cereal products	1 040	1 180	1 190	1 240	1 160	5 810
Others	830	770	780	780	810	3 950
Total	**4 980**	**4 710**	**5 000**	**6 290**	**6 970**	**27 930**

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

The testing results of all, except 93, of the aforementioned food samples were satisfactory. Of the unsatisfactory samples, 54 were aquatics products and related products, 33 were vegetables, fruits and related products, and 6 were cereals and cereal products.

(2) The number of food samples taken for microbiological testing under the FSP in the past 5 years (rounded to the nearest ten), with a breakdown by food group, is as follows:

Food group	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Vegetables, fruits and related products	1 100	1 060	1 200	530	510	4 380
Meat, poultry and related products	1 460	1 390	1 590	1 460	1 440	7 310
Aquatic products and related products	1 930	1 780	1 870	1 790	1 800	9 140
Milk, milk products and frozen confections	5 220	6 680	6 820	7 310	6 930	32 960
Cereals and cereal products	140	150	170	120	70	630
Others	4 200	4 470	5 500	5 880	6 110	26 200
Total	**14 050**	**15 530**	**17 150**	**17 090**	**16 840**	**80 620**

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

The testing results of all, except 135, of the aforementioned food samples were satisfactory. Of the unsatisfactory samples, 88 were milk, milk products and frozen confections, 12 were vegetables, fruits and related products, 10 were meat, poultry and related products, 3 were aquatic products and related products, and 22 were other food products.

(3) CFS conducts radiation checking on every consignment of food products imported from Japan with the use of hand-held survey meters and adopts a risk-based principle in collecting food samples for laboratory testing of radiation levels. Samples are also taken

from food products imported from other economies for radiation testing under a risk-based approach. The number of such food samples, with a breakdown by food group, is as follows:

Food group	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Vegetables, fruits and related products	10 816	13 301	16 647	17 582	16 872	75 218
Meat, poultry and related products	2 207	2 138	2 461	2 814	3 220	12 840
Aquatic products and related products	12 318	12 342	13 450	15 759	14 474	68 343
Milk, milk products and frozen confections	1 033	1 035	1 091	938	1 130	5 227
Others (including drinks, cereals and cereal products and snacks)	51 340	50 468	55 708	61 495	65 864	284 875
Total	**77 714**	**79 284**	**89 357**	**98 588**	**101 560**	**446 503**

The testing results of all samples taken from food products imported from Japan and other economies over the past 5 years were satisfactory.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4570)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2018, the Government relaxed import control on all vegetables, fruits, milk, milk beverages and dried milk from 4 Japanese prefectures, namely Ibaraki, Tochigi, Chiba and Gunma. What are the types and quantities of food products imported into Hong Kong from each of the 4 prefectures? How many samples of these food products are taken for testing and how many of them are detected with irregularities?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 151)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has allowed the import of vegetables, fruits, milk, milk beverages and dried milk from 4 prefectures of Japan, namely Ibaraki, Tochigi, Chiba and Gunma, into Hong Kong with conditions with effect from noon on 24 July 2018. As at 31 March 2020, 65 consignments or 17 888 kilograms (kg) of the aforesaid food products were imported from the 4 prefectures. Information on these food products, with a breakdown by food type and import quantity, is set out as follows:

Food type	**Import quantities (kg)**				**Total import quantities (kg)**
	Chiba	**Tochigi**	**Gunma**	**Ibaraki**	
Fruits	860	4 573	219	3 375	**9 027**
Vegetables	310	0	185	7 984	**8 479**
Dried milk	0	0	382	0	**382**
					17 888

The aforesaid food products from these 4 prefectures must be accompanied with a radiation certificate and a valid exporter certificate issued by the competent authority of Japan. CFS

has made use of hand-held survey meters to check the radiation levels of each of these consignments and collected 99 food samples under a risk-based approach for laboratory testing. No radiation was detected.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)315

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4571)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding sampling of imported foods for radiation level tests,

a. please provide the number of samples taken, the number of unsatisfactory food samples detected and the places of origin of the unsatisfactory samples in the past 3 years; and

b. has the Department stepped up the sampling and inspection programme in the 2020-21 Estimates? If yes, what are the details including the manpower and expenditure incurred? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 152)

Reply:

a. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department conducts radiation checking on every consignment of food products imported from Japan with the use of hand-held survey meters and adopts a risk-based principle in collecting food samples for laboratory testing of radiation levels. Samples are also taken from food products imported from other economies for radiation testing under a risk-based approach. Radiation tests were conducted on around 89 000, 99 000 and 102 000 samples of imported food items in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively. The testing results were satisfactory.

b. In 2020-21, CFS will continue to adopt a risk-based principle in conducting radiation checking on food products imported from Japan and other economies. As this is part of the food surveillance and import control work and the subject officers also undertake other duties, we do not have a separate breakdown of the manpower and recurrent expenditure involved in this aspect of work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4572)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the following information, with a breakdown by food type and place of origin, for the past 5 years:

(1) the number of imported food samples tested;

(2) the number of imported food samples which required a product recall, and the quantity of products recalled from the market; and

(3) the shortest, longest and average time taken (in days) for conducting tests on samples of imported food involved in a product recall.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 153)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department takes food samples at the import, wholesale and retail levels for testing having regard to the risk-based principle under its Food Surveillance Programme to safeguard food safety. CFS does not keep separate figures on samples collected from locally produced food and imported food. The number of samples tested over the past 5 years, with a breakdown by food group, is as follows:

Food group	**Number of samples**				
	2015	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Vegetables, fruits and related products	29 700	30 800	29 900	29 500	28 300
Meat, poultry and related products	6 300	5 300	6 300	5 700	6 100
Aquatic products and related products	5 800	5 600	5 900	5 500	6 100
Milk, milk products and frozen confections	7 900	9 500	9 800	10 000	10 000
Cereals and cereal products	2 900	3 200	3 500	3 400	3 400
Others	11 700	11 100	11 800	11 900	12 300
Total	64 300	65 500	67 100	66 000	66 200

Note: As the figures are rounded to the nearest hundred, they may not add up to the total indicated.

In the same period, there were 26 cases in which samples of imported food were found with unsatisfactory results which necessitated a product recall. The time taken for testing each of these samples varied and was about 12 days on average, depending on various factors including the complexity of the tests and the types of samples involved. The quantity of food products recalled from the market was determined by factors such as whether the implicated food could be stored, whether the food traders had sold all the food products, and whether consumers had returned the products to the food traders. Breakdowns of the samples concerned by food group and place of origin are as follows:

Food group	**Number of product recalls (Place of origin [its number of cases in the relevant place of origin])**				
	2015	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Vegetables, fruits and related products	3 (Mainland [2]; South Africa/ Chile/ United States [1])	1 (Taiwan)	1 (Taiwan)	1 (Mainland)	3 (Mainland [2]; Thailand [1])
Aquatic products and related products	1 (New Zealand)	2 (Indian Ocean/ Vietnam [1]; Mainland [1])	2 (United Kingdom)	2 (Italy)	1 (Mainland)
Milk, milk products and frozen confections	2 (Australia; New Zealand)	-	-	-	-
Cereals and cereal products	1 (Japan)	-	1 (Mainland)	-	-
Others	-	-	3 (Australia; Indonesia; Netherlands)	1 (Egypt)	1 (Philippines)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4573)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In respect of monitoring of the safety of food supplied to Hong Kong, please advise on:

(a) the number of Mainland production farms approved for supplying food to Hong Kong over the past 5 years, with a breakdown by province and type of food exported, such as vegetables, fruits, live pigs, live cattle, live chickens and freshwater fish, and the number of farms removed from the list of registered production farms for supplying food to Hong Kong; and

(b) the number of inspections conducted by the Department to these farms, fish ponds, etc. in the past 5 years, with information on the samples collected for testing, the tests conducted and the test results.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 154)

Reply:

(a) Information on the types and number of registered Mainland farms eligible for export of food to Hong Kong from 2015 to 2019 is set out as follows:

Year	Vegetable farm	Orchard	Poultry farm	Pig farm	Cattle farm	Goat farm	Aquatic animal farm	Total
2015	450	2 463	34	217	34	1	174	3 373
2016	442	2 978	34	213	36	1	191	3 895
2017	458	2 978	28	173	38	3	150	3 828
2018	458	3 384	29	154	36	3	122	4 186
2019	517	3 384	25	120	24	5	137	4 212

The number of the aforementioned Mainland farms, with a breakdown by geographical location, as at 31 December 2019 is as follows:

Province/City/ Autonomous Region	**Vegetable farm**	**Orchard**	**Poultry farm**	**Pig farm**	**Cattle farm**	**Goat farm**	**Aquatic animal farm**
Anhui	3	6	-	-	1	-	-
Beijing	5	1	-	-	-	-	-
Chongqing	2	11	-	-	-	-	-
Fujian	6	209	-	-	-	-	-
Gansu	6	180	-	-	3	1	-
Guangdong, Shenzhen and Zhuhai	134	86	23	55	1	1	109
Guangxi	8	35	-	10	-	-	1
Guizhou	12	21	-	1	1	-	-
Hainan	7	36	2	3	-	1	5
Hebei	17	170	-	-	2	-	-
Heilongjiang	-	17	-	-	-	-	-
Henan	9	15	-	11	-	-	-
Hubei	13	21	-	6	2	1	3
Hunan	80	54	-	20	-	-	14
Jiangsu	14	7	-	-	-	-	2
Jiangxi	9	27	-	12	-	-	-
Jilin	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Liaoning	5	245	-	-	-	-	1
Neimongol	4	-	-	-	2	-	-
Ningxia	23	2	-	-	1	-	-
Shaanxi	-	433	-	-	6	-	-
Shandong	75	575	-	-	-	-	-
Shanxi	3	233	-	1	4	-	-
Shanghai	13	5	-	1	-	-	-
Sichuan	3	109	-	-	-	-	-
Tianjin	1	2	-	-	1	-	-
Xiamen	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Xinjiang	-	106	-	-	-	-	-

Xizang	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Yunnan	48	714	-	-	-	1	-
Province/City/ Autonomous Region	**Vegetable farm**	**Orchard**	**Poultry farm**	**Pig farm**	**Cattle farm**	**Goat farm**	**Aquatic animal farm**
Zhejiang	16	60	-	-	-	-	2
Total	517	3 384	25	120	24	5	137

(b) Information on the types and number of Mainland farms inspected in the past 5 years is set out as follows:

Year	**Vegetable farm**	**Orchard**	**Poultry farm**	**Pig farm**	**Cattle farm**	**Goat farm**	**Aquatic animal farm**	**Total**
2015	13	3	22	14	6	0	9	67
2016	9	3	25	19	3	1	5	65
2017	18	1	25	8	4	0	7	63
2018	7	4	16	7	7	0	13	54
2019	12	1	18	11	7	0	9	58

The Centre for Food Safety of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not take samples during these inspections but samples of food are collected at the import, wholesale and retail levels for testing under a risk-based approach to safeguard food safety.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4737)

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 the past 5 years, has the Department put in place any tools, measures or work arrangements to ensure the safety of outsourced cleansing workers at work and prevent them from sustaining injuries at work or suffering from musculoskeletal disorders? If yes, what are the expenditures involved? Please also provide the number of outsourced cleansing workers who were injured in the course of work or injured due to musculoskeletal disorders arising from work in the past 5 years. Does the Department have a work plan or a budget for preventing outsourced workers from sustaining injuries in the course of work or suffering from occupational diseases arising from work and improving their working environment? If yes, what are the items and the expenditure involved? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 340)

Reply:

The contracts signed between the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and its service contractors stipulate that the contractor personnel should have the necessary training which includes training in occupational safety and health for provision of the services, and that the contractors should ensure that all their employees wear tidy and clean uniforms or special protective clothing which the Government may consider necessary or appropriate while they are providing the services. The contractors are obliged to provide and replace uniforms and special protective clothing for their staff. The Department adds a clause to newly awarded contracts to require the contractors to submit a plan for the supply and allocation of uniforms and special protective clothing within 2 weeks after the commencement of the contracts for approval. The contractors are also required to keep a record of allocation of such items to each employee with his/her acknowledgement of receipt, and provide the record at the Department's request for inspection.

In addition, it is also part of the contractual requirements that contractors should comply with all legislation in relation to the execution of the service contracts. Specifically, the Occupational Safety and Health Regulation (Cap. 509A) (the Regulation) provides that the employers have a duty to ensure, as far as practicable, their employees' safety and health at work. If the Department suspects a breach of the Regulation, the case will be referred to the Labour Department (LD) for investigation. If it is confirmed after investigation that the contractor has committed an offence under the Regulation, the LD will take appropriate actions including instituting prosecution against the contractor. The Department will also take actions in accordance with the contract terms, including the issuance of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices as well as withholding/deducting monthly payment of service charge.

The number of reported cases received by the Department on injury at work of cleansing workers employed under cleansing service contracts in the past 5 years is given as follows:

Year	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (As at 29.2.2020)
No. of reported cases on injury at work*	94	65	68	63	19

* No breakdown on cause of injury is available.

The Department does not keep a breakdown of the expenditure on occupational safety.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)319

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4738)

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 the cleansing workers and toilet attendants employed by outsourced service contractors of the Department in the past 5 years, please provide:

(1) a breakdown of the number of workers by workplace (such as public toilets, streets);

(2) the number of cleansing workers working in the 18 districts in Hong Kong;

(3) the median wage and average wage rate; and

(4) the number and percentage of workers entitled to payment for meal breaks and those of workers not entitled to payment for meal breaks under the contracts.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 341)

Reply:

(1) and (2) The information sought is provided at Annex 1.

(3) The information sought is provided at Annex 2.

(4) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep information on the number of outsourced workers with or without paid meal breaks.

Annex 1

Number of outsourced cleansing workmen and toilet attendants

Districts	**2015-16**	**2016-17**	**2017-18**	**2018-19**	**2019-20 (as at 31.12.2019)**
Number of Cleansing Workmen (mainly performing street cleansing duties)					
Central and Western	534	533	665	653	802
Eastern	197	195	321	443	583
Islands	217	219	239	244	353
Kowloon City	385	385	434	437	594
Kwai Tsing	344	363	363	336	337
Kwun Tong	382	387	441	441	502
Mong Kok	509	452	444	436	442
North	489	496	520	524	579
Sai Kung	386	395	409	402	402
Sha Tin	368	368	418	421	462
Sham Shui Po	478	477	490	503	588
Southern	208	208	246	246	302
Tai Po	321	346	346	337	337
Tsuen Wan	406	406	432	432	403
Tuen Mun	307	307	308	310	320
Wan Chai	332	341	509	508	508
Wong Tai Sin	248	246	270	286	290
Yau Tsim	366	274	274	290	294
Yuen Long	478	519	519	621	621
Cross-District	1 064	1 056	911	1 078	581
Total	8 019	7 973	8 559	8 948	9 300
Number of Toilet Attendants					
Central and Western	81	81	99	99	125
Eastern	26	26	26	58	52
Islands	49	49	65	65	71
Kowloon City	64	64	64	64	60
Kwai Tsing	37	38	38	42	42
Kwun Tong	42	42	40	40	42
Mong Kok	36	36	36	44	44
North	46	46	54	54	67
Sai Kung	27	27	25	32	42
Sha Tin	40	40	50	50	46
Sham Shui Po	40	40	42	42	44
Southern	32	32	40	40	48
Tai Po	29	29	29	34	34

Tsuen Wan	36	36	34	34	38
Tuen Mun	16	16	18	18	24
Wan Chai	30	30	68	68	68
Wong Tai Sin	22	22	24	24	24
Yau Tsim	44	40	40	46	46
Yuen Long	46	48	48	56	56
Cross-District	113	113	89	57	57
Total	856	855	929	967	1 030

Note: The Department does not keep information on the breakdown of the number of workers by workplace.

The numbers of cleansing workmen and toilet attendants are the numbers of functional posts stipulated in the contracts.

Monthly wages of outsourced cleansing workmen and toilet attendants

	2015-16	**2016-17**	**2017-18**	**2018-19**	**2019-20 (as at 31.12.2019)**
Cleansing Workmen					
Median Committed Monthly Wages ($)	8,184	8,308	8,804	8,928	9,672
Average Committed Monthly Wages ($)	8,172	8,312	8,815	9,088	10,012
Toilet Attendants					
Median Committed Monthly Wages ($)	9,207	9,347	9,905	10,044	10,881
Average Committed Monthly Wages ($)	9,210	9,313	9,902	10,129	11,154

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4740)

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:

Under the heading "A Liveable City" in the Budget Speech delivered in 2019, the Financial Secretary mentioned that a total expenditure of $600 million will be allocated for refurbishing 240 public toilets by phases. In this connection, (1) what is the work plan, including the number of phases and the expected commencement date of the first phase with its objectives, number of public toilets to be refurbished, duration and estimated expenditure? (2) What are the assessment criteria for the quality of public toilets, the requirement for refurbishment and the cleanliness, including odour and dryness? (3) Does the Department have any statistics on the average lifespan and times of use of a public toilet?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 344)

Reply:

(1)-(2) It was announced in the 2019-20 Budget that the Government would make an additional allocation of over $600 million to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme, under which the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will roll out the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 240 public toilets under its management by phases in 5 years starting from 2019-20, so as to improve their facilities and hygiene level. The Department has been working closely with the Architectural Services Department to roll out the refurbishment or facelifting projects for 42 public toilets in the first year, with a project estimate of about $151 million. The facelifting works for 7 public toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. Refurbishment or facelifting projects for 49 public toilets are being planned to commence in 2020-21.

New design and layouts will generally be adopted for the refurbishment of public toilets, with beautified facades and modern facilities, with a view to making them hygienic, clean and safe. The improvement works may cover exterior design, installations and equipment, materials, ventilation, odour control, lighting, infra-red sensor-activated taps and flushing facilities, etc. The Department will adjust the

scope of the refurbishment of individual toilets having regard to the actual circumstances.

The Department has stepped up inspection and monitoring of contractors' performances of the public toilets with relatively high utilisation rates or located at tourist spots with focus on the following 4 performance indicators:

(a) dry floor;
(b) floor, wall and facilities free from stains and dirt;
(c) no foul smell; and
(d) proper performance of toilet facilities.

(3) The Department does not keep the information sought.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4741)

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:

Please set out in tabular form (1) the number of aqua privies in the territory, (2) their locations, (3) the number of toilet compartments, (4) the usage rate, (5) the frequency and time interval of desludging service, (6) any plan to convert aqua privies into flushing toilets (if yes, the target year and month in which the conversion will take place), and (7) the estimated expenditure, with a breakdown by the 18 districts.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 350)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department provides 44 aqua privies. The desludging frequency for these facilities mainly depends on the utilisation rate and ground situations. Information on the locations of aqua privies, number of water closets, utilisation rate and plan for conversion into flushing toilets is provided at **Annex**.

Annex

Information on Aqua Privies

(as at February 2020)

District	Location	Number of water closets	Utilisation rate	Whether it will be converted to a flushing toilet	Anticipated completion date	Estimated cost of conversion works ($ million)
Islands	Po Toi	5	Moderate	Site search for reprovisioning under study (in-situ refurbished)*	Not available	Not available
Islands	Ha Ling Pei	Not available (conversion works in progress)		Yes	July 2020	6.000
Islands	Shek Lau Po	Not available (conversion works in progress)		Yes	Q4 2020	8.987
Islands	Sha Lo Wan Tsuen	Not available (conversion works in progress)		Yes	Q2 2020	6.410
Islands	Nam Chung	5	Moderate	Yes	Not available	5.000
Islands	Fan Lau	4	Low	Site search for reprovisioning under study (in-situ refurbished)*	Not available	Not available
Kwai Tsing	Kau Wah Keng Village	4	Low	Site search for reprovisioning under study (in-situ refurbished)*	Not available	Not available
Tsuen Wan	Sham Tseng San Tsuen	4	Low	Demolition under planning	N.A.	N.A.
Tsuen Wan	Ma Wan Heung Sze Wui Road	8	Low	Yes (to be reprovisioned under private development project)	The reprovisioned public toilet will not be managed by the Department	
Tsuen Wan	Ma Wan Fisherman Village	6	Low	Yes (to be reprovisioned	The reprovisioned public toilet will not be managed by the Department	

District	Location	Number of water closets	Utilisation rate	Whether it will be converted to a flushing toilet	Anticipated completion date	Estimated cost of conversion works ($ million)
				under private development project)		
Tsuen Wan	Yam O Luk Keng	2	Low	Site search for reprovisioning under study (in-situ refurbished)*	Not available	Not available
Tuen Mun	Fu Tei Sheung Tsuen	3	Moderate	Demolition under planning	Not available	Not available
Tuen Mun	Siu Sau Tsuen near Wan Lee Store	6	Low	Yes (to be reprovisioned under private development project)	To be confirmed	Not available
Tuen Mun	Wong Uk Tsuen, Tai Lam	4	Low	Yes (to be reprovisioned under private development project)	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Shui Chiu San Tsuen (1)	5	Low	Yes (a suitable site being identified for reprovisioning)	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Cheung Ngau Shan	Not available (conversion works in progress)		Yes	April 2020	3.460
Yuen Long	Sheung Yau Tin Tsuen	6	Low	Demolition under planning	N.A.	N.A.
Yuen Long	Ha Yau Tin Tsuen	6	Low	Yes	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Ta Shek Wu	3	Low	Yes (a suitable site being identified for reprovisioning)	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Lin Fa Tei East	6	Low	Demolition under planning	N.A.	N.A.
Yuen	Lin Fa	5	Low	Demolition	N.A.	N.A.

