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Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2021-22

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Food and Health

Session No. : 13

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)001

(Question Serial No. 1411)

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)
(Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22, “(the Branch will) continue to implement a strategic plan for reducing the levels of salt and sugar in food to promote healthy eating”. Please advise on the projects under the plan and the expenditures involved in the past 3 financial years.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 47)

Reply:

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. The work in the past 3 financial years is as follows:

- (i) To start from an early age, DH launched the Salt Reduction Scheme for School Lunches in primary schools, which targets 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. At present, a total of 12 school lunch suppliers have joined the Scheme and designed more than 3 000 sodium-reduced lunch options for primary schools. In addition, DH launched the Healthy Drinks at School Charter at kindergartens and child care centres, with the participation of more than 480 kindergartens and child care centres (i.e. about 45% of all kindergartens and child care centres in Hong Kong), which pledge to provide children with water and healthy drinks, and do not use food as a reward. In 2020/21 school year, we have further created cartoon animation rhymes for young children. Teachers of kindergartens and child care centres are encouraged to download the rhymes, so that young children can learn through songs at an early age to avoid food which is high in

sugar and salt. We also developed an electronic game on less-salt-and-sugar diet for teachers and students to download, so that children can learn to choose healthy food through the game.

- (ii) On enhancing transparency of information, we launched the “Salt/Sugar” Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products to facilitate consumers to identify more easily prepackaged food products which meet the legal definition of “low salt”, “no salt”, “low sugar” and “no sugar”. In 2020-21, we actively promoted the Scheme to manufacturers/importers, launched publicity, distributed free magnets with the label displays at MTR, and posted information of the Scheme on social media. So far, more than 240 prepackaged food products have participated in the Scheme.
- (iii) On encouraging restaurants to reduce salt and sugar, we launched the Less-salt-and-sugar Restaurants Scheme. At present, a total of around 1 100 Chinese, Western, vegan and social enterprise restaurants support the Scheme. They provide 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 ride on a popular online restaurant search platform to strengthen the publicity of the Scheme,. In 2020, the total number of searches for less-salt-and-sugar restaurants through the platform was close to 200 million, with an average monthly searches of nearly 16.5 million. We also launched the Less Sugar Friday Campaign in August 2020. Participating tea houses offer a discount to customers who purchase sugar-reduced beverages on Fridays, to encourage the public to develop a less-sugar dietary habit. Since the launch of the Campaign, there have been new tea houses joining every month, accumulating to 150 tea houses in total so far. We conducted a customer survey on the Campaign in late 2020. It was revealed that 74% of the respondents would opt for sugar-reduced or sugar-free beverages, showing that many people have gradually changed their eating habit. The statistics are also useful for our encouraging more restaurants to reduce salt and sugar.
- (iv) Regarding reformulation of prepackaged food products, we launched the voluntary Sodium Reduction Scheme for prepackaged white bread and wholemeal bread. 7 bread manufacturers of chained bakeries have been invited to participate. After a year of trial and research, the 7 bread manufacturers successfully reduced the sodium content of their prepackaged white bread and wholemeal bread in 2020 and met the voluntary maximum sodium reduction targets with a 3% reduction in the overall average sodium content. CFS will continue to assist bread manufacturers to gradually reduce the sodium content in bread with a target of 10% reduction. The Scheme has also been extended to non-prepackaged white bread and wholemeal bread with a total of 16 non-prepackaged bread manufacturers joining. CFS has all along been providing technical support and tests for participating bread manufacturers. Moreover, several large-scale food manufacturers reformulated their prepackaged food products, covering various types of drinks, instant noodles, soy sauce and soups, in the past 3 years to provide consumers with more healthy choices.
- (v) To strengthen publicity and education, we promoted the importance of a less-salt-and-sugar diet through various channels in the past 3 years, including organising large-scale publicity events; performing online cooking demonstrations with less salt and sugar; engaging key opinion leaders of social media to help relay information on salt and sugar

reduction; promoting low-salt-low-sugar diet through posts on social media; producing and broadcasting publicity videos and documentaries on salt and sugar reduction online; sponsoring radio and TV programmes; producing cartoon animation rhymes; offering online quizzes; displaying posters and advertisement boards on mass transport; and holding media briefings etc. We shall continue to disseminate 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” so that the less-salt-and-sugar dietary culture will take root in the community.

Promoting salt and sugar reduction territory-wide is an ongoing task. FHB incurred \$4 million, \$7.5 million and \$6.4 million in implementing various public education and publicity activities in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 respectively. The manpower and other recurrent expenses concerned have been covered under FHB’s overall allocation, and there is no separate breakdown.

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)002

(Question Serial No. 3048)

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)
(Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the working dogs under the various government departments, will the Government inform this Council of the following over the past 3 years:

1. the government departments which currently use working dogs to perform duties, and the numbers of dogs by name of government department;
2. the details of the guidelines formulated by the various government departments on the use of working dogs to perform duties;
3. the details of the duties performed by working dogs under the various government departments;
4. the general weekly working hours for working dogs under the various government departments;
5. whether the various government departments have set retirement ages for their working dogs; if so, the details; if not, the reasons for that;
6. the relevant expenditures incurred on and manpower deployed for managing working dogs by the various government departments each year;
7. the numbers of working dogs injured, died or euthanised each year, and the reasons for that;
8. the current number of retired working dogs; whether the Government has provided them with support in their living (e.g. medical services); if so, the details and the relevant expenditure in each of the past five years; if not, the reasons for that; and
9. the disciplined services quarters where the keeping of working dogs/retired working dogs is currently allowed.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 56)

Reply:

Government departments may deploy working dogs to assist their officers in performing duties. The number of dogs deployed, details of the duties, weekly working hours, and the length of service may vary according to the duties, actual needs and other considerations of

the departments concerned. Having regard to the duties of its working dogs and actual circumstances, each department would formulate guidelines for managing and taking care of its working dogs, covering the scope of their daily duties, meal arrangements, rest schedules, management of their rest stations and their retirement plans. Depending on the health conditions of individual working dogs and the veterinary advice, a quarantine detector dog (QDD) usually retires at the age of 8 to 9.

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) at present has 11 QDDs responsible for helping the control of import and export of animals, plants and their products at boundary control points to safeguard public health and prevent the introduction of animal diseases, such as rabies, into Hong Kong. The weekly working hours of a QDD are not more than 25 hours. Over the past 3 years, no QDD under AFCD was injured or died or was euthanised. In the same period, 4 QDDs retired and were all adopted by AFCD's dog handlers. As the living expenses of retired QDDs are borne by their adopters, no relevant expenditure is incurred by AFCD.

Over the past 3 years, the annual expenditures and manpower of AFCD involved in managing working dogs are as follows:

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Number of Staff
2018-19	3.0	11
2019-20	2.4	11
2020-21 (Revised estimate)	4.1	12

Furthermore, there are at present 7 QDDs under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) that assist in interdicting illegal import of raw meat and eggs at major land control points. The weekly working hours of a QDD are about 30 hours. Over the past 3 years, no QDD under FEHD was injured or died, or was euthanised or retired.

Over the past 3 years, the annual expenditures and manpower of FEHD involved in managing working dogs are as follows:

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Number of Staff
2018-19	4.5	9
2019-20	4.6	9
2020-21 (Revised estimate)	5.4	9

The Food and Health Bureau does not have information on working dogs in other government departments.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)003

(Question Serial No. 0008)

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)
(Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please list the estimated expenditure on the emoluments and allowances for the Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Food and Health Bureau in 2021-22.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

For budgetary purpose, the provisions set aside for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Food and Health Bureau in 2021-22 are \$4.07 million, \$3.13 million and \$1.25 million respectively (excluding Mandatory Provident Fund contribution).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)004

(Question Serial No. 2863)

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)
(Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide a list of the destinations, dates and number of duty visits outside Hong Kong made by the Secretary (for Food and Health) last year and the actual expenditures incurred.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 253)

Reply:

In 2020-21 (as at end-February 2021), the Secretary for Food and Health made duty visits outside Hong Kong on 26 August, 22 October, 3-7 November and 22 December 2020. The destinations included Beijing, Guangzhou and Shenzhen, involving a total expenditure of \$25,012.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)005

(Question Serial No. 1068)

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)
(Miss Vivian LAU)

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 2021-22, 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.: 21)

Reply:

The Government Laboratory (GL), including its Food Safety Laboratory, is currently short of laboratory spaces. The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and GL consulted the relevant District Council (DC) on the proposal to construct a new GL complex as early as in 2018. While the DC members generally acknowledged the work of GL and the need for GL to construct a new complex, they suggested that other locations within the district should be explored for building the new complex, and facilities of other departments should be included to better utilise the land resources. We subsequently revised our proposal and consulted the relevant DC again in March 2021. The DC members raised further comments on the revised proposal, and we would follow up these comments with relevant departments. After we have completed work such as technical assessments and detailed design, we will confirm the project details such as the project timetable and financial estimates as soon as possible. Relevant work such as assessments and detailed design is expected to complete by 2023. FHB and GL are handling the above-mentioned work with existing resources.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)006

(Question Serial No. 0814)

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)
(Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22 under this Programme that “(the Food Branch will) prepare an amendment bill to amend the existing legislation related to animal welfare, including introducing a positive duty of care on persons responsible for animals and enhancing enforcement powers to prevent and protect animals from suffering”. In this connection, please advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) the expenditure involved in amending the legislation related to animal welfare; and
- (b) the number of reported cases of suspected animal cruelty received by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department or relevant organisations over the past year and the follow-up actions.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 79)

Reply:

- (a) As amending the legislation related to animal welfare forms part of the on-going work of the Food and Health Bureau in strengthening promotion of animal welfare, there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.
- (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 2020 are tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of suspected animal cruelty reports received	Number of persons convicted	Penalty imposed
2020 (up to September)	199*	9	14 days to 8 months of imprisonment

* Upon investigation, most of the cases were found to be related to nuisance and not animal cruelty.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)007

(Question Serial No. 0853)

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)
(Miss Vivian LAU)

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 2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (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.: 10)

Reply:

(a)

The Food and Health Bureau supports 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 2018-19 to 2020-21 are as follows:

Financial Year	Manpower of FCAB Secretariat (Number of Staff)	Expenditure (\$ million)
2018-19	7	6.7
2019-20	7	6.3
2020-21 (revised estimate)	7	4.5

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 2021, 157 cases were subsequently withdrawn by the appellants and about 670 appeal cases have been heard. FCAB has issued decisions on over 650 appeal cases, of which 132 were allowed. Besides, the hearings for some 20 cases have been completed, pending drafting of judgements by legal advisers. In addition, 9 appeal cases from fish collector vessel owners and 3 appeal cases from local deckhands have been received. In sum, about 97% of the appeals have been heard or withdrawn. Depending on the actual circumstances, we expect that the processing of all appeal cases can be completed by FCAB in 2021-22 at the earliest.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)008

(Question Serial No. 1425)

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)
(Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. What are the numbers of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff members employed by the Director of Bureau's Office and the relevant expenditures in the past 3 years?
2. Are there any establishment and expenditure ceilings on the NCSC staff members employed by the Director of Bureau? If yes, what are the relevant establishment and expenditure ceilings?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 81)

Reply:

- (1) From 2018-19 to 2020-21, 1 non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff member was employed by the Director of Bureau's Office under Programme (1). The relevant expenditures are as follows:

Financial Year	Expenditure (\$ million)
2018-19	0.75
2019-20	0.64
2020-21	0.89

- (2) The Civil Service Bureau (CSB) has set a ceiling for the number of NCSC staff employed by bureaux and government departments (B/Ds). B/Ds are required to seek approval from CSB for the employment of NCSC staff over and above the prescribed ceiling. The Director of Bureau's Office will employ NCSC staff according to operational need.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)009

(Question Serial No. 0260)

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)
(Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding “(the Branch 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”, has the Government conducted COVID-19 testing on food products? If yes, what are the types of food products, their places of origin, the number of tests conducted, the test results, and the expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 44)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has been collecting samples of various types of frozen foods and their packaging at the import level for COVID-19 virus testing since mid-2020. All samples are tested by the Public Health Laboratory Services Branch of the Department of Health. As at late March 2021, more than 6 000 related samples from 50 food origins were tested. The samples were mainly meat and aquatic products and the test results were all negative. As the relevant work is conducted by internal redeployment of the departmental resources for food surveillance and import control, a breakdown of the expenditure involved is not available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)010

(Question Serial No. 0495)

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)
(Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

(1) What is the latest progress of the development of new public markets and the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP) to improve facilities of existing public markets? Please provide the respective details.

(2) What are the expected dates for the commissioning of the above-mentioned new markets and the completion of the MMP for existing markets?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Che-cheung (LegCo internal reference no.: 43)

Reply:

The Government is taking forward 6 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. The requested information is set out at **Annex**. In addition, the Skylight Market (formerly known as Tin Shui Wai Temporary Market) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) on Tin Sau Road in Tin Shui Wai was commissioned in December 2020.

The Government has earmarked \$2 billion for implementing the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. The capital cost of this project is estimated to be about \$254 million, for which funding approval has been obtained from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council. We target to commence the proposed works in the third quarter of 2021, and will take measures, including the use of pre-fabricated parts where appropriate, to complete the project in 2022.

Apart from the pioneering project of the overhaul of Aberdeen Market, we are making preparations and carrying out consultation for the overhaul of Yeung Uk Road Market, Ngau Tau Kok Market and Kowloon City Market. We will conduct technical feasibility study with the relevant departments in deciding the scope of works. The works schedule and project cost will be confirmed upon completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment as well as the detailed design.

Furthermore, we have consulted and obtained support from the relevant Market Management Consultative Committees on the minor refurbishment or improvement works for 11 markets, including Ngau Tau Kok Market, Yeung Uk Road Market, Luen Wo Hui Market, Fa Yuen Street Market, Quarry Bay Market, Shui Wo Street Market, Tsuen Wan Market, Mong Kok Cooked Food Market, Ngau Chi Wan Market, Shek Tong Tsui Market and Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market. The works for 10 of these markets have commenced, while preparation is underway for the remaining one.

	Project	Site	Current stage of development	Expected completion date
1.	Tin Shui Wai market	To be built at the section of Tin Fuk Road near Tin Shui Wai Mass Transit Railway (MTR) Station.	Application for development of the proposed new public market at a section above Tin Fuk Road has been made to the Town Planning Board in accordance with section 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance. Pre-qualification exercise for the “design and build” contract by Architectural Services Department is underway.	The first half of 2027.
2.	Tung Chung Town Centre market	To be located on the lower floors of a commercial building in Area 6 adjacent to Tung Chung MTR Station.	As the development project at the commercial site in Area 6 is adjacent to railway facilities, the Civil Engineering and Development Department is conducting a further technical feasibility study (TFS) for the entire commercial building development project (including the new market portion) to ensure that the development project will not affect the safe operation of the MTR.	The timetable is to be confirmed upon completion of the TFS.

	Project	Site	Current stage of development	Expected completion date
3.	Tseung Kwan O market	To be located on the lower floors of the Joint-user Complex to be built in Area 67 (at the junction of Po Yap Road and Tong Yin Street) of Tseung Kwan O.	The TFS for the Joint-user Complex (including the new public market) is underway.	To be confirmed upon completion of the TFS and assessment as well as the detailed design of the Joint-user Complex.
4.	Kwu Tung North New Development Area market	To be located at a site in the eastern part of Area 19 of the Kwu Tung North New Development Area, which has been zoned “Special Residential/ Subsidised Sale Flats”.	Preliminary design is underway.	The development of the public markets will tie in with the housing development plan of the districts concerned.
5.	Tung Chung New Town Extension market	To be located in Area 133A of the Tung Chung New Town Extension.	Preliminary planning is underway.	
6.	Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area market	To be confirmed upon completion of preliminary planning.		

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)011

(Question Serial No. 2530)

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)
(Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. How many territory-wide cleansing campaigns were held in the past 3 years? What were the dates, the number of departments and expenditure involved, and the work result of each campaign?
2. Has the Government regularised the territory-wide cleansing campaign? If not, will the Government consider doing so?
3. How many meetings were held since the establishment of the inter-departmental Pest Control Steering Committee? How many bureaux and departments participated in each meeting?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

- 1.&2. The Government launched a territory-wide cleansing campaign from May 2019 to February 2020 to raise public awareness of maintaining environmental hygiene. Meanwhile, various departments have strengthened their pest control work in the venues under their management. The Highways Department completed 233 improvement work items in rear lanes of public roads between June 2019 and mid-January 2021. The work included repairing damaged road surfaces and surface channels as well as local repaving. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) has stepped up cleaning and enforcement against irregularities of food premises such as food preparation at rear lanes. The Housing Authority has also installed rodent-proofing structures in public housing estates, with more than 16 900 rat guards installed as at the end of 2020. In addition, FEHD has piloted intensive anti-rodent operations at 11 public markets, during which market staff would thoroughly clear the refuse and clean the passageways and drains in the markets every night after their opening hours so as to eliminate the food sources of rodents. Traps were also placed extensively in market areas in the small hours to strengthen the anti-rodent efforts. These operations will be progressively extended to 73 markets with high patronage rate. 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. Moreover, 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.

In line with the traditional practice of year-end cleaning, FEHD conducted an annual year-end clean-up campaign before the lunar new year in 2019, 2020 and 2021 by stepping up cleansing of facilities under its management, including public markets, cooked food centres, hawker bazaars, public toilets, refuse collection points, as well as locations where littering and other public cleanliness offences are prevalent. In light of the development of the COVID-19 pandemic, FEHD launched a two-week stepped-up campaign prior to the territory-wide year-end clean-up campaign 2021. During these two weeks, street cleaning operations at complaint hotspots were enhanced in all districts to improve the environmental hygiene of these hotspots. We do not keep a separate breakdown on the expenditure of the cleaning operations.

Keeping Hong Kong clean is the crux of anti-rodent work. In this connection, a new dedicated website was launched by FEHD in January 2021 to promote the message of "Keep Hong Kong Clean, We Can Do It!" to the public. Duties of FEHD in relation to environmental hygiene and street cleansing are introduced, whereas information and recommendations to keep the environment hygienic are also provided to encourage public response and participation. The relevant government departments will step up public engagement and education to encourage the public to keep the environment clean and eliminate the food source of rodents, with a view to tackling rodent infestation at source.

3. The Pest Control Steering Committee is joined by 3 bureaux and 21 government departments and organisations. Since its establishment in July 2018, 10 meetings and 4 special meetings were held.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)012

(Question Serial No. 2541)

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)
(Miss Vivian LAU)

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 2020? What are the specific work plan and timetable for 2021, and the estimated manpower and resources required?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 53)

Reply:

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. The progress of the work in 2020 is as follows:

- (i) To start from an early age, DH launched the Salt Reduction Scheme for School Lunches in primary schools, which targets 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. At present, a total of 12 school lunch suppliers have joined the Scheme and designed more than 3 000 sodium-reduced lunch options for primary schools. In addition, DH has implemented the Healthy Drinks at School Charter at kindergartens and child care centres, with the participation of more than 480 kindergartens and child care centres (i.e. about 45% of all kindergartens and child care centres in Hong Kong), which pledge to provide children with water and healthy drinks, and do not use food as a reward. In 2020/21 school year, we have further created cartoon animation rhymes for young children. Teachers of kindergartens and child care centres are encouraged to download the rhymes, so that young children can learn through songs at an early age to avoid food which is high in

sugar and salt. We also developed an electronic game on less salt-and-sugar diet for teachers and students to download, so that children can learn to choose healthy food through the game. In 2021-22, we will continue to implement the related schemes.

- (ii) On enhancing transparency of information, we launched the “Salt/Sugar” Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products to facilitate consumers to identify more easily prepackaged food products which meet the legal definition of “low salt”, “no salt”, “low sugar” and “no sugar”. In 2020-21, we actively promoted the Scheme to manufacturers/importers, launched publicity, distributed free magnets with the label displays at MTR, and posted information of the Scheme on social media. So far, more than 240 prepackaged food products have participated in the Scheme. In 2021-22, we will continue to actively engage more manufacturers/importers with a view to gaining their support and participation in the Scheme.
- (iii) On encouraging restaurants to reduce salt and sugar, we launched the Less-salt-and-sugar Restaurants Scheme. At present, a total of around 1 100 Chinese, Western, vegan and social enterprise restaurants support the Scheme. They provide 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 ride on a popular online restaurant search platform to strengthen the publicity of the Scheme. In 2020, the total number of searches for less-salt-and-sugar restaurants through the platform was close to 200 million, with an average monthly searches of nearly 16.5 million. We also launched the Less Sugar Friday Campaign in August 2020. Participating tea houses offer a discount to customers who purchase sugar-reduced beverages on Fridays to encourage the public to develop a less-sugar dietary habit. Since the launch of the Campaign, there have been new tea houses joining every month, accumulating to 150 tea houses in total so far. We conducted a customer survey on the Campaign in late 2020. It was revealed that 74% of the respondents would opt for sugar-reduced or sugar-free beverages, showing that many people have gradually changed their eating habit. In 2021-22, we will continue to appeal to more restaurants to participate in the Scheme and the Campaign, and make better use of the search platform for promotion.
- (iv) Regarding reformulation of prepackaged food products, we launched the Voluntary Sodium Reduction Scheme for prepackaged white bread and wholemeal bread. 7 bread manufacturers of chained bakeries have been invited to participate. After a year of trial and research, the 7 bread manufacturers successfully reduced the sodium content of their prepackaged white bread and wholemeal bread in 2020 and met the voluntary maximum sodium reduction targets with a 3% reduction in the overall average sodium content. CFS will continue to assist bread manufacturers to gradually reduce the sodium content in bread with a target of 10% reduction. The Scheme has also been extended to non-prepackaged white bread and wholemeal bread with a total of 16 non-prepackaged bread manufacturers joining. CFS has all along been providing technical support and tests for participating bread manufacturers. Moreover, several large-scale food manufacturers reformulated their prepackaged food products, covering various types of drinks, instant noodles, soy sauce and soups, to provide consumers with more healthy choices. In 2021-22, we will continue to appeal to more prepackaged food manufacturers to join the reformulation of food products.

- (v) To strengthen publicity and education, in view of the epidemic in 2020, we mainly relied on social media for publicity and education, including performing online cooking demonstrations with less salt and sugar; engaging key opinion leaders of social media to help relay information on salt and sugar reduction; promoting low-salt-low-sugar diet through posts on social media; producing and broadcasting publicity videos and documentaries on salt and sugar reduction online; sponsoring radio and TV programmes; producing cartoon animation rhymes; offering online quizzes; displaying posters and advertisement boards on mass transport; and holding media briefings etc. We shall also continue to disseminate 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” so that the less-salt-and-sugar dietary culture will take root in the community. In 2021-22, we will continue to take forward various public education and publicity activities.

FHB has earmarked \$6.8 million in 2021-22 for launching the abovementioned public education and publicity activities on salt and sugar reduction territory-wide. The manpower and other recurrent expenses concerned have been covered under FHB’s overall allocation, and there is no separate breakdown.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)013

(Question Serial No. 0710)

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)
(Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-2022, 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. Will the Government advise this Committee on the following:

1. Which new public markets have already been completed? What are the respective expenditures incurred?
2. 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.: 53)

Reply:

1. The Skylight Market (formerly known as Tin Shui Wai Temporary Market) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) on Tin Sau Road in Tin Shui Wai, which was commissioned in December 2020, involve a project cost of nearly \$30 million.
2. The Government is taking forward 6 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. The requested information is set out at Annex.

	Project	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date and project cost
1.	Tin Shui Wai market	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.	Application for development of the proposed new public market at a section above Tin Fuk Road has been made to the Town Planning Board in accordance with section 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance. Pre-qualification exercise for the “design and build” contract by Architectural Services Department is underway.	The market project is expected to complete by the first half of 2027. The estimated project cost will be confirmed upon the completion of tender evaluation of the “design and build” contract.
2.	Tung Chung Town Centre market	The market will be located on the lower floors of a commercial building to be built by a developer through land sale in Area 6 adjacent to Tung Chung MTR Station. It is expected to provide at least 100 stalls.	As the development project at the commercial site in Area 6 is adjacent to railway facilities, the Civil Engineering and Development Department is conducting a further technical feasibility study (TFS) for the entire commercial building development project (including the new market portion) to ensure that the development project will not affect the safe operation of the MTR.	The timetable and estimated project cost are to be confirmed upon completion of the TFS and detailed design.

	Project	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date and project cost
3.	Tseung Kwan O market	The market will be located on the lower floors of the Joint-user Complex to be built in Area 67 (at the junction of Po Yap Road and Tong Yin Street) of Tseung Kwan O. It is expected to provide more than 120 stalls.	The TFS of the Joint-user Complex (including the new public market) is underway.	To be confirmed upon completion of the TFS and assessment as well as the detailed design of the Joint-user Complex.
4.	Kwu Tung North New Development Area market	The market will be located at a site in the eastern part of Area 19 of the Kwu Tung North New Development Area, which has been zoned “Special Residential/ Subsidised Sale Flats”. It is expected to provide more than 120 stalls.	Preliminary design is underway.	The development of the public market will tie in with the housing development plan of the district concerned. The estimated project cost is to be confirmed upon completion of the detailed design.
5.	Tung Chung New Town Extension market	The market will be located in Area 133A of the Tung Chung New Town Extension. The scope will 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 confirmed upon completion of the TFS and assessment as well as the detailed design.
6.	Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area market	To be confirmed upon completion of preliminary planning.		

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)014

(Question Serial No. 1410)

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:

Regarding the construction works of the Agriculture Park (Agri-Park) Phase 1, please advise of the following:

- (a) What is the progress of the preparation work? Is there a specific timetable for the opening of Agri-Park in phases?
- (b) How many farmers are expected to be benefited by Phase 1 of the project and when will it be open for application?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 46)

Reply:

- (a) The construction of infrastructure of the Agriculture Park (Agri-Park) Phase 1 has commenced and will be completed in stages between the end of this year and early 2023. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will formulate proposals for the management and development of the Agri-Park. Agri-Park Phase 1 is expected to come into full operation in early 2023.
- (b) So far, 15 farmers affected by government development projects (including the Agri-Park) have indicated their intention to resume farming in the Agri-Park. AFCD will continue to process the applications for renting agricultural land in the Agri-Park from farmers who are affected by the government development projects that happen to take place within the same timeframe and wish to resume farming. If agricultural land is available after processing the applications made by the said farmers, AFCD will announce the details of open application for renting agricultural land in the Agri-Park in due course.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)015

(Question Serial No. 1938)

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 strengthened the regulation of animal trading and dog breeding activities since 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) How many licences were issued each year?
- (c) How many licensed dog breeding establishments whose licences were cancelled or not renewed each year?
- (d) How many dogs were bred locally each year? What were their species?
- (e) How many times did the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department collect DNA samples of registered breeding dogs and offspring for examination? How many samples did not pass the DNA test? If the parentage test revealed that their DNA profiles did not match, how would the Government follow up the case?
- (f) What were the respective numbers of complaints received and substantiated cases each year? What were the number of prosecutions and the penalties imposed?
- (g) What were the number of regular inspections, surprise inspections and decoy operations conducted (including those conducted on the internet) each year?
- (h) Would the regime be extended to cover cats? If so, what are the estimated resources required accordingly?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

- (a) The Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B) (the Regulations) came into effect on 20 March 2017 to strengthen the regulation of animal trading and dog breeding activities. The expenditure and manpower involved in the related regulatory work of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 3 years are tabulated below.

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2018-19	17.2	30
2019-20	18.7	30
2020-21 (revised estimate)	18.0	30

- (b) The number of Animal Trader Licences (ATLs), Dog Breeder Licences (DBLs) and one-off permits issued by AFCD in each of the past 3 year is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of licences issued			
	ATL	DBL (category A)	DBL (category B)	One-off permit
2018	317	12	22	3
2019	281	9	24	3
2020	291	8	25	1

- (c) Over the past 3 years, there were 15 licensed dog breeding establishments (including DBL (category A) and DBL (category B)) whose licences were cancelled or not renewed. The details are tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of licences cancelled or not renewed	
	DBL (category A)	DBL (category B)
2018	4	0
2019	5	2
2020	4	0

- (d) The number of dogs bred by local licensed dog breeding establishments over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of dogs bred by licensed dog breeding establishments
2018	1 962
2019	2 061
2020	1 901

The breeds of dogs were mainly Poodle, Shiba Inu, Corgi, Pomeranian and Bichon Frise.

- (e) AFCD has conducted a total of 2 191 DNA parentage tests (including re-verification) for enrolled female dogs and offspring to verify their parental relationship over the past 3 years, and it was found that 20 offspring did not tally with the parentage of the enrolled female dogs as specified on the Dog Breeder's Declaration by the licence holder. Since there were suspected breaches of the licensing condition, AFCD had conducted investigations and taken follow-up actions, including re-verification of samples and

taking statements from the licence holders concerned, etc. Upon investigation, AFCD found that 13 of the 20 offspring mentioned above were actually offspring of other enrolled female dogs kept by the licence holders concerned and it was believed that the licence holders or their staff had accidentally mixed up the dogs. AFCD therefore issued warnings to the licence holders concerned and required them to improve their dog identification method. As for the cases involving the remaining 7 offspring, the licence holders concerned were not prosecuted due to insufficient evidence.

- (f) 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 over the past 3 years 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	Fine (\$)	Number of cases	Fine (\$)
2018	309	0	N/A	34 [^]	2,000 to 10,000
2019	237	2	2,000	34 [^]	600 to 20,000
2020	269	3	2,000	28	800 to 15,000

[^] 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.