District	Location	Number of water closets	Utilisation rate	Whether it will be converted to a flushing toilet	Anticipated completion date	Estimated cost of conversion works ($ million)
Long	Tei West			under planning		
Yuen Long	Hang Tau Tsuen	6	Low	Yes (a suitable site being identified for reprovisioning)	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Sha Kong Wai	10	Low	Yes (a suitable site being identified for reprovisioning)	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Kau Lei Uk Tsuen	3	Low	Yes (a suitable site being identified for reprovisioning)	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Fung Kong Tsuen	6	Low	Yes (land allocation being applied for reprovisioning)	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Ha San Wai	6	Low	Yes	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Ngau Tam Mei West	6	Low	Yes (a suitable site being identified for reprovisioning)	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Shui Tau Tsuen	2	Low	Yes (a suitable site being identified for reprovisioning)	Not available	Not available
North	Hang Tau (Tai Po)	3	Low	Site search for reprovisioning or demolition under study (in-situ refurbished)*	Not available	Not available
North	Tsiu Keng Market	5	Low	Yes	To be confirmed	7.670
North	Tai Long	3	Low	Site search for	Not	Not

District	Location	Number of water closets	Utilisation rate	Whether it will be converted to a flushing toilet	Anticipated completion date	Estimated cost of conversion works ($ million)
				reprovisioning or demolition under study (in-situ refurbished)*	available	available
North	Kau Liu	5	Low	Yes (land allocation being applied for reprovisioning)	Not available	Not available
Tai Po	Sha Lo Tung Village	5	Low	Site search for reprovisioning under study (in-situ refurbished)*	Not available	Not available
Tai Po	Wai Ha Village	4	Low	Yes	Not available	Not available
Tai Po	Tin Liu Ha Village	4	Low	Site search for reprovisioning under study	Not available	Not available
Tai Po	Pak Ngau Shek Ha Tsuen	5	Low	Yes	Not available	Not available
Tai Po	Tung Ping Chau Site (1)	4	Low	Site search for reprovisioning or demolition under study (in-situ refurbished)*	Not available	Not available
Tai Po	Tung Ping Chau Site (3)	4	Low	Site search for reprovisioning or demolition under study (in-situ refurbished)*	Not available	Not available
Tai Po	Tseng Tau Pier	3	Moderate	Site search for reprovisioning or demolition under study	Not available	Not available
Sai Kung	Pak Shek Wo Sun Tsuen	4	Low	Demolition under planning	N.A.	N.A.
Sai	Lung Ha	3	Low	Demolition	N.A.	N.A.

District	Location	Number of water closets	Utilisation rate	Whether it will be converted to a flushing toilet	Anticipated completion date	Estimated cost of conversion works ($ million)
Kung	Wan			under planning		
Sai Kung	Pik Shui Sun Tsuen (2)	6	Low	Demolition under planning	N.A.	N.A.
Sai Kung	Pik Shui Sun Tsuen (3)	4	Low	Demolition under planning	N.A.	N.A.
Sai Kung	Hap Mun Bay	3	Low	Demolition under planning	N.A.	N.A.

N.A. = Not applicable

* As such aqua privies were considered infeasible for conversion into flushing toilets due to the lack of water supply and/or sewerage system, encroachment onto private lands or site constraints, in-situ refurbishment was carried out instead.

Low utilisation rate – a daily average of less than 100 visitors

Moderate utilisation rate – a daily average between 100 and 299 visitors

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4742)

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 the public toilets managed by the Department in 18 districts, please provide in tabular form by district: (1) the names and addresses of public toilets; (2) the year of construction; (3) the year of last refurbishment; (4) the construction cost; (5) the usage rate; (6) the cleansing frequency (daily and weekly); (7) the number of cleansing staff; and (8) the quantity of tissue paper and liquid soap refilled per week.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 351)

Reply:

(1) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department manages 799 public toilets. Their names and addresses have been uploaded to the website of the Department:

(a) Hong Kong Island:
https://www.fehd.hksarg/english/pleasant_environment/cleansing/list_of_public_toilets.html?district=HK
(b) Kowloon:
https://www.fehd.hksarg/english/pleasant_environment/cleansing/list_of_public_toilets.html?district=KLN
(c) New Territories and outlying islands:
https://www.fehd.hksarg/english/pleasant_environment/cleansing/list_of_public_toilets.html?district=NTIs

(2)-(4) Information on the newly built/refurbished/facelifted/reprovisioned public toilets and their construction costs from 2017-18 to 2019-20 is provided at **Annex I**.

(5) Of the 799 public toilets, 247 have high utilisation rates (with a daily average of over 300 visitors). A list of these toilets is provided at **Annex II**.

(6)-(8) In general, toilet attendants are provided for public toilets with high utilisation rates or located at tourist spots. At present, 276 public toilets are provided with some 1 000 attendants employed by the service contractors of the Department.

The remaining public toilets are cleansed by 38 mobile cleansing teams with some 130 cleansing workmen. On top of routine cleansing services, 38 dedicated deep cleansing teams have been set up in districts to enhance deep cleansing services for public toilets with very high utilisation rates on a regular basis, which involves some 150 cleansing workmen. All public toilets are cleansed at least twice a day, and tissue papers and soaps are replenished as soon as possible once depleted.

Annex I

Newly Built / Refurbished / Facelifted / Reprovisioned Public Toilets (PTs) from 2017-18 to 2019-20

	District	Name of PT	Project cost ($ million)	Nature of works
2017-18 (14 PTs)				
1	Tai Po	Tat Wan Road Public Toilet	6.745	Newly built PT
2	Tuen Mun	Siu Hong Public Toilet	7.220	Newly built PT
3	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Road Bus-bus Interchange (Kowloon Bound) Public Toilet	7.500	Newly built PT
4	Yuen Long	Tin Fuk Road Public Toilet	7.100	Newly built PT
5	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Tsz Tin Road Public Toilet	1.500	Reprovisioned PT
6	Central & Western	Hatton Road Public Toilet	6.152	Refurbished PT
7	North	Tai Long Public Toilet	2.324	Refurbished PT
8	Sai Kung	Sha Kok Mei Public Toilet (I)	1.958	Refurbished PT
9	Sai Kung	Yi Chun Street Public Toilet	3.078	Refurbished PT
10	Sha Tin	Hin Tin Street Public Toilet	5.000	Refurbished PT
11	Sham Shui Po	Tonkin Street Public Toilet	3.728	Refurbished PT
12	Southern	Shek O Village Public Toilet	4.000	Refurbished PT
13	Wan Chai	Bowen Road Public Toilet	2.616	Refurbished PT
14	Wan Chai	Hing Fat Street Public Toilet	7.287	Refurbished PT
2018-19 (25 PTs)				
15	Islands	Arrival Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza Public Toilet #	8.000	Newly built PT
16	Islands	Arrival Private Car Clearance Plaza Public Toilet #	6.600	Newly built PT
17	Islands	Departure Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza Public Toilet #	6.500	Newly built PT
18	Islands	Departure Private Car Clearance Plaza Public Toilet #	6.400	Newly built PT
19	Islands	Shun Fai Road Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet #	13.300	Newly built PT
20	North	Ho Sheung Heung Public Toilet (III)	6.437	Newly built PT
21	Sai Kung	Duckling Hill Public Toilet	5.950	Newly built PT

	District	Name of PT	Project cost ($ million)	Nature of works
22	Central & Western	Centre Street Public Toilet	Project cost of the PT is subsumed under the construction cost of Centre Street Market West Block at $28.646 million under West Island Line Project of the Highways Department. Cost breakdown for the PT is not available.	Reprovisioned PT
23	North	Siu Hang San Tsuen Public Toilet	4.670	Reprovisioned PT
24	North	Wa Shan Tsuen Public Toilet	4.160	Reprovisioned PT
25	Tuen Mun	Fuk Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	4.142	Reprovisioned PT
26	Yau Tsim	Lin Cheung Road Public Toilet	20.000	Reprovisioned PT
27	Central & Western	Belcher's Street Public Toilet	5.300	Refurbished PT
28	Central & Western	Exchange Square Public Toilet	3.900	Refurbished PT
29	Eastern	Tung Hei Road Public Toilet	9.200	Refurbished PT
30	North	Kam Tsin (North) Public Toilet	3.890	Refurbished PT
31	North	Wu Kau Tan Public Toilet	3.480	Refurbished PT
32	Sham Shui Po	Lai Chi Kok Government Offices Public Toilet	2.900	Refurbished PT
33	Sham Shui Po	Tai Nan Street Public Toilet	10.899	Refurbished PT
34	Southern	Pokfulam Road near Queen Mary Hospital Public Toilet	1.914	Refurbished PT
35	Tai Po	Tai Po Plaza Public Toilet	3.311	Refurbished PT
36	Tuen Mun	Siu Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	3.870	Refurbished PT
37	Wan Chai	Moreton Terrace Public Toilet	3.998	Refurbished PT
38	Yau Tsim	Battery Street Public Toilet	6.160	Refurbished PT
39	Yuen Long	Wing Ping Tsuen Public Toilet	5.080	Refurbished PT

*2019-20 (41 PTs)**				
40	Central & Western	Kennedy Town Bus Terminus Sai Ning Street Public Toilet	2.250	Refurbished PT
41	Eastern	Kam Wa Street Public Toilet	6.080	Refurbished PT
42	Islands	Chung Hing Back Street Public Toilet	5.750	Refurbished PT
43	Islands	Ngong Ping Bus Terminus Public Toilet	5.000	Refurbished PT
44	Islands	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	2.892	Facelifted PT
45	Islands	Po Toi Aqua Privy, Po Toi Island	7.740	Refurbished PT
46	Islands	Tat Tung Road Public Toilet	2.870	Facelifted PT
47	Kowloon City	Shek Ku Lung Road Public Toilet	2.500	Refurbished PT
48	Kwai Tsing	Cheung Ching Bus Terminus Public Toilet	6.000	Refurbished PT
49	Kwai Tsing	Cheung Tat Road Public Toilet	3.518	Refurbished PT
50	Kwai Tsing	Kwai Shun Street Public Toilet	4.300	Refurbished PT
51	Kwai Tsing	Tai Yuen Street Public Toilet	4.000	Refurbished PT
52	Kwai Tsing	Tsing Yi New Ferry Terminus Public Toilet	4.775	Refurbished PT
53	Kwai Tsing	Tam Kon Shan Road (I) Public Toilet	3.813	Refurbished PT
54	Kwun Tong	Chun Wah Road Public Toilet	3.500	Refurbished PT
55	Mong Kok	Larch Street Public Toilet	3.000	Refurbished PT
56	North	Kai Leng Tsuen Public Toilet	2.283	Refurbished PT
57	North	Hang Tau Luen On Bridge Public Toilet	3.300	Refurbished PT
58	North	Sheung Shui Wai Wai Noi Tsuen Public Toilet	4.950	Refurbished PT
59	North	So Kwun Po Tsuen Public Toilet	4.300	Refurbished PT
60	Sai Kung	Sha Kok Mei Public Toilet (II)	2.008	Refurbished PT
61	Sai Kung	Tiu Keng Leng Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	5.455	Refurbished PT
62	Sha Tin	Kwei Tei Street Public Toilet	4.600	Refurbished PT
63	Sha Tin	Tin Sum Village Public Toilet	4.100	Refurbished PT
64	Sham Shui Po	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet	4.500	Facelifted PT
65	Sham Shui Po	Yee Kuk Street Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	5.620	Refurbished PT
66	Tai Po	Chong San Road Public Toile	4.348	Refurbished PT

	District	Name of PT	Project cost ($ million)	Nature of works
67	Sothern	Repulse Bay Public Toilet (near Life Saving Association)	2.000	Refurbished PT
68	Tsuen Wan	Chuen Lung Village Public Toilet	1.703	Facelifted PT
69	Tsuen Wan	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	2.200	Facelifted PT
70	Tsuen Wan	Tai Ho Road Public Toilet	6.580	Refurbished PT
71	Tsuen Wan	Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Car Park Building Public Toilet	5.000	Refurbished PT
72	Tsuen Wan	Tak Wah Park Public Toilet	4.800	Refurbished PT
73	Tuen Mun	Kwong Shan Tsuen Public Toilet	2.900	Refurbished PT
74	Tuen Mun	Tsing Chuen Wai Public Toilet	3.836	Refurbished PT
75	Tuen Mun	Tsing Yeung Circuit Public Toilet	6.900	Refurbished PT
76	Wong Tai Sin	Lok Fu Public Toilet	3.500	Refurbished PT
77	Yuen Long	Wang Toi Shan Wing Ning Lee Public Toilet	3.300	Refurbished PT
78	Yau Tsim	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	2.000	Facelifted PT
79	Yau Tsim	Jordan Road Public Toilet	2.600	Facelifted PT
80	Yau Tsim	Yau Ma Tei Market Public Toilet	3.000	Refurbished PT

Located at Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port
* As at 13 March 2020

Annex II

Public Toilets (PTs) with High Utilisation Rates

District	Number of PTs with high utilisation rates
Central & Western	28
Wan Chai	17
Eastern	12
Southern	13
Islands	19
Yau Tsim Mong	19
Sham Shui Po	10
Kowloon City	14
Wong Tai Sin	5
Kwun Tong	8
Kwai Tsing	10
Tsuen Wan	14
Tuen Mun	14
Yuen Long	27
North	9
Tai Po	15
Sha Tin	7
Sai Kung	6

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4746)

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 the past 5 years, (1) which is the public toilet at the lowest construction cost? Please provide its construction cost, area and number of compartments. (2) Which is the public toilet at the highest construction cost? Please provide its construction cost, area and number of compartments. (3) What is the average construction cost of a public toilet? (4) What is the average construction cost of a toilet compartment? (5) What is the average construction cost per square metre of a public toilet?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 360)

Reply:

(1) & (2) : The information sought is provided as follows:

District	Name of public toilets	Construction cost ($ million)	Year of construction	Floor area (m^2)	Number of compartments		Number of accessible unisex toilets
					Male toilet	Female toilet	
Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Tsz Tin Road Public Toilet	1.50	2017-18	45	1	2	1
Yau Tsim	Lin Cheung Road Public Toilet	20.00	2018-19	383	6	12	2

(3), (4) & (5) : Public toilets vary in terms of accommodation requirements, layout design and specific site conditions, such as land size, accessibility, underground conditions, geotechnical features, etc. Since these factors can affect significantly the construction cost of individual toilets, it would not be possible to provide the unit cost per toilet, per compartment or per square metre.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4778)

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:

Please set out in tabular form the expenditure on the 76 public markets and 25 cooked food markets in the territory, with a breakdown by the costs of hardware maintenance and operation management (e.g. security/ cleansing services).

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 398)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not maintain a breakdown of the expenditure on public market management. The overall expenditure (revised estimate) on management of public markets in 2019-20 is $866 million.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)325

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4779)

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:

Please provide details of the operating cost of Shek Wu Hui Farmers' Produce Retailing Point since its commencement of business, with a breakdown of items such as security services, cleansing services and facilities.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 399)

Reply:

Commissioned in 1984, Shek Wu Hui Farmers' Produce Retailing Point (Retailing Point) has an area of about 714 square metres. It has been set up to facilitate the traditional activities of local farmers and fishermen to sell their farm and marine produce for a few hours in the early morning. The daily opening hours are from 6:00 am to 10:00 am (between March and November) and from 6:00 am to 11:00 am (between December and February). The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department deploys resources to patrol and clean the Retailing Point daily to maintain environmental hygiene. The Department does not maintain a breakdown of the operating costs for the provision of security services, cleansing services and facilities thereat.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4995)

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:

The Department stated last year that it would close public markets which were under-utilised. Given the indication by the Department that the same actions will be taken in the coming year, please advise this Committee on:

1. the number of public markets closed last year as a result of under-utilisation;

2. the public markets which the Department is planning to close (including their names, locations and occupancy rates set out in tabular form); and

3. the measures to improve the occupancy rate of market stalls.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 818)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is conducting a comprehensive review of the usage and development potential of existing markets, with a view to formulating appropriate development plans for meeting the policy objectives of optimising land uses, benefitting the public and promoting district development. With demographic changes, new development/redevelopment projects and competition from other fresh provision outlets, the appeal of some public markets has been diminishing over time, with some having low patronage and high vacancy rates. Closing such markets may release precious land resources for more gainful uses to better serve the community. When considering whether a market is to be closed, the Department will take into account a host of factors, including the vacancy rate of the market, prospects for improvement, availability of alternative fresh provision outlets in the vicinity, the cost-effectiveness that may be brought by the upgrading works and the views of the relevant District Councils, etc. When drawing up closure plans for markets, the Department will consult the District Councils and affected market tenants.

1. In 2019-20, the Department closed Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market due to high vacancy rate.

2. The Department plans to close Tui Min Hoi Market in 2020-21. As at 31 December 2019, there were 19 stalls let out in the market, and the occupancy rate was about 56%. The Department will continue to review the usage and development potential of other markets, and tentatively plans to take forward the preparatory and consultation work for closure of another 4 markets. Views from other government departments have been sought in accordance with established procedures to formulate proposals for putting the premises concerned to gainful long-term uses.

3. As an on-going initiative, the Department has been taking forward measures to improve the operating environment of public markets, including replacement of aged lifts and escalators, improvement of ventilation, lighting systems and fire service equipment, refurbishment of external walls and toilets, etc. as appropriate. The Department also conducts promotional activities to enhance the patronage of public markets, including festive celebration and thematic activities, display of multi-language recipes as well as publication of booklets which provide updated market information.

   At the same time, the Department will step up enforcement against sitting tenants for inactive operation or unauthorised change of the use of stalls.

   The Department has set up a dedicated team to develop new markets and take forward the Market Modernisation Programme and other reviews, including the review of the usage of existing markets. The team is also reviewing the management of markets to improve their overall viability.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)327

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4996)

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:

Please provide the number of cases where actions were taken against non-compliant tenants in public markets in the past 5 years. Since the new legislation against shop front extensions by a fixed penalty of $1,500 came into effect in September 2016, how many fixed penalty notices and warnings have been issued against non-compliant cases?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 819)

Reply:

The information sought on actions taken against non-compliant tenants in public markets is provided as follows:

Year	Number of prosecutions against public market tenants[1]	Number of convictions
2015	1 658	1 523
2016	2 065	1 911
2017	1 893	1 916
2018	1 697	1 637
2019	1 790	1 767

[1] Cases in which prosecution is instituted in a year may not result in conviction until the following year.

Between the commencement of the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance (Cap. 570) on 24 September 2016 and 31 December 2019, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department issued a total of 24 167 Fixed Penalty Notices against shop front extensions. The Department does not keep separate statistics on the number of warnings issued.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)328

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4997)

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:

Please advise this Committee on:

1. the Department's expenditure on and manpower for the management of public markets in the past 3 years; and

2. the Department's estimated expenditure on and manpower for the management of public markets in the coming year.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 820)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

Financial year	**2017-18**	**2018-19**	**2019-20**	**2020-21**
Expenditure on market management ($ million)	807.1	838.8	865.7 (Revised estimate)	966.3 (Estimate)
Manpower	386	416	434	443

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)329

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4998)

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:

Please set out in tabular form the public markets in each district of the territory, their names and addresses, the number of shops in the markets, the occupancy rate, vacancy rate and expenditure on management involved.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 821)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not maintain a breakdown of the expenditure on market management for individual public markets. The overall expenditure (revised estimate) on the management of public markets in 2019-20 is $866 million.