- (g) The number of inspections (including routine ones, surprise checks and decoy operations) conducted on animal trading and dog breeding activities over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number
2018	4 735
2019	4 259
2020	3 531

- (h) AFCD amended the Regulations in 2017 to strengthen the regulation of dog breeding and trading activities mainly in consideration of the fact that cases in which the welfare of dogs being compromised during the process of breeding activities were more frequently found, and stricter regulation of dog breeding and trading activities was also for the prevention and control of the spread of rabies from the public health perspective. We will monitor the situation of cat trading and breeding activities and conduct a review when necessary.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)016

(Question Serial No. 1939)

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 successful prosecutions instituted under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (the Ordinance) and the penalty imposed on each case?
- (d) 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?
- (e) What was the number of prosecutions not instituted by the Department of Justice under the Ordinance? What were the details?
- (f) The Government has proposed reviewing the Ordinance. What is the progress?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 41)

Reply:

- (a) to (c) 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 by AFCD 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)
2018-19	17	3.2
2019-20	17	3.3
2020-21 (revised estimate)	17	2.9

The number of suspected animal cruelty reports received and details of successful prosecutions instituted by AFCD and the Police under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) (the Ordinance) 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
2018	368	22	2,000 to 6,000	14 days to 1 year
2019	288	25	2,000 to 8,000	14 days to 10 months
2020 (up to September)	199	9	N/A	14 days to 8 months

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

- (d) to (e) The Department of Justice (DoJ) has not compiled the relevant statistics. Similar to other criminal cases, after the court has imposed a sentence for a local animal cruelty case, DoJ will carefully consider the relevant information, including the reports of the prosecutors, the relevant sentencing principles and the reasons for sentence of the courts. If the sentence is “not authorised by law, wrong in principle or manifestly excessive or manifestly inadequate”, DoJ may take the case further. For instance, DoJ lodged applications to the magistracy and the Court of Appeal respectively on the same case in 2017, requesting for a review of sentence in respect of the charge of “cruelty to animals” under the Ordinance.
- (f) The Government proposes to amend the Ordinance to further safeguard animal welfare. Proposed amendments include introducing a positive duty of care on persons responsible for animals to provide for their welfare needs, as well as enhancing the provisions for prevention of animal cruelty, including the increase in the penalties, the introduction of an indictable offence, and the enhancement of enforcement powers to prevent and protect animals from suffering. The Government conducted a public consultation on the above proposals in 2019 and reported the results of the consultation to the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene of the Legislative Council in April 2020. We understand the public’s concerns and expectations towards the legislative amendment, and the

drafting of the legislation is now in full swing. Once the drafting work is completed, we will introduce the bill to the Legislative Council for scrutiny as soon as practicable.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)017

(Question Serial No. 1940)

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

- (a) How many dogs in Hong Kong have been involved in the TNR programme? Are they tracked by the Government?
- (b) Does the Government plan to implement the TNR programme for community dogs again? If yes, what are the details?
- (c) Further to the above question, what are the expenditure and manpower earmarked?
- (d) How many complaints about community dogs have been received by the Government over the past 3 years?
- (e) Has the Government received any proposal from animal welfare organisations to conduct the programme in specific districts? If yes, what are the details?
- (f) Will the Government seek the support from the 18 District Councils for conducting the programme? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 43)

Reply:

- (a) The Trap-Neuter-Return trial programme (the programme) was conducted at the 2 trial sites in Cheung Chau and Tai Tong, Yuen Long from February 2015 to January 2018. Although the trial period has ended, the 2 coordinating organisations participating in the programme have agreed to continue managing the trial sites and monitoring the dogs recorded for the programme, and will regularly provide the

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) with reports on the condition, average lifespan and changes of the population of the dogs concerned. As at January 2021, a total of 106 dogs have been neutered under the programme and returned to their original locations.

- (b), (c), (e) and (f) While the programme did not achieve the performance target of reducing the number of stray dogs at the trial sites, AFCD keeps an open mind towards animal welfare organisations (AWOs) or other organisations who are interested in conducting the programme in other locations. To this end, AFCD issued letters to AWOs inviting their views on sites that may be suitable for conducting the programme. The letter is also available on the Department's thematic website (www.pets.gov.hk). In addition, AFCD introduces the details and way forward of the programme to various District Councils from time to time upon receiving their enquiries and invitation to meetings.

Upon receipt of a proposal on new trial site from AWOs, AFCD will consider a range of factors, including population density, community facilities in the vicinity and traffic condition, in order to determine if the location is suitable for conducting the 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 and the introduction of the programme, with a view to enlisting their support and proposing respective legislative amendments.

AFCD received a proposal from the World Wide Fund for Nature Hong Kong (WWF Hong Kong) in 2020 for launching the programme in the vicinity of Mai Po, Yuen Long. The site was considered suitable for launching the programme upon preliminary assessment by AFCD. WWF Hong Kong is liaising with relevant stakeholders. If the programme is supported by local communities, AFCD will render assistance, strengthen liaison with local stakeholders as well as propose respective legislative amendments. AFCD will earmark appropriate resources for the relevant work.

- (d) The numbers of complaints about stray dog nuisance received by AFCD in 2018, 2019 and 2020 were 3 751, 3 259 and 1 568 respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)018

(Question Serial No. 1941)

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 work of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) on animal management over the past 3 years, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The number and breakdown of animals caught each year and their sources;
- (b) The number of animals received by each animal management centre (AMC) each year;
- (c) The number of animals neutered, rehomed and euthanised by animal type;
- (d) The manpower and turnover rates of each AMC;
- (e) The operational expenditure of each AMC;
- (f) The number of inspections and enforcement actions taken as well as prosecutions instituted 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 cats and dogs permitted to be imported and exported;
- (i) The number of cats and dogs traded each year by animal traders who were required to provide the relevant transaction records upon request from AFCD; and
- (j) The number of smuggled animals each year.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

- (a) At present, stray animals caught are mainly 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
2018	1 235	547	1 369	3 151
2019	965	304	1 031	2 300
2020	603	209	997	1 809

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

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

AMC	2018			2019			2020		
	Dogs	Cats	Others ²	Dogs	Cats	Others ²	Dogs	Cats	Other ²
AMC/HK	342	101	11	282	52	17	157	49	29
AMC/K	409	219	44	294	121	35	205	101	38
AMC/NTS	364	111	100	394	88	134	245	52	608
AMC/NTN	1 139	258	6 033 ³	895	181	2 890 ⁴	798	114	754
Total	2 254	689	6 188	1 865	442	3 076	1 405	316	1 429

² Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptiles, 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 upon detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

⁴ Including animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586).

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

Year	Number of rehomed animals neutered		
	Dogs	Cats	Rabbits
2018	157	36	6
2019	129	45	5
2020 (up to November)	135	39	9

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

Year	Number of animals rehomed		
	Dogs	Cats	Others ⁵
2018	577	89	87

Year	Number of animals rehomed		
	Dogs	Cats	Others ⁵
2019	547	78	44
2020	427	80	412

⁵ Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptiles, 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
2018	1 026	333	5 007 ⁷
2019	837	219	2 363 ⁸
2020	602	99	470

⁶ Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptiles, pigs/cattle, 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 Including 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
2018-19	4	184	0%	9.8%
2019-20	4	183	0%	8.7%
2020-21	4	184	0%	6.0%

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
2018-19	26.5	18.7	22.0	18.7
2019-20	27.5	18.9	23.2	18.9
2020-21 (revised estimate)	28.1	19.0	23.3	19.0

(f) 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
2018	5 596	0	N/A	N/A
2019	5 195	2	\$2,000	\$2,000
2020	4 355	3	\$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
2018	8	188
2019	7	173
2020	1 ¹⁰	28 ¹⁰

¹⁰ The numbers of sessions and participants of the Dog Obedience Training Course were comparatively lower than those in previous years due to the COVID-19 epidemic and the need to avoid crowd gathering.

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. We will review and adjust the course taking into account the feedback from the learners in a timely manner.

- (h) The import of live animals 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 to cats and dogs over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of permits issued¹¹ (Cats and dogs)
2018	6 236
2019	6 585
2020	5 957

¹¹ A permit may cover one or multiple cats and dogs. AFCD does not have a breakdown on the number of permits issued by categories of cats and dogs.

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 cats and dogs issued by AFCD over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of animal health certificates issued¹² (Cats and dogs)
2018	3 352
2019	3 825
2020	3 731

¹² An animal health certificate may cover one or multiple cats and dogs. AFCD does not have a separate breakdown on the number of such certificates issued by categories of cats and dogs.

- (i) The licensing conditions stipulated in the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B) do not require animal traders to provide figures related to sale of animals. According to the statistics of AFCD, the total number of dogs sold by licensed animal trading premises in 2019 and 2020 was about 3 000 and 2 200 respectively.
- (j) The number of illegally imported 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
2018	7	3	533	4 258	0	0
2019	24	31	623	2 159	3	48 kg and 292 reptiles
2020	16	418	564	297	0	0

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)019

(Question Serial No. 1942)

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 was the number of cases failing to comply with the requirement of vaccination against rabies? What were the number of prosecutions instituted and penalties imposed?
- (e) What were the number of prosecutions related to and the penalties for animal keepers abandoning their animals without reasonable excuses?
- (f) What were the number of prosecutions related to and the penalties for failing to keep dogs under proper control?
- (g) What was the number of dog bite cases received each year?
- (h) 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.: 46)

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)
2018-19	38.1	188
2019-20	37.4	187
2020-21 (revised estimate)	38.3	188

- (b) Under section 20 of the Rabies Regulation (Cap. 421A) (the Regulation), a dog aged over 5 months is required to be licensed every 3 years. The number of dog licences issued by AFCD over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of dog licences issued
2018	59 034
2019	56 092
2020	52 643

The number of dog licences newly issued over the past 3 years by their sources is tabulated as follows:

Source of the dogs	Number of dog licences newly issued		
	2018	2019	2020
Dog breeding establishments and dog trading premises	2 062	2 868	2 546
Legally imported	2 564	2 958	2 920
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.	811	613	270
Other sources	8 955	9 122	9 157
Total	14 392	15 561	14 893

“Other sources” mainly include puppies born of privately owned pet dogs and some stray dogs handed over 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)
2018-19	0.9
2019-20	1.0
2020-21 (revised estimate)	0.8

- (d) Under section 20 of the Regulation, a dog aged over 5 months is required to be licensed, and must be vaccinated against rabies prior to the grant of the licence. Information on the number of convictions for violation of the above requirement over the past 3 years and the relevant penalties is tabulated as follows:

Year	Without a valid dog licence	
	Number of convicted cases	Heaviest penalty imposed
2018	317	A fine of \$1,500
2019	288	A fine of \$2,000
2020	210	A fine of \$2,000

- (e) and (f) 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	Failing to keep dogs under proper control in public places	
	Number of convicted cases	Heaviest penalty imposed
2018	140	A fine of \$1,500
2019	169	A fine of \$3,000
2020	103	A fine of \$2,000

- (g) The number of dog biting cases received by AFCD over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of dog biting cases
2018	1 354
2019	1 067
2020	970

- (h) 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
2018	169	12	0	0	383	2
2019	102	8	2	0	205	3
2020	118	3	0	0	375	4

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)020

(Question Serial No. 1943)

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 the safety of pet food, would the Government advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What was the figure of imported pet food each year, and what was the local demand?
- (b) What was the number 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 was the number 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.: 48)

Reply:

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

Year	Quantity of pet food imported (kg)
2018	62 782 532
2019	67 435 913
2020	70 717 889

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

- (b) AFCD received 5, 6 and 3 complaints in 2018, 2019 and 2020 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) and (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. The results of all samples tested are within the limits permitted by major pet food producing countries/places. AFCD will continue to closely monitor the local situation and keep in view further development on the international front related to the safety of pet food products.
- (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

FHB(FE)021

(Question Serial No. 1945)

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 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.: 50)

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	Number of newly registered veterinary surgeons		
	2018	2019	2020
Australia	33	24	17
Canada	0	1	0
Europe*	1	1	4
Germany	0	1	1
Ireland	1	1	0
Italy	0	0	1
New Zealand	2	4	2
South Africa	2	2	3
Taiwan	32	27	8
United Kingdom	14	19	18
United States	7	7	6
Total	92	87	60

* Holder of a veterinary specialist qualification recognised 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 2018, 2019 and 2020 was 39, 41 and 47 respectively.

Some veterinary surgeons have more than one specialty. Details of the specialities (showing position as at 31 December 2020) are tabulated as follows:

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

- (c) According to VSB, the number of local registered veterinary surgeons in 2018, 2019 and 2020 was 988, 1 049 and 1 075 respectively.

The veterinarian-to-pet ratio is a common indicator for assessing the overall situation of veterinary services: the higher 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 2019 and 2020, 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 above 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 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
2018	51 [#]	41	1	8	7
2019	41 [#]	32	1	2 [^]	1
2020	42 [#]	18	0	2 [^]	2

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

[^] To match with the holding of the first Election of Members to VSB in 2020 in accordance with the Veterinary Surgeons Registration (Amendment) Ordinance 2015, disciplinary inquiry hearings were suspended from the second half of 2019 to the first half of 2020. After the newly constituted VSB had come into full operation on 1 October 2020, VSB resumed disciplinary inquiry hearings in November 2020.

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 10 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	7
Reprimand	3
Total	10

- (f) Among the cases received and closed over the past 3 years, the shortest time taken for processing the case was about 2 month while the longest time was about 26 months. The average processing time was about 8 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

FHB(FE)022

(Question Serial No. 1946)

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:

If a patient confirmed with 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 to an animal keeping facility at the Hong Kong Port of Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) for quarantine. In this connection, would the Government advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the details of the animal keeping facility at the Hong Kong Port of Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge? What are the operating expenses?
- (b) What is the number of animals tested positive for the virus? If an animal is tested positive, how does AFCD handle it?
- (c) Since the outbreak of the epidemic, what is the total number of animals subject to quarantine? Has any animal passed away due to COVID-19 infection?
- (d) Has any owner abandoned his/her pet animal because it has been infected with COVID-19?
- (e) What is the quarantine period for animals? What is the shortest and longest period taken respectively?
- (f) Has any report been received from private veterinary surgeons about animals suspected of carrying the virus? If yes, how does the Government handle it?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 51)

Reply:

- (a) and (f) If a person with confirmed 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

delivered to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) for quarantine and veterinary monitoring. AFCD has received no report from private veterinary surgeons about animals suspected of carrying the COVID-19 virus so far. The New Territories South Animal Management Centre (NTSAMC) has been used as a quarantine facility for animals, in addition to the animal keeping facility at the Hong Kong Port of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge. Currently, the animal keeping facility at the Hong Kong Port of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge is only used for quarantine and veterinary monitoring for animals tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. There are a total of 12 separate rooms for animal keeping, and facilities for veterinary inspection, all air-conditioned. The process of quarantine and veterinary monitoring is supervised by veterinary surgeons to safeguard public and animal health. The work is taken up by the Animal Management (Operations) Division under AFCD. AFCD does not keep a breakdown of the expenditure involved for carrying out the above work at the animal keeping facility at the Hong Kong Port of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge.

- (b) and (c) As at February 2021, the total number of mammals related to COVID-19 that have been delivered to the animal keeping facility at the Hong Kong Port of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and NTSAMC under AFCD for quarantine and veterinary monitoring is 338, of which 17 animals (including 9 dogs and 8 cats) have been tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. All animals tested positive for the COVID-19 virus are subject to quarantine and veterinary monitoring under the supervision of veterinary surgeons, who will conduct repeated tests for the animals. The animals will not be returned to their owners until they are tested negative. So far, no animal delivered to AFCD for quarantine and veterinary monitoring has passed away due to COVID-19 infection.
- (d) So far, AFCD has not received any animal that is abandoned due to suspected COVID-19 infection.
- (e) As at February 2021, the longest and shortest periods for pet animals to undergo quarantine and veterinary monitoring are 54 days and 3 days respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)023

(Question Serial No. 1980)

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 Department for the said work each year? What were the manpower and expenditure on the "Herdsman Program"?
- (b) What is the current number of vets responsible for conducting surgical sterilisation for stray cattle? Will the number be increased in the future?
- (c) What was the distribution of local cattle?
- (d) What was the number of injuries and deaths of cattle each year? What was the number of cattle euthanised each year?
- (e) What was the number of complaints related to the cattle in the New Territories received each year?
- (f) What were the details of the "Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation" programme? What was the number of cattle sterilised?
- (g) 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?
- (h) Is there any timeframe for the installation of cattle grids? If not, are there any measures to reduce the injuries and deaths of cattle?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 104)

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)
2018-19	6.7	7
2019-20	6.3	8
2020-21 (revised estimate)	5.7	8

AFCD has been hiring 4 “herdsmen” since 2017 to work at some locations in South Lantau where more complaints about nuisances from stray cattle are received. They are on duty in South Lantau, leading cattle away from roads and nuisance black spots. The herdsmen will advise visitors not to feed cattle to safeguard health and welfare of the cattle.

The expenditure involved in hiring “herdsmen” over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)
2018-19	0.6
2019-20	0.8
2020-21 (revised estimate)	1.0

- (b) At present, there is 1 veterinary officer responsible for stray cattle management in the Cattle Management Team under AFCD, including sterilising captured stray cattle. AFCD has no plan to increase the number of veterinary officers for performing surgical sterilisation for stray cattle at this stage.
- (c) 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)				Total
	Lantau Island	Sai Kung/ Ma On Shan	North East New Territories	Central New Territories	
Buffalo	120	0	0	40	160
Brown cattle	170	400	260	150	980
Total	290	400	260	190	1 140

- (d) AFCD does not have information on the number of injured or dead cattle. The number of cases involving injured or sick cattle handled 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)
2018	250	39
2019	180	7
2020	127	7

[#] A case may involve more than one cattle. The same animal may be involved in more than one case.

- (e) 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
2018	82
2019	92
2020	45

- (f) 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 to reduce the nuisance to members of the public. AFCD staff monitor the health of 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)
2018	128	105	80
2019	125	207	98
2020	65	61	58

[^] Figures include repeated capture and relocation/return of the same cattle.

- (g) AFCD notes that certain cattle concern groups have put reflective strips on some cattle. While AFCD may conduct the study on this measure, the initial view is 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.
- (h) 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 overseas 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. If stray cattle are found to have accidentally entered the urban areas and put the safety of themselves and that of the public in jeopardy, AFCD will remove and return them to country parks or remote locations in the rural areas.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)024

(Question Serial No. 3046)

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 local animal welfare organisations (AWOs) and animal shelters, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) 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.
- (b) What was the number of partner AWOs of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 3 years? Has AFCD taken the initiative to invite more AWOs to become partner AWOs?
- (c) 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 forthcoming year?
- (d) How many animals were handed to AWOs by AFCD each year? What are the successful rate and number of rehoming?
- (e) Has AFCD regularly visited the above AWOs? How does the Government monitor their operation and use of subvention?
- (f) 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?
- (g) How many non-profit AWOs are currently operating adoption centres on government sites? Please set out the specific locations and sizes.
- (h) How many "boarding establishments" granted with planning permission are there in Hong Kong at present and where are they located? Has the Government conducted inspections at these establishments?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 42)

Reply:

- (a) The requested information is tabulated at the **Annex**.
- (b) The number of partner animal welfare organisations (AWOs) of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 3 years (2018, 2019 and 2020) was 18. AFCD welcomes applications from AWOs to become rehoming partners of the Department and has uploaded the application details to the thematic website (<https://www.pets.gov.hk>).
- (c) AFCD and AWOs jointly organised 9 and 7 events, such as pet adoption days, carnivals etc., in 2018 and 2019 respectively to promote animal rehoming and welfare. AFCD did not organise such events in 2020 due to the COVID-19 epidemic and the need to avoid crowd gathering. AFCD will continue to work closely with AWOs to organise events for publicising and promoting animal welfare once the epidemic eases.
- (d) 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*
2018	2 254	689	6 316 [#]	577 (33.1%)	89 (18.4%)	87 (1.4%)
2019	1 865	442	3 201 [^]	547 (37.4%)	78 (24.8%)	44 (1.4%)
2020	1 405	316	1 494	427 (38.1%)	80 (36.7%)	412 (27.7%)

* 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.

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

⁺ Animals received by AFCD but subsequently reclaimed by owners were not counted towards the rehoming rate.

- (e) In general, AFCD will verify the receipts submitted by AWOs to confirm that the expenditures are spent in compliance with the purposes of subvention applications. AFCD will also visit the relevant facilities of AWOs in the course of assessing their applications and visit such facilities regularly afterwards. AFCD paid 7 visits to AWOs with animal keeping facilities in 2020.
- (f) 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, under the management of the Lands Department that are available for leasing by non-governmental organisations for community purposes on a 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.

- (g) Currently, 2 AWOs have been granted short-term tenancies by the Government for constructing rehoming centres on 2 government sites in Ko Po San Tsuen, Kam Tin and it is expected that the rehoming centres will commence service within this year with a view to enhancing the work on animal rehoming in development areas.
- (h) As at end February 2021, a total of 77 premises were holding valid boarding establishment licences issued by AFCD under the Public Health (Animals) (Boarding Establishment) Regulations (Cap. 139I), of which 11, 29 and 37 were located on Hong Kong Island, in Kowloon and the New Territories respectively. AFCD deploys staff to conduct regular and surprise inspections to licensed boarding establishments to ensure that such premises are in compliance with the licensing requirements.

(i) Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2017-18 and released in 2018-19)

	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	140,000	83,329
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive medical treatment 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 rehoming 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.

(ii) **Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2018-19 and released in 2019-20)**

	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	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 animal 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 animal 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 rehoming 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

(iii) Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2019-20 and released in 2020-21)

	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	160,000	150,000
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive care and food for rehoming animals	393,600	211,809
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To enhance the facilities of the rehoming centre	800,000	98,500
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	163,000	150,000
5	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	150,000	150,000
6	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	80,000	60,000
7	Hong Kong Cats	To conduct publicity for animal adoption	15,000	5,669
8	Society for Abandoned Animals	To conduct education programmes for animal welfare enhancement	146,951	146,951
9	Kirsten's Zoo	To provide preventive care and food for rescued and rehoming animals	305,600	150,000
10	Paws United Charity	To provide medical treatment for rehoming dogs and promote the implementation of rehome scheme	300,000	150,000
11	Hong Kong Animal Adoption Centre	Animal Rehome Scheme 2020	465,000	100,000
12	Second Life Charity Foundation Limited	Mutual Love Programme (matching suitable cats with the elderly for their adoption)	300,000	0*
Total			3,279,151	1,372,929

* The reimbursement could not be made due to insufficient information provided.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)025****(Question Serial No. 2246)**

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:

Regarding the lease of agricultural land under the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme, please advise of the number of applications received and approved and the area of land leased out over the past 3 years, as well as the number of cases and applicants waiting for leasing agricultural land and the median waiting time at present.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 133)

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. The related information over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	2018	2019	2020
Number of applications received	77	49	79
Number of successful cases	10	43	48
Total land area involved in successful cases (hectares)	1.4	7.9	4.0

The median waiting time for the above successful cases was 4 years. There were 520 applications on the waiting list as at February 2021.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)026

(Question Serial No. 2769)

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, please advise of:

- (a) the respective types and numbers of animals surrendered by owners, caught by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department or received through other channels;
- (b) the respective types and numbers of animals reclaimed by owners, rehomed or euthanised.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 130)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) The number and type of animals received and handled through various channels by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department over the past 3 years are tabulated at the **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*
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 [^]
2020	603	209	997	531	60	65	271	47	432	284	98	6	427	80	412	602	99	470

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptiles, 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 includes the number of animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)027****(Question Serial No. 2771)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expensesProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding the farmers who obtained credit through the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department over the past 3 years, please provide the statistics of the repayment amount, the repayment rate, as well as the overdue or default cases concerned.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 132)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 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Amount of loans issued (\$ million)	Amount of repayment (up to December 2020) (\$ million)
2018	5.7	5.4
2019	5.0	4.8
2020	4.9	0

Over the past 3 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

FHB(FE)028

(Question Serial No. 2772)

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:

Please advise of the number of applicants under the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund (Fund) and the balance of the Fund at present, as well as the number of applications successfully approved last year.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 134)

Reply:

The Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund has received a total of 57 applications as at February 2021, with a balance of approximately \$400 million. 7 applications were approved last year (in 2020).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)029****(Question Serial No. 2773)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expensesProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please advise us of the number of existing locally-operated hydroponic farms and their locations, distribution among districts, areas occupied, total production areas and zonings on the Outline Zoning Plan (Agriculture, Green Belt, etc.).

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 135)Reply:

Information on local hydroponic farms gathered by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) as at February 2021 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	11	19 740	11 340	Agriculture
		1	6 000	3 350	Village Type Development
		1	2 500	2 000	Coastal Protection Area
		2	290	400	Open storage
	North	10	19 685	9 580	Agriculture
	Tuen Mun	1	110	100	Village Type Development
Industrial building	Tai Po	1	3 000	13 880	Other Specified Use
	Tuen Mun	2	2 650	8 850	Industrial
	Kwai Tsing	2	230	240	Other Specified Use
		3	620	910	Industrial

Location	District	Number of farms	Area occupied (m²)	Total production area (m²)	Zoning on the Outline Zoning Plan
	Tsuen Wan	1	90	200	Other Specified Use
		2	940	890	Industrial
	Kwun Tong	2	105	210	Other Specified Use
		2	1 300	1 205	Industrial
	Wong Tai Sin	3	655	1 855	Industrial
	Chai Wan	2	400	290	Industrial
Others	Kwai Tsing	1	25	25	Government, Institution or Community
	Yuen Long	1	140	300	Government, Institution or Community
	Sham Shui Po	1 [*]	250	450	Residential
	Southern	1	30	30	Other Specified Use

* This hydroponic farm is the Controlled Environment Hydroponic Research and Development Centre 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.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)030****(Question Serial No. 0825)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please advise of the locations of the agricultural land, active agricultural land, and arable land in Hong Kong over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21) (please show with a map). What were the sizes of the said land?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 52)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 4 200 hectares. The estimated area of agricultural land in active farming 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	Estimated area in active farming use (hectare)		
	2018	2019	2020
North	286	285	283
Yuen Long	234	251	251
Tai Po	87	87	87
Tuen Mun	46	42	43
Islands	33	33	34
Sai Kung	21	22	24
Tsuen Wan	13	13	18
Others	15	16	15
Total	735	749	755

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)031

(Question Serial No. 0827)

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 (FCZs) over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21)? (Please set out by the 26 FCZs.)
- (b) What were the total sizes of FCZs over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (c) What were the expenditures and manpower involved in processing matters related to FCZs over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (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 4 priority sites identified by the consultant for designation of new FCZs, namely Wong Chuk Kok Hoi, outer Tap Mun, Po Toi (Southeast) and Mirs Bay, 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.: 54)

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	2018-19		2019-20		2020-21 (up to end February 2021)	
	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	9 739	4.5	9 837	4.6	14 189	6.6
Kai Lung Wan	5 508	20.4	5 439	20.1	5 476	20.2
Kat O	3 059	9.4	3 013	9.3	2 905	9.0
Kau Lau Wan	1 202	10.7	1 205	10.8	1 199	10.7
Kau Sai	12 507	27.1	12 524	27.1	12 490	27.0
Leung Shuen Wan	5 826	33.7	5 825	33.7	5 705	33.0
Lo Fu Wat	1 476	27.3	1 532	28.4	1 422	26.3
Lo Tik Wan	21 421	19.6	21 550	19.7	21 064	19.3
Ma Nam Wat	5 380	13.4	5 368	13.4	5 064	12.6
Ma Wan	13 871	30.0	13 853	29.9	13 851	29.9
O Pui Tong	277	0.3	442	0.4	2 468	2.3
Po Toi	265	8.8	265	8.8	265	8.8
Po Toi O	3 423	9.0	3 164	8.3	3 216	8.4
Sai Lau Kong	142	2.0	132	1.8	296	4.1
Sha Tau Kok	11 904	6.6	11 509	6.4	11 846	6.6
Sham Wan	12 220	6.8	12 370	6.8	12 399	6.9
Sok Kwu Wan	26 846	19.0	26 571	18.8	26 173	18.5
Tai Tau Chau	12 168	19.4	12 155	19.4	12 076	19.2
Tap Mun	7 710	10.6	7 670	10.6	7 707	10.6
Tiu Cham Wan	0	0.0	0	0.0	131	0.8
Tung Lung Chau	11 878	14.8	11 156	13.9	11 060	13.8
Wong Wan	2 063	9.2	2 060	9.2	2 500	11.1
Yim Tin Tsai	21 051	15.4	21 232	15.6	21 377	15.7
Yim Tin Tsai (East)	21 147	14.1	20 641	13.8	20 185	13.5
Yung Shue Au	35 307	10.3	34 507	10.1	35 433	10.4
Total	246 645	11.8	244 275	11.7	250 752	12.0

* 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)
2018-19	10.6	21
2019-20	10.3	21
2020-21 (revised estimate)	11.6	21

- (d) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) invited licence holders and persons interested in engaging in mariculture to apply for the new marine fish culture licence in December 2019. A total of 14 applications have been received and after examination, 8 new marine fish culture licences were issued in 2020.
- (e) AFCD proposes to designate 4 new FCZs at Wong Chuk Kok Hoi, outer Tap Mun, Po Toi (Southeast) and Mirs Bay, which can further facilitate mariculture development and assist capture fishermen in switching to sustainable operations. AFCD has commissioned a consultant to conduct a statutory environmental impact assessment study for the project at a fee of about \$7.5 million, which is expected to be completed in 2022. The manpower on overseeing the consultancy study is absorbed by the existing resources of AFCD.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)032

(Question Serial No. 0829)

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 (SADF), the Agricultural Park (Agri-Park) and the Agricultural Priority Areas (APAs) respectively over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (b) What is the current estimated total expenditure involved in SADF, Agri-Park and APAs respectively?
- (c) Since the introduction of SADF and the Farm Improvement Scheme (FIS) 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 SADF and FIS thereunder over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (e) What is the progress of the work on Agri-Park and APAs? What are the estimated work schedules for the two projects?
- (f) What were the details, expenditures 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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)?

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

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)
2018-19	8.1	17
2019-20	12.9	22
2020-21 (revised estimate)	17.5	22

(c) and (d) As at February 2021, a total of 345 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. Over 330 applications have been approved, involving a total funding commitment of about \$9.8 million. 3 applications have been rejected and 7 applications have been withdrawn (including 2 approved applications). The rest are being processed.

In addition, a total of 43 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 and the projects already commenced, 14 rejected, 9 withdrawn by the applicants, 2 returned to the applicants (for provision of supplementary information/re-submission if necessary) and 3 with applicants found to be ineligible for application. The remaining 5 applications are being processed. 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	25	5
Facilitating rehabilitation of fallow agricultural land	2	0
Brand-building and marketing of local agricultural produce	9	4
Total	43	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. With the Finance Committee's funding approval for development of the Agri-Park Phase 1 on 2 July 2020, the works has commenced and is expected to be completed in stages from the end of 2021 to early 2023. 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 explore the feasibility of identifying relatively large areas of quality agricultural land for development of APAs and explore suitable policies and measures to encourage landowners to put existing fallow agricultural land back into long-term agricultural use. With reference to relevant overseas experience, the consultant will study the attributes of APAs, and then review the conditions of the existing agricultural land and make recommendations to the Government. 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)
2018-19	56.4	114
2019-20	70.1	123
2020-21 (revised estimate)	81.2	130

* Due to the COVID-19 epidemic and the need to avoid crowd gathering, the FarmFest 2021 was held online to showcase local agricultural and fishery production.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)033

(Question Serial No. 0831)

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21) and the timeframe for the surveys;
- (b) the area of the waters involved in, the numbers of and the mechanism put in place for the surveys (please show with a map);
- (c) the ways that the Department currently uses to inform the fishing vessels operating in relevant waters;
- (d) 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.: 58)

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) conducts 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.