Occupancy rates and vacancy rates of public markets

Serial no.	Name of market[a]	As at 31 December 2019		
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate[b]	Vacancy rate[c]
1	Aberdeen Market	335	96%	4%
2	Aldrich Bay Market	71	87%	13%
3	Apleichau Market	63	94%	6%
4	Bowrington Road Market	296	92%	8%
5	Causeway Bay Market	51	92%	8%
6	Centre Street Market	46	74%	26%
7	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	81%	19%
8	Chai Wan Market	174	92%	8%
9	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	100%	0%
10	Cheung Chau Market	243	96%	4%
11	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	100%	0%
12	Choi Hung Road Market	116	59%	41%
13	Electric Road Market	99	81%	19%
14	Fa Yuen Street Market	180	89%	11%
15	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	100%	0%
16	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	100%	0%
17	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	86	66%	34%
18	Heung Che Street Market	225	92%	8%
19	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	91%	9%
20	Hung Hom Market	224	97%	3%
21	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	172	65%	35%
22	Java Road Market	194	90%	10%
23	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	15	60%	40%
24	Kam Tin Market	41	100%	0%

Serial no.	Name of market[a]	As at 31 December 2019		
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate[b]	Vacancy rate[c]
25	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	100%	0%
26	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	100%	0%
27	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	100%	0%
28	Kowloon City Market	581	90%	10%
29	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	100%	0%
30	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	11	91%	9%
31	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	98	98%	2%
32	Kwun Chung Market	218	73%	27%
33	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	97%	3%
34	Lai Wan Market	42	95%	5%
35	Lam Tei Market	7	100%	0%
36	Lau Fau Shan Market	25	72%	28%
37	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	95%	5%
38	Lockhart Road Market	166	74%	26%
39	Luen Wo Hui Market	338	99%	1%
40	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	100%	0%
41	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	100%	0%
42	Mui Wo Market	35	91%	9%
43	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	82%	18%
44	Ngau Chi Wan Market	402	84%	16%
45	Ngau Tau Kok Market	466	85%	15%
46	North Kwai Chung Market	222	87%	13%
47	North Point Market	42	83%	17%
48	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	100%	0%
49	Pei Ho Street Market	234	97%	3%

Serial no.	Name of market[a]	As at 31 December 2019		
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate[b]	Vacancy rate[c]
50	Peng Chau Market	18	94%	6%
51	Plover Cove Road Market	244	78%	22%
52	Po On Road Market	449	87%	13%
53	Quarry Bay Market	113	68%	32%
54	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	100%	0%
55	Sai Kung Market	209	89%	11%
56	Sai Wan Ho Market	274	96%	4%
57	Sai Ying Pun Market	93	95%	5%
58	San Hui Market	324	96%	4%
59	Sha Tau Kok Market	66	100%	0%
60	Sha Tin Market	172	97%	3%
61	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	29	86%	14%
62	Shek Tong Tsui Market	151	88%	12%
63	Shek Wu Hui Market	393	99%	1%
64	Sheung Fung Street Market	71	97%	3%
65	Sheung Wan Market	223	96%	4%
66	Shui Wo Street Market	302	97%	3%
67	Smithfield Market	216	99%	1%
68	Stanley Waterfront Mart	20	65%	35%
69	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	82%	18%
70	Tai Kiu Market	379	95%	5%
71	Tai Kok Tsui Market	135	97%	3%
72	Tai O Market	26	85%	15%
73	Tai Po Hui Market	313	99%	1%
74	Tai Shing Street Market	441	92%	8%
75	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	100%	0%
76	Tai Wai Market	186	91%	9%

Serial no.	Name of market[a]	As at 31 December 2019		
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate[b]	Vacancy rate[c]
77	Tang Lung Chau Market	34	91%	9%
78	Tin Wan Market	180	95%	5%
79	Tokwawan Market	267	94%	6%
80	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	100%	0%
81	Tsing Yi Market	76	93%	7%
82	Tsuen Wan Market	381	88%	12%
83	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	93%	7%
84	Tui Min Hoi Market	34	56%	44%
85	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	349	33%	67%
86	Tung Yick Market	446	40%	60%
87	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	100%	0%
88	Wanchai Market	50	98%	2%
89	Wing Fong Street Market	114	76%	24%
90	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	100%	0%
91	Wong Nai Chung Market	69	96%	4%
92	Yan Oi Market	108	94%	6%
93	Yau Ma Tei Market	144	89%	11%
94	Yee On Street Market	65	63%	37%
95	Yeung Uk Road Market	318	95%	5%
96	Yue Kwong Road Market	197	84%	16%
97	Yue Wan Market	380	94%	6%

[a] The information of 2 cooked food markets closed in February and June 2019 respectively is not included.

[b] Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

[c] Vacancy rate is the percentage of stalls not leased versus the total number of stalls in a market.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6769)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the respective numbers of cases, prosecutions and convictions related to raw meat smuggling, as well as the quantities of raw meat involved, in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by control point.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 140)

Reply:

The respective numbers of cases, prosecutions and convictions related to smuggling of meat (including fresh, chilled and frozen meat) referred to the Centre for Food Safety of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department by the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) in 2017, 2018 and 2019 are as follows:

Control points	**No. of cases referred by C&ED**	**No. of prosecutions**	**No. of convictions**	**Quantities of meat involved (kg)**
2017				
By road	153	148	148	1 799
By sea	0	0	0	0
By air	89	1	1	898
Total	**242**	**149**	**149**	**2 697**
2018				
By road	261	245	236	1 446
By sea	1	0	0	2
By air	117	0	0	1 089
Total	**379**	**245**	**236**	**2 537**
2019				
By road	579	468	343	3 735
By sea	4	1	0	21
By air	89	0	0	736
Total	**672**	**469**	**343**	**4 492**

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3392)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the rising trend of the number of pest control surveys conducted, please advise on the details and effectiveness of the relevant work in 2019. As it is estimated that the number will continue to increase in 2020-21, please also advise whether sufficient resources have been earmarked with relevant measures drawn up, including the deployment of manpower and allocation of resources; if yes, please give details of the work, manpower and estimated expenditure in this respect; if no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 64)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department continued to conduct pest control surveys in 2019. The number of surveys conducted has been increased from 10 116 in 2018 to 10 379 in 2019 to enhance surveillance on the distribution and seasonal variation of vector mosquitoes and rodents. Details and effectiveness of the work are as follows:

On mosquito surveys, the Department continued to conduct dengue vector surveillance by setting up ovitraps to understand the distribution of Aedes mosquitoes in all districts. The surveys were conducted 2 weeks per month while the surveillance work at the Hong Kong International Airport and in all sea and land ports in the territory was conducted every week. Besides, the Department continued to carry out Japanese encephalitis (JE) vector surveillance in 8 districts in Hong Kong through setting up light traps every month to collect adult mosquitoes (Culex tritaeniorhynchus) for testing the presence of JE virus. During the surveillance period, no JE-infected vector mosquitoes were detected. The malaria vector surveillance, which was conducted by carrying out rotational larval surveys at all fresh water streams in the territory to monitor the distribution of local malaria vectors, also found no breeding of vector mosquitoes. Ad hoc surveys were also carried out by the Department in response to mosquito-borne diseases including dengue fever, JE, Zika virus infection, Chikungunya, etc. The surveys covered the surrounding areas of local movements of patients of relevant diseases.

Besides, the Department has worked on a new design for ovitrap with a sticky trap mounted inside the trap for collecting adult mosquitoes directly. Field trials were conducted in Wong Tai Sin, Cheung Chau and Yau Tong from June to November 2019 and the new design proved effective. The Department will place around 5 000 new ovitraps in the territory in 2020. Apart from the existing monthly ovitrap index for Aedes albopictus, the Department will also release the new adult mosquito density index for Aedes albopictus to facilitate government departments to formulate more targeted anti-mosquito measures.

On rodent surveys, the Department conducted rodent infestation surveys at half-yearly interval in 41 locations in various districts in the territory and the number of survey locations will be increased to 50 in 2020 for detecting the presence of rodents. The Department continues to conduct rat-flea surveys in selected biotope every year to assess the risk of plague transmission. In 2019, the survey was conducted in peripheral areas of housing estates. Ad hoc surveys were also conducted in response to rodent-borne diseases including Hantavirus infection, scrub typhus, urban typhus, spotted fever, leptospirosis, rat hepatitis E virus infection, etc. The surveys covered the surrounding areas of local movements of patients of relevant diseases.

In addition, the Department conducted a test on a synthetic and non-poisonous bait having different flavours of food in the rodent infestation surveys in 2019. The bait is compared to sweet potatoes currently used in terms of their attractiveness to rodents, with a view to assessing whether the sensitivity of rodent infestation surveys can be enhanced by placing baits that are more attractive. The Department has proactively introduced new technologies to monitor rodent infestation. Since April 2019, the Department has been putting on trial night-vision and thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence analytical function and collecting data of rodent activities to quantify and assess the effectiveness of anti-rodent operations.

The estimated number of pest control surveys in 2020 will be increased to 10 800 and the relevant estimated expenditure in 2020-21 is $56.6 million. Depending on the latest progress of pest control work, manpower will be provided through internal redeployment of resources to cope with the work demand.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3398)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated that the Department will continue to review and update local food safety standards, guidelines and regulatory arrangements, including but not limited to those concerning harmful substances (including mycotoxins) and trans fats in foods. Please advise on the progress of the work in 2019, as well as the specific work plan, timetable and estimated manpower and resources required in 2020.

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 70)

Reply:

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department have been closely monitoring the international developments and measures relating to safeguarding of food safety, including making reference to the food safety standards of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other economies, as well as taking into account the local dietary practice and risk assessment results, to timely update the local food safety standards and regulatory arrangements on the basis of scientific evidence.

Subsequent to the amendment of the Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) Regulations (Cap. 132V), which came into force in November 2019 with the aims of enhancing regulatory control and updating the standards for metallic contamination in food, CFS is now working on proposals to update the regulatory regime of harmful substances (including mycotoxins and industrially-produced trans fats) in food. FHB and CFS plan to put forward the proposals and conduct public consultation within the year.

As updating food safety standards and regulatory arrangements is part and parcel of the work of CFS, we do not have a separate breakdown on the manpower and resources involved in this area of work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3399)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated that the Department will continue to re-engineer workflow, and overhaul and develop new information technology systems for the Centre for Food Safety for more effective management of data in food import and food safety incidents. Please advise on the progress of the work in 2019, as well as the specific work plan, timetable and estimated manpower and resources required in 2020.

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 71)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department set up a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. CFS also launched the Food Trader Portal (FTP) in stages at the end of 2019 as a platform for electronic communication with the trade. Through the FTP, food traders can complete registration as importers or distributors by electronic means. In the first quarter of 2020, CFS further introduced an online service to facilitate food traders to apply online for import licences and import permission in respect of meat, poultry and game. In the future, CFS will provide online application services for import of more types of food. The existing Food Import Control System will be replaced by a newly developed system to support the workflow and procedures on food import applications and the issuance of food export certification with the delivery of e-service. In addition, there will be a newly established Food Incident Management System to strengthen the management of food safety incidents. The above systems will interface with each other to provide a well-connected network of information in support of risk profiling and risk-based inspection to step up food safety control. CFS will continue to enhance its IT systems in the order of priorities.

The dedicated team in charge of the above work will have 87 staff at an estimated staffing expenditure of about $71 million in 2020-21.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3401)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the reason(s) for the continuous increase in the number of mosquito breeding places eliminated, as well as the details and effectiveness of the relevant work in 2019. Please also advise whether sufficient resources have been earmarked with relevant measures drawn up, including the deployment of manpower and allocation of resources, to prevent the spread of mosquito-borne diseases; if yes, please give details of the work, the manpower and the estimated expenditure in this respect; if no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 73)

Reply:

In 2018 and 2019, the number of mosquito breeding places eliminated was 63 635 and 65 795 respectively. The increase in 2019 was attributable to the enhanced mosquito prevention and control measures taken by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in public places in response to the local cases of dengue fever recorded since 2018. Consolidating its experience, the inter-departmental Pest Control Steering Committee is of the view that early prevention is the most effective approach to pest control. The Government will commence and strengthen targeted operations to prevent mosquito breeding before the rainy season. Once the rainy season arrives, staff will be mobilised to conduct fogging operations to eliminate adult mosquitoes. The Government will collaborate with local communities to avoid massive mosquito breeding after the rainy season. The Department has adopted an integrated approach in the prevention and control of mosquitoes. Under this approach, the Department implements a dengue vector surveillance programme to monitor the distribution of Aedes albopictus at selected areas, evaluates the effectiveness of mosquito prevention and control work carried out by various parties, provides surveillance information for the public, and makes timely adjustments to its mosquito prevention and control strategies and measures.

The Department also organises annual anti-mosquito campaigns and special thematic mosquito prevention and control operations on a territory-wide basis to enhance public awareness on the potential risks of mosquito-borne diseases, encourage community participation and promote coordination among government departments in anti-mosquito

work. In addition to about 730 departmental staff deployed to perform pest control work (including mosquito control), the Department engages service contractors through roving teams to provide pest control services in the territory. During the winter season from November 2019 to February 2020, the Department increased the number of roving teams by approximately 40 in order to maintain the same number of teams as in the wet season. The number of roving teams deployed by the Department in the winter season was maintained at about 329 (with a workforce of about 1 970) to strengthen mosquito prevention and control. Additional funding was provided to the Department for sustaining its anti-mosquito work throughout the winter season in 2017, 2018 and 2019. The Department will keep up the work on mosquito prevention and control in 2020-21 with an estimated expenditure of $322 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3402)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks and the number of rodent trappings in 2019 both increased substantially as compared with 2018. Please advise on the details and effectiveness of the relevant work. Regarding rodent control, what are the Department's specific work plan and timetable in 2020? Please provide the details of the work, the manpower involved and the estimated expenditure.

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 74)

Reply:

In 2018 and 2019, the number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks was 93 815 and 98 322 respectively, and the number of rodent trappings was 60 432 and 68 490 respectively. In 2019, the number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks and the number of rodent trappings were increased to facilitate the implementation of rodent prevention and control measures. In addition, street cleansing has been stepped up to improve the general hygiene condition to deplete food and harbourages for rodents. The total number of dead rodents collected and live rodents caught increased from 44 378 in 2018 to 53 986 in 2019.

In 2020, on top of routine anti-rodent work, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will organise a territory-wide inter-departmental anti-rodent campaign to strengthen rodent prevention and control and step up public education. The first phase of the anti-rodent campaign was launched in January 2020 and the second phase will commence in July 2020. The Department will launch 2 anti-rodent operations in designated target areas, each lasting for 8 weeks, in May and November 2020. Multi-pronged strategies, including elimination of food sources and hiding places of rodents as well as blockage of their passages, will be adopted in the operations. The Department will continue to step up public education and publicity, and provide support and technical advice to other departments on rodent prevention and control.

The Department adopts an integrated approach to rodent prevention and control. Such approach is premised on the recommendations and technical guidelines of the World Health

Organization (WHO) and is in line with the anti-rodent approach adopted by the Mainland and other countries such as Malaysia, Singapore, as well as those in Europe and North America. The Department will continue to carry out rodent surveillance programmes, and the number of survey locations will be increased from 41 to 50. The Department will also keep in view the rodent prevention and control measures recommended by WHO and adopted by other countries, and explore the feasibility of applying technologies to improve the rodent surveillance and control work.

The estimated expenditure in 2020-21 on rodent prevention and control is $209.1 million. About 740 in-house staff and 2 040 staff engaged by the contractors will provide pest control services.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3403)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under this Programme, the number of samples taken from imported Japanese food for examination of radiation level in connection with the Japan nuclear power plant incident in March 2011 has continued to increase. In this connection, have sufficient resources, including manpower, been earmarked to meet the demand in current year 2020-21? If yes, please provide the details including the manpower and resources required. If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 75)

Reply:

Subsequent to the nuclear power plant incident in Japan in March 2011, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department conducts radiation testing on every consignment of food products imported from Japan with the use of hand-held survey meters and adopts a risk-based principle in collecting food samples for testing of radiation levels. The number of radiation tests has risen with an increase in imported consignments of food from Japan. CFS will flexibly deploy resources in carrying out the related work. As radiation testing is part of the food surveillance and import control work and the subject officers also undertake other duties, we do not have a separate breakdown of the manpower and recurrent expenditure involved in this aspect of work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4430)

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:

1. Please advise on the criteria and circumstances under which a place will be considered having serious hygiene problems and listed as a so-called hygiene blackspot.

2. Please provide as per the table below details of all hygiene blackspots with serious hygiene problems in Kowloon West (including Sham Shui Po, Yau Tsim Mong and Kowloon City) over the past 5 years, with a breakdown by year and District Council district.

2020-21 Financial Year/Sham Shui Po District

Location of hygiene blackspot	Hygiene problem	Land use of building or site	Environmental hygiene enhancement measures/work	Expenditure on environmental hygiene enhancement measures/work	Effectiveness

2020-21 Financial Year/Yau Tsim Mong District

Location of hygiene blackspot	Hygiene problem	Land use of building or site	Environmental hygiene enhancement measures/work	Expenditure on environmental hygiene enhancement measures/work	Effectiveness

2020-21 Financial Year/Kowloon City District

Location of hygiene	Hygiene problem	Land use of	Environmental hygiene	Expenditure on	Effectiveness

blackspot		building or site	enhancement measures/work	environmental hygiene enhancement measures/work	

3. Please advise whether any financial provision has been earmarked for the 2020-21 financial year to enhance cleansing work at hygiene blackspots in Kowloon West; if yes, the details.

4. Please advise whether the Department will optimise the use of new technology or amass community wisdom in an attempt to alleviate the serious hygiene problems at hygiene blackspots or in the community; if yes, the details; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 102)

Reply:

1-2. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department receives environmental hygiene complaints from the public through various channels, including reports of locations in unsatisfactory hygiene condition. The Department will conduct investigations and take measures to abate the nuisances. In the light of the circumstances at individual locations, the Department will adjust the frequency of street cleansing and pest control operations and step up law enforcement as appropriate. There is no explicit definition for hygiene "blackspot" which refers to an area where cleanliness problem remains despite enhanced cleansing.

A list of the top 5 locations in Sham Shui Po, Yau Tsim, Mong Kok and Kowloon City Districts as at March 2020, to which the Department has devoted more efforts and resources to tackling the problem of illegal deposit of refuse is provided at Annex.

To curb such activities, the Department has extended the scheme on installation of Internet Protocol (IP) cameras for 2 years from August 2019 after consulting District Councils (DCs) in 2019. IP cameras have been installed at priority locations proposed by respective DCs with a view to further combatting illegal deposit of refuse. So far the Department has installed IP cameras at over 150 illegal refuse deposit spots across the territory, and the number will progressively increase to over 300. The estimated annual expenditure is about $16 million.

Apart from installing IP cameras to check illegal deposit of refuse, the Department has set up 31 dedicated enforcement teams (DETs), primarily to step up enforcement action against various public cleanliness offences, and will continue to set up additional DETs this year to strengthen law enforcement, convey health messages and distribute leaflets and warning notices to arouse public awareness of maintaining street cleanliness and proper disposal of refuse. In consultation with respective DCs, the Department has extended the opening hours of some refuse collection points to meet service demand at mid-night or in the early morning. This arrangement has achieved improvement in the hygiene condition.

3. The Department does not keep a separate breakdown of the manpower and expenditure for enhancing cleansing service for illegal refuse deposit blackspots.

4. The Department has been proactively applying technologies to enhance environmental hygiene services and the efficiency of prosecution work through the use of machines and automation. It will continue to garner advice from members of the public on better environmental hygiene at the community level through various channels with a view to further improving the hygiene condition.

Annex

Top 5 Locations of Illegal Deposit of Refuse
(as at **March 2020)**

District	Location
Sham Shui Po	Junction of Ki Lung Street and Pei Ho Street
	Junction of Tai Nan Street and Pei Ho Street
	Kim Sin Lane
	Pavement outside Tin Hau Temple at the junction of Yee Kuk Street and Kweilin Street
	Pavement outside Yee Kuk Street Refuse Collection Point
Yau Tsim	Pavement outside Portland Street/Man Ming Lane Sitting-out Area at the junction of Man Ming Lane and Portland Street, Yau Ma Tei
	Arthur Street, Yau Ma Tei (near Wing Sing Lane)
	Rear lane of 151-177 Temple Street (between Saigon Street and Ning Po Street)
	Pavement outside 37 Parkes Street at the junction of Parkes Street and Bowring Street, Jordan
	Outside West Kowloon Office of the Immigration Department, 28 Kimberley Street, Tsim Sha Tsui
Mong Kok	Junction of Hak Po Street and Pak Po Street
	Safety island at the junction of Tai Nan Street and Cedar Street
	Junction of Ferry Street and Shan Tung Street
	Rear lane of 771-789 Nathan Road
	Junction of Kok Cheung Street and Ka Shin Street
Kowloon City	Junction of Mei King Street and Mei Kwong Street, To Kwa Wan
	Outside Cheung Ning Street Refuse Collection Point
	Exit of I-Feng Mansions, Chi Kiang Street, To Kwa Wan
	Rear lane of Hung Wu Building, Wuhu Street
	Junction of Man Lok Street and Man Yue Street

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4438)

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:

During 2020-21, the Department will "continue to implement the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP) to improve facilities of existing public markets".

1. Please set out the years of operation, the expenditure in the past 3 years and the estimated expenditure in 2020-21 of each public market.

2. Please set out the expenditure on repair and maintenance in the past 3 years and the estimated expenditure in this regard of each public market.

3. The Government has stated that the Aberdeen Market would be overhauled as the pioneering project of the MMP while the other 3 markets to be overhauled would be located in Kowloon and the New Territories. Also, projects of different scales under the MMP would be implemented. In this regard,

   (a) what are the locations and details of the other 3 overhaul projects, and

   (b) what are the locations and details of the planned or proposed projects of different scales under the MMP at this stage?

4. Are there any overall timetable, details and priorities for taking forward the MMP in the territory? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 110)

Reply:

1&2. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not have breakdown on the expenditure on market management for individual public markets. In the 3 financial years from 2017-18 to 2019-20, the total expenditures on overall management of public markets (including routine repair and maintenance) were $807 million, $839 million and $866 million (revised estimate) respectively while the estimated expenditure in 2020-21 is $966 million. The respective commissioning year of individual public markets is set out at **Annex**.

3&4. The Government has earmarked $2 billion for the implementation of the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project of the MMP is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. FEHD and the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) briefed the relevant committee of the Southern District Council on the details and progress of the project in February 2020. ArchSD is engaging consultants and will commence the detailed design of plan and preparation of tender documents, etc. as soon as possible. The expenditure of the works can only be accurately estimated upon completion of the design work. Upon completion of the preparatory work, we will seek funding approval from the Legislative Council as soon as practicable and expect to commence the overhaul works in 2021.

At the same time, we plan to overhaul another 3 public markets in Kowloon and the New Territories and expect to take forward the consultation and preparatory work later this year. We also plan to kick-start minor refurbishment and improvement works for at least 3 other public markets in different districts across the territory. The project estimates for taking forward the above minor refurbishment and improvement works, as well as engagement of consultants and the preliminary work for the Aberdeen Market project, is about $68 million. The estimated expenditure of these projects in 2020-21 is about $13 million.

In identifying candidates for projects of different scales under the MMP, the prime objective is to maximise the impact of possible hardware improvement within the 10-year time frame. Public markets would be selected with regard to their geographical location and distribution, condition of facilities, business viability, community needs and tenants' readiness. In particular, we would seek to ensure that the location of markets to be covered under the MMP is conducive to their future business viability, and that there is a reasonable spread of such markets across the territory to benefit the community at large.

Annex

Serial no.	Name of market	Year of commissioning
1	Aldrich Bay Market	2008
2	Ap Lei Chau Market	1998
3	Centre Street Market	1976
4	Chai Wan Market	2001
5	Lei Yue Mun Market	2000
6	Luen Wo Hui Market	2002
7	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	2005
8	Peng Chau Market	1999
9	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	2004
10	Sai Ying Pun Market	1999
11	San Hui Market	1982
12	Sha Tin Market	1980
13	Shek Wu Hui Market	1994
14	Tai Kiu Market	1984
15	Tai Kok Tsui Market	2005
16	Tai Po Hui Market	2004
17	Tsing Yi Market	1999
18	Wanchai Market	2008
19	Yan Oi Market	1983
20	Yee On Street Market	1999
21	Yue Wan Market	1979
22	Bowrington Road Market	1979
23	Hung Hom Market	1996
24	Java Road Market	1993
25	Lockhart Road Market	1987
26	Pei Ho Street Market	1995
27	Sai Wan Ho Market	1984
28	Sheung Wan Market	1989
29	Smithfield Market	1996
30	Tai Shing Street Market	1998
31	To Kwa Wan Market	1984
32	Wong Nai Chung Market	1996

Serial no.	Name of market	Year of commissioning
33	Aberdeen Market	1983
34	Causeway Bay Market	1995
35	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	1979
36	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	1991
37	Cheung Chau Market	1991
38	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	1987
39	Choi Hung Road Market	1988
40	Electric Road Market	1993
41	Fa Yuen Street Market	1988
42	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	1982
43	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	1982
44	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	1978
45	Heung Che Street Market	1972
46	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	1979
47	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	1987
48	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	1983
49	Kam Tin Market	1964
50	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	1981
51	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	1979
52	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	1985
53	Kowloon City Market	1988
54	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	1986
55	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	1990
56	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	1985
57	Kwun Chung Market	1991
58	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	1984
59	Lai Wan Market	1992
60	Lam Tei Market	1969
61	Lau Fau Shan Market	1964
62	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	1985
63	Mui Wo Market	1993
64	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	1987
65	Ngau Chi Wan Market	1986

Serial no.	Name of market	Year of commissioning
66	Ngau Tau Kok Market	1981
67	North Kwai Chung Market	1984
68	North Point Market	1970
69	On Ching Road Flower Market	1979
70	Plover Cove Road Market	1991
71	Po On Road Market	1988
72	Quarry Bay Market	1988
73	Sai Kung Market	1985
74	Sha Tau Kok Market	1998
75	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	1984
76	Shek Tong Tsui Market	1991
77	Sheung Fung Street Market	1989
78	Shui Wo Street Market	1988
79	Stanley Waterfront Mart	2007
80	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	1980
81	Tai O Market	1989
82	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	1985
83	Tai Wai Market	1985
84	Tang Lung Chau Market	1963
85	Tin Wan Market	1979
86	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	1983
87	Tsuen Wan Market	1981
88	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	1985
89	Tui Min Hoi Market	1983
90	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	1992
91	Tung Yick Market	1991
92	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	1983
93	Wing Fong Street Market	1982
94	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	1984
95	Yau Ma Tei Market	1957
96	Yeung Uk Road Market	1990
97	Yue Kwong Road Market	1981

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6042)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

a. Please set out the quantity, value and stock of surgical masks produced by the Correctional Services Department (CSI masks) that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department obtained from the Government Logistics Department (GLD) each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of CSI masks obtained	Value of CSI masks obtained	Stock of CSI masks

b. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of surgical masks that the Department obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of surgical masks obtained from GLD (value)	No. of surgical masks procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

c. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of N95 masks that the Department obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of N95 masks obtained from GLD (value)	No. of N95 masks procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

d. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of gowns that the Department obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of gowns obtained from GLD (value)	No. of gowns procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

e. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of protective coverall suits that the Department obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of protective coverall suits obtained from GLD (value)	No. of protective coverall suits procured (value)	Stock	Consumption

f. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of face shields that the Department obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of face shields procured	Value of face shields procured	Stock of face shields	Consumption

g. Please set out the quantity, value, stock and consumption of goggles that the Department obtained from the GLD or procured each month in the past 3 years in the following table:

Month/Year	No. of goggles procured	Value of goggles procured	Stock of goggles	Consumption

h. Did the Department supply or sell surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, goggles, gowns and protective coverall suits to other organisations in the past 3 years? If yes, please provide the relevant information, including the quantity, consumption and stock, in the following table:

Month/Year	Name of organisations	Manner of provision (e.g. sold or supplied for free)	Surgical masks	N95 masks	Face shields	Goggles	Gowns	Protective coverall suits	Value

i. If the Department is to supply or sell surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, goggles, gowns and protective coverall suits to other organisations, what are the departments and the ranks of the officers responsible for making such decisions? Please provide the ranks of the officers involved in each decision, the date they made the decision and other relevant information.

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 131)

Reply:

a.-g. With an upsurge in demand for personal protective equipment (PPE) around the world, the Government is facing keen competition in procurement. The Government considers it not appropriate to disclose at this stage further specific information about the stock, source, value and consumption in respect of PPE in individual departments in the past few years and recently, lest the bargaining power of the Government Logistics Department and other departments in procuring PPE be undermined.

h.-i. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department did not supply or sell surgical masks, N95 masks, face shields, goggles, gowns and protective coverall suits to other organisations in the past 3 years.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6246)

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 the work of providing new public market facilities at selected locations,

a. please set out the details of the studies and consultations on the provision of new public markets in Tseung Kwan O and the Kwu Tung North New Development Area respectively, including the details of the preliminary/feasibility studies, including dates and targets of consultation, timetable for and estimated expenditure involved in conducting the studies, etc.; the estimated expenditure involved in organising consultation sessions, research and identification of locations, planning and design, site investigation, etc.

b. please set out the details of the studies and consultations on the provision of new public markets in Tung Chung and Tin Shui Wai respectively, including the number of consultation sessions and the month when they are held; the funding earmarked for local consultations; the date of announcement of the consultation results; and the funding allocated for the provision of new public markets.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 125)

Reply:

The Government is taking forward 7 new market projects which are at different stages of planning. They include the development of new public markets in Tin Shui Wai, Tung Chung Town Centre, Tseung Kwan O, Kwu Tung North New Development Area, Tung Chung New Town Extension and Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area as well as the establishment of a temporary market in Tin Shui Wai. The information on the projects is set out at **Annex**.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up a dedicated team to develop new markets and take forward the Market Modernisation Programme and other reviews. In 2020-21, there are 44 posts in the team and the estimated expenditure to be incurred is about $40 million.

Annex

	Project	Details of consultation	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date and project cost
1.	Tin Shui Wai temporary market (Tin Sau Road)	The project was announced in a press release on 10 October 2019. We briefed the relevant committee of the Yuen Long District Council on the progress on 9 March 2020.	The temporary market will be built at the open space adjacent to Tin Sau Road Park using the modular integrated construction method. It is expected to provide about 40 stalls focusing on sale of fish, meat, vegetables and fruits.	Preparation of construction drawings and pre-construction works are underway.	The fourth quarter of 2020. The current estimated project cost is nearly $30 million.
2.	Tin Shui Wai market (a section of Tin Fuk Road)	We briefed the Yuen Long District Council on the selected site and design options on 30 October 2018 and the relevant committee of the Yuen Long District Council on the progress on 9 March 2020.	A decked-over market will be built at the section of Tin Fuk Road near Tin Shui Wai Mass Transit Railway (MTR) Station. It is expected to provide a maximum of about 150 stalls.	The technical feasibility study is underway.	The first half of 2027. The estimated project cost will be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.
3.	Tung Chung Town Centre market (Area 6)	We briefed the Islands District Council on the selected site and proposed mode of development on 22 October 2018.	The market will be located on the lower floors of a commercial building in Area 6 adjacent to Tung Chung MTR Station. It will provide at least 100 stalls.	The technical feasibility study for the entire commercial building development project (including the public market) is underway.	To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.

	Project	Details of consultation	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date and project cost
4.	Tseung Kwan O market	We plan to consult the District Council on the selected site by mid-2020.	The market will be located on the lower floors of the proposed joint-user building for community facilities at Tseung Kwan O town centre.	The study and preliminary planning on the site selection for the joint-user building for community facilities (including the new public market) are underway.	To be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment.
5.	Kwu Tung North New Development Area market	We plan to consult the District Council on the selected site later this year.	To be confirmed upon completion of preliminary planning.	Preliminary planning is underway.	The development of the public markets will tie in with the housing development plan of the districts concerned. The estimated project costs will be announced upon completion of the technical feasibility studies and assessments.
6.	Tung Chung New Town Extension market	To be confirmed upon completion of preliminary planning.			
7.	Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area market				

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)341

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6247)

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 the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme to improve facilities of existing public markets, please provide in tabular form (with a breakdown by district):

a. the occupancy rate, the number of stalls that were frozen and the frozen period of stalls in the public markets under the Department across the territory in the past 3 years;

b. further to the above question, the reason why the stalls were frozen in the past 3 years. Please set out the respective proportions of stalls that were frozen due to the reasons below:

   Town planning; Stalls undergoing modification, improvement or maintenance works of a relatively large scale; Vacant market stalls frozen temporarily for accommodating tenants affected by the works; Other reasons.

c. the number and names of public markets, of which the use will be changed in the coming 5 years, as well as the estimated cost involved;

d. the number and names of public markets demolished for redevelopment in the past 5 years and the expenditure required;

e. the number and names of public markets expected to be demolished for redevelopment in the coming 5 years and the estimated cost involved;

f. the number and names of public markets that were converted to other uses (including community or commercial use) in the past 5 years and the expenditure required; and

g. the number and names of public markets to be overhauled in the coming 5 years and the estimated cost involved.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 126)

Reply:

a & b. Having regard to operational needs, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will reserve some market stalls as appropriate for affected stall operators to continue their business when there are improvement works in individual public markets. At the same time, some market stalls may be frozen and withheld from letting out due to consolidation programmes. We also need to reserve or freeze some vacant public market stalls to support the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme and the review of public markets with high vacancy rates. The information on the occupancy rate and the number of frozen stalls in public markets in the past 3 years is provided at **Annex**. FEHD does not maintain a breakdown on the period of and the reasons for freezing the stalls.

c to f. FEHD is conducting a comprehensive review of the usage and development potential of existing markets, with a view to formulating appropriate development plans for meeting the policy objectives of optimising land uses, benefitting the public and promoting district development.

With demographic changes, new development/redevelopment projects and competition from other fresh provision outlets, the appeal of some public markets has been diminishing over time, with some having low patronage and high vacancy rates. Closing such markets may release precious land resources for more gainful uses to better serve the community. When considering whether a market is to be closed, FEHD will take into account a host of factors, including the vacancy rate of the market, prospects for improvement, availability of alternative fresh provision outlets in the vicinity, the cost-effectiveness that may be brought by the upgrading works and the views of the relevant District Councils, etc. When drawing up closure plans for markets, FEHD will consult the District Councils and affected market tenants.

Where FEHD closes a market and no longer requires the premises afterwards, the vacated building space will be handled according to established procedures. Based on the circumstances, FEHD will request the relevant government departments, including the Government Property Agency, Planning Department or Lands Department, to seek views from other government departments to formulate proposals for putting the premises to gainful long-term uses.

In the 5 financial years from 2015-16 to 2019-20, FEHD closed 4 markets with consistently high vacancy rates, namely Shau Kei Wan Market, Tsuen King Circuit Market, Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market and Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market. Their closure resulted in reduction of annual operating cost of about $12.8 million.

FEHD plans to close Tui Min Hoi Market in 2020-21. It is expected that the annual operating cost can be reduced by about $1.9 million. FEHD will continue to review the usage and development potential of other markets, and tentatively plans to take forward the preparatory and consultation work for closure of another 4 markets. Views from other government departments have been sought in

accordance with established procedures to formulate proposals for putting the premises concerned to gainful long-term uses.

g. The Government has earmarked $2 billion for the implementation of the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project of the MMP is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. FEHD and the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) briefed the relevant committee of the Southern District Council on the details and progress of the project in February 2020. ArchSD is engaging consultants and will commence the work of detailed design of plan and preparation of tender documents, etc. as soon as possible. The expenditure of the works can only be accurately estimated upon completion of the design work. Upon completion of the preparatory work, we will seek funding approval from the Legislative Council as soon as practicable and expect to commence the overhaul works in 2021.

At the same time, we plan to overhaul another 3 public markets in Kowloon and the New Territories and expect to take forward the consultation and preparatory work later this year. We also plan to kick-start minor refurbishment and improvement works for at least 3 other public markets in different districts across the territory. The project estimates for taking forward the above minor refurbishment and improvement works, as well as engagement of consultants and the preliminary work for the Aberdeen Market project, is about $68 million. The estimated expenditure of these projects in 2020-21 is about $13 million.

Annex

Serial no.	Name of public market[(a)]	Occupancy rate as at 31 December[(b)]			Number of stalls frozen as at 31 December		
		2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
1	Aldrich Bay Market	94%	92%	87%	0	0	0
2	Ap Lei Chau Market	97%	97%	94%	0	0	0
3	Centre Street Market	78%	76%	74%	5	5	5
4	Chai Wan Market	95%	92%	92%	0	0	0
5	Lei Yue Mun Market	100%	95%	95%	0	1	1
6	Luen Wo Hui Market	100%	99%	99%	0	0	0
7	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
8	Peng Chau Market	94%	100%	94%	0	0	0
9	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
10	Sai Ying Pun Market	89%	87%	95%	9	9	0
11	San Hui Market	98%	98%	96%	0	0	0
12	Sha Tin Market	98%	99%	97%	0	0	5
13	Shek Wu Hui Market	100%	100%	99%	0	0	0
14	Tai Kiu Market	97%	97%	95%	0	0	0
15	Tai Kok Tsui Market	100%	97%	97%	0	0	0
16	Tai Po Hui Market	100%	100%	99%	0	0	0
17	Tsing Yi Market	99%	99%	93%	0	0	0
18	Wanchai Market	98%	100%	98%	0	0	1
19	Yan Oi Market	98%	94%	94%	0	0	0
20	Yee On Street Market	98%	92%	63%	0	5	24
21	Yue Wan Market	95%	94%	94%	0	0	0
22	Bowrington Road Market	95%	93%	92%	14	21	24
23	Hung Hom Market	99%	98%	97%	1	2	3
24	Java Road Market	95%	94%	90%	3	0	0
25	Lockhart Road Market	77%	74%	74%	38	43	43
26	Pei Ho Street Market	99%	99%	97%	2	3	6
27	Sai Wan Ho Market	97%	98%	96%	0	0	0
28	Sheung Wan Market	99%	98%	96%	0	0	0
29	Smithfield Market	100%	99%	99%	0	0	0
30	Tai Shing Street Market	93%	93%	92%	29	31	37

Serial no.	Name of public market[(a)]	Occupancy rate as at 31 December[(b)]			Number of stalls frozen as at 31 December		
		2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
31	To Kwa Wan Market	99%	97%	94%	2	8	17
32	Wong Nai Chung Market	97%	96%	96%	2	3	3
33	Aberdeen Market	97%	96%	96%	0	13	14
34	Causeway Bay Market	98%	96%	92%	1	2	4
35	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	94%	87.5%	81%	2	4	6
36	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
37	Cheung Chau Market	98%	98%	96%	3	3	0
38	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
39	Choi Hung Road Market	67%	66%	59%	38	40	47
40	Electric Road Market	97%	81%	81%	0	0	0
41	Fa Yuen Street Market	98%	92%	89%	1	3	5
42	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
43	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
44	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	70%	69%	66%	14	14	14
45	Heung Che Street Market	98%	95%	92%	5	11	19
46	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	100%	91%	91%	0	0	0
47	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	66%	72%	65%	37	22	22
48	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	60%	60%	60%	6	6	6
49	Kam Tin Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
50	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
51	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
52	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
53	Kowloon City Market	99%	95%	90%	0	31	59

Serial no.	Name of public market[(a)]	Occupancy rate as at 31 December[(b)]			Number of stalls frozen as at 31 December		
		2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
54	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
55	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	91%	91%	91%	1	1	1
56	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	100%	100%	98%	0	0	0
57	Kwun Chung Market	92%	85%	73%	5	33	59
58	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	97%	97%	97%	1	1	1
59	Lai Wan Market	98%	98%	95%	1	1	2
60	Lam Tei Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
61	Lau Fau Shan Market	88%	88%	72%	3	3	3
62	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
63	Mui Wo Market	100%	91%	91%	0	0	0
64	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	82%	82%	82%	3	5	5
65	Ngau Chi Wan Market	90%	87%	84%	16	54	65
66	Ngau Tau Kok Market	87%	86%	85%	59	60	60
67	North Kwai Chung Market	97%	91%	87%	0	0	0
68	North Point Market	93%	83%	83%	0	0	0
69	On Ching Road Flower Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
70	Plover Cove Road Market	92%	82%	78%	0	44	53
71	Po On Road Market	89%	89%	87%	48	50	59
72	Quarry Bay Market	75%	69%	68%	27	34	34
73	Sai Kung Market	95%	91%	89%	0	18	24
74	Sha Tau Kok Market	98%	100%	100%	0	0	0
75	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	90%	90%	86%	3	3	4
76	Shek Tong Tsui Market	95%	91%	88%	8	13	18
77	Sheung Fung Street Market	99%	99%	97%	0	0	0

Serial no.	Name of public market[(a)]	Occupancy rate as at 31 December[(b)]			Number of stalls frozen as at 31 December		
		2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
78	Shui Wo Street Market	99%	98%	97%	1	1	1
79	Stanley Waterfront Mart	95%	85%	65%	0	0	0
80	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	88%	82%	82%	2	3	3
81	Tai O Market	85%	88%	85%	0	0	0
82	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
83	Tai Wai Market	86%	85%	91%	28	5	17
84	Tang Lung Chau Market	94%	94%	91%	2	2	3
85	Tin Wan Market	97%	96%	95%	0	0	0
86	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
87	Tsuen Wan Market	90%	89%	88%	38	42	47
88	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	93%	93%	93%	4	4	4
89	Tui Min Hoi Market	59%	56%	56%	14	15	15
90	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	34%	32%	33%	238	243	234
91	Tung Yick Market	41%	41%	40%	262	265	267
92	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
93	Wing Fong Street Market	98%	85%	76%	0	0	0
94	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
95	Yau Ma Tei Market	94%	90%	89%	6	12	14
96	Yeung Uk Road Market	98%	96%	95%	7	13	17
97	Yue Kwong Road Market	97%	87%	84%	0	0	0

Remarks:

(a) The information of 2 cooked food markets which were closed in February and June 2019 respectively is not included.

(b) Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6248)

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:

It is mentioned in the last year's Policy Address that $2 billion has been earmarked in the Budget for the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), which has been launched with the overhaul of Aberdeen Market as the pioneering project. In this regard,

a. please provide a breakdown of the expenditure involved in the overhaul of Aberdeen Market and the anticipated completion date of the project.

b. please list the public markets covered by the MMP.

c. will any arrangements (e.g. re-location, compensation) be provided for market stall operators affected by the works under the MMP?

d. after implementing the MMP mentioned in last year's Budget, will the Department extend the programme to other public markets under its purview and seek additional provisions? If yes, what is the amount?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 127)

Reply:

The Government has earmarked $2 billion for the implementation of the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project of the MMP is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) briefed the relevant committee of the Southern District Council on the details and progress of the project in February 2020. ArchSD is engaging consultants and will commence the detailed design of plan and preparation of tender documents, etc. as soon as possible. The expenditure of the works can only be accurately estimated upon completion of the design work. Upon completion of the preparatory work, we will seek funding approval from the Legislative Council as soon as practicable and expect to commence the overhaul works in 2021.

At the same time, we plan to overhaul another 3 public markets in Kowloon and the New Territories and expect to take forward the consultation and preparatory work later this year. We also plan to kick-start minor refurbishment and improvement works for at least 3 other public markets in different districts across the territory. The project estimates for taking forward the above minor refurbishment and improvement works, as well as engagement of consultants and the preliminary work for the Aberdeen Market project, is about $68 million. The estimated expenditure of these projects in 2020-21 is about $13 million.

The Government will fully consider the relevant circumstances in accordance with the existing policy to provide possible assistance for tenants affected by the MMP.

FEHD will continue to follow up on the first phase projects and identify more markets suitable for the MMP, so as to make the best use of the $2 billion earmarked to improve the operating environment of markets. When these projects are completed progressively with the expected results achieved, and can generate a clear momentum to bring other public markets into such a mainstream modernisation programme, we will consider seeking additional funding.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 | Reply Serial No. **FHB(FE)343**

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6249)

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:

On the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP) to improve facilities of existing public markets, the Department stated that it would consult the relevant District Council(s) and the market tenants to be affected on any market closure plans. In this respect, please provide information on the following:

(a) With regard to the closure of Tsuen King Circuit Market and Shau Kei Wan Market last year, when will the District Councils concerned be consulted and what are the details of consultation?