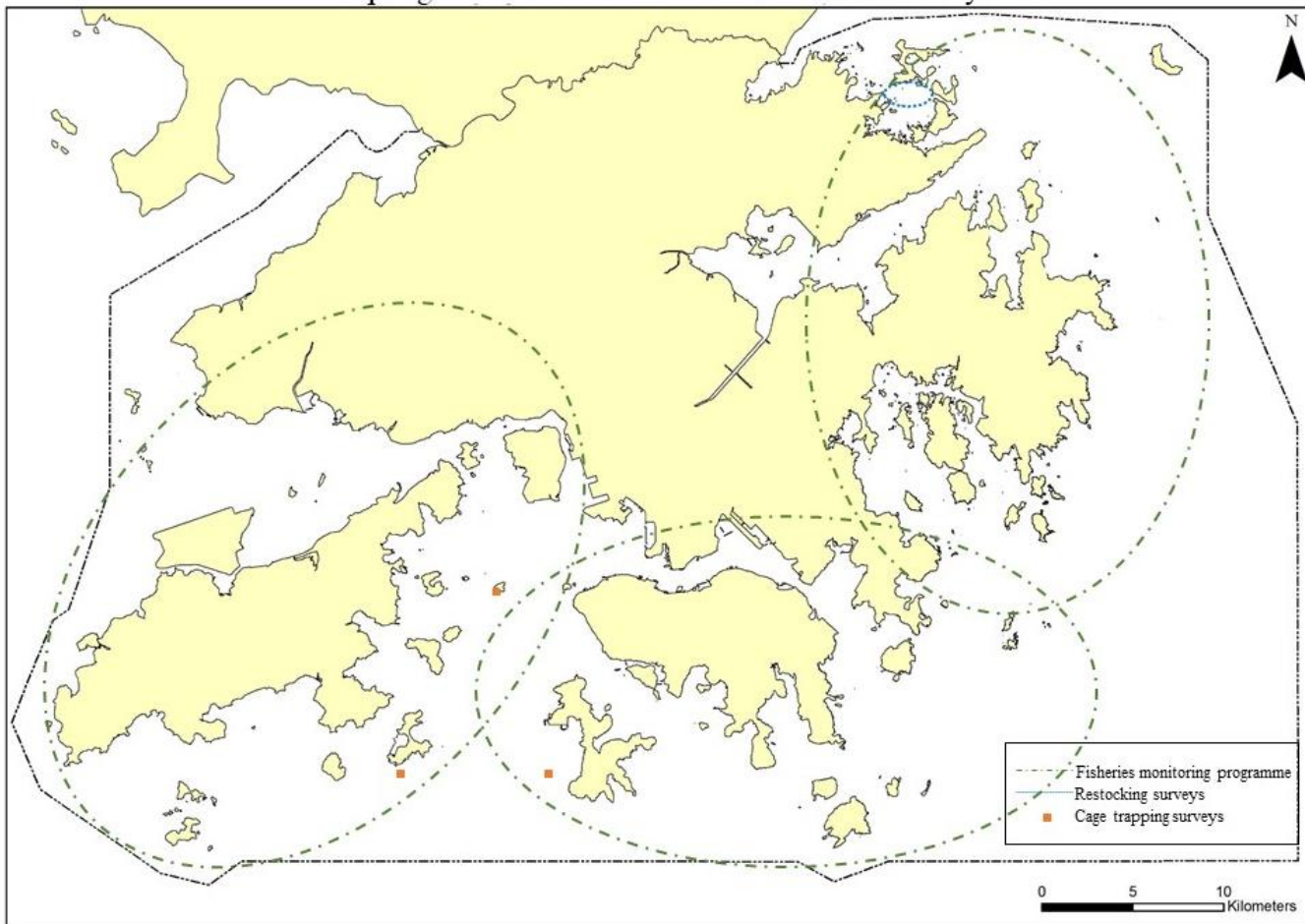
Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2018-19	4.2	3
2019-20	11.7	4
2020-21 (revised estimate)	10.3	4

- (b) The surveys mentioned in part (a) above include:
- (i) the monitoring programme for fisheries resources in Hong Kong waters undertaken 6 times a month by cage-trapping, long-lining and gill-netting at sampling stations in the eastern, southern and western coastal waters of Hong Kong;
 - (ii) the cage trapping surveys conducted twice a month to study the impacts of different cage traps (including snake cages) on fisheries resources at sampling stations in the waters south of Cheung Chau and near Kau Yi Chau; and
 - (iii) 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 northeastern waters of Hong Kong.

A map indicating the sampling stations is at the [Annex](#).

- (c) All surveys being conducted at present employ non-trawling methods such as cage-trapping, long-lining and gill-netting, which in general do not cause impacts on other fishing vessels in operation. It is therefore not necessary to inform the fishing vessels operating in the waters nearby.
- (d) Over the past 3 years, AFCD officers went on board 72 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.

Sampling Locations of Fisheries Resources Surveys



- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)034

(Question Serial No. 0832)

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 of the numbers of the permits concerned that were issued by the Department over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21). 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.: 59)

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)
2018-19	0 (N/A)
2019-20	2 (Sok Kwu Wan FCZ and Kau Sai FCZ)
2020-21 (up to end February 2021)	1 (Sok Kwu Wan FCZ)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)035

(Question Serial No. 0834)

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 how the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department put up publicity banners and posters to enhance public awareness of stray cattle in 2020-21.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 61)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has put up publicity leaflets and banners in areas (such as Sai Kung and Lantau Island) where stray cattle frequently appear in order to enhance public awareness of stray cattle and remind the public of the points to note when encountering stray cattle. To further disseminate the messages and target on the issue of indiscriminate feeding of stray and wild animals (including stray cattle), AFCD advertised on buses and minibuses travelling in areas where stray cattle and wild animals frequently appeared in 2020-21 to urge the public not to feed stray and wild animals.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)036****(Question Serial No. 0835)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21) in tabular form; and
- (b) the manpower and the expenditure involved in conducting inspections at each fish culture zone over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21) and the timeframe for the inspections.

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

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

FCZ	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (up to end February 2021)
Ap Chau	4	4	4
Cheung Sha Wan	60	57	62
Kai Lung Wan	39	39	39
Kat O	28	28	27
Kau Lau Wan	20	20	20
Kau Sai	64	64	65
Leung Shuen Wan	64	64	62
Lo Fu Wat	33	19	19
Lo Tik Wan	68	67	67
Ma Nam Wat	43	43	42
Ma Wan	94	94	94

FCZ	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (up to end February 2021)
O Pui Tong	3	3	5
Po Toi	6	6	6
Po Toi O	38	35	35
Sai Lau Kong	2	2	2
Sha Tau Kok	110	110	110
Sham Wan	162	163	161
Sok Kwu Wan	141	140	138
Tai Tau Chau	101	101	101
Tap Mun	71	71	72
Tiu Cham Wan	0	0	2
Tung Lung Chau	57	57	57
Wong Wan	15	15	18
Yim Tin Tsai	254	254	252
Yim Tin Tsai (East)	195	196	195
Yung Shue Au	280	278	285
Total	1 952	1 930	1 940

- (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 FCZs. The expenditure and manpower involved over the past 3 years are tabulated below. There is no breakdown by individual FCZ.

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2018-19	9.8	18
2019-20	9.5	18
2020-21 (revised estimate)	9.7	18

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)037

(Question Serial No. 0844)

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 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.: 71)

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, restricted areas, 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, the marine reserve, fish culture zones and restricted areas. As the respective waters are under the purview of different departments, AFCD does not have comprehensive information on waters in Hong Kong where entry of fishing vessels and fishing activities are permitted.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)038****(Question Serial No. 0846)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

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

- (a) What were the respective number 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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (b) What were the number of fishing vessels registered in Hong Kong over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (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.: 2)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		
	2018	2019	2020
Fish carrier	26	29	26
Fishing sampan "C7"	1 961	1 892	1 908
Fishing vessel	1 899	1 874	1 680
Outboard open sampan "P4"	2 619	2 599	2 776
Total	6 505	6 394	6 390

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) does not have further breakdown on the number of fishing vessels.

- (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 AFCD under the Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171) (the Ordinance). The number of fishing vessels registered under the Ordinance in 2018, 2019 and 2020 is 4 145, 4 116 and 4 139 respectively.
- (c) The breakdown of various fishing methods used by fishing vessels registered in accordance with the requirements in (b) above over the past 3 years is tabulated below:

Fishing method	Number of local fishing vessels		
	2018	2019	2020
Purse seining / purse seining with light	32	41	45
Long lining / hand lining	35	36	34
Gill netting	514	516	516
Cage trapping	46	38	41
Mixed fishing methods	3 518	3 485	3 503
Total	4 145	4 116	4 139

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

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)039

(Question Serial No. 0847)

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, expenditures and manpower involved in promoting the sustainable development of the fisheries industry over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (b) What were the expenditures and manpower involved in the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund (SFDF) over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (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.: 3)

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 deep water mariculture, recreational fishing, ecotourism and offshore fishing, as well as leveraging the opportunities arising from the Greater Bay Area, 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)
2018-19	182.9	107
2019-20	168.3	107
2020-21 (revised estimate)	156.4	105

- (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)
2018-19	2.7	7
2019-20	3.1	7
2020-21 (revised estimate)	3.8	8

- (c) Since its inception, 57 applications have been received under SFDF and its Equipment Improvement Project (EIP). Details of these applications are tabulated as follows:

Number of applications (as at February 2021)	Type					
	Aquaculture	Capture fisheries	Recreational fisheries	Others	EIP	Total
Received	33	2	6	6	10	57
Approved	15	1	2	1	10	29
Rejected	10	0	2	4	0	16
Withdrawn by the applicant	5	0	1	1	0	7
Under processing	3	1	1	0	0	5

- (d) As at February 2021, 7 SFDF projects were completed, benefiting around 420 in-service fishermen. Upon completion of more projects including EIPs, more fishermen will benefit.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)040****(Question Serial No. 0849)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21);

Year		2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
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 (2018-19 to 2020-21) 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 no arrest was made; (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 repeat offenders arrested and cases (please set them out in the table below);

	Year		
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Number of complaint cases received			
Number of cases relating to illegal fishing activities detected during patrols or joint operations (number of cases in which no arrest was made)			
Number of successful arrests (number of persons arrested)			
Number of successful prosecutions (number of persons successfully prosecuted)			
Maximum and minimum penalties			
Number of repeat offences (number of repeat 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 (2018-19 to 2020-21);

		Year		
		2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
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 (2018-19 to 2020-21) 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 no arrest was made; (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 repeat offenders arrested and cases (please set them out in the table below);

	Year		
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Number of complaint cases received			
Number of cases relating to illegal fishing activities detected during patrols or joint operations (number of cases in which no arrest was made)			
Number of successful arrests (number of persons arrested)			
Number of successful prosecutions (number of persons successfully prosecuted)			
Maximum and minimum penalties			
Number of repeat offences (number of repeat 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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (g) What were the numbers of patrol launches, patrol areas and numbers of patrols conducted against illegal fishing activities over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (h) Regarding illegal fishing activities, what fishing practices were detected during patrols or joint operations over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21), and what were their numbers and percentages involved?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

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:

Location		2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-21 (as at end February 2021)
Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park	Patrol	841	805	572
	Joint operation	13	11	11
Yan Chau Tong Marine Park	Patrol	535	511	378
	Joint operation	12	7	0

Location		2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-21 (as at end February 2021)
Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park	Patrol	405	438	200
	Joint operation	0	0	0
Tung Ping Chau Marine Park	Patrol	513	497	280
	Joint operation	10	5	0
Cape D'Aguilar Marine Reserve	Patrol	479	455	446
	Joint operation	0	0	0
The Brothers Marine Park	Patrol	441	448	250
	Joint operation	0	0	0
Southwest Lantau Marine Park [#]	Patrol			199
	Joint operation			0

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

[#] The Southwest Lantau Marine Park was designated in April 2020.

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

Item	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at end February 2021)
Number of complaints received	3	4	12
Number of cases relating to illegal fishing activities detected during patrols or joint operations (number of cases in which no arrest was made)	17 (2)	14 (7)	3 (2)
Number of successful arrests (number of persons arrested)	15 (15)	7 (7)	1 [#] (1)
Number of successful prosecutions (number of persons successfully prosecuted)	12 (12)	6 (6)	0 (0)
Minimum and maximum penalties imposed	A fine of \$600 to \$1,500	A fine of \$800 to \$1,000	N/A
Number of repeat offences (number of repeat offenders)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)

[#] 1 prosecution case is 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:

Waters		2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at end February 2021)
Waters over the Hong Kong territory	(i)	1 688	1 625	1 485
	(ii)	78	41	57
Waters around Cheung Chau, Shek Kwu Chau and Soko Islands	(i)	507	489	418
	(ii)	44	25	38
Waters off the Brothers	(i)	54	46	137
	(ii)	0	0	0
Waters off Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau	(i)	66	49	136
	(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 (c) over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Item	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at end February 2021)
Number of complaints received	102	157	149
Number of cases relating to illegal fishing activities detected during patrols or joint operations (number of cases in which no arrest was made)	44 (36)	42 (34)	105 (93)
Number of successful arrests (number of persons arrested)	8 (23)	8 (17)	12* (44)
Number of successful prosecutions (number of persons successfully prosecuted)	7 (22)	8 (16)	10 (38)
Minimum and maximum penalties imposed	A fine of \$1,500 to \$2,000; imprisonment for 2 weeks to 2 months	A fine of \$500 to \$3,000; imprisonment for 2 weeks to 2 months	A fine of \$1,000; imprisonment for 2 to 6 weeks
Number of repeat offences (number of repeat offenders)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)

* 2 of the cases are 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 that refuse to stop for inspection) as and when appropriate.

Under the Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171), 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.

To enhance law enforcement capacity, AFCD consolidated its internal resources to set up a dedicated enforcement team at sea in mid-August 2020 to enhance the mobility and responsiveness of enforcement actions against illegal fishing. The number of members in the enforcement team and the number of vessels have increased from 18 to 34 (as at end February 2021) and from 3 to 7 respectively. AFCD also deploys the newly developed real-time satellite automatic identification system to help identify fishing vessels that engage in illegal fishing. The system helps to acquire information of these vessels, such as their past navigation routes, locations and numbers, etc. for follow-up investigation and tracking. In addition, AFCD works with fishermen associations to gather intelligence regarding illegal fishing by using their fishing vessels. Together with the analysis of real-time satellite data, this would help the Department obtain more information on illegal fishing to formulate more effective and targeted enforcement operations, with a view to enhancing the efficiency of enforcement actions at sea.

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.

- (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)
2018-19	14.0	18
2019-20	16.9	18
2020-21 (revised estimate)	18.6	34

- (g) From mid-August 2020 onwards, AFCD has increased the number of vessels deployed for regular and targeted patrols at random hours (including night time and early morning) from 3 to 7 to combat illegal fishing under the Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171) and the Marine Parks Ordinance (Cap. 476). AFCD officers, when discharging duties on other vessels, will also stay vigilant to any illegal fishing activities,

and inform AFCD's enforcement team and the Marine Police for follow-ups. The coverage and number of patrols conducted are set out in (a) and (c) above.

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

Illegal fishing practices	2018-19		2019-20		2020-21 (as at end February 2021)	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Shrimp trawling	17	38.7	16	38.1	51	48.5
Hang trawling	0	0.0	2	4.8	8	7.6
Stern trawling	2	4.5	0	0.0	1	1.0
Pair trawling	2	4.5	8	19.0	12	11.4
Purse seining	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.0
Gill netting	16	36.4	11	26.2	27	25.7
Cage trapping	7	15.9	5	11.9	0	0.0
Long lining	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	2.9
Set netting	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.9
Total	44	100.0	42	100.0	105	100.0

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)041

(Question Serial No. 0852)

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21):

- (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.: 8)

Reply:

- (a) to (i) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department 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 set out in Table 1 and Table 2 respectively:

Table 1: Manpower and expenditure involved in operating ALRS

Year	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (revised estimate)
Manpower (number of staff)	1	1	1
Expenditure (\$ million)	0.9	0.9	0.9

Table 2: Relevant statistics on the cases handled under ALRS

Year	2018	2019	2020
Number of landowners participating in ALRS	24	32	29
Number of new applications/ land area involved (hectare)	77 / 8.1	49 / 7.8	79 / 13.1
Number of successful cases	10	43	48
- Total land area involved (hectare)	1.4	7.9	4.0
- Range of annual rental (per dau chung*)	\$25 to \$60,000	\$7 to \$142,900	\$1 to \$92,308
- Average waiting time (year)	3.2	3.8	4.2
Number of applications on the waiting list as at year-end/ land area involved (hectare)	413 / 81.0	445 / 81.8	517 / 92.7

*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 (NDA) projects. The Government will identify government land suitable for agricultural rehabilitation. So far, the Government has provided land for agricultural rehabilitation for the first batch of applicants, i.e. 4 farmers affected by the first phase of the Kwu Tung North and Fanling North NDA project. The Development Bureau, in collaboration with relevant departments, is now processing the remaining 10 applications received for agricultural rehabilitation to strive for making the SALRS sites available when the affected farmers move out in phases in 2021. This scheme is undertaken by the existing manpower and resources.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)042

(Question Serial No. 0854)

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21).
- (b) Has the Government ever assessed the effectiveness of the artificial reefs project?
- (c) Why is the expenditure on artificial reefs not available this year? What are the details of the actual and estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 11)

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 has conducted regular 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 as feeding, sheltering, spawning and nursing grounds.

As the underwater surveys were completed in 2019-20, no expenditure was incurred in this regard in 2020-21.

AFCD will continue to monitor and assess the effectiveness of AR deployment as well as explore the feasibility of further deploying ARs in suitable locations.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)043

(Question Serial No. 0855)

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21).
- (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 (2018-19 to 2020-21), 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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)? 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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)? 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.: 12)

Reply:

- (a) The expenditure and manpower involved in monitoring water quality and red tides over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (Number of staff)
2018-19	17.9	11
2019-20	16.0	11
2020-21 (revised estimate)	12.7	11

- (b) The number of red tides observed in different districts and the information of phytoplankton species that caused red tides over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

District	Number of red tides observed and the causative species involved		
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at February 2021)
Tai Po	15 <i>Scrippsiella trochoidea</i> , <i>Takayama tuberculata</i> , <i>Prorocentrum balticum</i> , <i>Mesodinium rubrum</i> , <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i> , <i>Akashiwo sanguinea</i> , <i>Heterosigma akashiwo</i>	Nil	8 <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i> , <i>Scrippsiella trochoidea</i> , <i>Mesodinium rubrum</i> , <i>Akashiwo sanguinea</i> , <i>Phaeocystis globosa</i>
Sha Tin	3 <i>Cyclotella choctawhatcheeana</i> , <i>Heterosigma akashiwo</i> , <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i>	Nil	1 <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i>
Sai Kung	7 <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i> , <i>Akashiwo sanguinea</i>	Nil	3 <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i> , <i>Mesodinium rubrum</i> , <i>Phaeocystis globosa</i>
Southern	3 <i>Mesodinium rubrum</i> , <i>Gonyaulax polygramma</i> , <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i>	Nil	13 <i>Heterosigma akashiwo</i> , <i>Pseudo-nitzschia pungens</i> , <i>Chaetoceros pseudocurvisetus</i> , <i>Guinardia delicatula</i> , <i>Phaeocystis globosa</i> , <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i>

District	Number of red tides observed and the causative species involved		
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at February 2021)
Islands	10 <i>Takayama tuberculata</i> , <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i> , <i>Akashiwo sanguinea</i> , <i>Prorocentrum triestinum</i> , <i>Gonyaulax polygramma</i>	2 <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i>	4 <i>Heterosigma akashiwo</i> , <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i>
Tuen Mun	2 <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i> , <i>Mesodinium rubrum</i>	5 <i>Phaeocystis globosa</i>	2 <i>Heterosigma akashiwo</i> , <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i>
Kwun Tong	Nil	Nil	1 <i>Amphora</i>
Tsuen Wan	5 <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i> , <i>Mesodinium rubrum</i>	4 <i>Phaeocystis globosa</i>	5 <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i> , <i>Phaeocystis globosa</i>
Kwai Tsing	1 <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i>	Nil	1 <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i>

- (c) and (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) and (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 heavy rainstorms and Super Typhoon Mangkhut in 2018-19. The details concerned are as follows:

Category	Number of applications received (approved)	Amount issued (\$ million)
Marine fish farmers	478 (434)	6.5
Pond fish farmers	56 (32)	0.4
Total	534 (466)	6.9

In 2019-20 and 2020-21 (as at February 2021), no financial assistance under ERF was granted to fish farmers.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)044

(Question Serial No. 0857)

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)? Please set out the information with a breakdown by the 18 districts.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

- (a) As at 31 December 2020, there were about 2 400 crop farms (including vegetables, flowers and orchards) with a total cultivated area of about 755 hectares. These farms are mainly located in the North District and Yuen Long. Amongst these crop farms, there are 326 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 20 farms located in industrial buildings in Chai Wan, Kwun Tong, Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan, Tai Po, Tuen Mun and Wong Tai Sin Districts with a total area of 2.8 hectares.

Information on the number and distribution of vegetable marketing co-operative societies (VMCSs) and vegetable depots as at 31 December 2020 by district is tabulated as follows:

District	VMCSs	Vegetable depots
Yuen Long	13	0
North	9	0

District	VMCSs	Vegetable depots
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 2020 is as follows:

- (i) There were about 930 licensed marine fish culture farms with about 1 940 fish rafts in 26 designated Fish Culture Zones*. The size of farms ranged from 13 to about 6 800 m².
- (ii) There were about 340 pond fish farms with about 1 130 fish ponds, mainly in the north-west New Territories. The size of pond fish farms ranged from 83 to 424 810 m².
- (iii) There were about 10 300 oyster rafts in Deep Bay, the size of which ranged from 96 to 300 m².

* 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 2020 are tabulated as follows:

Pig farms

	2018			2019			2020		
	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	902.78	1 000	Yuen Long	902.78	1 000	Yuen Long	902.78	1 000
6	Yuen Long	938.49	850	Yuen Long	938.49	850	Yuen Long	938.49	850
7	Yuen Long	1 142.90	600	Yuen Long	1 142.90	600	Yuen Long	1 142.90	600
8	Yuen Long	1 180.97	1 200	Yuen Long	1 153.33	1 990	Yuen Long	1 180.97	1 200

	2018			2019			2020		
	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)
9	Yuen Long	1 327.53	1 000	Yuen Long	1 180.97	1 200	Yuen Long	1 327.53	1 000
10	Yuen Long	1 374.87	1 200	Yuen Long	1 327.53	1 000	Yuen Long	1 374.87	1 200
11	Yuen Long	1 392.30	1 990	Yuen Long	1 374.87	1 200	Yuen Long	1 709.24	1 500
12	Yuen Long	1 709.24	1 500	Yuen Long	1 709.24	1 500	Yuen Long	1 725.58	1 900
13	Yuen Long	1 725.58	1 900	Yuen Long	1 725.58	1 900	Yuen Long	1 864.27	600
14	Yuen Long	1 864.27	600	Yuen Long	1 864.27	600	Yuen Long	1 923.26	1 500
15	Yuen Long	1 923.26	1 500	Yuen Long	1 923.26	1 500	Yuen Long	2 105.33	1 990
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	2 765.33	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	2 000
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
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

	2018			2019			2020		
	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)
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		103 597.32	74 640		103 358.35	74 640		104 310.35	74 640

Chicken farms

	2018			2019			2020		
	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
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	4 693.83	80 000	Yuen Long	4 693.83	80 000

	2018			2019			2020		
	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)
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	708.10	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		62 186.83	1 300 500		62 186.83	1 300 500

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)045****(Question Serial No. 0858)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please advise of the number of Hong Kong fishermen, the number of their fishing vessels, and their production values (both within and outside Hong Kong) over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21).

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 17)Reply:

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
2018	6 505	4 145	10 240	966	1,789
2019	6 394	4 116	10 130	1,022	1,777
2020	6 390	4 139	10 149	1,043	1,664

[#] 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.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)046

(Question Serial No. 0859)

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21), 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)?
- (c) Over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21), what were the maximum amounts of the above loans granted in each year?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

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. 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)
2018	19.8	10	10	1.3
2019	20.1	7	7	1.2
2020	20.4	4	4	0.7

The Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund

Year	Capital	Number of loans		Loans issued
	(as at 31 December) (\$ million)	Applications	Issued*	Amount# (\$ million)
2018	15.3	31	33	3.3
2019	15.5	30	30	3.2
2020	15.7	26	25	3.2

The Vegetable Marketing Organization Loan Fund

Year	Capital	Number of loans		Loans issued
	(as at 31 December) (\$ million)	Applications	Issued*	Amount# (\$ million)
2018	12.9	25	25	2.1
2019	13.1	19	19	1.6
2020	13.2	21	21	1.7

The Fisheries Development Loan Fund

Year	Capital	Number of loans		Loans issued
	(as at 31 December) (\$ million)	Applications	Issued*	Amount# (\$ million)
2018	1,100	4	14	138.3
2019	1,100	5	6	41.5
2020	1,100	0	3	31.5

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)
2018	146.8	599	588	105.4
2019	187.1	570	553	93.0
2020	397.9 ^o	636	595	99.9

* 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.

° As approved by the Legislative Council Finance Committee in July 2020, the approved commitment of the Fishing Moratorium Loan Scheme set up under the Fish Marketing Organization Loan Fund has increased by \$210 million, i.e. from \$60 million to \$270 million.

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.

- (c) The maximum amount for each loan under the loan funds in each of the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Loan Funds	2018 (\$)	2019 (\$)	2020 (\$)
J.E. Joseph Trust Fund	130,000	390,000	200,000
The Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund	130,000	130,000	200,000
The Vegetable Marketing Organization Loan Fund	130,000	130,000	200,000
The Fisheries Development Loan Fund	9,900,000	9,900,000	9,900,000
The Fish Marketing Organization Loan Fund	300,000	900,000	990,000

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)047

(Question Serial No. 0863)

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)? 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 on 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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)? What are the details?

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

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**FHB(FE)048****(Question Serial No. 0867)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)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)
2018	43 468	119	205	16
2019	43 224	118	167	20
2020	43 585	119	179	14

Information on the wholesale quantity of marine fish traded over the past 3 years 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
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 [^]
2020	26,712	26,357	26,457	26,474	26,493	26,696	26,532	26,642	26,802 [*]	26,399	26,308	25,929 [^]

* 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 is shown in **Annex B**.

Wholesale quantity of marine fish from 2018 to 2020

Year	Fish	Total quantity (tonnes)	Daily average quantity (tonnes)	Highest daily quantity (tonnes)	Lowest daily quantity (tonnes)
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 (鰺魚)	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 (鰺魚)	543.7	1.5	2.2	0.9
2020	Golden thread (紅衫)	2 617.2	7.2	8.6	5.4
	Horse-heads (馬頭)	2 967.1	8.1	9.4	6.2
	Yellow croakers (黃花)	2 554.5	7.0	8.2	5.1
	Big-eyes (木棉)	1 899.2	5.2	6.0	4.0
	Scads (池魚)	854.6	2.3	3.0	1.7
	Breams (立魚)	2 246.2	6.1	7.1	4.4
	Hair-tails (牙帶)	1 364.7	3.7	4.7	2.2
	Mackerels (鮫魚)	1 691.8	4.6	5.6	2.8
	Croakers (鰺魚)	413.3	1.1	1.7	0.6

Data on Filefish (沙鯪) are not readily available.

Monthly average wholesale price of marine fish from 2018 to 2020

Year	Fish	Monthly average wholesale price (\$/kg)											
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
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 (鹹魚)	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 (鹹魚)	28.75	29.77	29.72	31.38	32.98	36.98	46.63 [*]	38.34	31.04	31.02	28.36	27.50 [^]

2020	Golden thread (紅衫)	81.29*	79.01	79.46	76.66	76.14	73.85	70.01	71.26	67.72^	71.68	73.60	71.39
	Horse-heads (馬頭)	60.15*	57.12	59.56	57.46	56.05	54.04	51.29^	52.63	52.52	54.47	57.04	59.08
	Yellow croakers (黃花)	85.85	89.18	91.89	88.80	79.92	73.19^	73.66	73.88	87.01	90.98	107.79*	107.03
	Big-eyes (木棉)	97.78*	93.28	92.86	89.68	88.73	85.27	82.04	82.79	71.40^	81.28	83.28	79.99
	Scads (池魚)	24.24	24.03	23.64^	24.66	25.27	25.05	25.62	29.14*	25.09	25.06	26.96	27.82
	Breams (立魚)	83.83*	78.79	77.06	78.12	80.56	76.58	74.79	73.78	66.04^	74.31	78.41	78.63
	Hair-tails (牙帶)	41.41	40.17^	43.48	45.46	49.56	54.07	53.77	55.45*	48.48	46.80	44.06	46.52
	Mackerels (鯪魚)	76.74	75.39	74.98	75.86	77.01*	75.25	74.96	75.29	68.70^	72.39	71.70	70.92
	Croakers (鹹魚)	24.11	22.89^	25.76	24.92	26.42	27.63	28.46	30.73	27.16	29.86	34.75*	33.85

Data on Filefish (沙魴) are not readily available.

* Highest monthly average wholesale price in the respective year.

^ Lowest monthly average wholesale price in the respective year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)049

(Question Serial No. 0868)

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)?

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

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
2018	252 022	690	894	49
2019	264 274	724	855	48
2020	254 245	695	878	61

- (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
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
2020	11,745	11,977	11,325	11,508	10,904^	11,375	11,441	11,717	12,022	12,416	12,596	12,668*

* Highest monthly value

^ Lowest monthly value

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)050

(Question Serial No. 0869)

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)?