(b) As stated in a reply (Rely Serial No. FHB(FE) 193) related to the Estimates of Expenditure 2019-20, a fundamental overhaul for 4 markets and refurbishment and minor improvement works for at least another 3 would be taken forward in the first phase of the MMP. Please set out in the table below the details and expenditure involved for the 4 public markets to be overhauled:

Market	Year of refurbishment	Estimated expenditure	Details of refurbishment
Aberdeen Market			

(c) Please set out in the table below details of all public markets where refurbishment and minor improvement works will be conducted:

Market	Year of refurbishment	Estimated expenditure	Details of refurbishment
Tsuen Wan Market			
Lockhart Road Market			
Sheung Fung Street			

Market			
Yau Ma Tei Market			
Wing Fong Street Market			

(d) The revised estimate of $853.1 million for the expenditure on market management in 2018-19 has been increased to $949.7 million. What other expenses were covered by the difference of $96.6 million?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 128)

Reply:

(a) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department consulted the relevant committee of the Eastern District Council and Tsuen Wan District Council on the closure of Shau Kei Wan Market and Tsuen King Circuit Market in February and March 2017 respectively, and obtained their support to close the two markets with consistently high vacancy rates. Subsequently, we discussed with the market tenants the arrangements for closure of the markets. The two markets operated until 28 February 2018 and were officially closed on 1 March 2018.

(b) The Government has earmarked $2 billion for the implementation of the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project of the MMP is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. FEHD and the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) briefed the relevant committee of the Southern District Council on the details and progress of the project in February 2020. ArchSD is engaging consultants and will commence the work of detailed design of plan and preparation of tender documents, etc. as soon as possible. The expenditure of the works can only be accurately estimated upon completion of the design work. Upon completion of the preparatory work, we will seek funding approval from the Legislative Council as soon as practicable and expect to commence the overhaul works in 2021.

At the same time, we plan to overhaul another 3 public markets in Kowloon and the New Territories and expect to take forward the consultation and preparatory work later this year. We also plan to kick-start minor refurbishment and improvement works for at least 3 other public markets in different districts across the territory. The project estimates for taking forward the above minor refurbishment and improvement works, as well as engagement of consultants and the preliminary work for the Aberdeen Market project, is about $68 million. The estimated expenditure of these projects in 2020-21 is about $13 million.

Subject to the types of works and the situation of markets, the project scope of the MMP may include installation of air-conditioning systems; re-design and re-zoning of stalls; re-configuration of layout; drainage improvement; improvement of fire service installations, electricity supply, toilet facilities, ventilation, lighting, signage; replacement of floor tiles; provision of barrier free access; façade and external wall decoration and works for lifts and escalators, etc.

(c) The 6 markets for which the Government consultant has conducted study and put forward improvement recommendations are Lockhart Road Market, Sheung Fung

Street Market, Yau Ma Tei Market, Wing Fong Street Market, Tsuen Wan Market and Ngau Chi Wan Market respectively. FEHD has completed the consultation with the Market Management Consultative Committees (MMCCs) of these markets. The MMCCs expressed support for some improvement works proposals that did not require temporary closure of stalls or suspension of business. Having considered the MMCCs' views and the results of the feasibility studies, FEHD has taken forward improvement works of different scales in Lockhart Road Market, Sheung Fung Street Market, Yau Ma Tei Market and Wing Fong Street Market, which include beautification of the façade; improvement of market toilets, ventilation system, fire service installations, barrier free access and lightings; replacement or provision of closed-circuit television system and directional signboards, and conversion of former poultry stalls into other stalls for business operation or storage. The total cost of works was about $29.5 million. The works in Wing Fong Street Market and Yau Ma Tei Market were completed in 2019 while those in the other 2 markets are scheduled for completion in the first half of 2020. The improvement works in the remaining 2 markets will be considered under the context of the MMP.

(d) The expenditure incurred by FEHD on market management has increased from $839 million in 2018-19 to $866 million (revised estimate) in 2019-20. This is mainly due to increased costs of outsourcing contracts of public markets.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6250)

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 the work of "managing and maintaining existing public markets, including revitalisation as appropriate", please advise this Committee of the following:

a. Please set out the names of existing public markets where refurbishment and maintenance are to be carried out and the breakdown of estimated expenditure involved in the coming 10 years.

b. In reply to the questions regarding the Budget last year raised by the Legislative Council, the Department stated that the capital and recurrent expenditure of any project that might be implemented under the Market Modernisation Programme could only be determined upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment. In this connection, please set out the progress of the studies, as well as the estimated capital and recurrent expenditure of each public market.

c. Please set out the occupancy rate of stalls in each public market in the past 5 years. Has the Department adopted any measures to improve the occupancy rate of markets assessed as under-utilised?

d. Please set out the under-utilised markets which were closed in the past 5 years and the expenditure involved. Does the Department have any plans to convert those closed markets into cooked food centres or community kitchens? Will expenditure be earmarked for conducting the relevant studies?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 129)

Reply:

a&b. The Government has earmarked $2 billion for the implementation of the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project of the MMP is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) briefed the relevant committee of the Southern District Council on the details and progress of the project in

February 2020. ArchSD is engaging consultants and will commence the detailed design of plan and preparation of tender documents, etc. as soon as possible. The expenditure of the works can only be accurately estimated upon completion of the design work. Upon completion of the preparatory work, we will seek funding approval from the Legislative Council as soon as practicable and expect to commence the overhaul works in 2021.

At the same time, we plan to overhaul another 3 public markets in Kowloon and the New Territories and expect to take forward the consultation and preparatory work later this year. We also plan to kick-start minor refurbishment and improvement works for at least 3 other public markets in different districts across the territory. The project estimates for taking forward the above minor refurbishment and improvement works, as well as engagement of consultants and the preliminary work for the Aberdeen Market project, is about $68 million. The estimated expenditure of these projects in 2020-21 is about $13 million.

FEHD has set up a dedicated team to develop new markets and take forward the MMP and other reviews. In 2020-21, there are 44 posts in the team and the estimated expenditure is about $40 million.

c. The information sought is provided at **Annex**.

As an on-going initiative, FEHD has been taking forward measures to improve the operating environment of public markets, including replacement of aged lifts and escalators, improvement of ventilation, lighting systems and fire service equipment, refurbishment of external walls and toilets, etc. as appropriate. FEHD also conducts promotional activities to enhance the patronage of public markets, including festive celebration and thematic activities, display of multi-language recipes as well as publication of booklets which provide updated market information.

FEHD is carefully reviewing the arrangements concerning vacant stalls and will study the feasibility of different arrangements, for example, letting out vacant stalls through short-term tenancy to allow more flexibility for using the stalls.

d. With demographic changes, new development/redevelopment projects and competition from other fresh provision outlets, the appeal of some public markets has been diminishing over time, with some having low patronage and high vacancy rates. Closing such markets may release precious land resources for more gainful uses to better serve the community. In the 5 financial years from 2015-16 to 2019-20, FEHD closed 4 markets with consistently high vacancy rates, namely Shau Kei Wan Market, Tsuen King Circuit Market, Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market and Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market. Their closure resulted in reduction of annual operating cost of about $12.8 million. After the closure of the 4 markets, the vacated buildings have been handled according to established procedures. Based on the circumstances, FEHD is requesting the relevant government departments including the Government Property Agency, Planning Department or Lands Department, to seek views from other government departments to formulate proposals for putting the premises to gainful long-term uses.

Serial no.	Name of public market[(a)]	No. of stalls					Occupancy rate as at 31 December[(b)]				
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1	Aldrich Bay Market	71	71	71	71	71	85%	86%	94%	92%	87%
2	Apleichau Market	63	63	63	63	63	98%	100%	97%	97%	94%
3	Centre Street Market	46	46	46	46	46	85%	78%	78%	76%	74%
4	Chai Wan Market	173	173	174	174	174	95%	95%	95%	92%	92%
5	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	20	20	20	20	90%	100%	100%	95%	95%
6	Luen Wo Hui Market	338	338	338	338	338	99%	99%	100%	99%	99%
7	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
8	Peng Chau Market	18	18	18	18	18	94%	100%	94%	100%	94%
9	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	11	11	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
10	Sai Ying Pun Market	102	102	102	102	93	89%	89%	89%	87%	95%
11	San Hui Market	324	324	324	324	324	100%	99%	98%	98%	96%
12	Sha Tin Market	172	172	172	172	172	100%	98%	98%	99%	97%
13	Shek Wu Hui Market	392	392	393	393	393	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%
14	Tai Kiu Market	379	379	379	379	379	98%	99%	97%	97%	95%
15	Tai Kok Tsui Market	135	135	135	135	135	100%	100%	100%	97%	97%
16	Tai Po Hui Market	313	313	313	313	313	99%	99%	100%	100%	99%
17	Tsing Yi Market	76	76	76	76	76	91%	100%	99%	99%	93%
18	Wanchai Market	50	50	50	50	50	100%	96%	98%	100%	98%
19	Yan Oi Market	108	108	108	108	108	98%	97%	98%	94%	94%
20	Yee On Street Market	65	65	65	65	65	95%	98%	98%	92%	63%
21	Yue Wan Market	374	374	380	380	380	97%	94%	95%	94%	94%
22	Bowrington Road Market	296	296	296	296	296	99%	99%	95%	93%	92%
23	Hung Hom Market	224	224	224	224	224	100%	100%	99%	98%	97%
24	Java Road Market	194	194	194	194	194	96%	95%	95%	94%	90%
25	Lockhart Road Market	166	166	166	166	166	83%	80%	77%	74%	74%
26	Pei Ho Street Market	227	227	234	234	234	100%	98%	99%	99%	97%
27	Sai Wan Ho Market	274	274	274	274	274	99%	97%	97%	98%	96%
28	Sheung Wan Market	222	222	223	223	223	99%	100%	99%	98%	96%

Serial no.	Name of public market[a]	No. of stalls					Occupancy rate as at 31 December[b]				
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
29	Smithfield Market	216	216	216	216	216	100%	100%	100%	99%	99%
30	Tai Shing Street Market	446	442	442	442	441	95%	95%	93%	93%	92%
31	Tokwawan Market	267	267	267	267	267	99%	98%	99%	97%	94%
32	Wong Nai Chung Market	69	69	69	69	69	97%	99%	97%	96%	96%
33	Aberdeen Market	335	335	335	335	335	99%	99%	97%	96%	96%
34	Causeway Bay Market	51	51	51	51	51	98%	98%	98%	96%	92%
35	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	32	32	32	32	94%	94%	94%	87.5%	81%
36	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	17	17	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
37	Cheung Chau Market	237	240	240	240	243	100%	98%	98%	98%	96%
38	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	12	12	12	12	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
39	Choi Hung Road Market	116	116	116	116	116	74%	69%	67%	66%	59%
40	Electric Road Market	99	99	99	99	99	95%	97%	97%	81%	81%
41	Fa Yuen Street Market	180	180	180	180	180	100%	100%	98%	92%	89%
42	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	24	24	24	24	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
43	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	15	15	15	15	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
44	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	88	88	86	86	86	66%	66%	70%	69%	66%
45	Heung Che Street Market	223	223	225	225	225	96%	96%	98%	95%	92%
46	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	11	11	100%	91%	100%	91%	91%
47	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	215	174	172	172	172	37%	75%	66%	72%	65%
48	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	16	16	15	15	15	69%	62%	60%	60%	60%
49	Kam Tin Market	41	41	41	41	41	100%	98%	100%	100%	100%
50	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	14	14	93%	100%	100%	100%	100%
51	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	17	17	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
52	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
53	Kowloon City Market	581	581	581	581	581	98%	100%	99%	95%	90%

Serial no.	Name of public market[(a)]	No. of stalls					Occupancy rate as at 31 December[(b)]				
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
54	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	11	11	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
55	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	12	12	11	11	11	92%	83%	91%	91%	91%
56	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	98	98	98	98	98	100%	100%	100%	100%	98%
57	Kwun Chung Market	218	218	218	218	218	99%	98%	92%	85%	73%
58	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	29	29	29	29	100%	100%	97%	97%	97%
59	Lai Wan Market	42	42	42	42	42	98%	98%	98%	98%	95%
60	Lam Tei Market	7	7	7	7	7	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
61	Lau Fau Shan Market	25	25	25	25	25	88%	88%	88%	88%	72%
62	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	20	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
63	Mui Wo Market	35	35	35	35	35	97%	97%	100%	91%	91%
64	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	28	28	28	28	89%	86%	82%	82%	82%
65	Ngau Chi Wan Market	402	402	402	402	402	93%	93%	90%	87%	84%
66	Ngau Tau Kok Market	466	466	466	466	466	86%	87%	87%	86%	85%
67	North Kwai Chung Market	222	222	222	222	222	98%	100%	97%	91%	87%
68	North Point Market	42	42	42	42	42	98%	100%	93%	83%	83%
69	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	13	13	13	13	100%	92%	100%	100%	100%
70	Plover Cove Road Market	244	244	244	244	244	97%	96%	92%	82%	78%
71	Po On Road Market	449	449	449	449	449	96%	93%	89%	89%	87%
72	Quarry Bay Market	113	113	113	113	113	92%	82%	75%	69%	68%
73	Sai Kung Market	209	209	209	209	209	99%	99%	95%	91%	89%
74	Sha Tau Kok Market	66	66	66	66	66	100%	98%	98%	100%	100%
75	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	29	29	29	29	29	100%	90%	90%	90%	86%
76	Shek Tong Tsui Market	151	151	151	151	151	94%	98%	95%	91%	88%

Serial no.	Name of public market[(a)]	No. of stalls					Occupancy rate as at 31 December[(b)]				
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
77	Sheung Fung Street Market	71	71	71	71	71	99%	100%	99%	99%	97%
78	Shui Wo Street Market	302	302	302	302	302	99%	100%	99%	98%	97%
79	Stanley Waterfront Mart	20	20	20	20	20	90%	95%	95%	85%	65%
80	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	17	17	88%	100%	88%	82%	82%
81	Tai O Market	26	26	26	26	26	88%	100%	85%	88%	85%
82	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
83	Tai Wai Market	195	195	195	195	186	89%	88%	86%	85%	91%
84	Tang Lung Chau Market	34	34	34	34	34	97%	94%	94%	94%	91%
85	Tin Wan Market	180	180	180	180	180	100%	100%	97%	96%	95%
86	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
87	Tsuen Wan Market	381	381	381	381	381	93%	93%	90%	89%	88%
88	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	56	56	56	56	100%	100%	93%	93%	93%
89	Tui Min Hoi Market	34	34	34	34	34	100%	85%	59%	56%	56%
90	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	359	359	359	359	349	50%	41%	34%	32%	33%
91	Tung Yick Market	446	446	446	446	446	42%	41%	41%	41%	40%
92	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	8	8	8	8	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
93	Wing Fong Street Market	112	112	112	114	114	93%	92%	98%	85%	76%
94	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	18	18	94%	100%	100%	100%	100%
95	Yau Ma Tei Market	144	144	144	144	144	99%	96%	94%	90%	89%
96	Yeung Uk Road Market	318	318	318	318	318	98%	97%	98%	96%	95%
97	Yue Kwong Road Market	197	197	197	197	197	100%	98%	97%	87%	84%

Remarks:

(a) The information of 2 cooked food markets which were closed in February and June 2019 respectively is not included.

(b) Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)345

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6314)

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 renting of stalls in public markets, temporary markets, cooked food centres and cooked food hawker bazaars, please provide the annual figures for the past 3 years on:

a. the number and percentage of let-out stalls in each market;

b. the number and percentage of stalls which have been let out at a discounted rate (concessionary rent) in each market;

c. the number and percentage of let-out stalls in each cooked food centre; and

d. the numbers and names of public markets, temporary markets, cooked food centres and cooked food hawker bazaars which have been closed.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 194)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex I, Annex II, Annex III and Annex IV.

Number and percentage of let-out stalls in markets

Serial no.	Name of market[(a)]	No. of let-out stalls (as at 31 December)			Percentage of let-out stalls[(b)] (as at 31 December)		
		2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
1	Aberdeen Market	325	322	321	97%	96%	96%
2	Aldrich Bay Market	67	65	62	94%	92%	87%
3	Apleichau Market	61	61	59	97%	97%	94%
4	Bowrington Road Market	282	275	272	95%	93%	92%
5	Causeway Bay Market	50	49	47	98%	96%	92%
6	Centre Street Market	36	35	34	78%	76%	74%
7	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	30	28	26	94%	88%	81%
8	Chai Wan Market	166	160	160	95%	92%	92%
9	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	100%	100%	100%
10	Cheung Chau Market	235	235	234	98%	98%	96%
11	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	12	12	100%	100%	100%
12	Choi Hung Road Market	78	76	69	67%	66%	59%
13	Electric Road Market	96	80	80	97%	81%	81%
14	Fa Yuen Street Market	177	165	160	98%	92%	89%
15	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	24	24	100%	100%	100%
16	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	15	15	100%	100%	100%
17	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	60	59	57	70%	69%	66%
18	Heung Che Street Market	220	214	206	98%	95%	92%
19	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	10	10	100%	91%	91%
20	Hung Hom Market	221	220	218	99%	98%	97%
21	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	114	124	112	66%	72%	65%
22	Java Road Market	184	182	175	95%	94%	90%
23	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	9	9	9	60%	60%	60%
24	Kam Tin Market	41	41	41	100%	100%	100%

Serial no.	Name of market[(a)]	No. of let-out stalls (as at 31 December)			Percentage of let-out stalls[(b)] (as at 31 December)		
		2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
25	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%
26	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	100%	100%	100%
27	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%
28	Kowloon City Market	578	550	522	99%	95%	90%
29	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	100%	100%	100%
30	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	10	10	10	91%	91%	91%
31	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	98	98	96	100%	100%	98%
32	Kwun Chung Market	200	185	159	92%	85%	73%
33	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	28	28	28	97%	97%	97%
34	Lai Wan Market	41	41	40	98%	98%	95%
35	Lam Tei Market	7	7	7	100%	100%	100%
36	Lau Fau Shan Market	22	22	18	88%	88%	72%
37	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	19	19	100%	95%	95%
38	Lockhart Road Market	128	123	123	77%	74%	74%
39	Luen Wo Hui Market	338	336	334	100%	99%	99%
40	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%
41	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%
42	Mui Wo Market	35	32	32	100%	91%	91%
43	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	23	23	23	82%	82%	82%
44	Ngau Chi Wan Market	361	348	337	90%	87%	84%
45	Ngau Tau Kok Market	405	401	398	87%	86%	85%
46	North Kwai Chung Market	216	202	193	97%	91%	87%
47	North Point Market	39	35	35	93%	83%	83%
48	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	13	13	100%	100%	100%

Serial no.	Name of market[(a)]	No. of let-out stalls (as at 31 December)			Percentage of let-out stalls[(b)] (as at 31 December)		
		2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
49	Pei Ho Street Market	232	231	228	99%	99%	97%
50	Peng Chau Market	17	18	17	94%	100%	94%
51	Plover Cove Road Market	225	200	191	92%	82%	78%
52	Po On Road Market	401	399	390	89%	89%	87%
53	Quarry Bay Market	85	78	77	75%	69%	68%
54	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	100%	100%	100%
55	Sai Kung Market	201	191	185	96%	91%	89%
56	Sai Wan Ho Market	266	268	262	97%	98%	96%
57	Sai Ying Pun Market	91	89	88	89%	87%	95%
58	San Hui Market	319	317	310	98%	98%	96%
59	Sha Tau Kok Market	65	66	66	98%	100%	100%
60	Sha Tin Market	169	170	167	98%	99%	97%
61	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	26	26	25	90%	90%	86%
62	Shek Tong Tsui Market	143	138	133	95%	91%	88%
63	Shek Wu Hui Market	393	392	390	100%	100%	99%
64	Sheung Fung Street Market	70	70	69	99%	99%	97%
65	Sheung Wan Market	220	219	215	99%	98%	96%
66	Shui Wo Street Market	300	295	294	99%	98%	97%
67	Smithfield Market	215	214	214	100%	99%	99%
68	Stanley Waterfront Mart	19	17	13	95%	85%	65%
69	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	15	14	14	88%	82%	82%
70	Tai Kiu Market	367	368	360	97%	97%	95%
71	Tai Kok Tsui Market	135	131	131	100%	97%	97%
72	Tai O Market	22	23	22	85%	88%	85%

Serial no.	Name of market[(a)]	No. of let-out stalls (as at 31 December)			Percentage of let-out stalls[(b)] (as at 31 December)		
		2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
73	Tai Po Hui Market	312	312	311	100%	100%	99%
74	Tai Shing Street Market	413	411	404	93%	93%	92%
75	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%
76	Tai Wai Market	167	166	169	86%	85%	91%
77	Tang Lung Chau Market	32	32	31	94%	94%	91%
78	Tin Wan Market	174	172	171	97%	96%	95%
79	Tokwawan Market	264	259	250	99%	97%	94%
80	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%
81	Tsing Yi Market	75	75	71	99%	99%	93%
82	Tsuen Wan Market	343	339	334	90%	89%	88%
83	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	52	52	52	93%	93%	93%
84	Tui Min Hoi Market	20	19	19	59%	56%	56%
85	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	121	116	115	34%	32%	33%
86	Tung Yick Market	184	181	179	41%	41%	40%
87	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	8	8	100%	100%	100%
88	Wanchai Market	49	50	49	98%	100%	98%
89	Wing Fong Street Market	110	97	87	98%	85%	76%
90	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%
91	Wong Nai Chung Market	67	66	66	97%	96%	96%
92	Yan Oi Market	106	101	101	98%	94%	94%
93	Yau Ma Tei Market	135	130	128	94%	90%	89%
94	Yee On Street Market	64	60	41	98%	92%	63%
95	Yeung Uk Road Market	311	305	301	98%	96%	95%

Serial no.	Name of market[(a)]	No. of let-out stalls (as at 31 December)			Percentage of let-out stalls[(b)] (as at 31 December)		
		2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
96	Yue Kwong Road Market	191	172	165	97%	87%	84%
97	Yue Wan Market	362	359	356	95%	94%	94%

Remarks:

(a) The figures in respect of 2 cooked food markets closed in February and June 2019 respectively are excluded.

(b) The percentage refers to let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

Number and percentage of stalls let out at concessionary rent in markets

Year	Total no. of stalls (as at 31 December)	No. of stalls let out at concessionary rent	Percentage of stalls let out at concessionary rent
2017	14 086	1 314	9%
2018	14 088	1 265	9%
2019	14 014	1 212	9%

Number and percentage of let-out stalls in cooked food centres

Serial no.	Name of market with cooked food centre	No. of let-out stalls in cooked food centre (as at 31 December)			Percentage of let-out stalls[(a)] (as at 31 December)		
		2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
1	Aberdeen Market	9	9	9	90%	90%	90%
2	Aldrich Bay Market	4	3	2	100%	75%	50%
3	Apleichau Market	6	6	6	100%	100%	100%
4	Bowrington Road Market	11	11	11	92%	92%	92%
5	Centre Street Market	2	2	2	100%	100%	100%
6	Chai Wan Market	6	6	6	100%	100%	100%
7	Choi Hung Road Market	11	11	10	58%	58%	53%
8	Electric Road Market	5	5	5	100%	100%	100%
9	Fa Yuen Street Market	15	15	15	100%	100%	100%
10	Heung Che Street Market	40	40	38	100%	100%	95%
11	Hung Hom Market	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%
12	Java Road Market	15	15	15	100%	100%	100%
13	Kam Tin Market	5	5	5	100%	100%	100%
14	Kowloon City Market	10	10	10	100%	100%	100%
15	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	12	12	12	100%	100%	100%
16	Kwun Chung Market	17	16	16	89%	84%	84%
17	Lockhart Road Market	19	17	17	100%	89%	89%
18	Luen Wo Hui Market	22	20	20	100%	91%	91%
19	Ngau Chi Wan Market	15	15	15	100%	100%	100%
20	Ngau Tau Kok Market	20	20	20	95%	95%	95%
21	Pei Ho Street Market	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%
22	Po On Road Market	17	17	17	89%	89%	89%
23	Quarry Bay Market	4	4	4	80%	80%	80%
24	Sai Wan Ho Market	8	8	8	100%	100%	100%
25	Sha Tau Kok Market	8	8	8	100%	100%	100%
26	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	7	7	7	88%	88%	88%
27	Shek Tong Tsui Market	15	15	15	100%	100%	100%
28	Shek Wu Hui Market	28	28	28	100%	100%	100%
29	Sheung Wan Market	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%
30	Shui Wo Street Market	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%

Serial no.	Name of market with cooked food centre	No. of let-out stalls in cooked food centre (as at 31 December)			Percentage of let-out stalls[(a)] (as at 31 December)		
		2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
31	Smithfield Market	12	11	11	100%	92%	92%
32	Tai Kok Tsui Market	12	12	12	100%	100%	100%
33	Tai Po Hui Market	39	40	40	98%	100%	100%
34	Tai Shing Street Market	10	10	9	91%	91%	82%
35	Tin Wan Market	10	10	10	100%	100%	100%
36	Tokwawan Market	7	7	7	88%	88%	88%
37	Wong Nai Chung Market	6	6	6	100%	100%	100%
38	Yue Kwong Road Market	15	15	14	94%	94%	88%
39	Yue Wan Market	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%

Remarks:

[(a)] The percentage refers to let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

Annex IV

Numbers and names of closed public markets, temporary markets, cooked food centres and cooked food hawker bazaars

Year	Closed public markets, temporary markets, cooked food centres and cooked food hawker bazaars	
	Number	**Name**
2017	0	-
2018	2	Shau Kei Wan Market Tsuen King Circuit Market
2019	3	Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market Luen Yan Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6315)

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 overseeing the progress of re-issuing fixed pitch hawker licences, please advise this Committee on the following:

(a) What is the expenditure or estimated expenditure involved for the review of re-issuing hawker licences under the five-year assistance scheme?

(b) Will the Department provide funding support for applicants allocated with vacant fixed hawker pitches to construct their stalls?

(c) Further to the above question, if no funding support is provided, will loan package be offered to applicants with financial difficulties?

(d) When will be the whole procedure of re-allocation of vacant fixed hawker pitches and issue of fixed pitch hawker licences be completed?

(e) A total of over 12 000 applications from eligible applicants are received under the re-allocation of vacant fixed hawker pitches exercise. Will the Department conduct study or public consultation on the provision of new fixed hawker pitches so as to allow the public to apply for fixed pitch hawker licences?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 195)

Reply:

(a) The work of the five-year Hawker Assistance Scheme (Assistance Scheme) has been substantially completed in the first quarter of 2019. During the implementation of the Assistance Scheme, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has taken forward the consultation on the re-allocation of vacant fixed hawker pitches and issue of new licences in the fourth quarter of 2018. The work is undertaken by the staff responsible for the Assistance Scheme and there is no additional expenditure involved.

(b) Under section 40 of the Hawker Regulation (Cap. 132AI), where a licensee is allocated a hawker pitch, he shall, unless a stall is provided by the Department on the pitch, provide at his own expense and hawk from a stall that is designed and constructed in accordance with specifications previously approved by the Department. During the application period for the 2019 Re-allocation of Fixed Hawker Pitches and Issue of New Licences (Hawker pitch re-allocation scheme), the Department had specified this requirement in the hawker licence application form and reminded applicants of such requirement in the notification letter for pitch selection and collection of licence. This is in line with the practice adopted during the re-issue of new hawker licences in 2010. The Assistance Scheme, which has concluded now, was launched in 2013 with the aim to enhance the fire safety standard of the 43 hawker areas across the territory and improve fire resisting capability and design of hawker stalls.

(c) Hawking should be seen as one of the modes of economic activities. While hawking can bring about some employment and small business opportunities, the policy on hawker licensing does not originate from welfare concerns or poverty alleviation. The hawker pitch re-allocation scheme is formulated after review of the need for the issue of new fixed pitch hawker licences for pitches vacated upon completion of the Assistance Scheme. The fire safety and environmental hygiene condition of the pitches and the concerns of traders were also taken into account.

(d) The Department launched the hawker pitch re-allocation scheme at the end of September 2019. Under the scheme, 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches located at 7 districts will be open for application by persons who are interested in the hawking business and able to meet the required conditions. Successful applicants will operate at the pitches after a licence is granted. After launching the scheme, the Department received a total of 14 126 applications, of which 12 788 applicants were initially eligible. The Department conducted an open computer random sequencing cum manual ballot exercise to determine the priority order of applicants for pitch selection at the end of November 2019. Applicants were invited for selection of vacant pitches in early December. As at 29 February 2020, 349 applicants were invited for pitch selection. Among them, 236 have selected the pitches (77 of them have been granted with the fixed pitch hawker licence), 109 gave up pitch selection and 4 were considered not eligible for the scheme. The pitch selection exercise is scheduled for completion at the end of April 2020. The work is mainly performed by 12 departmental staff at an estimated expenditure of $8.04 million in 2020-21.

(e) The list of eligible applicants who have not been allocated a hawker pitch will be kept for 3 years for use in the allocation of vacant pitches that could be made available within the three-year period. We have no plan to set up new fixed hawker pitches at the moment.

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6337)

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:

Please set out the number of applications for Temporary Places of Public Entertainment Licence for holding bazaar activities received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the number of approvals in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 228)

Reply:

The number of applications for Temporary Places of Public Entertainment Licences for holding bazaar activities received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the number of licences issued in 2017-2019 are set out at Annex.

Annex

Year	No. of applications for Temporary Places of Public Entertainment Licences for holding bazaar activities	No. of Temporary Places of Public Entertainment Licences issued for holding bazaar activities
2017	10	10
2018	11	10
2019	14	13

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Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)348

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5146)

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 food business licences, please provide the following information:

1. the average time for processing and approving applications for the following licences after receipt of an application:

Type of Licence	2017	2018	2019
General Restaurant Licence			
Light Refreshment Restaurant Licence			
Marine Restaurant Licence			
Bakery Licence			
Cold Store Licence			
Factory Canteen Licence			
Food Factory Licence			
Fresh Provision Shop Licence			
Frozen Confection Factory Licence			
Milk Factory Licence			
Siu Mei and Lo Mei Shop Licence			
Liquor Licence			

2. the time for processing and approving applications for transfer of the following licences after receipt of an application:

Type of Licence	Sep 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020
General Restaurant Licence						
Light Refreshment Restaurant Licence						
Marine Restaurant Licence						
Bakery Licence						
Cold Store Licence						

Factory Canteen Licence						
Food Factory Licence						
Fresh Provision Shop Licence						
Frozen Confection Factory Licence						
Milk Factory Licence						
Siu Mei and Lo Mei Shop Licence						
Liquor Licence						

3. The Wuhan pneumonia epidemic is affecting the operation of government departments. What measures are put in place by the Department to expedite the processing and approval of applications for food business licences and transfer of licences?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 601)

Reply:

1. The average number of working days required for processing and approving applications for the following licences after receipt of an application is as follows:

Type of Licence	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
General Restaurant Licence	170	170	170
Light Refreshment Restaurant Licence	178	170	169
Marine Restaurant Licence	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Bakery Licence	153	166	160
Cold Store Licence	123	118	241
Factory Canteen Licence	195	247	212
Food Factory Licence	163	158	161
Fresh Provision Shop Licence	139	160	147
Frozen Confection Factory Licence	146	142	142
Milk Factory Licence	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Siu Mei and Lo Mei Shop Licence	152	175	141
Liquor Licence (with club liquor licence in brackets)	36 (34)	34 (34)	42 (44)

Note: The processing time is contingent upon the time needed for complying with the relevant licensing requirements by the applicant, settling objections raised by the public or other departments concerned and addressing relevant land issues, if any.

2. The number of working days required for processing and approving applications for transfer of food business licences after receipt of an application is as follows:

Type of Licence	**Sep 2019**	**Oct 2019**	**Nov 2019**	**Dec 2019**	**Jan 2020**	**Feb 2020**
Food Business Licence [Note]	54	55	52	60	52	59
Liquor Licence (with club liquor licence in brackets)	43 (46)	42 (41)	49 (27)	46 (43)	45 (47)	44 (40)

Note: The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep separate statistics on the average time required for processing applications for transfer of food business licences.

3. The licensing offices and district environmental hygiene offices of the Department have continued to provide services in processing applications for food business licences and their transfer during the earlier implementation of special work arrangements by the Government in light of the Coronavirus Disease 2019.

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5147)

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 liquor licence, please provide the following information in tabular form:

1. the figures related to liquor licence applications in the past 5 years;

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of applications received					
Number of applications granted					
Number of applications refused					
Number of appeals lodged with the Municipal Services Appeals Board					
Number of appeals allowed					

2. the number of liquor licences revoked in the past 5 years (with a breakdown by reasons for revocation).

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 602)

Reply:

1. The figures related to liquor licence applications in the past 5 calendar years are as follows:

	2015	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Number of applications received	8 936	6 520	6 324	6 865	7 565
Number of applications granted	8 646	6 987	7 081	7 239	7 961
Number of applications refused	40	34	41	22	26
Number of appeals lodged with the Municipal Services Appeals Board (MSAB)	28	22	25	11	15
Number of appeals allowed[1]	10	13	12	8	5

[1] Only cases with MSAB's decision issued before the end of a year are taken into account for calculating the number of appeals allowed in that year.

2. The numbers of liquor licences revoked in the past 5 calendar years with a breakdown by reason are provided as follows:

Reasons for revocation of liquor licences	**Number of liquor licences revoked**				
	2015	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Cessation of business	15	7	20	12	14
Breach of licensing condition	0	0	0	1	2
Contravention of legislation	1	0	1	4	1
Total	**16**	**7**	**21**	**17**	**17**

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Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)350

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5148)

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 the Demerit Points System (DPS) for licensed food premises,

1. please provide figures on licence suspension as per the table below:

			2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of licence suspensions under the DPS						
Number of reviews by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) upon requests made in accordance with administrative arrangements						
Review outcome	Dismissed					
	Suspension period shortened					
	Allowed					
Appeals lodged with the Licensing Appeals Board (LIAB)						
Appeal outcome	Dismissed					
	Suspension period shortened					
	Allowed					
	Hearings cancelled due to withdrawal of appeals					
Appeals lodged with the Municipal Services Appeals Board (MSAB)						
Appeal	Dismissed					

outcome	Suspension period shortened					
	Allowed					
	Hearings cancelled due to withdrawal of appeals					

2. please provide figures on licence cancellation as per the table below:

			2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of licence cancellations under the DPS						
Number of reviews by FEHD upon requests made in accordance with administrative arrangements						
Review outcome	Dismissed					
	Suspension period shortened					
	Allowed					
Appeals lodged with LIAB						
Appeal outcome	Dismissed					
	Suspension period shortened					
	Allowed					
	Hearings cancelled due to withdrawal of appeals					
Appeals lodged with MSAB						
Appeal outcome	Dismissed					
	Suspension period shortened					
	Allowed					
	Hearings cancelled due to withdrawal of appeals					

3. what were the 5 most common offences in cases with registration of 5 demerit points under the DPS of FEHD in the past 4 years?

4. what were the 5 most common offences in cases with registration of 10 demerit points under the DPS of FEHD in the past 4 years?

5. what were the 5 most common offences in cases with registration of 15 demerit points under the DPS of FEHD in the past 4 years?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 603)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

1.

		2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Number of licence suspensions under the Demerit Points System (DPS)		109	103	93	100
Appeals lodged with the Licensing Appeals Board (LIAB)		13	11	4	10
Appeal outcome	Dismissed	4	4	2	2
	Suspension period shortened	4	6	1	2
	Allowed	0	0	0	0
	Hearings cancelled due to withdrawal of appeal	5	1	1	2
	Pending a decision	0	0	0	4
Appeals lodged with the Municipal Services Appeals Board (MSAB)		2	3	1	0
Appeal outcome	Dismissed	0	1	1	0
	Suspension period shortened	2	1	0	0
	Allowed	0	0	0	0
	Hearings cancelled due to withdrawal of appeals	0	1	0	0

2.

		2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of licence cancellations under the DPS		11	2	6	1
Appeals lodged with LIAB		11	2	5	2[Note]
Appeal outcome	Dismissed	0	2	2	1
	Licence suspension instead of cancellation	2	0	1	0
	Allowed	5	0	0	0
	Hearings cancelled due to withdrawal of appeals	4	0	2	0
	Pending a decision	0	0	0	1
Aappeals lodged with MSAB		0	0	0	0

Note: Including 1 case of licence cancellation in the previous year.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not have a breakdown on the number of reviews conducted on licence suspension and cancellation upon requests made in accordance with administrative arrangements.

3. to 5. Under the DPS, a pre-determined number of demerit points ranging from 5 to 15 will be registered against a licensee upon conviction of an offence in relation to food safety and environmental hygiene under the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) and its subsidiary legislation. The prescribed demerit points for a particular offence will be doubled and trebled respectively if the same offence is committed for the second and the third time within a period of 12 months. The Department does not have a breakdown on the offences in relation to which demerit points were registered against the licensee in convicted cases.

The 5 most common offences for which licensed food premises were prosecuted by the Department in the past 4 calendar years are as follows:

2016	2017	2018	2019
Unauthorised extension of food business outside the licensed area	Unauthorised extension of food business outside the licensed area	Unauthorised extension of food business outside the licensed area	Unauthorised extension of food business outside the licensed area
Alteration or addition to the matters specified in the approved plan	Using open space for preparation of food/washing or storage of utensils	Storage of open food	Failing to keep food room clean/in good repair
Storage of open food	Alteration or addition to the	Alteration or addition to the	Alteration or addition to the

	matters specified in the approved plan	matters specified in the approved plan	matters specified in the approved plan
2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Operating another class of unlicensed food business	Storage of open food	Using open space for preparation of food/washing or storage of utensils	Operating another class of unlicensed food business
Using open space for preparation of food/washing or storage of utensils	Failing to keep food room clean/in good repair	Failing to keep food room clean/in good repair	Using open space for preparation of food/washing or storage of utensils

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 | Reply Serial No. **FHB(FE)351**

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5151)

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 the operation of outside seating accommodation (OSA) in Hong Kong, please set out in the table below the number of OSA applications for restaurants received and the average time for processing an application, etc. in the past 3 years:

	2017	2018	2019
Number of OSA applications			
Average time for processing an application			
Number of applications approved			
Number of applications rejected			
Number of applications withdrawn/ abandoned			
Number of appeals lodged			
Number of successful appeals			

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 606)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

	2017	2018	2019
Number of OSA applications	92	100	91
Average time for processing an application [Note]	15 months	14 months	14 months
Number of applications approved	31	31	36

Number of applications rejected	4	3	3
Number of applications withdrawn/ abandoned	62	75	55
Number of appeals lodged	0	0	0
Number of successful appeals	0	0	0

Note: The processing time for an application is contingent upon the time needed for complying with the relevant licensing requirements by the applicant, settling objections raised by the public or other departments concerned, and addressing relevant land issues, if any.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4466)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the outsourced service contracts of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department from 2017 to 2019, please provide information on the following 6 types of outsourced services in 6 tables: (a) street cleansing service; (b) pest control service; (c) market and cooked food market cleansing service; (d) waste collection service; (e) recyclables collection service; and (f) animal carcass collection service. Each table should contain the following data:

a) Street Cleansing Service	2017	2018	2019
Number of service contracts			
Total sum of payment to service contractors			
Total number of staff employed by contractors Number of supervisors Number of workers			
Distribution of hourly wages of staff employed by contractors			
Distribution of monthly wages of staff employed by contractors >$30000 $20001-$30000 $16001-$20000 $13001-$16000 $10001-$13000 $9001-$10000 $8001-$9000 $7001-$8000 below $7000			

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 58)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

Annex

Outsourced Service Contracts of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

(a) Street Cleansing

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at 31.12.2019)
No. of outsourced street cleansing contracts	33	34	34
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	$1,093.1 million	$1,263.0 million	$1,650.4 million [Note 1]
No. of staff engaged by outsourced service providers [Note 2]			
· Total	7 715	7 839	8 847
· Supervisor	697	726	856
· Workman	7 018	7 113	7 991
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff [Note 3]			
. >$30,000	-	-	-
. $20,001-$30,000	-	-	-
. $16,001-$20,000	-	-	-
. $13,001-$16,000	13	-	157
. $10,001-$13,000	496	842	3 363
. $9,001-$10,000	1 137	2 242	4 416
. $8,001-$9,000	5 722	4 168	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2019-20.

Note 2: The number of staff engaged by the outsourced service providers is the number of functional posts specified in the contracts.

Note 3: Only the monthly salary range of non-skilled workers is available. The Department does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

(b) Pest Control

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at 31.12.2019)
No. of outsourced pest control contracts	19	19	19
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	$276.8 million	$320.6 million	$346.3 million [Note 1]
No. of staff engaged by outsourced service providers [Note 2]			
· Total	1 756	1 788	1 862
· Supervisor	299	303	310
· Workman	1 457	1 485	1 552
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff [Note 3]			
. >$30,000	-	-	-
. $20,001-$30,000	-		-
. $16,001-$20,000	-	-	-
. $13,001-$16,000	-	-	-
. $10,001-$13,000	282	326	935
. $9,001-$10,000	911	883	617
. $8,001-$9,000	480	416	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2019-20.

Note 2: The number of staff engaged by the outsourced service providers is the number of functional posts specified in the contracts.

Note 3: Only the monthly salary range of non-skilled workers is available. The Department does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

(c) Market Cleansing (including market cleansing and market management services)

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at 31.12.2019)
No. of outsourced market cleansing contracts	20	21	21
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	$176.7 million	$190.9 million	$208.1 million [Note 1]
No. of staff engaged by outsourced service providers [Note 2]			
· Total	1 171	1 265	1 262
· Supervisor	182	197	195
· Workman	989	1 068	1 067
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff [Note 3]			
. >$30,000	-	-	-
. $20,001-$30,000	-	-	-
. $16,001-$20,000	-	-	-
. $13,001-$16,000	-	-	-
. $10,001-$13,000	36	-	132
. $9,001-$10,000	54	522	942
. $8,001-$9,000	1 000	553	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2019-20.

Note 2: The number of staff engaged by the outsourced service providers is the number of functional posts specified in the contracts.