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

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
2018	62 964	173	337	1
2019	68 760	188	415	3
2020	65 669	179	389	6

- (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
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 [*]
2020	16,194 [*]	16,172	16,135	16,160	16,168	15,580	15,258	15,465	15,093	15,058	14,907	14,819 [^]

Year	Monthly average wholesale price (\$ / tonne) for brown-shelled medium eggs (USA)											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
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 [^]
2020	14,839	14,821 [^]	14,839	15,100	15,265 [*]	15,193	14,974	14,948	15,027	15,006	14,960	14,858

* Highest monthly average wholesale price

[^] Lowest monthly average wholesale price

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)051

(Question Serial No. 0872)

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21);
- (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 (2018-19 to 2020-21);
- (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 (2018-19 to 2020-21);
- (d) the monthly average prices, as well as the highest and the lowest monthly prices of imported minor poultry over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21);
- (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 (2018-19 to 2020-21);
- (f) the percentage of live chickens, minor poultry and day-old chicks imported from various places over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21);
- (g) the total expenditure on handling matters on imports 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 2020-21 and the estimated expenditure in 2021-22.

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

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
2018 [#]	4 255 909	11 660	38 775	630
2019 [#]	4 246 862	11 635	45 866	4 600
2020 [#]	4 391 952	12 000	41 132	6 730

[#]There has been 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
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 [*]
2020 [#]	416 476 [*]	317 682 [^]	368 588	339 879	351 677	354 048	350 994	359 008	401 284	368 723	359 802	403 791

* Highest monthly quantity

[^] Lowest monthly quantity

[#] There has been 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
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
2020 [#]	69.66	70.43 [*]	65.92	67.05	67.61	68.68	64.93	56.02	54.35 [^]	55.81	55.28	66.67

* Highest monthly average price in the respective year

[^] Lowest monthly average price in the respective year

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

- (c) and (d) There has been no import of live minor poultry from the Mainland over the past 3 years.

- (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
2018	2 385 291	6 535	37 500	2 500
2019	2 763 020	7 570	28 500	3 000
2020	3 425 400	9 359	26 500	2 480

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
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
2020	242 300 [^]	284 440	294 080	279 280	279 180	298 580	277 860	270 100	293 200	276 060	347 620 [*]	282 700

* Highest monthly quantity

[^] Lowest monthly quantity

- (f) Over the past 3 years, there has been no import of live chickens and minor poultry from the Mainland, while the percentage of supply of day-old chicks imported from various places is tabulated as follows:

Year	Percentage of imported supply	
	Guangdong	Zhuhai
2018	94	6
2019	97	3
2020	96	4

- (g) The revised estimate for the expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) incurred in handling live chickens in CSWTWPM in 2020-21 is \$20.52 million and the manpower involved is 17 staff members. As an increase in the contracting-out price was expected and for stepping up the pest and rodent control work in the market, the estimated expenditure for 2021-22 will be \$24.28 million.

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 in the allocation for AFCD's surveillance on avian influenza.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)052

(Question Serial No. 0876)

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21).

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

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 2018, 2019 and 2020 were about \$2,650 million, \$2,960 million and \$3,310 million respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)053

(Question Serial No. 0878)

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:

On the regulation and technical services for the flower cultivation industry, please advise of the following:

- (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 (2018-19 to 2020-21);
- (b) the details, estimated expenditure and manpower involved in the regulation and technical services for the flower cultivation industry over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21);
- (c) the total amount and quantities of local and imported flowers over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21);
- (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.: 40)

Reply:

- (a), (b) and (d) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) provides supporting 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. The resources deployed for these services over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2018-19	8.5	18
2019-20	9.1	18
2020-21 (revised estimate)	9.8	18

The manpower and expenditure involved in providing supporting 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 2021-22, AFCD will continue to provide the above services to crop farmers including florists with a similar level of resources as in 2020-21.

- (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)
2018	149	501
2019	154	400
2020	150	266

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)054

(Question Serial No. 0879)

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 over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 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 (2018-19 to 2020-21).
- (c) The total expenditures involved respectively in vaccinating pigs and poultry over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21). 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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)? 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.: 41)

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 to local farms to ensure that the farmers comply with the biosecurity, farm hygiene and other relevant 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, as well as producing publicity materials to raise farmers' awareness of prevention and control of diseases.

The estimated expenditure and manpower involved in this area of AFCD's work over the past 3 years are as follows:

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2018-19	51.9	59
2019-20	64.6	61
2020-21 (revised estimate)	70.0	72

- (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 is 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 various 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 Newcastle disease, infectious bronchitis 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 was only 1 FMD case reported in a local pig farm in June 2018. In addition, there were 2 and 1 African Swine Fever (ASF) cases in the Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse (SSSH) in May and September 2019 respectively, and the first case of ASF in local pig farm was reported in February 2021.

- (f) AFCD has been closely monitoring epidemic situation of the ASF and implementing corresponding measures in a timely manner. Major measures implemented include:
- (i) devising a surveillance and contingency plan for detecting ASF, including stepping up inspection to all local pig farms and collecting pig samples for ASF virus testing when necessary;
 - (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) commissioning contractors to thoroughly cleanse and disinfect all local pig transportation vehicles at designated positions every time before they leave SSSH;
 - (vii) liaising with relevant government departments regarding improvement in the collection arrangements for pig waste and carcasses;
 - (viii) maintaining close contact with the pig farming sector, organising meetings and seminars with the trade from time to time, and raising local pig farmers' knowledge of preventing ASF through producing a lot of publicity materials on information about ASF including posters, videos and guidelines on cleansing and disinfection procedures of pig transportation vehicles, etc. so as to provide local pig farmers with information about the disease, its infection as well as the preventive and control measures that pig farms should heed;
 - (ix) maintaining continuous cooperation with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) in conducting a regular surveillance programme for ASF in local wild pig carcasses; and
 - (x) devising an action plan and providing the necessary equipment for culling of pigs.

AFCD has notified the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) of the first case of ASF in a local pig farm reported in February 2021. Relevant samples were sent to the OIE reference laboratory for further testing and virus analysis.

AFCD will collaborate with relevant international experts in investigating and tracing the source of the virus. AFCD will remain vigilant and closely monitor the situation, and will take appropriate measures as and when necessary.

- (g) The number of wild pig carcasses found in Hong Kong by FEHD over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of wild pig carcasses found
2018-19	218
2019-20	364
2020-21 (as at February 2021)	316

The number of wild pigs captured by AFCD over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of wild pigs captured
2018-19	192
2019-20	293
2020-21 (as at February 2021)	287

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. The pilot programme has been regularised as an ongoing programme since July 2020.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)055

(Question Serial No. 0880)

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (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 and the result of the work?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 42)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) Over the past 3 years (i.e. 2018-2020), there were no suspected cases of using prohibited antimicrobial and 5 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 using prohibited antimicrobial or having 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 corresponding 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 animal farming sector with a view to facilitating and supporting projects for the provision of veterinary services to food animal farms. A total of 4 projects under the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund and the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund have been approved for providing veterinary services to local pig, chicken and fish farms. These projects involve the provision of disease diagnosis and treatment services for animals kept on farms, formulation of tailor-made farm-specific disease management plans for the purposes of disease prevention and promoting proper and prudent use of antimicrobials, as well as assisting farmers in sourcing vaccines and other veterinary drugs. 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 immediately afterwards.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)056

(Question Serial No. 0881)

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21);
- (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 (2018-19 to 2020-21).

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

Reply:

The requested information is tabulated at the **Annex**.

Industry	2018-19			2019-20			2020-21		
	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	1.4	3	54	1.7	3	54	1.8	3
Fisheries	55	2.0	4	55	2.5	4	54	2.0	3
Others	64	4.4	9	60	5.5	9	60	5.9	9
Total	173	7.8	16	169	9.7	16	168	9.7	15

* As at end of the year

As at end February 2021

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)057

(Question Serial No. 0882)

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (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 (with a breakdown by the 18 districts) respectively?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 44)

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 (R&D) 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)
2018-19	3.0	8
2019-20	8.8*	8
2020-21(revised estimate)	10.3*	8

* To meet the demand of the hydroponic farming industry for technical support and facilitate the development of the industry, additional provisions of \$3.79 million and \$6.5 million were allocated in 2019-20 and 2020-21 respectively to support the expansion plan of the Centre and installation of new R&D facilities.

- (b) The Centre has a total area of about 500 square metres, half of which is used for production and the rest for R&D. 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), 5 varieties of common local leafy vegetables (i.e. 60-day Choy Sum, Hok Tau Pak Choy, Green Pak Choy, Spinach and Water Cress) and 2 varieties of fruiting vegetables (i.e. Small-fruited Tomato and Strawberry) are produced. About 5 kilogrammes of vegetables are produced daily at a wholesale value of about \$200 per kilogramme and sold through 14 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 (including aquaponics and aeroponics) is one such example. The Centre will continue to undertake R&D work including selection and testing of new crop varieties and equipment, introduction of improved hydroponic technology and collaboration with tertiary institutions and research institutes on testing innovative technology and automation facilities 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. On the other hand, exhibitions, workshops and guided tours will be held to help tertiary students and the public learn more about such production technology, with a view to attracting more young people to join the industry or conduct relevant researches to open up markets. In 2020-21, AFCD allocated 8 staff members and \$10.3 million to support the work and the expansion of the Centre.
- (d) Currently, there are 50 local hydroponic farms producing about 360 tonnes of vegetables with an estimated value of \$72 million in 2020. Distribution of the hydroponic farms is tabulated as follows:

District	Number of hydroponic farms
Yuen Long	16
North	10
Tuen Mun	3
Tai Po	1
Kwai Tsing	6
Tsuen Wan	3
Kwun Tong	4
Wong Tai Sin	3
Sham Shui Po	1

Eastern	2
Southern	1
Total	50

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)058

(Question Serial No. 0884)

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (c) What were the numbers of different types of vessels applying for Mainland deckhands over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21)?
- (d) What were the numbers of cases contravening the relevant legislation and codes of the Scheme, and the heaviest penalties imposed, over the past 3 years (2018-19 to 2020-21)?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 46)

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)
2018-19	1.1	3
2019-20	1.2	3
2020-21 (revised estimate)	1.5	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:

Vessel type	2018-19		2019-20		2020-21*	
	Number of [#]					
	Applications	Deckhands involved	Applications	Deckhands involved	Applications	Deckhands involved
Pair trawler	27 (27)	137	24 (24)	139	29 (27)	160
Stern trawler	44 (40)	190	38 (36)	161	43 (42)	183
Shrimp trawler	52 (52)	244	40 (40)	188	42 (42)	190
Hang trawler	20 (20)	113	15 (15)	88	18 (18)	109
Purse seiner with light and Purse seiner	62 (62)	456	56 (54)	434	52 (52)	398
Liner and Gill netter	91 (88)	564	82 (80)	521	72 (70)	449
Fish carrier	292 (284)	1 985	267 (255)	1 755	257 (255)	1 705
Other fishing vessel	39 (37)	231	28 (25)	172	18 (18)	112
Total	627 (610)	3 920	550 (529)	3 458	531 (524)	3 306

* Up to February 2021

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 rules of the Scheme in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 (as at February 2021) is 8, 10 and 2 respectively. The heaviest penalties imposed under the Scheme include cancellation of all deckhand quota approved for the subject vessel and prohibition of the concerned applicant from applying under the Scheme for 2 years.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)059

(Question Serial No. 0885)

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 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 (2016-17 to 2020-21); 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 (2018-19 to 2020-21)? 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.: 47)

Reply:

Having consulted the Environmental Protection Department, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) sets out the 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 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:

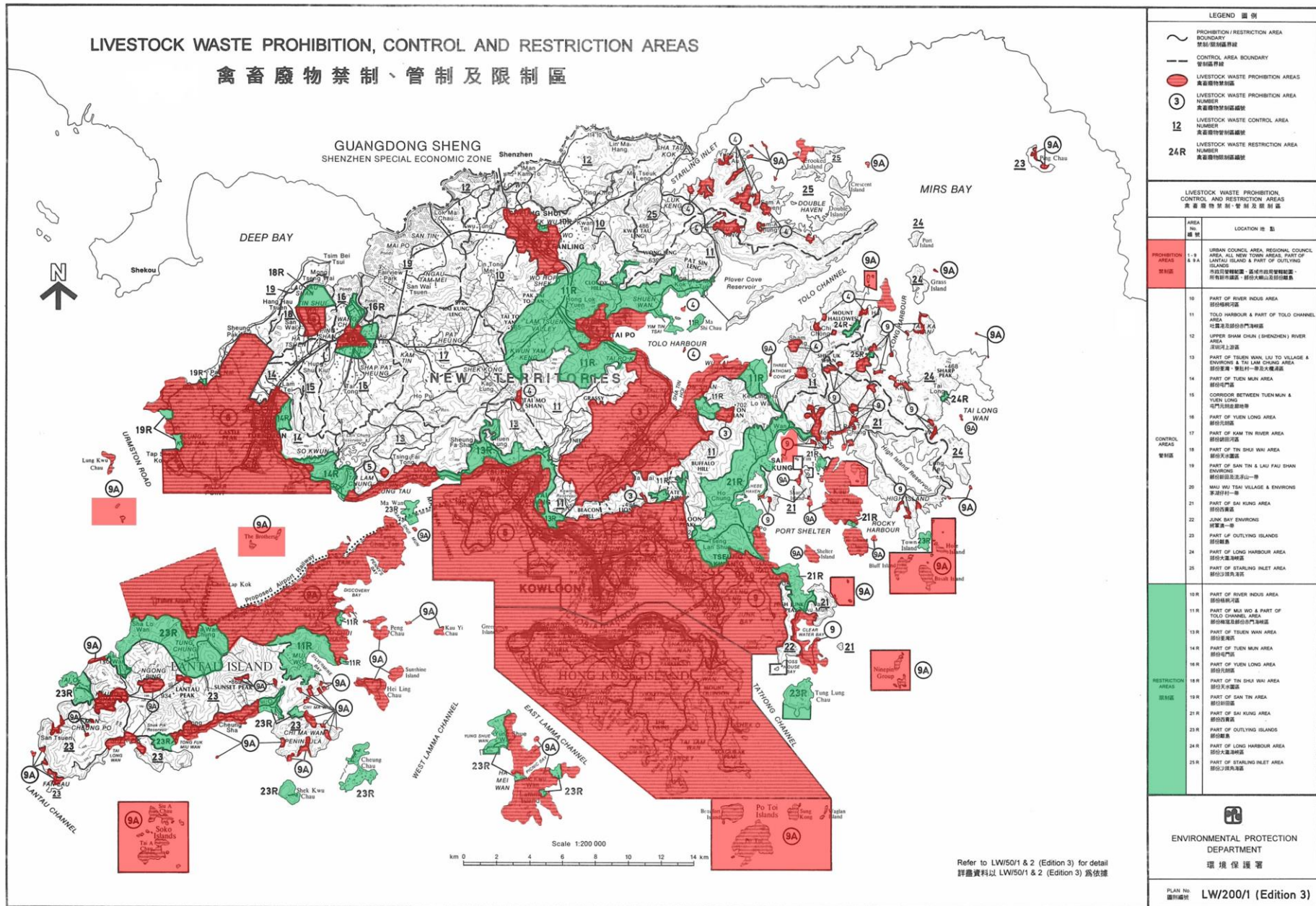
Year	Livestock waste prohibition areas		Livestock waste control areas		Livestock waste restriction areas	
	Pig farms	Chicken farms	Pig farms	Chicken farms	Pig farms	Chicken farms
2016	0	0	42	26	1	3
2017	0	0	42	26	1	3
2018	0	0	42	26	1	3
2019	0	0	42	26	1	3
2020	0	0	42	26	1	3

- (b) and (c) No livestock farm has been affected by government development projects and cleared since 2018. 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.

The Government has amended Cap. 139L to relax the existing statutory requirements for premises used for keeping chickens, so as to facilitate the relocation of existing chicken farms to other suitable sites in the livestock waste control areas that have not received ex-gratia payments for cessation of

livestock keeping to continue with their operations and further development. Enhanced measures (e.g. enhanced biosecurity) are also introduced with a view to further reducing the risk of avian flu and enabling those affected by government development projects to continue with their operations by relocation. The amendment came into force on 1 July 2020.

Regarding relocation proposals from livestock farms, the Government is open to proposals, provided they will not increase the livestock rearing capacity and biosecurity measures in farms can be enhanced to reduce the risk of diseases infecting livestock. The Government will consider such proposals and provide advice and assistance as appropriate. AFCD will also provide support based on the relocation needs of individual farmers. Livestock farmers who require assistance for relocation may apply to AFCD for low-interest loans under the Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund and the J. E. Joseph Trust Fund, granted for development and working capital.



CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)060

(Question Serial No. 0886)

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 (2018-19 to 2020-21), 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 (2018-19 to 2020-21), 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 (2018-19 to 2020-21), what was the number of possession licences issued by the Government?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 48)

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) 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 at the **Annex**.
- (b) The number of holders of animal trader licence for selling birds was 48, 34 and 35 in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively.
- (c) Under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586), 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

possession licence (PL) for each keeping premises if they are kept for commercial purposes. A PL can cover more than 1 species/individual. Currently, there are 25 valid PLs in respect of live endangered birds, covering 2 443 individuals of 41 species.

The number of PLs issued by AFCD (including licences renewed) covering live endangered birds is 6, 1 and 0 in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively.

Birds Imported into Hong Kong from 2018 to 2020

Year	Species	Quantity (head)	Country/place of export
2018	<i>Amazona aestiva</i> *	97	Belgium, Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i> *	66	Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Anthobaphes violacea</i>	10	Guinea
	<i>Ara ararauna</i> *	54	Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Ara chloropterus</i> *	18	Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Cacatua alba</i> *	4	Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Cacatua leadbeateri</i> *	2	Mali
	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	1 130	Malaysia
	<i>Cossypha niveicapilla</i>	20	Guinea
	<i>Crithagra atrogularis</i>	550	Mozambique
	<i>Crithagra mozambicus</i>	5 000	Mozambique
	<i>Deropterus accipitrinus</i> *	1	Czech Republic
	<i>Diopsittaca nobilis</i> *	4	Mali
	<i>Eclectus roratus</i> *	20	Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Eolophus roseicapilla</i> *	28	Belgium, Mali
	<i>Euplectes capensis</i>	300	Guinea
	<i>Euplectes orix</i>	300	Guinea
	<i>Forpus coelestis</i> *	6	Taiwan
	<i>Lamprotornis caudatus</i>	50	Mali
	<i>Lamprotornis iris</i>	20	Mali
	<i>Laniarius barbarus</i>	20	Guinea
	<i>Lonchura atricapilla</i>	1 000	Malaysia
	<i>Lonchura maja</i>	1 000	Malaysia
	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	1 000	Malaysia
	<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i> *	4	Belgium
	<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>	90	Czech Republic, Malaysia
	<i>Pionites leucogaster</i> *	45	Belgium, Czech Republic, Mali, Singapore
	<i>Pionites melanocephalus</i> *	26	Belgium, Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Pionus chalcopterus</i> *	3	Czech Republic
	<i>Pionus fuscus</i> *	7	Czech Republic
	<i>Poicephalus gulielmi</i> *	300	Democratic Republic of the Congo
	<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i> *	3	Mali
	<i>Poicephalus robustus</i> *	20	Mali
<i>Poicephalus senegalus</i> *	500	Mali	
<i>Serinus atrogularis</i>	1 150	Mozambique	
<i>Serinus canaria</i>	538	Czech Republic, Mali	
<i>Serinus flaviventris</i>	1 250	Mozambique	
<i>Serinus leucopygius</i>	12 400	Mali	
<i>Serinus mozambicus</i>	6 900	Guinea, Mali, Mozambique	

Year	Species	Quantity (head)	Country/place of export
	<i>Serinus sulphuratus</i>	600	Mozambique
	<i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i>	80	Mali
	<i>Vidua paradisaea</i>	400	Mali
	<i>Zosterops senegalensis</i>	50	Mali
2019	<i>Alisterus scapularis</i> *	10	Czech Republic
	<i>Amadina fasciata</i>	150	Mali
	<i>Amazona aestiva</i> *	67	Czech Republic, Mali, Belgium
	<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i> *	46	Czech Republic, Mali, Belgium
	<i>Aprosmictus erythropterus</i> *	10	Czech Republic
	<i>Ara ararauna</i> *	27	Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Ara ararauna x Ara chloropterus</i> *	1	Czech Republic
	<i>Ara chloropterus</i> *	10	Czech Republic, Belgium
	<i>Cacatua alba</i> *	7	Mali, Belgium
	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	2 240	Malaysia
	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	4	Malaysia
	<i>Eclectus roratus</i> *	30	Mali, Taiwan
	<i>Eolophus roseicapilla</i> *	74	Czech Republic, Mali, Belgium
	<i>Estrilda caerulescens</i>	300	Mali
	<i>Estrilda melpoda</i>	150	Mali
	<i>Estrilda troglodytes</i>	150	Mali
	<i>Forpus coelestis</i> *	20	Taiwan
	<i>Forpus passerines</i> *	40	Czech Republic
	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>	250	Mali
	<i>Lonchura cucullata</i>	200	Mali
	<i>Lorius lorry</i> *	4	Taiwan
	<i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>	73	Czech Republic, Japan, Portugal
	<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i> *	90	Taiwan
	<i>Pionites leucogaster</i> *	82	Czech Republic, Mali, Belgium, Taiwan
	<i>Pionites melanocephalus</i> *	20	Taiwan
	<i>Pionus chalcopterus</i> *	6	Czech Republic, Belgium
	<i>Pionus maximiliani</i> *	2	Czech Republic
	<i>Pionus menstruus</i> *	2	Czech Republic
	<i>Pionus senilis</i> *	7	Czech Republic, Belgium
	<i>Platycercus elegans</i> *	11	Czech Republic
	<i>Platycercus eximius</i> *	10	Czech Republic
	<i>Polytelis swainsonii</i> *	11	Czech Republic
	<i>Psephotus haematonotus</i> *	18	Czech Republic
	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	8	Belgium
<i>Psittacus erithacus</i> *	11	U.K., Philippines	
<i>Pyrrhura molinae</i> *	3	Taiwan	
<i>Serinus atrogularis</i>	800	Mali	
<i>Serinus canaria</i>	160	Czech Republic	
<i>Serinus citrinipectus</i>	200	Mali	

Year	Species	Quantity (head)	Country/place of export
	<i>Serinus leucopygius</i>	12 550	Mali
	<i>Serinus mozambicus</i>	9 250	Guinea, Mali
	<i>Serinus sulphuratus</i>	200	Mali
	<i>Taeniopygia guttata</i>	10	Czech Republic
	<i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i>	400	Mali
	<i>Vidua paradisaea</i>	280	Mali
2020	<i>Agapornis roseicollis</i>	830	Malaysia
	<i>Aix sponsa</i>	64	Taiwan
	<i>Amadina erythrocephala</i>	50	Mali
	<i>Amadina fasciata</i>	70	Mali
	<i>Amazona aestiva</i> *	14	Belgium, Czech Republic
	<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i> *	8	Belgium
	<i>Ara ararauna</i> *	1	Czech Republic
	<i>Ara chloropterus</i> *	6	Belgium
	<i>Ara severus</i> *	3	Belgium
	<i>Cacatua leadbeateri</i> *	2	Belgium
	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>	20	Mali
	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	2 110	Malaysia
	<i>Crithagra atrogularis</i>	50	Malaysia
	<i>Crithagra citrinipectus</i>	50	Malaysia
	<i>Crithagra mozambicus</i>	300	Malaysia
	<i>Erythrura gouldiae</i>	350	Malaysia
	<i>Euplectes capensis</i>	150	Mali
	<i>Euplectes orix</i>	260	Mali
	<i>Lamprotornis iris</i>	20	Mali
	<i>Lonchura atricapilla</i>	6 600	Malaysia
	<i>Lonchura maja</i>	6 600	Malaysia
	<i>Lonchura malabarica</i>	100	Mali
	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	7 800	Malaysia
	<i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>	2 341	Czech Republic, Japan, Malaysia
	<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>	1 605	Mali, Taiwan
	<i>Passer luteus</i>	50	Mali
	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>	40	Mali
	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	592	Mali, Taiwan
	<i>Serinus canaria</i>	610	Czech Republic, Malaysia
	<i>Serinus flaviventris</i>	100	Malaysia
	<i>Serinus leucopygius</i>	1 000	Mali
	<i>Serinus mozambicus</i>	3 103	Mali
<i>Vidua chalybeata</i>	130	Mali	
<i>Vidua paradisaea</i>	150	Mali	
<i>Zosterops senegalensis</i>	60	Mali	

* Endangered species specified in the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)061

(Question Serial No. 1331)

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:

In 2020-21, what initiatives did the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department undertake to strengthen the management of stray animals and promote animal welfare? What was the actual expenditure involved in the said work?

Asked by: Hon LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey (LegCo internal reference no.: 17)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) implements various measures to strengthen the management of stray animals and promote animal welfare, which include:

- (i) 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;
- (ii) 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;
- (iii) devising codes of practices for the proper trading, breeding and keeping of pets and other animals;
- (iv) enhancing enforcement against pet owners and traders in contravention of relevant legislation;
- (v) improving the handling of reports or complaints on animal cruelty through collaboration with relevant departments and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong);

- (vi) 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;
- (vii) implementing the long-term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with the relevant AWOs and local communities; and
- (viii) liaising with different AWOs to carry out preventive management measures for stray animals and proactively promote animal rehoming in new development areas.

In 2020-21, about \$82.7 million was involved in the abovementioned work.

In addition, AFCD proceeds actively with the drafting of legislative amendments to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) for further safeguarding animal welfare.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)062

(Question Serial No. 1333)

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) Please set out the Government's expenditures, as well as the breakdown of such expenditures, on detecting unlicensed animal breeding and trading in Hong Kong over the past 5 years and that for the financial year of 2021-22.
- (b) Please set out, according to the declarations submitted to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department by licence holders, the species and number of animals involved in animal breeding and trading over the past 5 years.
- (c) Please set out the number of persons convicted, the conditions breached and the penalties imposed for contravention of the Public Health (Animals and Birds)(Trading and Breeding) Regulations (the Regulations) over the past 5 years.
- (d) Apart from reminding licence holders in writing of the need to comply with the Regulations and the Animal Trader Licence, does the Department have any measures to ensure that the requirements of the Regulations will be observed in animal breeding and trading? If yes, what are the details of work and expenditure involved? If not, will the Department consider stepping up the monitoring of unlicensed animal breeding and trading facilities (such as surprise checks) so that the legislation will not exist in name only?

Asked by: Hon LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

- (a) and (d) Regarding all premises for carrying on animal trading business, including those for dog breeding purpose and selling those breeding dams or their offspring, application for a valid animal trader licence (ATL) or a dog breeder licence (DBL) must be made in advance under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B) (the Regulations). All holders of ATL and DBL issued under the Regulations must comply strictly

with the statutory requirements concerning accommodation, living conditions, provision of food and water, pest control, etc. for animals under the Regulations as well as the relevant licensing conditions. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) conducts surprise inspections to the licensed animal trading premises from time to time proactively or upon reports from members of the public to ensure compliance with the licensing requirements by animal traders. The staff will also pay attention to the health conditions and welfare of the pets when conducting inspections. AFCD will consider instituting prosecution against any person who is found breaching the licensing requirements.

Besides, AFCD has set up a dedicated investigation unit to monitor advertisements for animal trading on the Internet, taking appropriate follow-up actions on suspicious cases and responding to related complaints.

The expenditure involved in the regulatory work of AFCD under the Regulations over the past 5 years and the estimated expenditure in 2021-22 is tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)
2016-17	14.2
2017-18	16.1
2018-19	17.2
2019-20	18.7
2020-21 (revised estimate)	18.0
2021-22 (estimate)	18.0

AFCD does not keep a breakdown of the expenditure involved in detecting unlicensed animal trading and breeding activities.

- (b) As licensing conditions stipulated in the Regulations do not require animal traders to provide figures related to sale of animals, AFCD does not have statistics on the relevant categories.
- (c) Information on successful prosecutions initiated by AFCD against breaches of licensing conditions stipulated in the Regulations and trading animals without a valid licence or permit, as well as the relevant penalties over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Successful prosecutions against breach of licensing conditions		Successful prosecutions against trading animals without a valid licence or permit	
	Number of cases	Fine (\$)	Number of cases	Fine (\$)
2016	2	500	3	1,000 to 2,000
2017	0	N/A	11 [*]	400 [#] to 5,000
2018	0	N/A	34 [^]	2,000 to 10,000
2019	2	2,000	34 [^]	600 to 20,000
2020	3	2,000	28	800 to 15,000

^{*} 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.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)063

(Question Serial No. 1335)

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 recent occurrences of abandoned animals, would the Government inform this Committee of the following information concerning the operation of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department over the past 3 years:

- (a) The number and breakdown of animals caught each year;
- (b) The number and breakdown of animals with a microchip implanted;
- (c) The geographical distribution of abandoned animals by animal type;
- (d) The number and breakdown of animals euthanised after being caught by the animal management centres;
- (e) The number and breakdown of animals rehomed at each animal management centre;
- (f) The details of expenditure involved in the publicity of rehoming services.

Asked by: Hon LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)

Reply:

- (a) At present, stray animals caught are mainly 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*	Total
2018	1 235	547	1 369	3 151
2019	965	304	1 031	2 300
2020	603	209	997	1 809

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

- (b) Under the Rabies Regulation (Cap. 421A), only dogs aged over 5 months are required to be microchipped, and therefore AFCD only keeps records on the number of dogs microchipped. Among the dogs caught, 318, 206 and 121 of them were microchipped in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively.
- (c) The numbers and breakdown of animals surrendered by owners to AMCs over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

AMC	Number of animals surrendered by owners								
	2018			2019			2020		
	Dogs	Cats	Other Animals*	Dogs	Cats	Other Animals*	Dogs	Cats	Other Animals*
AMC/HK	67	3	4	105	1	10	61	4	11
AMC/K	131	26	9	100	15	21	74	24	21
AMC/NTS	121	5	6	106	7	13	68	2	11
AMC/NTN	396	46	24	363	52	25	328	30	22
Total	715	80	43	674	75	69	531	60	65

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

AFCD does not keep the statistics by geographical areas.

- (d) The numbers of stray animals caught and euthanised by the 4 AMCs under AFCD over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	Number of stray animals caught and euthanised		
	Dogs	Cats	Other animals [#]
2018	512	271	459
2019	390	176	346
2020	264	78	394

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

- (e) The numbers and breakdown of animals at the 4 AMCs under AFCD that were rehomed subsequently over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

AMC	Number of animals rehomed								
	2018			2019			2020		
	Dogs	Cats	Other Animals*	Dogs	Cats	Other Animals*	Dogs	Cats	Other Animals*
AMC/HK	205	14	16	182	7	7	76	10	23
AMC/K	84	37	27	78	24	15	89	30	24
AMC/NTS	78	15	41	99	12	17	69	7	363
AMC/NTN	210	23	3	188	35	5	193	33	2
Total	577	89	87	547	78	44	427	80	412

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

- (f) AFCD has been promoting animal welfare through public education and publicity programmes, which include promoting responsible pet ownership and proper care of animals, advising the public against the abandonment of pets, reminding the public that they should give careful consideration to various factors before keeping pets, as well as encouraging animal rehoming. Over the past 3 years, the activities conducted by AFCD include production and broadcasting of educational videos and Announcements in the Public Interest on animal welfare through various platforms, publication and distribution of leaflets, posters and pamphlets on animal welfare through various channels and publicity of the latest information on animal welfare through a thematic website, placing of advertisements on various platforms (e.g. public transport), organisation of events to promote pet adoption and holding of talks at school and housing estates on a regular basis, etc. The expenditure involved in the aforementioned work is tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure on education and promotion of animal welfare (\$ million)
2018-19	19.6
2019-20	18.2
2020-21 (revised estimate)	22.0

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)064

(Question Serial No. 1337)

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:

With regard to supporting the development of local agriculture,

- (a) In the 2021-22 Estimates, the estimated provision for agriculture, fisheries and fresh food wholesale markets is \$675.5 million. Please advise this Committee how the provision would be used and allocated in detail.
- (b) The provision has increased by 41.3% year-on-year, and is higher than the original estimate by 27.7%. Please advise this Committee of the details regarding the year-on-year increase in provision, as well as the factors that contributed to the increase from the original estimate.
- (c) The Government mentioned that the above provision aims to provide infrastructural support, technical assistance and advice, credit facilities and vocational training to local farmers and fishermen. Please advise this Committee of the expenditure and manpower related to the above work.
- (d) The Government has been conducting adaptive and technical studies, as well as introducing modern technology and practices to local farmers and fishermen to facilitate their efficient production and improve the quality of their products over the past 3 years. What were the details and how effective were these measures?

Asked by: Hon LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey (LegCo internal reference no.: 25)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) Under the programme on Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) aims to facilitate agricultural and fisheries production and improve productivity. AFCD's work in pursuit of its aim involves:

- (i) the provision of infrastructural support, technical assistance and advice, credit facilities and vocational training to local farmers and fishermen;
- (ii) the conduct of adaptive and technical studies, as well as introduction of modern technology and practices to local farmers and fishermen to facilitate their efficient production and improve the quality of their products;
- (iii) the planning and implementation of effective management activities and services for promoting sustainable development of the agriculture and fisheries industries;
- (iv) the provision of administrative and technical support to the operation of the Vegetable Marketing Organization and the Fish Marketing Organization; and
- (v) the management of government fresh food wholesale markets.

Provision for 2021-22 under this programme is 41.3% higher than the revised estimate for 2020-21. This is mainly due to increased cash flow requirement for processing the appeal cases in connection with the one-off assistance package to trawler vessel owners, local deckhands and fish collector owners affected by the trawl ban and procurement of minor plant, vehicles and equipment.

- (c) and (d) In 2021-22, AFCD has earmarked 230 staff members and \$406 million (including the provisions for Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund (SFDF) and the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund (SADF), the estimated expenditure on processing the appeal cases in connection with the one-off assistance package provided to fishermen affected by the trawl ban, etc.) for the provision of infrastructural support, technical assistance and advice, credit facilities and vocational training to local farmers and fishermen.

AFCD has all along encouraged and supported the modernisation and sustainable development of local agriculture and fisheries industries. The Department currently administers 2 sustainable funds (SFDF and SADF) for application of grants by eligible applicants (including tertiary and research institutions, non-profit-making agricultural and fisheries industry associations, trade unions, agricultural and fisheries co-operative societies, as well as entrepreneurs pioneering agricultural and fisheries production in Hong Kong) to carry out projects and researches that are conducive to the sustainable development of the agriculture and fisheries industries in Hong Kong.

AFCD has been conducting adaptive and technical studies, as well as introducing modern technology and practices to local farmers and fishermen. Regarding the agriculture industry, the work includes promotion of organic farming, development and promotion of new farming techniques (e.g. controlled-environment hydroponic farming, multi-layer farming, greenhouse production, etc.) to raise productivity, introduction of new and improved crop

varieties for local propagation, introduction and promotion of an integrated pest and disease control management system to reduce chances of crop failure, as well as introduction and promotion of the use of various modern farm machinery to raise productivity.

Regarding the fisheries industry, AFCD has been assisting fishermen in switching to and developing sustainable operations, which include aquaculture, offshore fishing, recreational fishing, ecotourism, etc. To assist the industry in developing sustainable aquaculture, AFCD has implemented various measures such as promoting good aquaculture practices (e.g. enhancing biosecurity, feed management and the aquaculture system), applying new technology in the monitoring of aquaculture environment, exploring and introducing new deep water mariculture technology and facilities, as well as introducing new culture species of high value such as pearl oysters and lobsters in addition to new fish species. In recent years, some fishermen have applied new technologies such as wave resistant cage systems, high-efficiency recirculation system and tried rearing some new fish species.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)065

(Question Serial No. 2058)

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 estimated provision for Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets for 2021-22 is 41.3% higher than the revised estimate for last year. The Department mentioned that this is mainly due to the one-off assistance package (assistance package) to trawler vessel owners, local deckhands and fish collector owners affected by the trawl ban. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee, in 2021-22:

- (a) What are the estimated number of beneficiaries of the assistance package and the average amount received by each person?
- (b) What is the estimated work schedule for the assistance package?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

The Government has set up an inter-departmental working group (the working group) to handle matters related to the one-off assistance package (the assistance package) to trawler vessel owners, local deckhands and fish collector owners affected by the trawl ban, and the vetting of applications under the assistance package has been completed. The Fishermen Claims Appeal Board (the Appeal Board) is now processing the appeals lodged by applicants aggrieved by the decisions of the working group. It is expected to be completed in 2021-22 the earliest, depending on actual circumstances. As the number of appeals allowed and the amount of grant on individual cases are subject to the decisions of the Appeal Board, we do not have a precise estimate on the number of beneficiaries and the average amount of grant received by each person in 2021-22.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)066

(Question Serial No. 1570)

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 2021-22 that the Department will focus on strengthening promotion of animal welfare. In this connection, would the Department advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) Details of the publicity programmes related to animal welfare, such as talks and seminars, organised over the past 3 years, the number of participants and the effectiveness of such programmes.
- (b) The ways in which the above programmes be promoted in the community and the number of people reached.
- (c) Details of the promotion efforts such as the plan, timetable and publicity channels.

Asked by: Hon LAU Kwok-fan (LegCo internal reference no.: 33)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) The publicity programmes related to animal welfare organised by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 3 years are as follows:

2018-19		
Publicity programmes related to animal welfare	Number	Number of participants
Adoption Day and Carnival	2	22 803
Talk held at school / housing estate	105	12 869
Roving exhibition	36	8 674
Dog training course	7	164
On-street publicity activities, distribution of publicity leaflets and souvenirs	22	1 640

2019-20		
Publicity programmes related to animal welfare	Number	Number of participants
Adoption Day	1	16 803
Talk held at school / housing estate	103	12 399
Roving exhibition	23	8 116
Dog training course	6	152
On-street publicity activities, distribution of publicity leaflets and souvenirs	23	2 217

2020-21 (as of 1 March 2021)[#]		
Publicity programmes related to animal welfare	Number	Number of participants
Talk held at school / housing estate	22	1 865
Roving exhibition	1	117
On-street publicity activities, distribution of publicity leaflets and souvenirs	2	110

[#]The numbers of publicity programmes and participants are comparatively lower than those in previous years due to the COVID-19 epidemic and the need to avoid crowd gathering.

The publicity channels of the above programmes include postal mails, on-street booths and advertisements on various media and platforms, etc. AFCD has conducted questionnaire surveys with participants of some programmes to solicit their views. As shown from the results, participants have positive response towards the programmes in general, indicating that the programmes can bring them more information on enhancing animal welfare.

- (c) AFCD will continue to strengthen promotion of animal welfare and responsible pet ownership through public education and publicity activities. The activities include production and broadcasting of educational videos and Announcements in the Public Interest on animal welfare through various platforms, publication and distribution of leaflets, posters and pamphlets on animal welfare through various channels and publicity of the latest information on animal welfare through a thematic website, placing of advertisements on various platforms (e.g. public transport), organisation of events to promote pet adoption and holding of talks at school and housing estates on a regular basis, etc.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)067

(Question Serial No. 1571)

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 2021-22 that the Department will focus on following up on the public consultation on the review of the existing legislation related to animal welfare, including introducing a positive duty of care on persons responsible for animals and enhancing enforcement powers to prevent and protect animals from suffering. In this connection, would the Department advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) Please provide details of the legislation review, including the work plan, the progress and the timetable. Does the Department have any plans to conduct further consultation on the review?
- (b) Recently, the cases of animal abuse and cruelty occurred repeatedly. It was commented that “even if the police succeeded in making arrest, the Department of Justice failed to institute prosecution and the persons involved were released”. Regarding the review of “enhancing enforcement powers to prevent and protect animals from suffering”, will the Department explore how to enhance the co-ordination among various parties with a view to strengthening the enforcement efforts? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- (c) Will the Department consider introducing a microchip regime or a widely use of similar technology on more types of animals in order to locate their owners “with a positive duty of care”? If yes, what are details of the estimated expenditure? Is there any timetable?

Asked by: Hon LAU Kwok-fan (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

- (a) The Government proposes to amend the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) to further safeguard animal welfare. Proposed amendments include introducing a positive duty of care on persons responsible for animals to provide for

their welfare needs, as well as enhancing the provisions for prevention of animal cruelty, including the increase in the penalties, the introduction of an indictable offence, and the enhancement of enforcement powers to prevent and protect animals from suffering. The Government conducted a public consultation on the above proposals in 2019 and reported the results of the consultation to the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene of the Legislative Council in April 2020. We understand the public's concerns and expectations towards the legislative amendment, and the drafting of the legislation is now in full swing. Once the drafting work is completed, we will introduce the bill to the Legislative Council for scrutiny as soon as practicable.

- (b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has been collaborating with the Hong Kong Police Force (the Police) and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong) (SPCA) to review and improve the handling of reports or complaints on animal cruelty. AFCD works closely with the Police and SPCA by rendering mutual support and holding regular meetings to discuss the handling of relevant cases, sharing information and experience, and devising and reviewing guidelines to improve efficiency in the detection and prevention of animal cruelty cases so that animal welfare is protected. AFCD and the Police also organise various training courses to enhance the knowledge of frontline staff in animal welfare and their skills in handling and investigating animal cruelty cases. In addition, AFCD provides expert veterinary advice necessary for the investigations and carries out post-mortem examination to find out the cause of death including whether the animals have been cruelly treated.
- (c) Under the Rabies Regulation (Cap. 421A), a dog aged over 5 months is required to be vaccinated, implanted with a microchip and licensed. The primary purpose of the provisions is to prevent and control the spread of rabies more effectively. The risk of infected cats or other animals spreading rabies is relatively lower than that of infected dogs, and the Government currently has no plans to extend the requirement to cats and other commonly-kept animals. We understand that for a number of overseas places that have imposed a “duty of care” onto persons responsible for animals under their legislation, they also do not impose a microchipping requirement for cats or other animals. These places generally do not confine the persons with positive “duty of care” for an animal to the owner, but also include the persons in charge of, or having custody of the animal, whether permanently or temporarily.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)068

(Question Serial No. 3147)

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:

Would the Bureau provide the balance, amount of government injection, investment or other incomes, and total amount of expenditure of the following funds respectively in 2019-20? 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.: 81)

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**.

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 2020)	2020		
			Income [#] (\$ million)	Expenditure [^] (\$ million)	Fund balance (\$ million) (up to 31 December 2020)
(a)	Agricultural Products Scholarship Fund	-	0.1	0.6	4.9
(b)	Co-operative for American Relief Everywhere Loan Fund	-	-	-	0.2
(c)	Fisheries Development Loan Fund	1,100.0*	3.3	31.5	178.2
(d)	Fish Marketing Organization Loan Fund [@]	270.0*	0.6	99.9	250.8
(e)	J.E. Joseph Trust Fund	0.8	0.3	0.7	19.4
(f)	Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund	2.0	0.2	3.2	11.8
(g)	Marine Fish Scholarship Fund	-	0.1	0.5	3.4
(h)	Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund	500.0*	-	26.2	426.8
(i)	Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund	500.0*	-	41.9	412.4
(j)	Vegetable Marketing Organization Agricultural Development Fund	-	0.3	12.4	17.9
(k)	Vegetable Marketing Organization Loan Fund	-	0.2	1.7	11.2
(l)	World Refugee Year Loan Fund	-	<0.1	-	2.1

* Government commitment to the fund

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. As approved by the Legislative Council Finance Committee in July 2020, the approved commitment of the scheme has increased by \$210 million, i.e. from \$60 million to \$270 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)069

(Question Serial No. 0675)

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 Government stated that it will safeguard the welfare of animals through the enforcement of relevant legislation. Would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) As mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021–22, the Government will follow up on the public consultation on the review of the existing legislation related to animal welfare. Is there any progress on the proposed amendment to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169)?
- (b) What are the specific measures in strengthening the promotion of animal welfare? What are the manpower and expenditure involved? Has the Government assessed the effectiveness of the relevant work over the past 2 years? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- (c) The United Kingdom has enacted the Animal Welfare Act in 2006 based on the welfare concept that owners must take positive steps to take care of their animals and they are also required to provide basic welfare and survival conditions for their animals, covering the duty of care to their physical, psychological, social needs, etc. Will the Government promptly commence the formulation of legislature on animal welfare?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

- (a) and (c) The Government proposes to amend the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) to further safeguard animal welfare. Proposed amendments include introducing a positive duty of care on persons responsible for animals to provide for their welfare needs, as well as enhancing the provisions for prevention of animal cruelty, including the increase in the penalties, the introduction of an indictable offence and the enhancement of enforcement powers to prevent and protect animals from suffering. The Government conducted a public consultation on the above

proposals in 2019 and reported the results of the consultation to the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene of the Legislative Council in April 2020. We understand the public's concerns and expectations towards the legislative amendment, and the drafting of the legislation is now in full swing. Once the drafting work is completed, we will introduce the bill to the Legislative Council for scrutiny as soon as practicable.

- (b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) implements the following measures to safeguard and promote animal welfare:
- (i) 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;
 - (ii) 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;
 - (iii) devising codes of practices for the proper trading, breeding and keeping of pets and other animals;
 - (iv) enhancing enforcement against pet owners and traders in contravention of relevant legislation;
 - (v) improving the handling of reports or complaints on animal cruelty through collaboration with relevant departments and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong);
 - (vi) 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;
 - (vii) implementing the long-term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with the relevant AWOs and local communities; and
 - (viii) liaising with different AWOs to carry out preventive management measures for stray animals and proactively promote animal rehoming in new development areas.

In 2020-21, about \$82.7 million and 220 staff members were involved in the abovementioned work.

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 2 years, the number of complaints received by AFCD about nuisances related to stray animals has decreased by 49%, whereas the numbers of stray cats and dogs caught by AFCD and those given by owners have dropped by 36% and 21% 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 -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)070

(Question Serial No. 0676)

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 under the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22 that the Government would strengthen measures for stray animals management. What are the specific measures? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 6)

Reply:

In 2021-22, 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 and advise the public against the abandonment of pets;
- (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 \$44.1 million for the said work in 2021-22, which involves 196 staff members.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)071

(Question Serial No. 3036)

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 animal management, how will the Department strengthen its efforts in this aspect in 2021-22 and what are the new measures? What are the details of the new measures, including the specific details, manpower and expenditure involved, as well as the implementation schedule? Has the effectiveness of the current measures been reviewed? If yes, what are the results and follow-up actions in the future? If not, what are the reasons and will reviews be conducted?

Asked by: Hon YUNG Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)

Reply:

In 2021-22, 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 and advise the public against the abandonment of pets;
- (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 \$44.1 million for the said work in 2021-22, which involves 196 staff members.

Our efforts to control the number of stray animals and promote rehoming have started to bear fruit upon the implementation of relevant measures. 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 nuisances related to stray animals has decreased by 73%, whereas the numbers of stray cats and dogs caught by AFCD have dropped by 69% and 76% respectively, and the proportion of cats and dogs rehomed is increasing. We will continue to take forward and strengthen the abovementioned measures to further reduce the number of stray animals.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)072

(Question Serial No. 1405)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

For the performance indicator “licensed hawkers”, it is estimated that there will be an increase of 54 fixed-pitch hawker licences and a decrease of 18 itinerant hawker licences in 2021. In this connection, please advise this Committee of the following:

- 1) Regarding the number of fixed-pitch hawkers, why is there an increase for 2 consecutive years in respect of the actual number in 2020 and the estimated number in 2021? Please set out the locations of fixed pitches and the manpower for management involved in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by district; and
- 2) It is expected that the number of itinerant hawker licences (including newspaper, frozen confectionery, mobile van and other classes) will be reduced by 18. What is the reason for that? Will there be any cutbacks in the manpower for management accordingly?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 41)

Reply:

- 1) Regarding the number of licensed fixed-pitch hawkers, the increase in 2020 and the projected increase in 2021 are mainly due to the issue of new licences under the scheme of Re-allocation of Fixed Hawker Pitches and Issue of New Licences launched in September 2019 by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. Most of the new licences were issued in 2020 while 28 licences are expected to be issued in 2021. Other reasons for the increase include the newly issued tradesman licences, as well as new licences issued upon completion of the refurbishment works for cooked food bazaars or hawker bazaars. Information on the fixed-pitch hawker licence is provided at Annex I.
- 2) It is expected that the number of itinerant hawker licences (including newspaper, frozen confectionery, mobile van and other classes) may be reduced because of surrender of licences due to death of licensees or other reasons. The staff establishment involved in hawker control by the Department in the past 3 years was broadly the same. Relevant information is provided at Annex II.

On-street hawker fixed pitches

District	2018 (As at 31 December 2018)	2019 (As at 31 December 2019)	2020 (As at 31 December 2020)
Central and Western	559	543	542
Wan Chai	417	413	465
Eastern	308	307	325
Southern	29	29	29
Islands	2	2	2
Yau Tsim	687	677	764
Mong Kok	1 251	1 239	1 277
Sham Shui Po	987	981	1 038
Kowloon City	93	91	108
Wong Tai Sin	14	14	13
Kwun Tong	61	57	51
Kwai Tsing	9	9	8
Tsuen Wan	16	16	15
Tuen Mun	17	14	14
Yuen Long	12	11	11
North	6	6	7
Tai Po	6	5	5
Shatin	1	1	1
Sai Kung	2	2	2
Total	4 477	4 417	4 677

Hawker fixed pitches in hawker bazaars

District	Serial number	Hawker bazaar	2018 (As at 31 December 2018)	2019 (As at 31 December 2019)	2020 (As at 31 December 2020)
Southern	1	Stanley Market Open Space Hawker Bazaar	20	19	20
Yau Tsim	2	Haiphong Road Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	0	0	9
	3	Reclamation Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	4	4	4
	4	Woosung Street Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	15	0	3
	5	Yau Ma Tei Temporary Jade Hawker Bazaar ^	346	343	335
Sham Shui Po	6	Yen Chow Street Temporary Hawker Bazaar	3	0	0
Kwun Tong	7	Lai Yip Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	4	3	3
	8	Tung Yan Street Interim Hawker Bazaar #	119	117	5
Tsuen Wan	9	Hau Tei Square Hawker Bazaar	91	90	138
Kwai Tsing	10	Kwai Wing Road Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	5	5	4
Tuen Mun	11	Lam Tei Market cum Hawker Bazaar	4	4	3
Total			611	585	524

^ To make way for the Central Kowloon Route works of the Highways Department, Yau Ma Tei Jade Hawker Bazaar (Zone A and Zone B) was relocated to Yau Ma Tei Temporary Jade Hawker Bazaar in Shanghai Street, Kowloon in October 2020.

Tung Yan Street Interim Hawker Bazaar is scheduled to be closed in March 2021.

Manpower involved in hawker control

Financial year	Number of staff
2018-19	2 264
2019-20	2 253
2020-21 (Revised estimate)	2 224

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)073

(Question Serial No. 1407)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22, it is mentioned that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will “take action to close public markets which are under-utilised”. In this connection, please advise this Committee of:

- 1) the public markets planned to be closed, their current stall vacancy rates and the anticipated dates of closure;
- 2) the public markets closed in each of the past 3 financial years as a result of under-utilisation, their stall vacancy rates before closure and the development/use of land after closure; and
- 3) whether additional manpower and expenditure are required for the relevant work.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 43)

Reply:

1. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department plans to close Choi Hung Road Market in 2021-22. As at 31 December 2020, there were 69 stalls let out in the market and the vacancy rate was about 41%. The market is expected to be closed in March 2022. 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.
2. In the 3 financial years from 2018-19 to 2020-21, the Department closed 3 markets with consistently high vacancy rates and the vacated buildings have been handled according to established procedures. Based on the circumstances, the Department has requested 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. The relevant information is provided as follows:

Name of market	Date of closure	Vacancy rate before closure	Land development / use after closure
Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	February 2019	70%	Long-term planning is under study.
Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market	June 2019	61%	The market has been demolished and the site will be returned to the Lands Department.
Tui Min Hoi Market	January 2021	56%	The relevant department is exploring the feasibility of provision of welfare facilities.

3. 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 2021-22, there are 49 posts in the team and the estimated expenditure is about \$44 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)074

(Question Serial No. 1409)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22, it is mentioned that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will “continue to implement the Market Modernisation Programme to improve facilities of existing public markets.” In this connection, please advise this Committee of:

- 1) the details of each market planned for fundamental overhaul (including year of commissioning, original number of stalls, number of stalls let out, occupancy rate, vacancy rate, as well as the commencement date and estimated expenditure of the overhaul works);
- 2) the relevant work of consulting stakeholders (including stall operators, nearby vendors, residents and District Councillors) on the above overhaul works in each of the past 3 financial years; and
- 3) whether additional manpower and expenditure are required for the relevant work.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

1&2. The Government has earmarked \$2 billion for implementing the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has been liaising closely with tenants and relevant stakeholders including the Market Management Consultative Committee (MMCC) in respect of the MMP project in Aberdeen Market. After consolidating the views collected from the relevant committee of the Southern District Council (SDC) in August 2019, the Department further consulted the MMCC, SDC members concerned and tenant representatives of the trade in September 2019 on the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. The Department met with each existing tenant of Aberdeen Market again between October and December 2019 and explained to them the enhanced options in detail and collected the forms for confirmation of intention from all tenants in early 2020. Subsequently, the

Department briefed the relevant committee of the SDC on the details and work progress of the overhaul project of Aberdeen Market in February and September 2020. The committee agreed in principle to the project. Apart from the above, the Department conducted district consultation about the MMP project in Aberdeen Market through the Southern District Office in May 2020 and no objection was received. The Department and the Architectural Services Department attended a tripartite case conference on the MMP held by the Legislative Council (LegCo) alongside SDC in June 2020 to exchange views on the works project. The attendees took note of the project details. We consulted the LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene and Public Works Subcommittee on the project in January and February 2021 respectively. Members generally supported the project. The estimated capital cost of the project is about \$254 million and the funding was approved by the LegCo Finance Committee in March 2021. We plan to commence the overhaul works in the third quarter of 2021, and will take measures, including the use of pre-fabricated parts as appropriate, with a view to striving for completion of the works within 2022.

Apart from the overhaul of Aberdeen Market as the pioneering project, we are carrying out the preparatory and consultation work for the overhaul works in Yeung Uk Road Market, Ngau Tau Kok Market and Kowloon City Market, including arranging small group meetings with tenants since June 2020 and briefings for the relevant MMCCs on the projects, etc., to collect their views, with a view to reaching a consensus with tenants as soon as possible. Upon ascertaining the scope of works, we will conduct technical feasibility studies with relevant departments. The works timetable and project cost will be confirmed upon completion of the technical feasibility studies and assessment as well as detailed design. We will continue to maintain close liaison with the stakeholders during the process and report to the relevant District Councils in a timely manner having regard to the work progress.

Information on the relevant markets (including year of commissioning, existing number of stalls, number of stalls let out, occupancy rate and vacancy rate) is provided at [Annex](#).

3. The Department has set up a dedicated team to develop new markets and take forward the MMP and other reviews. In 2021-22, there are 49 posts in the team and the estimated expenditure is about \$44 million.

Annex

Name of market	As at 31 December 2020				
	Year of commissioning	Number of stalls	Number of stalls let out	Occupancy rate	Vacancy rate
Aberdeen Market	1983	335	317	95%	5%
Yeung Uk Road Market	1990	318	296	93%	7%
Ngau Tau Kok Market	1981	466	391	84%	16%
Kowloon City Market	1988	581	512	88%	12%

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)075

(Question Serial No. 1923)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to pest control, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. What are the manpower of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) and the expenditure currently involved in the pest control work, including civil service staffing, outsourced service contractors' manpower and the total value of outsourced service contracts?
2. Please set out the number of rodent control surveys conducted, the number of poison treatments of rodent infestation, the number of rodent trappings, the number of dead rodents collected and the number of live rodents caught, with a breakdown by District Council district.
3. While the estimated figures on rodent control surveys, poison treatments of rodent infestation and rodent trappings increased in 2019, 2020 and 2021, it is generally perceived that the rodent problem is serious. Has the Department assessed the effectiveness of the existing work? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?
4. Last year, the Department planned to conduct trial tests on the thermal imaging camera surveillance system in selected districts. What is the progress of the work?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)

Reply:

1. The overall expenditure on the provision of pest control services by in-house staff of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and its outsourced staff in 2020-21 was \$726 million (revised estimate). The total number of in-house staff responsible for pest control work was 740 and the total number of outsourced staff providing pest control services was about 2 180. As at 31 December 2020, the total value of pest control service contracts awarded by the Department was \$1.125 billion.

2. The number of rodent control surveys conducted, the number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks, the number of rodent trappings, the number of dead rodents collected and the number of live rodents caught in 2020 are tabulated as follows:

District	Number of rodent control surveys	Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	Number of rodent trappings	Number of dead rodents collected	Number of live rodents caught
Central and Western	350	4 752	5 058	2 006	1 626
Eastern	275	19 813	2 895	2 245	1 313
Southern	213	3 641	1 118	647	492
Wan Chai	180	13 184	4 085	1 302	2 081
Kowloon City	435	4 608	13 393	2 753	2 054
Kwun Tong	372	6 016	4 107	3 848	4 357
Wong Tai Sin	380	832	2 234	1 305	1 507
Sham Shui Po	265	270	4 850	3 254	4 173
Mong Kok	162	2 493	8 854	5 059	4 238
Yau Tsim	564	192	2 732	1 324	300
Sha Tin	439	5 060	9 679	1 118	737
Tai Po	165	13 260	419	771	589
North	870	1 701	470	1 102	580
Kwai Tsing	883	1 296	3 086	469	753
Tsuen Wan	240	2 981	5 212	1 034	1 837
Tuen Mun	466	5 274	2 023	548	321
Yuen Long	1 085	5 314	7 263	1 520	1 449
Sai Kung	417	8 672	1 737	521	226
Islands	3 122	742	2 615	1 162	239
Whole territory	10 883	100 101	81 830	31 988	28 872

- 3&4. The Department adopts an integrated management approach to the prevention and control of mosquitoes and rodents. Such approach, which is mainly premised on the recommendations and technical guidelines of the World Health Organization (WHO), emphasises on fundamental control, i.e. eliminating mosquito breeding places and the 3 survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, with the aim of prevention and control of pests.

To review the mosquito and rodent control work, the Department has invited an expert in mosquito control from the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific and an expert in rodent control referred by the WHO to provide advice on the mosquito and rodent control work of Hong Kong respectively.

For mosquito control, the Department is taking forward the recommendations of the expert gradually to enhance mosquito surveillance and control. Since April 2020, the Department has put in place newly designed gravidtraps as a replacement for the ovitraps previously used. The gravidtraps can directly count the number of adult mosquitoes to enumerate the new Gravidtrap Index (GI) and to release the additional Density Index (DI). The GI reflects the extensiveness of distribution of *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes in the survey area, whereas the new DI indicates the average number of adult *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes collected in each positive gravidtrap to quantify their activity level. The Department has also introduced a new mosquito trap which involves the carrying of growth regulators by female mosquitoes to the water bodies where they lay eggs to prevent larvae in those water bodies from developing into adult mosquitoes. Since the new mosquito trap is effective, the Department has put the trap to extensive use, and encouraged relevant government departments/organisations to use the trap in appropriate environments.

For rodent control, after conducting field trials, the Department is adopting the expert's recommendations, including the use of different kinds of food at a time as baits in trapping activities and the employment of a newly designed snap trap to enhance the effectiveness of anti-rodent efforts. In addition, the Department will encourage community engagement in rodent prevention and control work and explore the application of various technologies on baits and traps with a view to improving the efficacy of rodent disinfection work.

For better rodent surveillance, the Department conducted field trials on thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence analytical function in various locations (including 9 target areas of the anti-rodent operations in designated target areas) in 2020. The tests have shown that the new technology is effective in identifying places where rodents frequently visit and the time and patterns of rodent activities, as well as assessing and quantifying anti-rodent work. By means of the artificial intelligence function, the technology can be used for identifying rodents in thermal images, tracing their movements and keeping track of the locations and temporal patterns of foraging rodents, which enables pest control workers to place rodenticides and trapping devices more accurately and to install targeted rodent proofing measures for better rodent control. Furthermore, direct comparison of indicative data collected before and after anti-rodent operations is possible by virtue of the data on the thermal images captured, which is conducive to evaluating and quantifying the effectiveness of anti-rodent work. The Department put the thermal imaging camera to full use during the second round of anti-rodent operation in designated target areas in November 2020, and has planned for its wider use in other suitable locations with a view to increasing the effectiveness of the anti-rodent operations.