Note 3: Only the monthly salary range of non-skilled workers is available. The Department does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

(d) Waste Collection

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at 31.12.2019)
No. of outsourced waste collection contracts	16	16	16
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	$210.0 million	$207.6 million	$212.5 million [Note 1]
No. of staff engaged by outsourced service providers [Note 2]			
· Total	322	322	320
· Supervisor	208	210	208
· Workman	114	112	112
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff [Note 3]			
. >$30,000	-	-	-
. $20,001-$30,000	10	10	10
. $16,001-$20,000	1	1	1
. $13,001-$16,000	149	130	130
. $10,001-$13,000	40	44	40
. $9,001-$10,000	60	60	94
. $8,001-$9,000	49	41	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2019-20.

Note 2: The number of staff engaged by the outsourced service providers is the number of functional posts specified in the contracts.

Note 3: Only the monthly salary range of non-skilled workers is available. The Department does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

(e) Recyclables Collection

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at 31.12.2019)
No. of outsourced recyclables collection contracts	2	3	3
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	$13.2 million	$18.0 million	$21.0 million [Note 1]
No. of staff engaged by outsourced service providers [Note 2]			
· Total	38	38	38
· Supervisor	17	20	20
· Workman	21	18	18
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff [Note 3]			
. >$30,000	-	-	-
. $20,001-$30,000	-	-	-
. $16,001-$20,000	1	-	-
. $13,001-$16,000	-	4	4
. $10,001-$13,000	25	14	14
. $9,001-$10,000	-	-	-
. $8,001-$9,000	12	-	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2019-20.

Note 2: The number of staff engaged by the outsourced service providers is the number of functional posts specified in the contracts.

Note 3: Only the monthly salary range of non-skilled workers is available. The Department does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

(f) Animal Carcass Collection

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as at 31.12.2019)
No. of outsourced animal carcass collection contracts	1	1	1
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	$4.7 million	$4.8 million	$4.8 million [Note 1]
No. of staff engaged by outsourced service providers [Note 2]			
· Total	11	12	12
· Supervisor	6	7	7
· Workman	5	5	5
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff [Note 3]			
. >$30,000	-	-	-
. $20,001-$30,000	-	-	-
. $16,001-$20,000	-	-	-
. $13,001-$16,000	-	-	-
. $10,001-$13,000	6	5	5
. $9,001-$10,000	-	-	-
. $8,001-$9,000	5	-	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2019-20.

Note 2: The number of staff engaged by the outsourced service providers is the number of functional posts specified in the contracts.

Note 3: Only the monthly salary range of non-skilled workers is available. The Department does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4467)

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:

Please provide the number of reported cases of injury at work received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in respect of non-skilled outsourced cleansing workers, parts of body involved and the reason(s) for the injuries, details of the follow-up actions taken by the Department regarding the reported cases of injury at work from 2017 to 2019. If no follow-up actions have been taken, please state the reason(s). If figures relating to the reported cases are not available, please state the reason(s). Has the Department considered increasing manpower to monitor the occupational safety and health of outsourced workers, and how will it ensure the occupational safety and health of outsourced workers?

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 59)

Reply:

The contracts signed between the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and its service contractors stipulate that in the event of the injury or death of any of the contractor's employees in the course of executing the contract or arising out of the contract (whether or not a claim for compensation is involved), the contractor should, within 7 clear working days, give notice in writing of such injury or death to the Department. The contractors are also required to comply with all the legislation in relation to the execution of the service contracts, including the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance (Cap. 509) (the Ordinance). The number of reported cases received by the Department on injury at work of cleansing workers employed under cleansing service contracts in the past 3 years is given as follows:

Year	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (As at 29.2.2020)
No. of reported cases on injury at work	68	63	19

The injuries sustained by cleansing workers at work in the reported cases were mainly sprains, strains, bruises, cuts and wounds in different parts of the body. Unintended collisions (for instance, with a bicycle or a hand cart), slips, trips or falls on same level and lifting were common causes of injuries. If the Department suspects a breach of the Ordinance in a reported case, the case will be referred to the Labour Department (LD) for investigation. If it is confirmed after investigation that the contractor has committed an offence under the Ordinance, the LD will take appropriate actions including instituting prosecution against the contractor. The Department will also take action in accordance with the contract terms, including the issuance of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices as well as withholding/deducting monthly payment of service charge.

The contractors have a duty to ensure, as far as practicable, their employees' safety and health at work under the Occupational Safety and Health Regulation (Cap. 509A). In the Department's services contracts involving non-skilled workers, the contractors undertake that the contractor personnel should have the necessary training which includes training in occupational safety and health for provision of the services, and the contractors should ensure that all their employees wear tidy and clean uniforms or special protective clothing which the Government may consider necessary or appropriate while they are providing the services. The contractors are obliged to provide and replace uniforms and special protective clothing for their staff. The Department adds a clause to newly awarded contracts to require the contractors to submit a plan for the supply and allocation of uniforms and special protective clothing within 2 weeks after the commencement of the contracts for approval. The contractors are also required to keep a record of allocation of such items to each employee with his/her acknowledgement of receipt, and provide the record at the Department's request for inspection. Staff of the Department carry out regular and surprise inspections to check the contractors' performance and ensure their compliance with the contractual requirements. Any breach of contractual obligations by the contractors will lead to the issuance of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices as well as deduction of monthly payment of service charge.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4468)

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:

Permanent off-street refuse collection points (RCPs) are provided by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department.

a) What are the number of RCPs under the Department as at December 2019, the locations of RCPs which are provided with (i) changing facilities, (ii) common rooms, (iii) drinking facilities, (iv) mobile refuse compactors and (v) automatic refuse bin washing machines, and the area of common rooms (if any)?

b) Does the Department have any plans to provide other RCPs with changing facilities, common rooms, drinking facilities, mobile refuse compactors and automatic refuse bin washing machines? What are the timetable for upgrading and providing the above facilities at individual RCPs and the expenditure involved in the 2020-21 financial year?

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 60)

Reply:

(a)&(b) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department currently manages 161 permanent off-street refuse collection points (RCPs), 58 of which are provided with mobile refuse compactors (MRCs). All RCPs have drinking water facilities. Generally speaking, RCPs with roll call points are provided with changing rooms but not separate common rooms. For some RCPs without changing facilities owing to space constraints, the Department allows contractors to provide temporary changing and storage facilities where circumstances permit.

The Department has kick-started a pilot scheme to carry out improvement works at the roll call points in 24 RCPs for provision or enhancement of changing and storage facilities for staff. For newly built RCPs or when RCPs are refurbished, changing and storage facilities will be provided for in-house or contractors' staff if circumstances permit. MRCs will also be provided having regard to the operational needs and site situation of RCPs, but the Department has no plan to

introduce automatic refuse bin washing machines. There is no separate breakdown of the expenditure on provision of the above facilities. A breakdown of our RCPs provided with changing facilities, drinking facilities and MRCs is at Annex.

Annex

Facilities of RCPs under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

District	Changing facilities provided	Drinking water facilities provided	Mobile refuse compactors provided
Central & Western	14	16	5
Wan Chai	10	10	3
Eastern	12	12	4
Southern	7	7	0
Islands	3	3	1
Yau Tsim Mong	16	18	15
Sham Shui Po	11	11	5
Kowloon City	11	19	3
Wong Tai Sin	6	6	1
Kwun Tong	8	8	0
Kwai Tsing	6	7	0
Tsuen Wan	6	6	3
Tuen Mun	9	10	3
Yuen Long	8	9	6
North	3	3	2
Tai Po	2	5	4
Sha Tin	6	6	1
Sai Kung	4	5	2
Total	142	161	58

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4469)

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:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department pointed out last year that 240 public toilets would be fully refurbished or facelifted from 2019 to 2024 at an estimated capital expenditure of over $600 million. Meanwhile, the Department is reviewing facilities in attendant rooms of existing public toilets. If circumstances permit, the Department will install oscillating fans, exhaust fans, power sockets, etc. in existing attendant rooms to improve their environment.

a) What is the progress in reviewing facilities in attendant rooms of public toilets as at December 2019? Please set out the latest situation and relevant facilities of all public toilets managed by the Department;

b) Will the Department accord priority to refurbishing public toilets without attendant rooms and providing resting and drinking facilities for staff in the attendant rooms concerned? If yes, please provide the timetable for refurbishing public toilets without attendant rooms and the expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 61)

Reply:

a) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has completed a review of the facilities in attendant rooms of public toilets and requested the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) to progressively install, as far as practicable, wall-mounted fans, mechanical ventilation (e.g. exhaust fans or propulsion fans), power sockets, lockers, resting and changing facilities, etc. in existing attendant rooms, so as to improve the working environment of toilet attendants. Facilities in attendant rooms of public toilets under the Department are set out at **Annex**.

b) The Department will prioritise the public toilets for inclusion in the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme having regard to their utilisation rates, locations, maintenance conditions and the time lapsed since they were constructed or last refurbished, with special attention to those with high utilisation rates and in ageing

conditions. The Department will continue to work with ArchSD and review the situation when the public toilets are refurbished, with a view to making available and improving the provisions for attendant rooms for toilet attendants as far as practicable.

Annex

Facilities in Attendant Rooms of Public Toilets under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Serial no.	District	Location of public toilet	Facilities in attendant room #		
			Power socket (Yes/No)	Wall fan (Yes/No)	Exhaust fan (Yes/No)
1	Central & Western	Wa Hing Lane Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yes	Yes	No
2	Central & Western	Star Ferry Multi Storey Car-park Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
3	Central & Western	Exchange Square Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
4	Central & Western	Mee Lun Street Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
5	Central & Western	Wellington Street Public Toilet (Male Only)	Yes	Yes	No
6	Central & Western	Queen's Road Central Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
7	Central & Western	Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
8	Central & Western	Wing Wo Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
9	Central & Western	Hatton Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
10	Central & Western	Lan Kwai Fong Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
11	Central & Western	Macau Ferry Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
12	Central & Western	Man Yiu Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
13	Central & Western	Peak Tower Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
14	Central & Western	Man Fai Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
15	Central & Western	Ladder Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
16	Central & Western	Lok Ku Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
17	Central & Western	Hospital Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
18	Central & Western	Wing Lok Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
19	Central & Western	In Ku Lane Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
20	Central & Western	Mui Fong Street Temporary Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
21	Central &	Belcher's Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No

Serial no.	District	Location of public toilet	Facilities in attendant room #		
			Power socket (Yes/No)	Wall fan (Yes/No)	Exhaust fan (Yes/No)
	Western				
22	Central & Western	Smithfield Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
23	Central & Western	Kennedy Town Bus Terminus Sai Ning Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
24	Central & Western	Pound Lane Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yes	Yes	No
25	Central & Western	Water Street Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yes	Yes	No
26	Central & Western	Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
27	Wan Chai	Lin Fa Kung Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
28	Wan Chai	Sing Woo Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
29	Wan Chai	Tai Hang Road Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
30	Wan Chai	Wan Chai Market Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
31	Wan Chai	Warren Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
32	Wan Chai	Moreton Terrace Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
33	Wan Chai	Wong Nai Chung Road Public Toilet	Information not yet available (refurbishment works in progress)		
34	Wan Chai	Morrison Hill Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
35	Wan Chai	Canal Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
36	Wan Chai	Cross Lane Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
37	Wan Chai	Southorn Centre Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
38	Wan Chai	Kat On Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
39	Wan Chai	Expo Drive East Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
40	Wan Chai	Wan Chai North Temporary Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
41	Wan Chai	Amoy Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
42	Wan Chai	Wing Hing Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
43	Wan Chai	Hing Fat Street Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
44	Eastern	Ning Foo Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
45	Eastern	Kam Wa Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
46	Eastern	Nam On Street Public Toilet	Information not yet available		

Serial no.	District	Location of public toilet	Facilities in attendant room #		
			Power socket (Yes/No)	Wall fan (Yes/No)	Exhaust fan (Yes/No)
			(refurbishment works in progress)		
47	Eastern	Hoi Ning Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
48	Eastern	Quarry Bay Market Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
49	Eastern	Pak Fuk Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
50	Eastern	Java Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
51	Eastern	Tong Shui Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
52	Eastern	Tung Hei Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
53	Eastern	North Point Ferry Pier Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
54	Southern	Pokfulam Road near Queen Mary Hospital Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
55	Southern	No.16 Aberdeen Main Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
56	Southern	Yip Fat Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
57	Southern	Repulse Bay Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
58	Southern	Repulse Bay Beach Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
59	Southern	South Bay Public Toilet	No	No	Yes
60	Southern	Stanley Link Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
61	Southern	Stanley Tytam Village Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
62	Southern	Stanley Main Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
63	Southern	Shek O Village Public Toilet	Yes	No	Yes
64	Southern	Wu Nam Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
65	Southern	Apleichau Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	No	No	Yes
66	Southern	Lee Lok Street Public Toilet	Yes	No	Yes
67	Southern	Shum Wan Road Public Toilet	No	No	No
68	Southern	Stanley Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
69	Southern	Stanley Waterfront Public Toilet	Information not yet available (refurbishment works in progress)		
70	Southern	Repulse Bay Public Toilet (near Life Saving Association)	No	No	Yes
71	Islands	San Hing Back Street Public	No	No	No

Serial no.	District	Location of public toilet	Facilities in attendant room #		
			Power socket (Yes/No)	Wall fan (Yes/No)	Exhaust fan (Yes/No)
		Toilet			
72	Islands	Pak She Street Public Toilet	No	Yes	No
73	Islands	Cheung Chau Peak Road Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Yes	No	Yes
74	Islands	Yung Shue Wan Public Toilet	No	No	No
75	Islands	Peng Chau Wing On Side Street Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Yes	Yes	No
76	Islands	Ngong Ping Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
77	Islands	Tat Tung Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
78	Islands	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	Yes	No	Yes
79	Islands	Tung Chung Waterfront Promenade Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
80	Islands	Shun Fai Road Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
81	Islands	Arrival Private Car Clearance Plaza Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
82	Islands	Arrival Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
83	Islands	Departure Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
84	Islands	Departure Private Car Clearance Plaza Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
85	Yau Tsim	Shanghai Street/Waterloo Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
86	Yau Tsim	Market Street Public Toilet and Public Bathhouse	Information not yet available (facelifting works in progress)		
87	Yau Tsim	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
88	Yau Tsim	Battery Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
89	Yau Tsim	Parkes Street Public Toilet and Public Bathhouse	Yes	Yes	Yes
90	Yau Tsim	Jordan Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
91	Yau Tsim	Science Museum Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
92	Yau Tsim	Tsim Sha Tsui Ferry Concourse Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes

Serial no.	District	Location of public toilet	Facilities in attendant room #		
			Power socket (Yes/No)	Wall fan (Yes/No)	Exhaust fan (Yes/No)
93	Yau Tsim	Tsim Sha Tsui East Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
94	Yau Tsim	Lin Cheung Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
95	Yau Tsim	Yau Ma Tei Market Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
96	Mong Kok	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
97	Mong Kok	Sai Yee Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
98	Mong Kok	Mong Kok Road Public Toilet	No	No	Yes
99	Mong Kok	Pok Man Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
100	Mong Kok	Portland Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
101	Mong Kok	Nelson Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
102	Mong Kok	Larch Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
103	Sham Shui Po	Lai Chi Kok Government Offices Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
104	Sham Shui Po	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
105	Sham Shui Po	Cheung Shun Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
106	Sham Shui Po	Tonkin Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
107	Sham Shui Po	Yen Chow Street Public Toilet	Information not yet available (facelifting works in progress)		
108	Sham Shui Po	Apliu Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
109	Sham Shui Po	Sai Chuen Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
110	Sham Shui Po	Tai Nan Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
111	Sham Shui Po	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
112	Sham Shui Po	Yee Kuk Street Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Yes	Yes	Yes
113	Kowloon City	Dyer Avenue Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
114	Kowloon City	Ma Tau Kok Road Public Toilet-cum-bathhouse	Yes	Yes	No
115	Kowloon City	Kowloon City Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
116	Kowloon City	San Ma Tau Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
117	Kowloon	Gillies Avenue South Public	Yes	Yes	Yes

Serial no.	District	Location of public toilet	Facilities in attendant room #		
			Power socket (Yes/No)	Wall fan (Yes/No)	Exhaust fan (Yes/No)
	City	Toilet			
118	Kowloon City	Baker Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
119	Kowloon City	Hok Yuen Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
120	Kowloon City	New Hung Hom Ferry Pier Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
121	Kowloon City	Hung Hom Complex Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
122	Kowloon City	Shek Ku Lung Road Public Toilet	Yes	No	Yes
123	Kowloon City	Tung Tsing Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
124	Kowloon City	Lung Kong Road Public Toilet	No	Yes	Yes
125	Kowloon City	Pui Ching Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
126	Kowloon City	Kowloon City Complex Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
127	Kowloon City	Kowloon Tong Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
128	Wong Tai Sin	Hong Keung Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
129	Wong Tai Sin	Ngau Chi Wan Village Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
130	Wong Tai Sin	Lok Fu Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
131	Wong Tai Sin	Choi Hung Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
132	Wong Tai Sin	Sheung Yuen Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
133	Kwun Tong	Chun Wah Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
134	Kwun Tong	Shung Yan Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
135	Kwun Tong	Lai Yip Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
136	Kwun Tong	Kei Yip Lane Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
137	Kwun Tong	Hip Wo Street Interim Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
138	Kwun Tong	Kwun Tong Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
139	Kwun	Lei Yue Mun (Ling Nam	Yes	No	No

Serial no.	District	Location of public toilet	Facilities in attendant room #		
			Power socket (Yes/No)	Wall fan (Yes/No)	Exhaust fan (Yes/No)
	Tong	Sun Tsuen) Public Toilet			
140	Kwun Tong	Cha Kwo Ling Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
141	Kwun Tong	Ngau Tau Kok Public Toilet / Bathhouse	Yes	Yes	No
142	Kwun Tong	Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Yes	Yes	Yes
143	Kwai Tsing	Kwai Shun Street Public Toilet	Yes	No	Yes
144	Kwai Tsing	Cheung Tat Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
145	Kwai Tsing	Cheung Ching Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
146	Kwai Tsing	Cheung Fai Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
147	Kwai Tsing	Tsing Yi New Ferry Terminus Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
148	Kwai Tsing	Tam Kon Shan Road (I) Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
149	Kwai Tsing	Tai Lin Pai Road Public Toilet	Yes	No	Yes
150	Kwai Tsing	San Kwai Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
151	Kwai Tsing	Ta Chuen Ping Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
152	Kwai Tsing	Kwai Hing Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Information not yet available (facelifting works in progress)		
153	Kwai Tsing	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Information not yet available (facelifting works in progress)		
154	Kwai Tsing	Lantau Link Viewing Platform Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
155	Tsuen Wan	Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Car Park Building Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
156	Tsuen Wan	Sham Tseng Public Toilet	Yes	No	Yes
157	Tsuen Wan	Wang Lung Street Public Toilet	Yes	No	Yes
158	Tsuen Wan	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
159	Tsuen Wan	Tak Wah Park Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
160	Tsuen Wan	Chai Wan Kok Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
161	Tsuen Wan	Tai Ho Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes

Serial no.	District	Location of public toilet	Facilities in attendant room #		
			Power socket (Yes/No)	Wall fan (Yes/No)	Exhaust fan (Yes/No)
162	Tsuen Wan	Sunny Bay Public Toilet	Yes	No	Yes
163	Tuen Mun	Hung Cheung Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
164	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Ferry Pier Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
165	Tuen Mun	Kin Lung Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
166	Tuen Mun	Tsing Yeung Circuit Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
167	Tuen Mun	Tin Hau Road Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
168	Tuen Mun	Tin Hau Temple Plaza Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
169	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Road Bus-Bus Interchange Public Toilet (Tuen Mun Bound)	Yes	No	Yes
170	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Road Bus-Bus Interchange Public Toilet (Kowloon Bound)	Yes	No	Yes
171	Tuen Mun	Siu Hong Public Toilet	Yes	No	Yes
172	Yuen Long	Fung Cheung Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
173	Yuen Long	Hong King Street Public Toilet	Yes	No	Yes
174	Yuen Long	Kam Tin Market Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
175	Yuen Long	Kuk Ting Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
176	Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau Control Point (South) Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
177	Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau Control Point (North) Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
178	Yuen Long	Tan Kwai Tsuen Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
179	Yuen Long	Kik Yeung Road Public Toilet	Information not yet available (refurbishment works in progress)		
180	Yuen Long	Lau Fau Shan Roundabout Public Toilet (Vacuum Toilet)	Information not yet available (refurbishment works in progress)		
181	Yuen Long	Kam Sheung Road Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
182	Yuen Long	Hung Shui Kiu Public Toilet and Bathhouse	No	No	No
183	Yuen Long	Tai Tong Road Public Toilet and Bathhouse	No	No	No

Serial no.	District	Location of public toilet	Facilities in attendant room #		
			Power socket (Yes/No)	Wall fan (Yes/No)	Exhaust fan (Yes/No)
184	Yuen Long	Hang Mei Tsuen Public Toilet (Bio-treatment)	Yes	Yes	No
185	Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau PTI Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
186	Yuen Long	Tin Shui Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
187	Yuen Long	Tin Fuk Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
188	North	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
189	North	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Carpark Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
190	North	Fanling Lau Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
191	North	Shung Him Tong Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
192	North	Sheung Shui Wai Wai Noi Tsuen Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
193	North	Fanling Wai Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
194	North	Fanling Wai (South) Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
195	North	Tin Kwong Hui Temporary Wholesale Market On Lok Tsuen Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
196	North	Fanling Station Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
197	North	Lung Wan Street Public Toilet	No	Yes	Yes
198	North	San Shing Avenue Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
199	North	Luen Cheong Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
200	North	Che Ping Street Public Toilet	No	No	No
201	North	Shek Wu Hui Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
202	North	Ho Sheung Heung Public Toilet (III)	Yes	Yes	No
203	North	Sheung Shui Wai Po Sheung Tsuen Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
204	North	Shek Tsai Ling Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
205	North	Wo Hop Shek Tsuen Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
206	North	Wo Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
207	Tai Po	Tai Po Centre Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
208	Tai Po	Tai Po Plaza Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
209	Tai Po	Tai Po Market MTR Station	Yes	Yes	Yes