In the meantime, the Department will enhance the existing Rodent Infestation Rate (RIR) surveys in several aspects, including improving the sharing of survey data with the departments responsible for managing the relevant venues or facilities; releasing the RIR of all 50 survey areas to the public; installing thermal imaging cameras at the survey locations with a persistently high RIR for deployment of more effective follow-up actions; and actively exploring various bait choices for improving the sensitivity of RIR.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)076

(Question Serial No. 1927)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the monitoring of the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. the number of refurbishment projects and their durations, progress and expenditure involved in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by District Council district;
2. the number of public toilets to be refurbished this year, expenditure involved and expected completion dates, with a breakdown by District Council district;
3. the number of aqua privies that have been converted under the conversion programme for aqua privies in the New Territories and on outlying islands in the past 3 years and their completion status;
4. the estimated expenditure, number of aqua privies to be converted and project details of the conversion programme this year; and
5. for aqua privies with site constraints that restrict physical improvements, apart from using microbial odour-arresting agents to alleviate odour problems, have any other cleansing solutions been explored, especially with an increasing demand for public hygiene services under the epidemic? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

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

Reply:

1. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department rolled out refurbishment or facelifting projects for 15, 42 and 49 public toilets in the past 3 years (i.e. 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21) respectively. Information on the lists, progress and estimates of the projects are provided at Annex I, Annex II and Annex III.
2. The Department is planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifting works for 50 public toilets in 2021-22, with a project estimate of about \$160 million. A list of the public toilets is at Annex IV. Details of the works are not available at the present stage.

3. In the past 3 years (i.e. 2018-19 to 2020-21), a total of 9 aqua privies were converted into flushing public toilets. A list of the converted public toilets and project completion dates is at Annex V.
4. A conversion programme of 2 aqua privies into flushing public toilets in 2021-22 is in the pipeline. A list of the projects is at Annex VI. Details of the works are not available at the present stage.
5. In the light of the COVID-19 epidemic, the Department has stepped up cleansing of public toilets (including aqua privies). Apart from regular cleansing operations and application of microbiological odour arresting agent in the aqua privies for odour control purpose, the Department has deployed dedicated deep cleansing teams to enhance deep cleansing service for aqua privies. In-house cleansing workers clean and disinfect the aqua privies with 1:99 diluted household bleach during the routine cleansing service at least twice a day to ensure their cleanliness. To further step up anti-epidemic efforts, sensor-activated hand sanitiser dispensers have been installed in 39 aqua privies.

**List of 15 public toilets under
the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2018-19 (as at 9 March 2021)**

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
1.	Lan Kwai Fong Public Toilet	Central & Western	5.588	From March to December 2021
2.	Smithfield Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Central & Western	4.500	From April 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
3.	Kat On Street Public Toilet	Wan Chai	8.100	From November 2021 to September 2022
4.	Sing Woo Road Public Toilet	Wan Chai	5.580	From May to December 2020 (completed)
5.	Tai Hang Road Public Toilet	Wan Chai	7.750	From January to September 2021
6.	Warren Street Public Toilet	Wan Chai	5.166	From August 2020 to March 2021
7.	Sheung On Street Public Toilet	Eastern	4.774	From May to November 2021
8.	Tai O Road Public Toilet	Islands	6.250	From October 2020 to September 2021
9.	Kowloon Tong Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Kowloon City	4.596	From November 2020 to April 2021
10.	Pui Ching Road Public Toilet	Kowloon City	4.500	From October 2020 to July 2021
11.	Kwun Tong Road Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	6.000	To be confirmed
12.	Nai Wai Public Toilet (At side of refuse collection point)	Tuen Mun	5.800	From March to September 2020 (completed)
13.	Tuen Mun Ferry Pier Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	14.200	To be confirmed
14.	Boon Kin Village Public Toilet	Sai Kung	4.233	From August 2020 to March 2021
15.	Hin Kwai Lane Public Toilet	Sha Tin	4.391	From April to October 2021

[#] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

**List of 42 public toilets under
the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2019-20 (as at 9 March 2021)**

(A) 20 Refurbishment projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
1.	Lok Ku Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	8.400	From April 2022 to February 2023
2.	Ladder Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	6.240	From April 2023 to February 2024
3.	Rumsey Street Multi Storey Car-park Public Toilet	Central & Western	3.876	To be confirmed
4.	Morrison Hill Road Public Toilet	Wan Chai	3.580	From May 2021 to November 2022
5.	No.16 Aberdeen Main Road Public Toilet	Southern	9.600	From October 2021 to November 2022
6.	Science Museum Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	6.000	From January to September 2021
7.	Sunny Bay Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	6.800	From December 2020 to September 2021
8.	Wang Lung Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	5.797	From June 2021 to March 2022
9.	Hong King Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	6.000	From June 2021 to March 2022
10.	Sheung Shui Wai Po Sheung Tsuen Public Toilet	North	7.000	From August 2021 to April 2022
11.	Fong Ma Po Public Toilet	Tai Po	5.928	From July 2020 to February 2021 (completed)
12.	Ma Wo Public Toilet	Tai Po	3.543	From February to October 2021
13.	Tap Mun Pier Public Toilet	Tai Po	4.212	From April to December 2021
14.	Tseng Lan Shue Public Toilet	Sai Kung	3.528	From May to November 2021
15.	Ma Liu Shui Waterfront Public Toilet	Sha Tin	5.928	From June 2021 to January 2022
16.	Science Park Road Public Toilet	Sha Tin	4.896	From January to July 2021
17.	Shan Mei Street Public Toilet	Sha Tin	3.764	To be confirmed
18.	Shap Yi Watt Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	3.468	From August 2021 to April 2022
19.	Tai Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Sha Tin	4.900	From April to November 2021

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
20.	To Tau Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	3.348	From May to December 2021

[#] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

(B) 22 Facelifting projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates
1.	Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall Public Toilet	Central & Western	1.800	From May to September 2020 (completed)
2.	Wing Lok Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	1.700	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
3.	Wan Chai Market Public Toilet	Wan Chai	1.500	From January to April 2021
4.	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	Islands	2.892	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
5.	Tat Tung Road Public Toilet	Islands	2.870	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
6.	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	2.000	From September 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
7.	Jordan Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	2.600	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
8.	Market Street Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yau Tsim	2.000	From October 2019 to April 2020 (completed)
9.	Mong Kok Road Public Toilet	Mong Kok	4.000	From June to October 2020 (completed)
10.	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Mong Kok	4.800	From September 2020 to February 2021 (completed)
11.	Sai Yee Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	3.800	From May to October 2020 (completed)
12.	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Sham Shui Po	4.500	From June to November 2019 (completed)
13.	Pei Ho Street Market G/F & 1/F Toilet	Sham Shui Po	6.300	G/F: From September to December 2019 (completed) 1/F: From October 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
14.	Yen Chow Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	2.530	From December 2019 to May 2020 (completed)
15.	Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Kwun Tong	3.000	From August to December 2020 (completed)

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates
16.	Shung Yan Street Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	0.800	From February to July 2020 (completed)
17.	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	3.320	From October 2019 to May 2020 (completed)
18.	Kwai Hing Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	2.860	From October 2019 to May 2020 (completed)
19.	Chai Wan Kok Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	2.088	From April to July 2020 (completed)
20.	Chuen Lung Village Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	1.703	From October 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
21.	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	2.200	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
22.	Shing Mun Road (Shing Mun Valley) Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	1.760	From May to September 2020 (completed)

**List of 49 public toilets under
the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2020-21 (as at 9 March 2021)**

(A) 20 Refurbishment projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
1.	Wellington Street Public Toilet (Male Only)	Central & Western	3.392	From April to October 2022
2.	Wa Hing Lane Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Central & Western	6.288	From July 2022 to March 2023
3.	Ice House Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	5.205	From June 2022 to February 2023
4.	Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Central & Western	5.160	From March to October 2022
5.	Stanley Tytam Village Public Toilet	Southern	2.080	From November 2021 to April 2022
6.	South Bay Public Toilet	Southern	2.080	From November 2022 to April 2023
7.	Round Table I Village Public Toilet	Islands	4.592	From April to November 2022
8.	Ma Wan Chung Public Toilet	Islands	6.097	From August 2022 to March 2023
9.	Anchor Street Playground Public Toilet	Mong Kok	4.590	From February to August 2022
10.	Chung Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	4.000	From April to September 2022
11.	Kin Lung Street Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	4.400	From April to December 2022
12.	Tai Tong Road Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yuen Long	7.160	From July 2022 to April 2023
13.	Kuk Ting Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	6.600	From July 2022 to April 2023
14.	Luk Keng Public Toilet	North	2.550	From January to July 2022
15.	Yue Kok Public Toilet	Tai Po	2.920	From November 2021 to April 2022
16.	Tung Ping Chau Public Toilet	Tai Po	6.950	From July 2022 to June 2023
17.	Tap Mun Ha Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	3.710	From February to August 2022
18.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village North Public Toilet	Tai Po	2.900	From February to July 2023

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
19.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village South Public Toilet	Tai Po	2.900	From September 2022 to February 2023
20.	Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate Public Toilet	Sai Kung	3.538	From December 2021 to July 2022

[#] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

(B) 29 Facelifting projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
1.	Kennedy Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	0.880	From September to December 2020 (completed)
2.	Macau Ferry Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Central & Western	5.110	Design proposal in progress
3.	Hospital Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	0.990	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
4.	Quarry Bay Market Public Toilet	Eastern	2.280	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
5.	Pak Fuk Road Public Toilet	Eastern	3.900	From October 2020 to February 2021 (completed)
6.	Yip Fat Street Public Toilet	Southern	1.100	From October 2020 to February 2021 (completed)
7.	Sok Kwu Wan Public Toilet	Islands	2.430	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
8.	Lo Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Islands	1.460	From October to December 2020 (completed)
9.	Shui Hau Public Toilet	Islands	1.460	From September to December 2020 (completed)
10.	Pok Man Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	3.900	From November 2020 to April 2021
11.	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	1.750	From August to November 2020 (completed)
12.	Lung Kong Road Public Toilet	Kowloon City	4.620	Design proposal in progress
13.	Kei Yip Lane Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	3.200	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
14.	Tai Lin Pai Road Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	3.200	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
15.	Ta Chuen Ping Street Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	4.240	From September 2020 to February 2021 (completed)

[#] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
16.	Tin Sum San Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	1.530	From August 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
17.	San Wai Public Toilet	Yuen Long	1.530	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
18.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)	Yuen Long	1.110	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
19.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)	Yuen Long	1.110	From January 2021 to May 2021
20.	Wo Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	North	2.240	From November 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
21.	Shui Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	1.050	From October 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
22.	Tai Po Tau South Public Toilet	Tai Po	1.700	Design proposal in progress
23.	Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	2.070	From December 2020 to April 2021
24.	Wo Liu Hang Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	1.100	Design proposal in progress
25.	Fo Tan Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	1.100	From December 2020 to April 2021
26.	Pak Kong Tsuen Public Toilet	Sai Kung	1.790	From October 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
27.	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village Public Toilet	Sai Kung	1.670	From November 2020 to February 2021 (completed)
28.	Tai Mong Tsai Public Toilet	Sai Kung	1.840	From September to December 2020 (completed)
29.	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan) Public Toilet	Sai Kung	1.640	From March to July 2021

[#] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

**List of 50 public toilets under
the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2021-22**

(A) 20 Refurbishment projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Oil Street Public Toilet	Eastern	At side of No. 3 Oil Street
2.	Middle Bay Public Toilet	Southern	South Bay Road near Middle Bay
3.	Cheung Chau Peak Road Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Islands	Peak Road, Cheung Chau
4.	Ngong Ping Road Public Toilet	Islands	Ngong Ping Road, Lantau
5.	Peng Chau Wing On Side Street Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Islands	Wing On Side Street, Peng Chau
6.	Round Table III Village Public Toilet	Islands	Round Table III Village, Cheung Chau
7.	Tong Fuk Village Public Toilet (Lower)	Islands	Tong Fuk Village, Lantau
8.	Fung Cheung Road Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Fung Cheung Road (Near Fung Kwan Street Indoor Recreation Centre), Yuen Long
9.	Hang Mei Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Hang Mei Tsuen, Ping Ha Road, Ping Shan, Yuen Long
10.	Lok Ma Chau Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau Public Transport Interchange
11.	Pok Wai Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Pok Wai, Pok Wai Road, San Tin, Yuen Long
12.	Shap Pat Heung Choi Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Choi Uk Tsuen, Long Yat Road, Yuen Long
13.	Fanling Wai (South) Public Toilet	North	San Wan Raod in front of Nam Hing Tong, Fanling Wai (South)
14.	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Carpark Public Toilet	North	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Carpark
15.	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Public Toilet	North	At side of Sheung Shui Heung Sitting-out Area No. 9
16.	Shung Him Tong Public Toilet	North	At entrance of Shung Him Tong Tsuen, Fanling
17.	Wo Hop Shek Tsuen Public Toilet	North	Carpark at side of Wo Hing Tsuen, Fanling
18.	Nai Chung Pier Public Toilet	Tai Po	At side of Nai Chung Pier
19.	Pak Shing Street Public Toilet-cum-Bathhouse	Tai Po	Pak Shing Street, Tai Po
20.	Tai Po Market MTR Station Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tai Po Market Station

(B) 30 Facelifting projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Wu Nam Street Public Toilet	Southern	Wu Nam Street near Aberdeen Bus Terminus
2.	Chung Hau Village Public Toilet	Islands	Chung Hau Village, Mui Wo
3.	Tung Chung Hau Wong Temple Public Toilet	Islands	Hau Wong Temple, Tung Chung
4.	Shek Mun Kap Public Toilet	Islands	Shek Mun Kap, Tung Chung
5.	Kwong Pan Tin Village Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	Kwong Pan Tin Tsuen, Route Twisk, Tsuen Wan
6.	Pak Tin Pa San Tsuen Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	Pak Tin Pa San Tsuen, Tsuen Wan
7.	Hung Cheung Road Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Hung Cheung Road, Tuen Mun (at side of public car park)
8.	San Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	San Hing Tsuen
9.	Fung Kut Heung Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Fung Kat Heung, Fung Kat Heung Road, Kam Tin, Yuen Long
10.	Shui Mei Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Shui Mei, Kam Tin, Yuen Long
11.	Small Traders New Village Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Small Traders New Village, Siu Sheung Road, Yuen Long
12.	Tan Kwai Tsuen Road Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Tan Kwai Tsuen Road Garden, Tan Kwai Tsuen Road, Hung Shui Kiu, Yuen Long
13.	Tin Shui Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Tin Yan Road, Tin Shui Wai
14.	Tsang Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Tsang Uk Tsuen, Sheung Tsuen, Kam Sheung Road, Pat Heung, Yuen Long
15.	Kat O Island Public Toilet	North	Kat O, Sha Tau Kok
16.	Luen Cheong Street Public Toilet	North	Luen Cheong Street near footbridge NF252, Fanling
17.	Ma Wat Tsuen Public Toilet	North	Ma Wat Tsuen, Fanling
18.	Nam Chung Public Toilet	North	At side of Nam Chung Children Playground, Sha Tau Kok
19.	Chung Shun Lane Public Toilet	Tai Po	Chung Shun Lane, Tai Po
20.	Hang Ha Po Public Toilet	Tai Po	Hang Ha Po Village
21.	Hoi Ha Public Toilet	Tai Po	At entrance of Hoi Ha Village
22.	Pak Sha O Public Toilet	Tai Po	Pak Sha O
23.	Sam Mun Tsai Village (North) Public Toilet	Tai Po	Sam Mun Tsai Village, Tai Po
24.	Sam Mun Tsai Village (South) Public Toilet	Tai Po	Sam Mun Tsai Village, Tai Po
25.	Yung Shue O Public Toilet	Tai Po	At entrance of Yung Shue O Village, near Lamp post V4788
26.	Ham Tin Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Ham Tin

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
27.	Hiram's Highway (Nam Wai) Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Hiram's Highway, near Lamp post EA9898-1
28.	Tai Chung Hau Public Toilet	Sai Kung	At junction of Hiram's Highway and Tai Chung Hau Village
29.	Tsam Chuk Wan Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Near the Anti-Japanese Martyrs Monuments in Tsam Chuk Wan
30.	Tso Wo Hang Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Tso Wo Hang

**List of flushing public toilets converted from aqua privies
from 2018-19 to 2020-21 (as at 9 March 2021)**

Serial no.	Year	Name of public toilet	District	Completion date
1.	2018-19	Kam Tsin (North) Public Toilet	North	September 2018
2.	2018-19	Wa Shan Tsuen Public Toilet	North	September 2018
3.	2018-19	Siu Hang San Tsuen Public Toilet	North	September 2018
4.	2018-19	Fuk Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	October 2018
5.	2018-19	Siu Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	October 2018
6.	2019-20	Cheung Ngau Shan Public Toilet	Yuen Long	March 2020
7.	2020-21	Sha Lo Wan Village Public Toilet	Islands	June 2020
8.	2020-21	Ha Ling Pei Public Toilet	Islands	November 2020
9.	2020-21	Shek Lau Po Public Toilet	Islands	March 2021

List of aqua privies to be converted into flushing public toilets in 2021-22 (as at 9 March 2021)

Serial no.	Location of aqua privy	District
1.	Siu Sau Tsuen near Wan Lee Store	Tuen Mun
2.	Tsiu Keng Market	North

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)077****(Question Serial No. 1949)**

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding online food sale, please advise this Committee of the following information for the past 3 years:

1. How many tests were conducted on food sold online by the Department each year?
2. An earlier study of the Consumer Council found that over 90% of deliveries of frozen and perishable foods brought to the door were not in a fresh state as the food surface temperature was too high. Has the Government conducted investigations and taken enforcement actions in this regard? If yes, please provide the details.
3. Further to the above, please provide a breakdown of the number of cases with unsatisfactory test results, the number of prosecutions instituted and the number of convictions recorded.
4. Please provide a breakdown of the manpower deployed for the above work each year.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 60)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department takes samples of food purchased from websites and online platforms for testing in accordance with a risk-based principle under the Food Surveillance Programme. The number of samples taken for testing in each year from 2018 to 2020 is as follows:

Year	2018	2019	2020	Total
Number of food samples purchased online	4 164	4 881	4 602	13 647

The testing results of all, except 27, of the aforementioned samples were satisfactory. The unsatisfactory samples consisted of 11 aquatic products, 10 vegetable, fruit or cereal grain products, 2 samples of meat/meat products and 4 samples of other foods (including honey, syrup, candy and spice). They were detected with metallic contaminants,

pesticide/veterinary drug residues, preservatives, colouring matters or pathogens exceeding the respective safety standards. The CFS has taken appropriate follow-up actions regarding these samples. The work includes instructing vendors to stop selling the implicated foods, requesting importers/distributors to recall the food items as needed and instituting prosecution against 3 cases, with 1 case convicted and 2 other cases pending a judgement.

In addition, the Department conducted 160 test purchases in 2020 on vendors with permits for online sale of restricted foods with measurement of food temperature. No food was found to be held at an improper temperature when delivered to the door. The Department will continue to closely monitor online food sale activities and investigate suspected non-compliant cases, including conducting decoy operations to collect evidence and information, so as to take appropriate actions.

The Food Surveillance Unit and the Food Labelling Unit of the CFS are responsible for collecting samples of food purchased from various websites and online platforms for testing. The 2 units are also tasked with other duties. There was an establishment of 40 staff members for the related work in the past 3 years. As for monitoring of the operation of vendors with permits for online sale of restricted foods, such as the conduct of test purchases, it is performed by the District Environmental Hygiene Offices of the Department, which also undertake other duties in maintaining environmental hygiene. We do not have a separate breakdown on the manpower involved in the aforesaid monitoring work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)078****(Question Serial No. 1950)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational ExpensesProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

In view of serious fly-tipping in rural areas in the New Territories, please advise this Committee of the following in the past three years:

1. the number and distribution of refuse collection points in rural areas;
2. the expenditure on “smart refuse bins” and the “pilot scheme for solar-powered refuse compacting bins”;
3. the number of refuse blackspots in rural areas where close-circuit televisions (CCTVs) were installed, and the number of additional CCTVs to be installed in the future; and
4. given that quite a number of refuse collection vehicles or dump trucks indiscriminately dump in the vicinity of landfills, whether the Government will consider requiring such vehicles to be installed with global positioning systems to facilitate investigation.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 61)Reply:

1. In the years from 2018 to 2020, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) managed respectively 830, 827 and 826 village-type refuse collection points (RCPs)/RCPs with temporary structures which were located in rural areas, namely in the New Territories and on outlying islands. The distribution of these RCPs is as follows:

District	Number of village-type RCPs/ RCPs with temporary structures		
	2018	2019	2020
Kwai Tsing	21	22	22
Tsuen Wan	47	48	48
Tuen Mun	54	57	57
Yuen Long	201	178	178

District	Number of village-type RCPs/ RCPs with temporary structures		
	2018	2019	2020
North	153	156	154
Tai Po	77	104	104
Sha Tin	54	52	52
Sai Kung	132	125	125
Islands	91	85	86

2. From 2018-19 to 2020-21, the respective expenditures on the trial run of solar-powered compacting refuse bins and solar-powered mobile refuse compactors were \$2.6 million and \$2.2 million.
3. FEHD launched the scheme of installation of Internet Protocol (IP) cameras in June 2018 to curb illegal deposits of refuse in various districts, covering the illegal refuse deposit spots in rural areas. To further combat illegal deposit of refuse, the number of illegal refuse deposit spots to be installed with IP cameras across the territory will progressively increase from about 240 at present to 300 or so.
4. The Environmental Protection Department and the Development Bureau have stipulated in 13 public works contracts the requirement of installing global positioning systems in the dump trucks engaged. The purpose is to test the application of such device at work sites and collect feedback from industry stakeholders such as contractors and dump truck drivers. After reviewing the experience gained from its operation (including concerns of the industry like compliance cost, data collection and protection and use of personal data) and assessing its overall effectiveness for better monitoring and enforcement, the departments concerned will consider how the practice can be promoted to the construction industry.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)079

(Question Serial No. 1951)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to combatting illegal deposit of refuse over the territory, please advise this Committee of:

1. the number of complaints received against illegal deposit of refuse, with a breakdown by district in each of the past 3 years;
2. 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;
3. the top 10 locations of illegal deposit of refuse in the 18 districts over the territory;
4. the blackspots currently installed with closed-circuit television (CCTV) for monitoring purpose, and the number of offenders successfully prosecuted;
5. further to the above question, the installation cost of each CCTV; and
6. the new measures in place against illegal deposit of refuse.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 62)

Reply:

1. The numbers of complaints about street cleansing received in 2018, 2019 and 2020 were 62 834, 69 423 and 54 516 respectively. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep a separate breakdown on cases of illegal deposit of refuse on streets.
2. 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. 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. In 2018, 2019 and 2020, the Department issued 43 360, 41 911 and 41 737 FPNs, and 206, 145 and 181 summonses respectively. The maximum and minimum penalties imposed were \$3,000 and \$100 respectively.

- 3.&4. So far, Internet Protocol (IP) cameras have been installed at about 240 illegal refuse deposit spots across the territory. For the installation locations of IP cameras in various districts, please visit the Department's website. The Department has not listed such locations in any order of priority.
(www.fehd.gov.hk/english/pleasant_environment/cleansing/list_of_ipcam.pdf)
In 2020-21 (as at 28 February), the Department issued 1 821 summonses to owners of the vehicles used for illegal deposits of refuse based on the footage captured.
5. The estimated expenditure for the scheme on installation of IP cameras in 2021-22 is about \$16 million, which includes the costs of services related to the installation, operation, maintenance and repair of the IP cameras. The Department does not keep a separate breakdown on the installation cost of individual IP camera.
6. To combat illegal deposit of refuse, installation of IP cameras aside, the Department has set up 35 dedicated enforcement teams (DETs), primarily to step up enforcement action against various public cleanliness offences since mid-2017. Up to 28 February 2021, DETs have issued some 36 000 FPNs, and the hygiene condition of some 570 illegal dumping blackspots was markedly improved. The Department will set up 5 additional DETs in the second quarter of 2021 to strengthen law enforcement, and also convey health messages, distribute leaflets and warning notices to arouse public awareness of maintaining street cleanliness and the proper way for disposal of refuse. In addition, the Department has, with the consent of respective District Councils, extended the opening hours of some targeted refuse collection points with additional manpower provided to meet local demand at midnight or in the early morning. This arrangement has brought about noticeable improvements in the hygiene condition of the locations concerned.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)080

(Question Serial No. 3042)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the Management Scheme for the Display of Roadside Non-commercial Publicity Materials Implementation Guidelines, please advise this Committee of:

1. the quantity and type of publicity materials removed, the reason(s) for removal and the cost recovered, with a breakdown by District Council district, in the past 3 years;
2. the breakdown of the publicity materials removed above under the categories of commercial advertisements and publicity materials displayed by members of the Legislative Council, members of District Councils and non-profit-making organisations;
3. the details of the manpower and expenditure involved under the above items, with a breakdown by District Council district;
4. the average, longest and shortest time for handling a case, from receipt of reports to enforcement taken, under the above items, with a breakdown by District Council district;
5. the manpower, vehicles and equipment deployed, the expenditure involved, the number of publicity materials removed, as well as the number and fine of penalty notices issued on average under the above items;
6. whether a review of the cost-effectiveness of the operations has been conducted. If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?
7. the number of reports received, quantity removed, average processing time and details of penalty notices issued against illegal display of publicity materials under the Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (National Security Law) at a number of places with media coverage;
8. whether consideration will be given to strengthening the reporting mechanism and setting performance pledge targets to further combat display of obviously non-compliant publicity materials, such as those with contents in breach of the National Security Law, in a more efficient manner in view of the slow progress under the current removal procedures which involve a number of government departments. If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

- 1.&2. With the powers and functions delegated by the Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene under section 104A(1)(b) of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132), relevant officers of the Lands Department (LandsD) assign designated spots to members of the Legislative Council (LegCo) and the District Councils (DCs) for display of publicity materials through the Management Scheme for the Display of Roadside Non-commercial Publicity Materials (Management Scheme). The Management Scheme aims to allow members of the LegCo and DCs to display non-commercial publicity materials (NCPMs) related to community affairs, for the purpose of promoting public awareness and participation in matters of district administration and community building, and ensuring that roadside public space is utilised in a safe and orderly manner.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) has been taking joint operations with LandsD to remove NCPMs that are unauthorised or non-compliant with the Management Scheme for the Display of Roadside Non-commercial Publicity Materials Implementation Guidelines (Guidelines). During the operations, LandsD is responsible for identifying and verifying those NCPMs that are unauthorised or non-compliant with the Guidelines. Removal actions will then be taken by FEHD under section 104C(1) of Cap. 132. The number of NCPMs removed in various districts and the removal cost recovered by FEHD from 2018 to 2020 are provided at Annex I. There is no breakdown of the type of publicity materials removed, category of persons making the display or reason(s) for removal.

3. FEHD does not keep a separate breakdown of the manpower and expenditure involved in the removal actions concerned.
- 4.&5. FEHD conducts a joint operation with LandsD every week, including during holidays. The number of demand notes for recovery of removal cost in various districts by FEHD from 2018 to 2020 is provided at Annex II. There is no breakdown of the average time for a joint operation, the manpower and other expenses involved, the number of publicity materials removed, the number of demand notes for recovery of removal cost and the amount recovered.
- 6.-8. There are public complaint channels under the current mechanism. Members of the public may report any suspected non-compliant publicity materials under the Management Scheme to LandsD, District Lands Offices or via the 1823 hotline. There is no separate breakdown by content of NCPMs under complaint. FEHD has been removing NCPMs that are unauthorised or non-compliant with the Guidelines through joint operations with LandsD. Besides, the implementation of the Management Scheme is reviewed from time to time and revised where necessary.

Annex I

Number of non-commercial publicity materials (NCPMs) removed in various districts and the removal cost recovered by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department from 2018 to 2020

District	2018		2019		2020	
	No. of NCPMs removed	Removal cost recovered (\$)	No. of NCPMs removed	Removal cost recovered (\$)	No. of NCPMs removed	Removal cost recovered (\$)
Central and Western	117	7,275	238	18,788	243	7,632
Eastern	129	13,714	325	35,563	439	13,398
Southern	59	12,140	284	19,519	317	6,914
Wan Chai	38	13,139	506	39,445	130	8,380
Kowloon City	298	41,229	497	25,432	93	10,221
Kwun Tong	120	31,671	166	22,286	118	3,084
Wong Tai Sin	23	6,539	164	18,876	117	9,897
Sham Shui Po	150	16,267	241	11,160	237	1,317
Mong Kok	249	1,805	245	12,412	346	11,461
Yau Tsim	35	6,128	190	15,541	94	4,354
Sha Tin	784	99,695	2 185	130,773	1 007	51,467
Tai Po	447	82,587	293	50,553	235	21,534
North	157	12,437	992	25,960	114	10,336
Kwai Tsing	46	6,570	209	28,291	242	6,982
Tsuen Wan	111	19,809	436	30,445	245	14,534
Tuen Mun	220	32,886	601	83,982	339	19,750
Yuen Long	419	40,270	988	80,551	689	11,193
Sai Kung	174	51,674	2 106	58,521	733	65,349
Islands	30	2,720	71	11,848	44	1,903

**Number of demand notes for recovery of removal cost in various districts
by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department from 2018 to 2020**

District	2018	2019	2020
	No. of demand notes for recovery of removal cost	No. of demand notes for recovery of removal cost	No. of demand notes for recovery of removal cost
Central and Western	13	38	12
Eastern	22	77	47
Southern	36	48	18
Wan Chai	25	60	20
Kowloon City	65	39	12
Kwun Tong	89	49	10
Wong Tai Sin	14	51	30
Sham Shui Po	24	18	2
Mong Kok	3	20	28
Yau Tsim	15	33	10
Sha Tin	339	460	139
Tai Po	241	150	63
North	58	115	47
Kwai Tsing	20	77	20
Tsuen Wan	52	102	49
Tuen Mun	83	217	47
Yuen Long	123	198	33
Sai Kung	180	207	248
Islands	7	34	5

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)081

(Question Serial No. 3049)

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 Diane WONG)

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:

1. the service capacity of various crematoria managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department), the actual usage figures and utilisation rates of the facilities of the crematoria in each of the past 3 years;
2. 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;
3. the latest number of applications for public niches and the average waiting time;
4. the number of new niches to be provided in the next 10 years and their locations (please present the information in tabular form);
5. 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
6. 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.: 57)

Reply:

1. 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 as follows:

Name of Crematorium	2018			2019			2020		
	Number of cremation sessions released	Number of cremation sessions booked	Percentage of cremation sessions booked	Number of cremation sessions released	Number of cremation sessions booked	Percentage of cremation sessions booked	Number of cremation sessions released	Number of cremation sessions booked	Percentage of cremation sessions booked
Cape Collinson	14 869	14 721	99.0%	15 532	15 240	98.1%	14 825	14 435	97.4%
Diamond Hill	8 270	8 242	99.7%	7 970	7 961	99.9%	8 341	8 324	99.8%
Fu Shan	6 148	6 101	99.2%	6 413	6 381	99.5%	6 094	6 067	99.6%
Kwai Chung	7 303	7 273	99.6%	7 752	7 722	99.6%	6 598	6 564	99.5%
Cheung Chau	1 222	133	10.9%	1 340	118	8.8%	1 346	136	10.1%
Wo Hop Shek	7 421	7 333	98.8%	8 300	8 121	97.8%	11 320	10 939	96.6%
Total:	45 233	43 803	96.8%	47 307	45 543	96.3%	48 524	46 465	95.8%

2. The information sought is provided as follows:

Year	Number of deaths	Number of burials#	Number of cremations	Number of cases of scattering of ashes		Number of ashes interment in public niches@
				At sea	In Gardens of Remembrance*	
2018	47 479	3 136	43 803	972	6 074	3 657
2019	48 706	2 780	45 543	899	7 010	4 196
2020	50 653	2 852	46 465	854	6 822	39 598

Inclusive of cases in private cemeteries and permitted burial grounds.

* Inclusive of cases handled by private cemeteries.

@ The Department does not keep statistics on the number of cases of interring ashes in private niches.

3. At present, the Department allocates new extendable niches to eligible applicants by open drawing of lots and computer random balloting (rather than on a first-come, first-served basis). Regarding the allocation of new public niches each year, new niches at Tsang Tsui Columbarium and Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phase VI were made available for public application in May 2020, and a total of 24 584 eligible applications were received. Niches were allocated to all applicants by drawing of lots and computer balloting in October. Furthermore, the Department launched a one-year pilot scheme to allocate niches on a monthly basis in December 2020. Under the scheme, the Department would accept applications from the public for new niches at Tsang Tsui Columbarium all the year round. About 1 700 niches, together with the unallocated ones from the previous month, would be allocated each month. In the past three months (i.e. December 2020, January and February 2021), the Department received a total of 6 708 eligible applications, all of which were successful. It took about 50 days the longest from the time an applicant submitted his application to the time he got notified of the niche allocation. In the next few years, with new columbarium projects

being completed one after another, the number of new niches available for public application is estimated to be about 30 000 to over 40 000 each year.

4. The Government implements a district-based columbarium development scheme. Between the second quarter of 2011 and the end of 2020, the Government consulted the relevant District Councils (DCs) on public columbarium projects at 14 sites, which would altogether provide around 600 000 new niches. Projects located at Diamond Hill in Wong Tai Sin, Cheung Chau, Wong Nai Chung Road in Wan Chai, Lai Chi Yuen in Mui Wo, Tsang Tsui in Tuen Mun and Wo Hop Shek Phase I have been completed, providing around 210 000 niches. Two approved projects, located at Cape Collinson Road in Eastern District and Shek Mun in Sha Tin, are underway. They are estimated to be commissioned in 2022 and 2024, providing 25 000 and 40 000 niches respectively. The Government will continue to take forward other projects, with a view to securing the medium and long-term supply of public niches.
5. As of 28 February 2021, the Private Columbaria Licensing Board (PCLB) was processing 237 applications for specified instruments submitted by 99 private columbaria. The figures are summarised as follows:

Types of applications	Approved	Approved in principle	Refused	Withdrawn	Being processed
Application for a licence	6	2	21	11	87
Application for an exemption	1	1	12	9	39
Application for a temporary suspension of liability (TSOL)	0	11	29	13	111
Total number of applications	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	237
Number of private columbaria	7	13 ^{Note 1}	26	14	99 ^{Note 2}

Note 1: The application for a TSOL and the application for an exemption submitted by one columbarium have been approved in principle.

Note 2: Including 13 columbaria of which applications for a licence/an exemption/a TSOL have been approved in principle.

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 the relevant requirements 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.

6. At present the Department provides some 74 500 temporary storage spaces for cremains at Kwai Chung Crematorium, Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phases III and V, Cape

Collinson Columbarium, 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
Number of spaces occupied as at 28.2.2021	976	1 781
Utilisation rate	9.7%	35.3%

In addition, it is estimated that some 2 600 temporary storage spaces will be available by the end of 2021.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)082

(Question Serial No. 0916)

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 Diane WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Traders occupying pedestrian passageways to sell vegetables in markets has been a problem in quite a number of districts. In this regard, has any special duties team been set up to deal with the problem? If yes, what are the manpower involved, expenditure incurred and number of prosecution instituted over the past 3 years? Up to the present, the problem of traders occupying passageways is still serious. Will there be any new measure to tackle it? What are the estimated manpower and expenditure required?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

Information on the manpower and expenditure involved in hawker control by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the past 3 years is provided at Annex I. The number of fixed penalty notices (FPNs) issued and the number of enforcement actions taken against shop front extensions (SFE) by the Department in the same period are set out at Annex II. Taking enforcement actions against SFE is part of the daily duties of the hawker control staff of the Department. Further breakdown on the relevant expenditure is not available.

SFE is a street management problem which falls within the purview of a number of government departments. The core function of the Department is to maintain environmental hygiene. Hence, it accords priority to handling cases causing obstruction to scavenging operations or cases relating to illegal hawking or unauthorised extension of food premises, and takes enforcement actions against offenders in the light of the ground situation, which include issuing of summons, taking arrest actions and issuing FPNs of \$1,500.

Manpower and expenditure involved in hawker control

Financial year	Staff establishment	Expenditure (\$ million)
2018-19	2 264	1,134.2
2019-20	2 253	1,146.6
2020-21 (Revised Estimate)	2 224	1,166.0

Number of fixed penalty notices (FPNs) issued and number of enforcement actions taken by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

	2018	2019	2020
Number of FPNs	7 586	7 626	10 734
Number of enforcement actions	3 577	2 998	3 354

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)083

(Question Serial No. 1244)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In this Programme, it is stated that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to plan new public market facilities at suitable locations and take forward the proposed projects, and take action to close public markets which are under-utilised. In this connection, please advise this Committee of:

- a) the list of new public markets planned to be built in the coming year, the estimated number of stalls and commissioning timetable of these markets;
- b) how the impacts of new public markets on environmental hygiene in the vicinity will be carefully assessed in the process of identifying sites for building public markets; and
- c) the list of public markets planned to be closed in the coming year.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Kin-por (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

- a) The Government is taking forward 6 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. Information on the projects is provided at **Annex**. Besides, FEHD Skylight Market (formerly known as Tin Shui Wai Temporary Market) located at Tin Sau Road, Tin Shui Wai was commissioned in December 2020.
- b) In identifying suitable sites for building new markets, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will take into account their geographical locations, existing/planned uses, usable area and ancillary transport facilities nearby, etc., in order to ensure that, upon completion, the markets will be of a substantial scale to attract patrons and that public finances and land resources can be optimised. The Department will conduct a preliminary environmental review for the market projects at the design stage, and work out appropriate mitigation plans based on the results and

recommendations of the review report. Besides, the Department will incorporate suitable measures in the hardware design of the markets as appropriate (e.g. rodent proofing measures on building structure, providing a storeroom for temporary storage of pig carcass and space for handling and recycling discarded foam boxes, etc.), and ensure proper daily market management after the commissioning of the markets, so as to minimise the impact of the operation of public markets on the environmental hygiene nearby.

- c) The Department plans to close Choi Hung Road Market in 2021-22 and already received the forms for confirmation of intention from all tenants in November 2020. The market is expected to be closed in March 2022. 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.

	Project	Proposed site	Project size	Expected completion date
1.	Tin Shui Wai market	A section of Tin Fuk Road adjoining Tin Shui Wai Mass Transit Railway (MTR) Station	Expected to provide a maximum of about 150 stalls.	Subject to the funding approval by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council, we expect the project to be completed in the first half of 2027.
2.	Tung Chung Town Centre market	The lower floors of a commercial building in Area 6 adjacent to Tung Chung MTR Station	Expected to provide at least 100 stalls.	As the development project at the commercial site in Area 6 is adjacent to railway facilities, the Civil Engineering and Development Department is conducting a further technical feasibility study for the entire commercial building development project (including the new market portion) to ensure that the development project will not affect the safe operation of the MTR. The timetable will be confirmed after the completion of the above study.

	Project	Proposed site	Project size	Expected completion date
3.	Tseung Kwan O market	The lower floors of the joint-user complex planned to be built in Area 67 of Tseung Kwan O (at the junction of Po Yap Road and Tong Yin Street)	Expected to provide no less than 120 stalls.	To be confirmed after completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment as well as detailed design of the joint-user complex.
4.	Kwu Tung North New Development Area market	The site zoned as “Special Residential/Subsidised Sale Flats” in the eastern part of Area 19 of Kwu Tung North New Development Area	Expected to provide no less than 120 stalls.	The development of the public markets will tie in with the housing development plan of the districts concerned.
5.	Tung Chung New Town Extension market	Area 133A of Tung Chung New Town Extension	To be confirmed after completion of preliminary planning.	
6.	Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area market	To be confirmed after completion of preliminary planning.		

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)084

(Question Serial No. 1252)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated under this Programme that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to implement the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP) to improve facilities of existing public markets. In this connection, please advise this Committee of:

- a) the list of public markets planned for implementation of the MMP in the coming year, the scope of the refurbishment works and expected completion date, as well as the measures to be taken to reduce the impacts on market tenants and the public during the works period; and
- b) whether there is any plan to support all market tenants to install electronic payment facilities given that electronic payment will be a major trend in future; if yes, the details, objective(s) and timetable; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon CHAN Kin-por (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

- a) The Government has earmarked \$2 billion for implementing the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project of the MMP is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. The scope of the project mainly comprises re-configuring the overall layout of the market (including re-planning of the stalls, widening the passageways, escalators and entrances); installing air-conditioning system, providing 2 new accessible lifts and 2 new goods lifts for exclusive use by Aberdeen Market, as well as upgrading other building services installations; refurbishing the façade of the market; refurbishing the refuse collection point (including the provision of new facilities designated for recycling of discarded foam boxes); and other miscellaneous improvements (including the provision of more public space and seating, increasing the number of toilets and upgrading of the barrier-free facilities, etc.). The estimated capital cost of the project is about \$254 million and the funding has been approved by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council. We plan to commence the overhaul works in the third quarter of 2021, and will take measures, including the use of pre-fabricated parts as appropriate, with a view to striving for completion of the

works within 2022.

During the works period, we will take appropriate measures to minimise the impact on stakeholders and residents in the vicinity as far as possible. The measures include issuing letters to the licensees of supermarkets and fresh food provision shops near Aberdeen Market before commencement of the works, encouraging them to increase the supply of related commodities to cater for the needs of the residents; staff of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department closely monitoring the situation of obstruction of pavements and roads by articles placed by shops in Aberdeen, stepping up inspections and liaising with the relevant departments in prosecuting offenders to ensure that the streets are free from obstruction; taking measures to reduce noise and impact during the works period; and liaising with the Transport Department to explore ways to enhance the transport services provided by some public transport operators to and from the markets in the area, so as to facilitate local residents in purchasing daily necessities.

Apart from the overhaul of Aberdeen Market as the pioneering project, we are carrying out the preparatory and consultation work for the overhaul works in Yeung Uk Road Market, Ngau Tau Kok Market and Kowloon City Market, including arranging small group meetings with tenants, briefings for the relevant Market Management Consultative Committees (MMCCs) on the projects, etc., to collect their views, with a view to reaching a consensus with tenants as soon as possible. Upon ascertaining the scope of works, we will conduct technical feasibility studies with relevant departments. The works timetable and project cost will be confirmed upon completion of the technical feasibility studies and assessment as well as detailed design. We will continue to maintain close liaison with stakeholders during the process and report to the relevant District Councils in a timely manner having regard to the work progress.

In addition, we have consulted and obtained the support of the relevant MMCCs on the minor refurbishment or improvement works for 11 markets (including Ngau Tau Kok Market, Yeung Uk Road Market, Luen Wo Hui Market, Fa Yuen Street Market, Quarry Bay Market, Shui Wo Street Market, Tsuen Wan Market, Mong Kok Cooked Food Market, Ngau Chi Wan Market, Shek Tong Tsui Market and Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market). Depending on the circumstances, the works include renovation of internal facilities, beautification of external walls, replacement of floor tiles, repainting market facilities, renovation of toilets, maintenance of drainage systems and piping as well as installation of rodent-proof devices, etc. Works in 10 markets have commenced and preparation work for the remaining one is underway.

- b) All tenants in FEHD Skylight Market, which was commissioned in end 2020, have been required to install the contactless payment systems. New public markets and the overhauled public markets under the MMP will make reference to this practice in implementing contactless payment. We will keep in view of the operation of FEHD Skylight Market, with a view to formulating arrangements for the use and promotion of contactless payment in public markets in future.

As for the existing markets, having regard that the use of contactless payment is conducive to reducing the transmission risk of virus in a market setting, the Government launched the Subsidy Scheme for Promotion of Contactless Payment in Public Markets under the third round of the Anti-epidemic Fund in October 2020. Under the scheme,

a subsidy at a flat rate of \$5,000 per stall is provided for market stall tenants to meet the initial set-up costs, as well as service and other fees in relation to the provision of at least one contactless payment means for market patrons. The financial implication of the related measures is absorbed by the Anti-epidemic Fund, and does not fall under the Appropriation Bill or the estimates of the General Revenue Account.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)085****(Question Serial No. 2662)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please advise this Committee of:

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 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.: 27)Reply:

1. The total quantities of livestock, poultry, meat and poultry meat imported into Hong Kong in 2018, 2019 and 2020 are as follows:

2018

	Quantities imported (tonnes)						Total
	Top 5 economies					Others	
^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)						Total
	Top 5 economies					Others	
^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

2020

	Quantities imported (tonnes)						Total
	Top 5 economies					Others	
^Live cattle	Mainland 14 626		-	-	-	-	14 626
^Live goats	Mainland 1 429		-	-	-	-	1 429
^Live pigs	Mainland 638 138		-	-	-	-	638 138
^Live chickens	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
^Other live poultry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Chilled beef	Australia 4 150	Brazil 3 747	USA 2 717	Japan 634	Argentina 520	790	12 558
Frozen beef	Brazil 173 035	USA 63 297	India 24 482	Canada 11 469	UK 7 367	40 995	320 645
Chilled mutton	Australia 290	New Zealand 288	UK 42	Ireland 7	France 4	2	633
Frozen mutton	Australia 3 194	New Zealand 2 589	UK 897	Mainland 669	Ireland 253	205	7 807
Chilled pork	Thailand 19 211	Australia 2 879	Mainland 2 829	USA 1 783	Brazil 1 667	2 377	30 746
Frozen pork	Brazil 110 391	Netherlands 13 102	Germany 13 083	Poland 11 715	Mainland 10 522	38 778	197 591
Chilled poultry	Mainland 99 846	Thailand 1 682	USA 737	Australia 276	New Zealand 126	243	102 910
Frozen poultry	Brazil 155 856	USA 77 035	Mainland 58 068	Vietnam 16 817	Poland 13 500	82 564	403 840

^ The unit is “heads / number” instead of “tonnes”.

2. From 2018 to 2020, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department collected more than 4 600 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. In 2020, 1 frozen suckling pig sample was detected to have veterinary drug residue of enrofloxacin exceeding the legal limit. Apart from these, all other samples were found satisfactory. The CFS has made public the unsatisfactory test results and taken follow-up actions accordingly.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)086

(Question Serial No. 2721)

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 Diane WONG)

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” as mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22, please set out the measures (including but not limited to stepping up cleaning and disinfection, installing body temperature checking system, improving air ventilation and market toilets, and adopting anti-microbial coating technology) for improving hygiene of public markets and against epidemic, as well as the expenditure involved:

Name of market	Anti-epidemic measures	Expenditure involved

Asked by: Hon CHAN Pierre (LegCo internal reference no.: 105)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

Anti-epidemic measures in markets	Expenditure involved (2020-21)
Provision of hand-held or standing-type thermometers for body temperature checks of people entering the markets	\$5.97 million
Provision of standalone air coolers to improve air ventilation	\$1.96 million
Application of anti-microbial coating to communal areas and facilities	\$1.32 million

Provision of toilet seat sanitisers	\$0.51 million
Others (provision of disinfectant hand sanitisers, disinfectant rugs, etc.)	\$1.41 million
Total	\$11.17 million

Note: The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep information on the expenditure involved for individual markets or other measures (such as stepping up cleansing and disinfection as well as cleansing of ventilation systems).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)087

(Question Serial No. 2722)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work to continue to implement the Market Modernisation Programme to improve facilities of existing public markets as mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22,

- (A) has provision been earmarked for public market stall tenants to install electronic payment systems? If yes, what is the estimated amount involved?
- (B) how many stall tenants in public markets/temporary markets have installed electronic payment systems? Please provide the information with a breakdown by public market.
- (C) has funding been allocated for the education or promotion on installation of electronic payment systems for market stall tenants? If yes, what is the expenditure involved?
- (D) has funding been earmarked for increasing the subsidies to market stall tenants for the installation of electronic payment systems?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Pierre (LegCo internal reference no.: 106)

Reply:

- (A)&(D) To reduce the risk of possible transmission of COVID-19 or other diseases by operators and patrons in public markets through physical touch of cash, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department launched a subsidy scheme for promotion of contactless payment in public markets in October 2020. The Department received a total of 3 555 applications during the application period. So far 3 542 applications (99.6%) have been approved in principle and \$13.62 million of subsidies have been disbursed for 2 724 applications. The remaining applications were not processed as the applicants failed to submit the relevant documents and complete the installation. The financial implications of the related measures were absorbed by the Anti-epidemic Fund, which does not form part of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates of the General Revenue Account.

On the other hand, all tenants in FEHD Skylight Market, which was commissioned in end 2020, have been required to install the contactless payment systems. New public markets and the overhauled public markets under the Market Modernisation Programme will make reference to this practice in implementing contactless payment. We will keep in view the operation of FEHD Skylight Market, with a view to formulating arrangements for the use and promotion of contactless payment in public markets in future.

- (B) The number of stalls installed with contactless payment systems in each public market under the Department as at 28 February 2021 is provided at Annex.
- (C) The expenditure involved in the education or promotion on installation of contactless payment systems for market stall tenants is about \$180,000.

District	Name of market	Number of stalls installed with at least 1 type of contactless payment system
Central and Western	Centre Street Market	11
	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	5
	Sai Ying Pun Market	16
	Shek Tong Tsui Market	22
	Sheung Wan Market	39
	Smithfield Market	28
Eastern	Aldrich Bay Market	42
	Chai Wan Market	16
	Electric Road Market	19
	Java Road Market	47
	North Point Market	5
	Quarry Bay Market	20
	Sai Wan Ho Market	39
	Yue Wan Market	54
Islands	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	6
	Cheung Chau Market	59
	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	5
	Mui Wo Market	15
Kowloon City	Hung Hom Market	52
	Kowloon City Market	157
	On Ching Road Flower Market	2
	To Kwa Wan Market	100
Kwun Tong	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	1
	Lei Yue Mun Market	9
	Ngau Tau Kok Market	125
	Shui Wo Street Market	102
	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	1
	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	13
	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	0
	Yee On Street Market	9

District	Name of market	Number of stalls installed with at least 1 type of contactless payment system
Kwai Tsing	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	9
	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	2
	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	1
	North Kwai Chung Market	34
	Tsing Yi Market	14
	Wing Fong Street Market	17
	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	5
Mong Kok	Fa Yuen Street Market	28
	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	1
	Tai Kok Tsui Market	53
North	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	9
	Luen Wo Hui Market	121
	Shek Wu Hui Market	61
Southern	Aberdeen Market	75
	Ap Lei Chau Market	17
	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	3
	Stanley Waterfront Mart	7
	Tin Wan Market	44
	Yue Kwong Road Market	11
Sai Kung	Sai Kung Market	79
Sham Shui Po	Lai Wan Market	2
	Pei Ho Street Market	16
	Po On Road Market	70
	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	63
Sha Tin	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	1
	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	1
	Sha Tin Market	63
	Tai Wai Market	33

District	Name of market	Number of stalls installed with at least 1 type of contactless payment system
Tuen Mun	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	1
	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	2
	San Hui Market	88
	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	6
	Yan Oi Market	18
Tai Po	Tai Po Hui Market	56
	Plover Cove Road Market	37
Tsuen Wan	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	5
	Heung Che Street Market	71
	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	2
	Tsuen Wan Market	56
	Yeung Uk Road Market	53
Wan Chai	Wong Nai Chung Market	11
	Causeway Bay Market	1
	Tang Lung Chau Market	6
	Lockhart Road Market	25
	Bowrington Road Market	49
	Wan Chai Market	8
Wong Tai Sin	Choi Hung Road Market	14
	Ngau Chi Wan Market	62
	Sheung Fung Street Market	17
	Tai Shing Street Market	84
Yuen Long	FEHD Skylight Market	36
	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	9
	Kam Tin Market	1
	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	2
	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	1
	Tai Kiu Market	76
	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	4
	Tung Yick Market	30

District	Name of market	Number of stalls installed with at least 1 type of contactless payment system
Yau Tsim	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	6
	Kwun Chung Market	68
	Yau Ma Tei Market	34

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)088

(Question Serial No. 2724)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Regarding the work to continue to implement the Market Modernisation Programme to improve facilities of existing public markets as mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22, please set out:
 - (A) the district consultation work for site selection of a Joint-user Complex (including a public market) in Tseung Kwan O and the expenditure involved;
 - (B) the estimate for overhauling the Aberdeen Market and the timetable for commencement of the works; and
 - (C) the provision earmarked for relocation of or compensation for stalls in the Aberdeen Market affected by the overhaul project.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Pierre (LegCo internal reference no.: 108)

Reply:

- (A) The Government plans to provide a new public market on the lower floors of the joint-user complex to be built in Area 67 at Tseung Kwan O town centre (at the junction of Po Yap Road and Tong Yin Street). The joint-user complex also plans to provide other community facilities such as medical and welfare facilities, etc. The relevant bureaux/departments consulted the Sai Kung District Council on the site selected and preliminary planning for the joint-user complex (including the new public market) in May 2020. The technical feasibility study of the joint-user complex project is underway. The project cost will be confirmed after the completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment as well as detailed design.
- (B) The Government has earmarked \$2 billion for implementing the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. The estimated capital cost of the project is about \$254 million and the funding has been approved by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council. We plan to commence the overhaul works in the third quarter of 2021, and will take

measures, including the use of pre-fabricated parts as appropriate, with a view to striving for completion of the works within 2022.

- (C) Under the terms of existing tenancies of public market stalls, the landlord (i.e. the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department) and tenants are not required to make any compensation to the other party for tenancy termination with a written notice of not less than one month. Nevertheless, considering that the co-operation of tenants can facilitate the smooth implementation of market development or consolidation plans for achieving the objectives of optimising land uses, benefitting the public and promoting district development, which meets the overall interest of the community, the Government would consider making concessionary arrangements, including providing a one-off ex-gratia payment to tenants who choose to close down the business or relocate to the vacant stalls of designated markets under the Department to continue operation. The total expenditure required will depend on the number of tenants, their ultimate choices and the number of stalls involved. For markets to be overhauled under the MMP, in addition to the two options above, tenants may choose to continue operation in the overhauled market by renting a new stall at the market through “restricted auction” upon completion of the works. For tenants who choose permanent relocation or re-entry through auction, their new stalls will be granted a waiver of rental and air-conditioning charges (if applicable) for a specified period upon commencement of business as appropriate.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)089

(Question Serial No. 2968)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the work of providing new public market facilities at suitable locations under Programme (3) Market Management and Hawker Control,

- (A) what are the costs involved in outsourcing the management of the Tin Shui Wai Temporary Market to a contractor?
- (B) what are the respective expenditures on various measures such as security, cleansing, publicity and promotion of the Tin Shui Wai Temporary Market?
- (C) when will the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department conduct a review with the contractor and operating stall tenants of the market?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Pierre (LegCo internal reference no.: 109)

Reply:

- (A)-(C) As the landlord of public markets, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is responsible for determining the rental level and signing agreements with tenants. On this premise, we are adopting a new management mode on a pilot basis at FEHD Skylight Market (formerly known as Tin Shui Wai Temporary Market) to strengthen the role of the service contractor in market management and expand its scope of services, with a view to enhancing business vibrancy and meeting the needs of the public. The service contractor is engaged by the Department and the scope of services includes formulating promotion and development strategies for the market, providing pre-commissioning hardware support as well as daily management, cleansing, security and minor repairs services for the market, maintaining liaison and communication with stakeholders and advising on the trade mix in the market, etc. In addition, the service contractor is required under the contract to conduct regular opinion surveys to collect views of stakeholders on the operation of and services provided at the market, with a view to assisting the formulation of improvement measures. The

term of the service contract is 39 months and the total value is about HK\$25.75 million.

The service contractor must comply with the contract terms for provision of management services for the market. In addition to daily on-site inspections at the market carried out by staff of the Department to evaluate the contractor's performance, supervisory staff will also conduct surprise checks. In the event of unsatisfactory performance of the contractor or contravention of requirements, the Department may issue default notices to the contractor, deduct monthly payment of service charge, issue warning letters or even terminate the contract in accordance with the contract terms. Besides, the Department will also make reference to the number of patrons visiting the market, the satisfaction level and views of stakeholders on market operation, effectiveness of management and promotional activities, etc. when evaluating the performance of the contractor. We will keep in view the operation effectiveness of FEHD Skylight Market, including the performance of the service contractor.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)090

(Question Serial No. 2969)

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 Diane WONG)

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 financial 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; and
- c. the number and percentage of let-out stalls in each cooked food centre.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Pierre (LegCo internal reference no.: 110)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex I, Annex II and Annex III.

Number and percentage of let-out stalls in markets

Serial number	Name of market	Number of let-out stalls (as at 31 December)			Occupancy rate of let-out stalls ^a (as at 31 December)		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
1	Aberdeen Market	322	321	317	96%	96%	95%
2	Aldrich Bay Market	65	62	62	92%	87%	87%
3	Ap Lei Chau Market	61	59	59	97%	94%	94%
4	Bowrington Road Market	275	272	270	93%	92%	91%
5	Causeway Bay Market	49	47	47	96%	92%	92%
6	Centre Street Market	35	34	34	76%	74%	74%
7	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	28	26	25	88%	81%	78%
8	Chai Wan Market	160	160	158	92%	92%	91%
9	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	100%	100%	100%
10	Cheung Chau Market	235	234	231	98%	96%	95%
11	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	12	12	100%	100%	100%
12	Choi Hung Road Market	76	69	68	66%	59%	59%
13	Electric Road Market	80	80	76	81%	81%	77%
14	Fa Yuen Street Market	165	160	158	92%	89%	88%
15	FEHD Skylight Market ^b	N/A	N/A	36	N/A	N/A	100%
16	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	24	24	100%	100%	100%
17	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	15	15	100%	100%	100%
18	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	59	57	56	69%	66%	65%
19	Heung Che Street Market	214	206	200	95%	92%	89%
20	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	10	10	8	91%	91%	73%
21	Hung Hom Market	220	218	213	98%	97%	95%
22	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	124	112	110	72%	65%	64%
23	Java Road Market	182	175	174	94%	90%	90%
24	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	9	9	9	60%	60%	60%
25	Kam Tin Market	41	41	41	100%	100%	100%
26	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%
27	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	100%	100%	100%
28	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%
29	Kowloon City Market	550	522	512	95%	90%	88%
30	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	10	100%	100%	91%
31	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	10	10	10	91%	91%	91%

Serial number	Name of market	Number of let-out stalls (as at 31 December)			Occupancy rate of let-out stalls ^a (as at 31 December)		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
32	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	98	96	95	100%	98%	97%
33	Kwun Chung Market	185	159	140	85%	73%	64%
34	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	28	28	27	97%	97%	93%
35	Lai Wan Market	41	40	40	98%	95%	95%
36	Lam Tei Market	7	7	7	100%	100%	100%
37	Lau Fau Shan Market	22	18	18	88%	72%	72%
38	Lei Yue Mun Market	19	19	19	95%	95%	95%
39	Lockhart Road Market	123	123	123	74%	74%	74%
40	Luen Wo Hui Market	336	334	332	99%	99%	98%
41	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%
42	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%
43	Mui Wo Market	32	32	32	91%	91%	91%
44	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	23	23	23	82%	82%	82%
45	Ngau Chi Wan Market	348	337	332	87%	84%	83%
46	Ngau Tau Kok Market	401	398	391	86%	85%	84%
47	North Kwai Chung Market	202	193	192	91%	87%	86%
48	North Point Market	35	35	34	83%	83%	81%
49	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	13	13	100%	100%	100%
50	Pei Ho Street Market	231	228	226	99%	97%	97%
51	Peng Chau Market	18	17	16	100%	94%	89%
52	Plover Cove Road Market	200	191	188	82%	78%	77%
53	Po On Road Market	399	390	378	89%	87%	84%
54	Quarry Bay Market	78	77	75	69%	68%	66%
55	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	100%	100%	100%
56	Sai Kung Market	191	185	180	91%	89%	86%
57	Sai Wan Ho Market	268	262	261	98%	96%	95%
58	Sai Ying Pun Market	89	88	85	87%	95%	91%
59	San Hui Market	317	310	305	98%	96%	94%
60	Sha Tau Kok Market	66	66	64	100%	100%	97%
61	Sha Tin Market	170	167	167	99%	97%	97%
62	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	26	25	25	90%	86%	86%

Serial number	Name of market	Number of let-out stalls (as at 31 December)			Occupancy rate of let-out stalls ^a (as at 31 December)		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
63	Shek Tong Tsui Market	138	133	132	91%	88%	87%
64	Shek Wu Hui Market	392	390	387	100%	99%	98%
65	Sheung Fung Street Market	70	69	69	99%	97%	97%
66	Sheung Wan Market	219	215	212	98%	96%	95%
67	Shui Wo Street Market	295	294	293	98%	97%	97%
68	Smithfield Market	214	214	210	99%	99%	97%
69	Stanley Waterfront Mart	17	13	12	85%	65%	60%
70	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	82%	82%	82%
71	Tai Kiu Market	368	360	353	97%	95%	93%
72	Tai Kok Tsui Market	131	131	130	97%	97%	96%
73	Tai O Market	23	22	21	88%	85%	81%
74	Tai Po Hui Market	312	311	309	100%	99%	99%
75	Tai Shing Street Market	411	404	404	93%	92%	92%
76	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%
77	Tai Wai Market	166	169	161	85%	91%	87.5%
78	Tang Lung Chau Market	32	31	31	94%	91%	91%
79	Tin Wan Market	172	171	166	96%	95%	92%
80	To Kwa Wan Market	259	250	247	97%	94%	93%
81	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%
82	Tsing Yi Market	75	71	71	99%	93%	93%
83	Tsuen Wan Market	339	334	330	89%	88%	87%
84	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	52	52	51	93%	93%	91%
85	Tui Min Hoi Market ^c	19	19	15	56%	56%	44%
86	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	116	115	111	32%	33%	45%
87	Tung Yick Market	181	179	179	41%	40%	40%
88	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	8	8	100%	100%	100%
89	Wan Chai Market	50	49	48	100%	98%	96%
90	Wing Fong Street Market	97	87	81	85%	76%	71%
91	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	16	100%	100%	89%
92	Wong Nai Chung Market	66	66	64	96%	96%	93%
93	Yan Oi Market	101	101	101	94%	94%	94%

Serial number	Name of market	Number of let-out stalls (as at 31 December)			Occupancy rate of let-out stalls ^a (as at 31 December)		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
94	Yau Ma Tei Market	130	128	125	90%	89%	87%
95	Yee On Street Market	60	41	37	92%	63%	57%
96	Yeung Uk Road Market	305	301	296	96%	95%	93%
97	Yue Kwong Road Market	172	165	164	87%	84%	83%
98	Yue Wan Market	359	356	354	94%	94%	93%

Remarks:

- ^a Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls out of the total number of stalls in a market. The degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.
- ^b FEHD Skylight Market (in Tin Shui Wai, Yuen Long) was commissioned in December 2020.
- ^c Tui Min Hoi Market was closed in January 2021.