Serial no.	District	Location of public toilet	Facilities in attendant room #		
			Power socket (Yes/No)	Wall fan (Yes/No)	Exhaust fan (Yes/No)
		Public Toilet			
210	Tai Po	Tai Mei Tuk Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
211	Tai Po	Pak Shing Street Public Toilet-cum-Bathhouse	Yes	Yes	No
212	Tai Po	Fong Ma Po Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
213	Tai Po	Tung Ping Chau Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
214	Sha Tin	Shing Ho Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
215	Sha Tin	30 Wo Liu Hang Road Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
216	Sha Tin	Cheung Lek Mei Street Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
217	Sha Tin	Shan Mei Street Public Toilet	Yes	No	Yes
218	Sha Tin	Kwei Tei Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
219	Sha Tin	Ma Liu Shui off Tolo Highway Public Toilet	Yes	No	Yes
220	Sha Tin	Tin Sam Tsuen Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
221	Sha Tin	Kak Tin Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
222	Sha Tin	Hin Tin Street, Sheung Keng Hau Village Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
223	Sha Tin	Fu Kin Street, Ha Keng Hau Village Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
224	Sha Tin	Hin Kwai Lane, Hin Tin Village Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
225	Sha Tin	Tsang Tai Uk Public Toilet	No	No	No
226	Sha Tin	Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
227	Sha Tin	Science Park Road Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
228	Sha Tin	Tai Wai PTI Public Toilet	Information not yet available (refurbishment works in progress)		
229	Sha Tin	Ma Liu Shui Waterfront Public Toilet	Yes	No	Yes
230	Sha Tin	To Tau Village Public Toilet	No	No	No
231	Sha Tin	University Station Public Toilet	Yes	No	No
232	Sai Kung	Yi Chun Street Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
233	Sai Kung	Yan King Road Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Information not yet available (refurbishment works in progress)		
234	Sai Kung	Tai Au Mun Public Toilet	Information not yet available (refurbishment works in progress)		
235	Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Second Beach Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes

Serial no.	District	Location of public toilet	Facilities in attendant room #		
			Power socket (Yes/No)	Wall fan (Yes/No)	Exhaust fan (Yes/No)
236	Sai Kung	Hang Hau PTI Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes
237	Sai Kung	Tseung Kwan O Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	No
238	Sai Kung	Tiu Keng Leng PTI Public Toilet	Yes	Yes	Yes

As at 29 February 2020

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4470)

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:

The Central Investigation Team (CIT) has been set up by the Department to follow up complaints against contractors' non-compliance with employment requirements. The Department will also take action against contractors in breach of the requirements. Please provide this Committee with the following information in 2017-2019:

a) with regard to the CIT, i) the number of inspections conducted; ii) the number of workplaces inspected; iii) the number of complaints received against contractors' non-compliance with the requirements of the employment contracts and those of the Employment Ordinance (with a breakdown by the type of complaint); iv) the number of complaints substantiated; and v) the number of cases in which contractors were penalised due to substantiation of their complaints and the penalties imposed;

b) with regard to the Department's cleansing service contractors, (i) the respective number of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices issued; (ii) the number of times monthly service charges were deducted and the total amount of charges involved; and (iii) the number of times demerit points were given;

c) the respective number of cases in which the Department imposed punishments on its cleansing service contractors for breaching (a) the contractual obligations relating to the demerit point system and (b) other contractual obligations set out in the Standard Employment Contract, as well as the following details of such cases: (i) names of contractors; (ii) number of breaches; (iii) details of the breaches; (iv) the respective number of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices issued; and (v) total amount of monthly service charges deducted; and

d) the respective number of complaints received by the Department about its non-skilled outsourced service contractors (i) underpaying wages; (ii) defaulting on wage payments; (iii) failing to sign the Standard Employment Contract; (iv) exceeding working hour limits; and (v) breaching the Employment Ordinance (Cap. 57) and the Employees' Compensation Ordinance (Cap. 282), the number of complaints found substantiated, the number of contractors penalised as a result (with a breakdown by

form of punishment) and the number of contractors debarred from tendering due to conviction.

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 62)

Reply:

(a) The Central Investigation Team (CIT) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department conducted 269, 267 and 312 inspections on the contractors' compliance with employment-related regulations in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively. Instead of conducting physical inspections of the workplaces, the CIT examines employment-related documents, including Standard Employment Contracts, wage records, attendance records, etc. The contractors' staff concerned are interviewed to ascertain contractors' compliance with the contract requirements and/or the relevant labour legislation. Hence, the Department does not keep information on the number of workplaces inspected. Details of the complaints received by the CIT are provided as follows:

Year	Types of Complaints					Number of complaints	Number of substantiated cases
	Under-payment	No signing of Standard Employment Contract	Exceeding maximum working hours	Failure to grant severance / long service payment	Others^		
2017	6	0	1	3	6	16	1
2018	8	0	0	1	7	16	2
2019	8*	0	1	2*	6*	14	0

^ Including late payment of wages, failure to make contributions to the Mandatory Provident Fund, etc.

* 3 of the complaint cases involved more than 1 type of complaint

For substantiated cases, the Department will issue default notices and/or warning letters to the contractors concerned. Deductions from the relevant contract payments will also be made as appropriate. Contractors found to be in breach of certain contractual obligations will receive demerit points, which may affect their future bids for similar government contracts.

(b) From 2017-2019, the numbers of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices issued, the number of times monthly service charges were deducted and the amount of deductions, and the number of times demerit points were given due to the public cleansing service contractors' breaches of contract provisions are as follows:

Year	2017	2018	2019
Number of verbal warnings issued	2 160	2 742	2 412
Number of written warnings issued	122	128	91
Number of default notices issued (equivalent to the number of times monthly service charges were deducted)	1 089	1 622	1 419
Amount of service charge payments deducted ($ million)	2.086	3.923	3.765
Number of times demerit points were given	0	1	1

(c) The information sought is provided as follows:

(a) Contractual obligations relating to the demerit point system

Year	2017	2018	2019
Number of substantiated cases of non-compliance with contractual obligations relating to the demerit point system	0	1	1
Details of the breaches	--	Underpayment	Payment not made by autopay
Number of written warnings issued	0	0	0
Number of default notices issued	0	1	1
Number of demerit points recorded	0	1	1
Amount of service charge payments deducted ($)	N.A.	8,045	8,045

(b) Other contractual obligations

From 2017 to 2019, the Department did not impose punishments on public cleansing service contractors for breaching other contractual obligations set out in the Standard Employment Contract.

(d) From 2017 to 2019, the number of complaints received by the Department against outsourced service contractors' non-compliance with employment requirements is as follows:

Year	Types of Complaints					Number of substantiated cases	Number of default notices issued	Number of warning letters issued
	Under-payment	Non-payment of wages	No signing of Standard Employment Contract	Exceeding maximum working hours	Non-compliance with Employment Ordinance (Cap. 57) and/or Employees' Compensation Ordinance (Cap. 282) ^			
2017	6	0	0	1	9	1	1	0
2018	8	0	0	0	8	2*	4	0
2019	8#	0	0	1	8#	0	0	0

^ Including late payment of wages, failure to grant severance/long service payment, etc.
* One of the cases involved 3 service contracts and each was issued with a default notice.
# 3 of the complaint cases involved more than 1 type of complaint

In the past 3 years, no outsourced service contractor was debarred from tendering for service contracts that rely heavily on the deployment of non-skilled workers due to previous conviction(s).

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4471)

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 the wake of the outbreak of novel pneumonia, there is a severe shortage of epidemic-prevention supplies on the market. As the outsourced cleansing workers of the Department are responsible for maintaining public health, it is a matter of concern whether they have got sufficient personal protective equipment. Please advise this Committee on the following:

a. whether there are provisions in the tender document for each outsourced cleansing service contract and the signed service contract requiring the contractors to provide their non-skilled workers with specific types of protective equipment (including head covers, gloves, googles, face masks, N95 respirators, plastic aprons, rubber boots, extension sleeves, rubber gloves and cotton yarn gloves) in the required quantities and keep a record of the quantities and expiry dates of those items.

b. in 2019, the respective number of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices issued by the Department to its non-skilled outsourced service contractors for their breach of the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance and failure to provide their workers with the equipment as stipulated in the outsourced service contracts (e.g. failure to provide face masks, googles, protective clothing, etc. during the epidemic prevention period), as well as the monthly service charges deducted and demerit points given due to the breaches.

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 63)

Reply:

a. Under the service contracts between the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and its contractors, the contractors should comply with all legislation in relation to the execution of the contracts. Specifically, the Occupational Safety and Health Regulation (Cap. 509A)(the Regulation) provides that the employers have a duty to ensure, as far as practicable, their employees' safety and health at work.

In addition, it is also part of the contractual requirements that the contractors undertake that the contractor personnel should have the necessary training which includes training in occupational safety and health for provision of the services, and the contractors should ensure that all their employees wear tidy and clean uniforms or special protective clothing which the Government may consider necessary or appropriate while they are providing the services. This includes the replacement of face mask at least once at the beginning of a work shift or immediately after the mask is damaged. The contractors are obliged to provide and replace uniforms and special protective clothing for their staff. The Department adds a clause to newly awarded contracts to require the contractors to submit a plan for the supply and allocation of uniforms and special protective clothing within 2 weeks after the commencement of the contracts for approval. The contractors are also required to keep a record of allocation of such items to each employee with his/her acknowledgement of receipt, and provide the record at the Department's request for inspection.

b. As mentioned above, the contractors should comply with all legislation in relation to the execution of the service contracts. If the Department suspects a breach of the Regulation, the case will be referred to the Labour Department (LD) for investigation. If it is confirmed after investigation that the contractor has committed an offence under the Regulation, the LD will take appropriate actions including instituting prosecution against the contractor. The Department will also take action in accordance with the contract terms, including the issue of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices as well as withholding/deducting monthly payment of service charge. Information on the actions* taken by the Department against the contractors for their breaches of the contract terms in 2019 is as follows:

Year	No. of verbal warnings issued	No. of written warnings issued	No. of default notices issued	Amount of service charge payments deducted ($ million)
2019	2 412	91	1 419	3.765

*Note: The Department does not keep a separate breakdown of the number of cases where the Department has taken action against the contractors' breaches of the contract terms in relation to the provision of equipment for their employees.

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4035)

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 the enhancement of viability of existing public markets, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has undertaken the retrofitting of air-conditioning in various markets in recent years. The Department has also provided barrier-free access or replaced aged escalators or lifts for individual markets. In this regard,

1. what are the details of retrofitting works completed in the markets managed by the Department in the past 3 years? Please set out in tabular form the name of markets, scope of works and cost of installation.

2. please provide the details of the works in progress.

3. has the Department taken forward the preparatory work for retrofitting of air-conditioning for individual markets (including technical feasibility study and consultation with tenants) in addition to the completed and ongoing works? Please provide the details and progress of the relevant work, as well as the expected timetable for the works to be carried out, with a breakdown by public market.

4. what are the details of works in respect of the provision of barrier-free access and replacement of aged escalators or lifts in the past 3 years? Does the Department have any plan to take forward the relevant works in 2020-21? Please set out in tabular form the name of markets, the commencement date of works and cost of works.

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 67)

Reply:

1-3. With the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), Tai Wai Market is the last public market to have air-conditioning system installation as the major part of the improvement project. The works concerned commenced in May 2019 in phases and are expected to complete in the third quarter of 2020 at a project cost of about $110 million. Apart from Tai Wai Market, the Food and

Environmental Hygiene Department did not carry out projects to install air-conditioning systems in other markets in the past 3 years.

The Government has earmarked $2 billion for the implementation of the 10-year MMP. The pioneering project of the MMP is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. Fundamental overhauls under the MMP already include retrofitting of air-conditioning systems. FEHD and the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) briefed the relevant committee of the Southern District Council on the details and progress of the project in February 2020. ArchSD is engaging consultants and will commence the work of detailed design of plan and preparation of tender documents, etc. as soon as possible. The expenditure of the works can only be accurately estimated upon completion of the design work. Upon completion of the preparatory work, we will seek funding approval from the Legislative Council as soon as practicable and expect to commence the overhaul works in 2021.

At the same time, we plan to overhaul another 3 public markets in Kowloon and the New Territories and expect to take forward the consultation and preparatory work later this year. We also plan to kick-start minor refurbishment and improvement works for at least 3 other public markets in different districts across the territory. The project estimates for taking forward the above minor refurbishment and improvement works, as well as engagement of consultants and the preliminary work for the Aberdeen Market project, is about $68 million. The estimated expenditure of these projects in 2020-21 is about $13 million.

4. The information sought in respect of the provision of barrier-free access and replacement of aged lifts and escalators is set out at **Annex**.

Annex

District	Name of market	Scope of works	Cost/ Estimated cost ($Million)
Works completed in 2017-18			
Central and Western	Sheung Wan Market	Replacement of 4 escalators	10.0
Southern	Tin Wan Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
	Yue Kwong Road Market	Replacement of 1 escalator	2.5
Kowloon City	Hung Hom Market	Replacement of 1 escalator	2.5
Sham Shui Po	Po On Road Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
Yau Tsim	Kwun Chung Market	Replacement of 4 escalators	10.0
North	Shek Wu Hui Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
Tsuen Wan	Yeung Uk Road Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
Works completed in 2018-19			
Central and Western	Smithfield Market	Replacement of 4 escalators	10.0
Eastern	Java Road Market	Replacement of 4 escalators	10.0
Mongkok	Fa Yuen Street Market	Replacement of 4 escalators	10.0
Yau Tsim	Kwun Chung Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
North	Shek Wu Hui Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
Tsuen Wan	Yeung Uk Road Market	Replacement of 2 escalators and 1 lift	7.5
Works completed in 2019-20			
Central and Western	Sheung Wan Market	Replacement of 1 lift	2.5
	Shek Tong Tsui Market	Replacement of 2 lifts	5.0
	Smithfield Market	Replacement of 1 lift	2.5
Eastern	Electric Road Market	Replacement of 4 escalators	10.0
	Sai Wan Ho Market	Replacement of 1 escalator	2.5

Wan Chai	Causeway Bay Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
	Wong Nai Chung Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
Sham Shui Po	Pei Ho Street Market	Replacement of 4 escalators	10.0
	Po On Road Market	Replacement of 6 escalators	15.0
Mong Kok	Fa Yuen Street Market	Replacement of 4 escalators	10.0
	Tai Kok Tsui Market	Installation of automatic doors at exit B of the market	0.2
Wong Tai Sin	Tai Shing Street Market	Replacement of 2 lifts	5.0
	Ngau Chi Wan Market	Lift improvement works	3.5
Tsuen Wan	Yeung Uk Road Market	Replacement of 1 lift	2.5
North	Shek Wu Hui Market	Replacement of 2 lifts	5.0
Works underway/ planned in 2020-21			
Eastern	Sai Wan Ho Market	Replacement of 1 escalator	2.5
	Java Road Market	Replacement of 2 lifts	5.0
Central and Western	Shek Tong Tsui Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
	Smithfield Market	Replacement of 2 lifts	5.0
	Sai Ying Pun Market	Replacement of 3 escalators	7.5
Wan Chai	Lockhart Road Market	Replacement of 2 lifts	5.0
	Causeway Bay Market	Replacement of 1 lift	2.5
	Wong Nai Chung Market	Replacement of 1 lift	2.5
Southern	Tin Wan Market	Replacement of 2 lifts	5.0
	Yue Kwong Road Market	Replacement of 2 lifts	5.0
	Ap Lei Chau Market	Replacement of 2 lifts	5.0
Kwun Tong	Shui Wo Street Market	Replacement of 2 lifts	5.0
Kowloon City	Hung Hom Market	Replacement of 2 lifts	5.0
Wong Tai Sin	Tai Shing Street Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
	Sheung Fung Street Market	Replacement of 1 lift	2.5

Sham Shui Po	Po On Road Market	Replacement of 4 escalators	10.0
	Pei Ho Street Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
Mong Kok	Tai Kok Tsui Market	Upgrading barrier free access facilities	0.2
	Fa Yuen Street Market	Replacement of 1 lift	2.5
Tsuen Wan	Tsuen Wan Market	Replacement of 1 lift	2.5
	Yeung Uk Road Market	Replacement of 2 lifts	5.0
Sha Tin	Sha Tin Market	Provision of accessible toilets	0.5
Tai Po	Tai Po Hui Market	Replacement of 1 lift	2.5

- End -

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)359

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6842)

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:

The Government has set up the Anti-epidemic Fund to provide cash subsidies for the food trade. Has the Government estimated the numbers of food trade that will and will not be able to benefit from the Fund? What is the total number and the average number of employees in the above sector?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 32)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up the Food Licence Holders Subsidy Scheme and the Licensed Hawkers Subsidy Scheme under the Anti-epidemic Fund to provide financial support for food licence holders and licensed hawkers hard hit by the COVID-19 outbreak. Subsidies will be provided for eligible licence holders of eight categories of food premises in operation (including general restaurants, marine restaurants, factory canteens, light refreshment restaurants, fresh provision shops, food factories, bakeries and siu mei and lo mei shops). About 28 000 food licence holders are expected to benefit from the subsidies. The Department does not have information on the total and average numbers of employees in the food trade. The financial impacts of the related measures will be absorbed by the Anti-epidemic Fund, which does not form part of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates of the General Revenue Account.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3989)

Head: (31) Customs and Excise Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (5) Trade Controls

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Customs and Excise (Hermes TANG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the amount of administrative penalties imposed by the Customs and Excise Department in relation to import and export declarations in 2020:

1. Please provide a breakdown of the numbers of cases in which a fine was imposed for contravention of the Import and Export (General) (Amendment) Regulation 2013 (commonly known as the "export control of powdered formulae") by month in 2019 as well as the total amounts of fines involved.

2. What were the number of cases with imposition of fines ended up in default of fine payment in 2019 as well as the total amount of fines in default?

3. What were the types of document of identity (e.g. Hong Kong Permanent Identity Card, "multiple-entry" Individual Visit Endorsements, etc.) the defendants held in cases of default of fine payment?

4. How does the Government normally handle cases of default of fine payment and what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 269)

Reply:

1. Among the 3 568 convicted cases for contravening the export control of powdered formulae in 2019, the numbers of cases in which a fine was imposed and the amounts of fines involved with a breakdown by month are tabulated below:

Month Imposed	Number of Cases	Amount of Fines
January	371	$1,190,300
February	196	$801,800
March	346	$1,128,500
April	338	$1,083,600
May	357	$1,150,800

Month Imposed	Number of Cases	Amount of Fines
June	286	$918,700
July	350	$1,117,200
August	319	$995,900
September	290	$926,600
October	291	$1,112,400
November	210	$646,500
December	205	$652,200
Whole Year	3 559	$11,724,500

2. & 3. The Judiciary does not have the relevant breakdown information.

4. A magistrate may issue a summons or a warrant of arrest to any person who fails to pay a fine. The expenditure on handling such cases cannot be quantified separately.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4559)

Head: (31) Customs and Excise Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Control and Enforcement

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Customs and Excise (Hermes TANG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Will the Department please tabulate the following figures by control point in the past 3 years:
the respective numbers of cases, prosecutions and convictions related to contravention of the "export control of powdered formulae", and the quantities of powdered formulae involved.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 140)

Reply:

The numbers of prosecution cases and those resulted in successful convictions for contravening the export control of powdered formulae in the past 3 years are as follows:

2017

	Number of prosecution cases	Number of convicted cases
Lok Ma Chau Spur Line Control Point	2 323	2 319
Lo Wu Control Point	1 407	1 397
Shenzhen Bay Control Point	94	94
Lok Ma Chau Control Point	8	8
Sha Tau Kok Control Point	8	8
Man Kam To Control Point	6	6
Hung Hom Through Train Station	1	1
Places other than boundary control points	1	0
Total	3 848	3 833
Quantity of powdered formulae involved (kg)	15 977	15 980

2018

	Number of prosecution cases	Number of convicted cases
Lok Ma Chau Spur Line Control Point	2 444	2 435
Lo Wu Control Point	1 363	1 352
Shenzhen Bay Control Point	16	15
West Kowloon Station of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link	12	12
Lok Ma Chau Control Point	12	12
Sha Tau Kok Control Point	9	9
Man Kam To Control Point	6	6
Places other than boundary control points	1	2
Total	3 863	3 843
Quantity of powdered formulae involved (kg)	26 055	25 960

2019

	Number of prosecution cases	Number of convicted cases
Lok Ma Chau Spur Line Control Point	2 232	2 217
Lo Wu Control Point	1 246	1 233
Shenzhen Bay Control Point	36	35
West Kowloon Station of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link	59	59
Lok Ma Chau Control Point	10	10
Sha Tau Kok Control Point	4	4
Man Kam To Control Point	7	7
Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge	1	1
Places other than boundary control points	2	2
Total	3 597	3 568
Quantity of powdered formulae involved (kg)	15 857	15 721

- End -