Number and percentage of stalls in markets let out at concessionary rent

Year	Total number of stalls (as at 31 December)	Number of stalls let out at concessionary rent	Percentage of stalls let out at concessionary rent
2018	14 088	1 265	9%
2019	14 014	1 212	9%
2020	13 943	1 187	9%

Number and percentage of let-out stalls in cooked food centres

Serial number	Name of market with cooked food centre	Number of let-out stalls in cooked food centre (as at 31 December)			Occupancy rate of let-out stalls ^a (as at 31 December)		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
1	Aberdeen Market	9	9	8	90%	90%	80%
2	Aldrich Bay Market	3	2	2	75%	50%	50%
3	Ap Lei Chau 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	10	10	58%	53%	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	38	38	100%	95%	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	11	100%	100%	92%
16	Kwun Chung Market	16	16	15	84%	84%	79%
17	Lockhart Road Market	17	17	17	89%	89%	89%
18	Luen Wo Hui Market	20	20	20	91%	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	7	100%	100%	88%
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 number	Name of market with cooked food centre	Number of let-out stalls in cooked food centre (as at 31 December)			Occupancy rate of let-out stalls ^a (as at 31 December)		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
31	Smithfield Market	11	11	11	92%	92%	92%
32	Tai Kok Tsui Market	12	12	12	100%	100%	100%
33	Tai Po Hui Market	40	40	40	100%	100%	100%
34	Tai Shing Street Market	10	9	9	91%	82%	82%
35	Tin Wan Market	10	10	10	100%	100%	100%
36	To Kwa Wan Market	7	7	7	88%	88%	88%
37	Wong Nai Chung Market	6	6	6	100%	100%	100%
38	Yue Kwong Road Market	15	14	14	94%	88%	88%
39	Yue Wan Market	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%

Remark:

^a Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls out of the total number of stalls in a market. The degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)091

(Question Serial No. 0527)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the number of complaints received as well as the number of arrests and prosecutions instituted in relation to licensed hawkers, unlicensed hawkers, market stalls and shops in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by the 18 districts. Please provide the number of staff involved in taking out enforcement actions against hawkers, stalls and shops in the past 3 years.

Please set out the number of prosecutions instituted under the fixed penalty system last year, as well as the estimated manpower and expenditure involved this year.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 127)

Reply:

The number of complaints received and prosecutions instituted against licensed hawkers, unlicensed hawkers, public market stalls and shop front extensions (SFE) by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the past 3 years are provided at Annexes I to IV. Information on the manpower involved in hawker and public market management is provided at Annex V.

In 2020, the Department issued a total of 10 734 fixed penalty notices against SFE and 136 fixed penalty notices to smoking offenders in public markets. Since the enforcement work involved is part of the day-to-day duties of the Department's staff, there is no breakdown of the manpower and expenditure involved for 2021-22.

**Number of complaints received and prosecutions instituted against licensed hawkers
by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department**

District	Number of complaints			Number of prosecutions		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
Central & Western	77	69	54	242	222	124
Wan Chai	97	80	150	607	464	276
Eastern	99	95	112	340	225	215
Southern	7	1	6	5	2	2
Islands	1	1	1	2	2	0
Yau Tsim	31	27	10	474	730	267
Mong Kok	8	7	30	873	868	388
Sham Shui Po	267	251	295	420	509	237
Kowloon City	16	5	11	12	11	10
Wong Tai Sin	0	2	1	7	8	2
Kwun Tong	36	34	26	50	50	34
Kwai Tsing	9	7	4	20	13	16
Tsuen Wan	17	12	10	73	49	17
Tuen Mun	1	1	3	51	28	8
Yuen Long	4	1	2	313	227	212
North	1	2	2	135	132	159
Tai Po	0	2	0	7	3	2
Sha Tin	7	0	3	102	94	192
Sai Kung	1	1	0	0	0	0
Others*	6	10	3	--	--	--
Total	685	608	723	3 733	3 637	2 161

Note: * No district is specified in these complaints.

Number of complaints received and prosecutions instituted against unlicensed hawkers by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

District	Number of complaints			Number of prosecutions		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
Central & Western	329	350	221	247	85	81
Wan Chai	1 547	1 670	2 132	656	586	453
Eastern	740	734	835	741	871	1 146
Southern	81	35	74	202	177	147
Islands	117	108	88	48	31	72
Yau Tsim	384	155	108	206	107	91
Mong Kok	610	532	612	587	299	283
Sham Shui Po	2 392	2 848	2 645	559	492	626
Kowloon City	151	139	162	90	106	83
Wong Tai Sin	425	336	290	82	67	142
Kwun Tong	952	840	806	165	110	174
Kwai Tsing	146	118	119	164	119	83
Tsuen Wan	94	122	163	54	26	70
Tuen Mun	365	474	419	379	383	434
Yuen Long	399	559	668	762	511	528
North	564	535	439	332	276	351
Tai Po	257	224	210	140	104	83
Sha Tin	269	486	483	130	109	149
Sai Kung	82	60	201	20	16	39
Others*	127	107	114	--	--	--
Total	10 031	10 432	10 789	5 564	4 475	5 035

Note: * No district is specified in these complaints.

Number of complaints received and prosecutions instituted against public market stalls by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

District	Number of complaints			Number of prosecutions		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
Central & Western	150	135	165	55	62	51
Wan Chai	83	88	100	72	106	61
Eastern	232	319	290	225	181	153
Southern	120	87	148	75	109	99
Islands	34	31	45	8	7	4
Yau Tsim	52	42	38	35	56	35
Mong Kok	80	90	105	20	17	4
Sham Shui Po	246	203	263	160	183	122
Kowloon City	106	124	111	132	127	110
Wong Tai Sin	259	261	267	199	182	123
Kwun Tong	245	167	198	101	131	95
Kwai Tsing	87	69	136	97	89	57
Tsuen Wan	112	207	124	200	273	129
Tuen Mun	50	55	76	40	29	29
Yuen Long	129	119	154	85	61	57
North	219	168	291	63	73	61
Tai Po	94	92	92	78	65	74
Sha Tin	60	63	58	47	36	26
Sai Kung	22	29	19	5	3	2
Others*	21	22	46	-	-	-
Total	2 401	2 371	2 726	1 697	1 790	1 292

Note: * No district is specified in these complaints.

**Number of complaints received and prosecutions instituted against SFE
by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department**

District	Number of complaints			Number of prosecutions*		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
Central & Western	636	547	648	166	76	45
Wan Chai	654	978	648	189	162	91
Eastern	1 103	1 248	1 674	215	308	332
Southern	252	237	460	42	62	82
Islands	92	58	90	30	18	32
Yau Tsim	399	689	663	83	90	95
Mong Kok	1 107	1 878	2 060	254	205	132
Sham Shui Po	2 034	1 750	2 519	311	343	916
Kowloon City	548	722	892	73	76	44
Wong Tai Sin	708	810	1 246	101	111	175
Kwun Tong	1 267	1 286	1 183	302	230	297
Kwai Tsing	306	371	616	138	156	63
Tsuen Wan	685	640	644	230	198	77
Tuen Mun	282	412	481	430	296	353
Yuen Long	856	1 597	2 772	570	238	366
North	356	381	633	67	51	44
Tai Po	707	941	1 033	117	129	97
Sha Tin	268	228	364	158	149	55
Sai Kung	198	249	278	101	100	58
Total	12 458	15 022	18 904	3 577	2 998	3 354

Note: * The figure does not include the fixed penalty notices issued by the Department against SFE.

Manpower involved in hawker and public market management

	Number of staff	
Financial year	Hawker management	Public market management
2018-19	2 264	416
2019-20	2 253	434
2020-21	2 224	447

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)092****(Question Serial No. 0798)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expensesProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please set out the respective numbers of food licences and permits in each of the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 121)Reply:

The information sought for the period from 2018 to 2020 (as at 31 December of the year) is as follows:

Type of food licence/permit	2018	2019	2020
General Restaurant Licence	11 749	12 106	12 326
Light Refreshment Restaurant Licence	4 064	4 173	4 232
Marine Restaurant Licence	5	5	5
Bakery Licence	596	585	581
Cold Store Licence	58	64	66
Factory Canteen Licence	492	486	494
Food Factory Licence	8 464	9 053	9 601
Fresh Provision Shop Licence	2 669	2 700	2 977
Frozen Confection Factory Licence	536	542	525
Milk Factory Licence	8	8	8
Siu Mei and Lo Mei Shop Licence	387	392	412
Composite Food Shop Licence	3	3	3
Various food permits	7 952	7 865	8 559

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)093

(Question Serial No. 0799)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the number of applications for hawker licence, the number of hawker licences re-issued and the number of successful applicants who did not collect the hawker licence last year, with a breakdown by the 18 districts.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 122)

Reply:

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 were opened for application by persons who were interested in the hawking business and able to meet the requirements. Successful applicants will operate at the pitches after a licence is granted. The application period was from 30 September to 20 October 2019. As at the close of application, the Department received a total of 14 126 applications, of which 12 788 applicants were 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 the selection of vacant pitches starting from early December 2019.

As at 1 March 2021, 1 104 applicants who were eligible were invited for pitch selection. Among them, 560 have given up pitch selection after being invited to do so, 4 were confirmed to be ineligible for the Scheme, and the remaining 540 have selected the pitches. Of these 540 applicants, 105 did not collect the hawker licences after selecting the pitches and 415 were granted with the hawker licences. The information sought (as at 1 March 2021) is provided in the table below:

District		Number of applicants who have selected the pitches	Number of hawker licences given up by successful applicants	Number of hawker licences granted	Number of hawker licences yet to be collected
Eastern		22	0	22	0
Central and Western		25	3	21	1
Wan Chai		73	13	57	3
Yau Tsim Mong	Yau Tsim	133	40	102	11
	Mong Kok	124	20	79	5
Sham Shui Po		84	19	65	0
Kowloon City		26	8	18	0
Tsuen Wan		53	2	51	0
Total		540	105	415	20

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)094****(Question Serial No. 0800)**

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the number of outsourced service contracts, the total amount paid to outsourced 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 each of the past 3 years.

Please provide the number of staff engaged by outsourced service contractors, the number of cleansing workers under outsourced service contracts, the number of security guards under outsourced service contracts and the reported cases of injury at work under outsourced cleansing service contracts in each of the past 3 years.

Please provide the present number of non-skilled employees, the committed wages paid to non-skilled workers, the meal times (in hours) and the total amount of wages with a breakdown by 18 districts and 2 types of contracts (cleansing and security).

Please set out the number of outsourced service contracts that will expire in the coming 3 years.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 123)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

Year	2018-19 (as at 31.3.2019)	2019-20 (as at 31.3.2020)	2020-21 (as at 31.12.2020)
Number of outsourced service contracts	160	167	176
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers (\$ billion)	2.4664	2.9487	3.7349 ^{Note 1}

Year	2018-19 (as at 31.3.2019)	2019-20 (as at 31.3.2020)	2020-21 (as at 31.12.2020)
Number of staff engaged by outsourced service contractors ^{Note 2}	13 043	13 614	14 104
Number of cleansing workers engaged by outsourced service contractors ^{Notes 2 & 3}	9 915	10 363	10 759
Number of security guards engaged by outsourced service contractors ^{Note 2}	526	530	513
Number of reported cases of injury at work	63	23	37
Number of default notices issued as a contract enforcement action against breach of contract provisions	2 648	2 054	1 446
Amount of monthly service charge deducted (\$ million)	5.24	4.50	3.28

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2020-21.

Note 2: The number of outsourced staff is the number of functional posts specified in the contracts.

Note 3: Inclusive of toilet attendants and general workers/operatives in relation to cleansing services.

The present number of non-skilled employees and the committed wages paid to non-skilled workers in respect of cleansing and security guard service contracts with a breakdown by 18 districts are set out in Annexes 1 and 2. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep a separate breakdown on the meal times and the total amount of wages of the outsourced staff.

The number of expiring outsourced service contracts of the Department in the coming 3 years is as follows:

Year	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Number of expiring outsourced service contracts	67	58	35

**Number of non-skilled workers engaged by outsourced cleansing service contractors
and the committed wages**
(as at 31.12.2020)

District	Number of contracts	Number of non-skilled workers ^{Note 1}	Average monthly wages committed (\$)
Central and Western	7	1 042	12,191
Eastern	6	674	10,161
Islands	3	402	12,235
Kowloon City	5	691	11,002
Kwai Tsing	4	505	12,774
Kwun Tong	6	603	11,827
North	4	648	11,941
Sai Kung	7	531	12,654
Sha Tin	6	569	12,662
Sham Shui Po	5	670	10,354
Southern	4	391	11,938
Tai Po	7	483	12,635
Tsuen Wan	4	494	10,911
Tuen Mun	5	408	10,978
Wan Chai	5	541	11,260
Wong Tai Sin	5	416	12,167
Yau Tsim Mong	11	1 009	13,016
Yuen Long	7	866	12,904
Cross-District	19	751	11,016
Total	120	11 694	

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 31.12.2020)

District	Number of contracts	Number of security guards ^{Note 2}	Average monthly wages committed (\$)
Central and Western	1	26	10,044
Eastern	2	26	9,634
Kowloon City	1	12	10,044
North	2	45	9,322
Sham Shui Po	1	11	9,300
Southern	2	11	11,167
Tai Po	1	30	9,300
Tsuen Wan	1	7	9,300
Wan Chai	1	7	9,300
Yau Tsim Mong	2	23	9,879
Yuen Long	0 ^{Note 3}	4 ^{Note 3}	18,120
Cross-District	9	311	10,693
Total	23	513	

Note 2: The number of security guards is calculated based on the functional posts stipulated in the contract.

Note 3: The service contract involving the 4 security guards is a contract involving cleansing workers and security guards. It has been included in the number of contracts of Yuen Long District set out in Annex 1.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)095

(Question Serial No. 2764)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the public toilets planned to be renovated and refurbished this year, with a breakdown by the 18 districts.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 124)

Reply:

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 facelifiting works for about 240 public toilets under its management by phases in 5 years starting from 2019-20, so as to improve toilet facilities and the level of hygiene. Refurbishment or facelifiting projects for 50 public toilets are being planned to commence in 2021-22. A list of the public toilets is at **Annex**.

**List of 50 public toilets under the Enhanced
Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2021-22**

(A) 20 Refurbishment projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Oil Street Public Toilet	Eastern	At side of No. 3 Oil Street
2.	Middle Bay Public Toilet	Southern	South Bay Road near Middle Bay
3.	Cheung Chau Peak Road Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Islands	Peak Road, Cheung Chau
4.	Ngong Ping Road Public Toilet	Islands	Ngong Ping Road, Lantau
5.	Peng Chau Wing On Side Street Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Islands	Wing On Side Street, Peng Chau
6.	Round Table III Village Public Toilet	Islands	Round Table III Village, Cheung Chau
7.	Tong Fuk Village Public Toilet (Lower)	Islands	Tong Fuk Village, South Lantau
8.	Fung Cheung Road Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Fung Cheung Road (Near Fung Kwan Street Indoor Recreation Centre) Yuen Long
9.	Hang Mei Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Hang Mei Tsuen, Ping Ha Road, Ping Shan, Yuen Long
10.	Lok Ma Chau Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau Public Transport Interchange
11.	Pok Wai Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Pok Wai, Pok Wai Road, San Tin, Yuen Long
12.	Shap Pat Heung Choi Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Choi Uk Tsuen, Long Yat Road, Yuen Long
13.	Fanling Wai (South) Public Toilet	North	San Wan Road in front of Nam Hing Tong, Fanling Wai (South)
14.	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Carpark Public Toilet	North	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Carpark
15.	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Public Toilet	North	Inside Sheung Shui Heung Sitting-out Area No. 9
16.	Shung Him Tong Public Toilet	North	Entrance to Shung Him Tong Tsuen, Fanling
17.	Wo Hop Shek Tsuen Public Toilet	North	Carpark at side of Wo Hing Tsuen, Fanling
18.	Nai Chung Pier Public Toilet	Tai Po	At side of Nai Chung Pier
19.	Pak Shing Street Public Toilet-cum-Bathhouse	Tai Po	Pak Shing Street, Tai Po
20.	Tai Po Market MTR Station Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tai Po Market Station, Tai Po

(B) 30 Facelifting projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Wu Nam Street Public Toilet	Southern	Wu Nam Street near Aberdeen Bus Terminus
2.	Chung Hau Village Public Toilet, Mui Wo	Islands	Chung Hau Village, Mui Wo
3.	Tung Chung Hau Wong Temple Public Toilet	Islands	Hau Wong Temple, Tung Chung
4.	Shek Mun Kap Public Toilet	Islands	Shek Mun Kap, Tung Chung
5.	Kwong Pan Tin Village Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	Kwong Pan Tin Tsuen, Route Twisk, Tsuen Wan
6.	Pak Tin Pa San Tsuen Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	Pak Tin Pa San Tsuen, Tsuen Wan
7.	Hung Cheung Road Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Hung Cheung Road, Tuen Mun (at side of public car park)
8.	San Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	San Hing Tsuen
9.	Fung Kut Heung Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Fung Kat Heung, Fung Kat Heung Road, Kam Tin, Yuen Long
10.	Shui Mei Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Shui Mei, Kam Tin, Yuen Long
11.	Small Traders New Village Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Small Traders New Village, Siu Sheung Road, Yuen Long
12.	Tan Kwai Tsuen Road Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Tan Kwai Tsuen Road Garden, Tan Kwai Tsuen Road, Hung Shui Kiu, Yuen Long
13.	Tin Shui Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Tin Yan Road, Tin Shui Wai
14.	Tsang Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Tsang Uk Tsuen, Sheung Tsuen, Kam Sheung Road, Pat Heung, Yuen Long
15.	Kat O Island Public Toilet	North	At side of Kai To Pier, Kat O Island
16.	Luen Cheong Street Public Toilet	North	Luen Cheong Street at side of footbridge NF252, Fanling
17.	Ma Wat Tsuen Public Toilet	North	Ma Wat Tsuen, Fanling
18.	Nam Chung Public Toilet	North	At side of Nam Chung Children Playground, Sha Tau Kok
19.	Chung Shun Lane Public Toilet	Tai Po	Chung Shun Lane, Tai Po
20.	Hang Ha Po Public Toilet	Tai Po	Hang Ha Po Village, Tai Po
21.	Hoi Ha Public Toilet	Tai Po	At entrance of Hoi Ha Village
22.	Pak Sha O Public Toilet	Tai Po	Pak Sha O
23.	Sam Mun Tsai Village (North) Public Toilet	Tai Po	Sam Mun Tsai Village, Tai Po

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
24.	Sam Mun Tsai Village (South) Public Toilet	Tai Po	Sam Mun Tsai Village, Tai Po
25.	Yung Shue O Public Toilet	Tai Po	Yung Shue O Village, near Lamp post No. V4788
26.	Ham Tin Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Ham Tin
27.	Hiram's Highway (Nam Wai) Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Hiram's Highway, near Lamp post EA9898-1
28.	Tai Chung Hau Public Toilet	Sai Kung	At junction of Hiram's Highway and Tai Chung Hau Village
29.	Tsam Chuk Wan Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Near the Anti-Japanese Martyrs Monuments in Tsam Chuk Wan
30.	Tso Wo Hang Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Tso Wo Hang

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)096

(Question Serial No. 2765)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the number of Workmen II currently employed, and the number, post(s), minimum salary point(s), maximum salary point(s), average weekly working hours, meal time(s) and travelling and hardship allowances of those who take up non-technical duties under inclement weather.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 125)

Reply:

As at 1 March 2021, there were 2 764 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**FHB(FE)097****(Question Serial No. 2766)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please provide the number of licence applications processed and the number of licence applications approved by the Private Columbaria Licensing Board in the past year. Please set out the names of the private columbaria which are currently granted a licence.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 126)Reply:

As at 28 February 2021, the Private Columbaria Licensing Board (PCLB) was processing 237 applications for specified instruments submitted by 99 private columbaria. The figures are summarised as follows:

Types of applications	Approved	Approved in principle	Refused	Withdrawn	Being processed
Application for a licence	6	2	21	11	87
Application for an exemption	1	1	12	9	39
Application for a temporary suspension of liability (TSOL)	0	11	29	13	111
Total number of applications	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	237
Number of private columbaria	7	13 ^{Note 1}	26	14	99 ^{Note 2}

Note 1: "Approval-in-principle" has been given to the application for a TSOL and the application for an exemption submitted by one columbarium.

Note 2: Including 13 columbaria of which "approval-in-principle" had been given to their applications for a licence/an exemption/a TSOL.

The private columbaria which have been granted the licence include Filial Park; Pu Tong Ta, Chi Lin Nunnery; Shan Yuan; Shatin Po Fook Hill (excluding Miu King Tong); Tung Wah Coffin Home; and Lung Shan Temple. The PCLB has also given “approval-in-principle” to the licence applications submitted by Fung Ying Seen Koon and by Po Tung Tower, Lo Hon Monastery.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)098

(Question Serial No. 2767)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the number of stalls, the occupancy rate, vacancy rate and expenditure on management involved in all public markets in the past 3 years.

Please set out the occupancy rate, the number of stalls that were frozen, and the frozen period of stalls in all the cooked food centres in the markets under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 128)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annexes I and II respectively.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not maintain a breakdown of the expenditure on market management for individual public market. The overall expenditure on the management of public markets in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 was \$838.8 million, \$849.1 million and \$966.3 million (revised estimate) respectively.

Information on the frozen period of stalls in the cooked food centres in public markets is not available.

Number of stalls, occupancy rate and vacancy rate in markets

Serial number	Name of market	Number of stalls (as at 31 December)			Occupancy rate ^a of stalls (as at 31 December)			Vacancy rate ^b of stalls (as at 31 December)		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
1	Aberdeen Market	335	335	335	96%	96%	95%	4%	4%	5%
2	Aldrich Bay Market	71	71	71	92%	87%	87%	8%	13%	13%
3	Ap Lei Chau Market	63	63	63	97%	94%	94%	3%	6%	6%
4	Bowrington Road Market	296	296	296	93%	92%	91%	7%	8%	9%
5	Causeway Bay Market	51	51	51	96%	92%	92%	4%	8%	8%
6	Centre Street Market	46	46	46	76%	74%	74%	24%	26%	26%
7	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	32	32	87.5%	81%	78%	12.5%	19%	22%
8	Chai Wan Market	174	174	174	92%	92%	91%	8%	8%	9%
9	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
10	Cheung Chau Market	240	243	243	98%	96%	95%	2%	4%	5%
11	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	12	12	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
12	Choi Hung Road Market	116	116	116	66%	59%	59%	34%	41%	41%
13	Electric Road Market	99	99	99	81%	81%	77%	19%	19%	23%
14	Fa Yuen Street Market	180	180	180	92%	89%	88%	8%	11%	12%
15	FEHD Skylight Market ^c	N.A.	N.A.	36	N.A.	N.A.	100%	N.A.	N.A.	0%
16	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	24	24	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
17	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	15	15	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
18	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	86	86	86	69%	66%	65%	31%	34%	35%
19	Heung Che Street Market	225	225	225	95%	92%	89%	5%	8%	11%
20	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	91%	91%	73%	9%	9%	27%
21	Hung Hom Market	224	224	224	98%	97%	95%	2%	3%	5%

Serial number	Name of market	Number of stalls (as at 31 December)			Occupancy rate ^a of stalls (as at 31 December)			Vacancy rate ^b of stalls (as at 31 December)		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
22	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	172	172	172	72%	65%	64%	28%	35%	36%
23	Java Road Market	194	194	194	94%	90%	90%	6%	10%	10%
24	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	15	15	15	60%	60%	60%	40%	40%	40%
25	Kam Tin Market	41	41	41	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
26	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
27	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
28	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
29	Kowloon City Market	581	581	581	95%	90%	88%	5%	10%	12%
30	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	100%	100%	91%	0%	0%	9%
31	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	91%	91%	91%	9%	9%	9%
32	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	98	98	98	100%	98%	97%	0%	2%	3%
33	Kwun Chung Market	218	218	218	85%	73%	64%	15%	27%	36%
34	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	29	29	97%	97%	93%	3%	3%	7%
35	Lai Wan Market	42	42	42	98%	95%	95%	2%	5%	5%
36	Lam Tei Market	7	7	7	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
37	Lau Fau Shan Market	25	25	25	88%	72%	72%	12%	28%	28%
38	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	20	20	95%	95%	95%	5%	5%	5%
39	Lockhart Road Market	166	166	166	74%	74%	74%	26%	26%	26%
40	Luen Wo Hui Market	338	338	338	99%	99%	98%	1%	1%	2%

Serial number	Name of market	Number of stalls (as at 31 December)			Occupancy rate ^a of stalls (as at 31 December)			Vacancy rate ^b of stalls (as at 31 December)		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
41	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
42	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
43	Mui Wo Market	35	35	35	91%	91%	91%	9%	9%	9%
44	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	28	28	82%	82%	82%	18%	18%	18%
45	Ngau Chi Wan Market	402	402	402	87%	84%	83%	13%	16%	17%
46	Ngau Tau Kok Market	466	466	466	86%	85%	84%	14%	15%	16%
47	North Kwai Chung Market	222	222	222	91%	87%	86%	9%	13%	14%
48	North Point Market	42	42	42	83%	83%	81%	17%	17%	19%
49	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	13	13	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
50	Pei Ho Street Market	234	234	234	99%	97%	97%	1%	3%	3%
51	Peng Chau Market	18	18	18	100%	94%	89%	0%	6%	11%
52	Plover Cove Road Market	244	244	244	82%	78%	77%	18%	22%	23%
53	Po On Road Market	449	449	449	89%	87%	84%	11%	13%	16%
54	Quarry Bay Market	113	113	113	69%	68%	66%	31%	32%	34%
55	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
56	Sai Kung Market	209	209	209	91%	89%	86%	9%	11%	14%
57	Sai Wan Ho Market	274	274	274	98%	96%	95%	2%	4%	5%
58	Sai Ying Pun Market	102	93	93	87%	95%	91%	13%	5%	9%
59	San Hui Market	324	324	324	98%	96%	94%	2%	4%	6%
60	Sha Tau Kok Market	66	66	66	100%	100%	97%	0%	0%	3%
61	Sha Tin Market	172	172	172	99%	97%	97%	1%	3%	3%
62	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	29	29	29	90%	86%	86%	10%	14%	14%
63	Shek Tong Tsui Market	151	151	151	91%	88%	87%	9%	12%	13%

Serial number	Name of market	Number of stalls (as at 31 December)			Occupancy rate ^a of stalls (as at 31 December)			Vacancy rate ^b of stalls (as at 31 December)		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
64	Shek Wu Hui Market	393	393	393	100%	99%	98%	0%	1%	2%
65	Sheung Fung Street Market	71	71	71	99%	97%	97%	1%	3%	3%
66	Sheung Wan Market	223	223	223	98%	96%	95%	2%	4%	5%
67	Shui Wo Street Market	302	302	302	98%	97%	97%	2%	3%	3%
68	Smithfield Market	216	216	216	99%	99%	97%	1%	1%	3%
69	Stanley Waterfront Mart	20	20	20	85%	65%	60%	15%	35%	40%
70	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	82%	82%	82%	18%	18%	18%
71	Tai Kiu Market	379	379	379	97%	95%	93%	3%	5%	7%
72	Tai Kok Tsui Market	135	135	135	97%	97%	96%	3%	3%	4%
73	Tai O Market	26	26	26	88%	85%	81%	12%	15%	19%
74	Tai Po Hui Market	313	313	313	100%	99%	99%	0%	1%	1%
75	Tai Shing Street Market	442	441	441	93%	92%	92%	7%	8%	8%
76	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
77	Tai Wai Market	195	186	184	85%	91%	87.5%	15%	9%	12.5%
78	Tang Lung Chau Market	34	34	34	94%	91%	91%	6%	9%	9%
79	Tin Wan Market	180	180	180	96%	95%	92%	4%	5%	8%
80	To Kwa Wan Market	267	267	267	97%	94%	93%	3%	6%	7%
81	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
82	Tsing Yi Market	76	76	76	99%	93%	93%	1%	7%	7%
83	Tsuen Wan Market	381	381	381	89%	88%	87%	11%	12%	13%
84	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	56	56	93%	93%	91%	7%	7%	9%
85	Tui Min Hoi Market ^d	34	34	34	56%	56%	44%	44%	44%	56%
86	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	359	349	244	32%	33%	45%	68%	67%	55%
87	Tung Yick Market	446	446	446	41%	40%	40%	59%	60%	60%

Serial number	Name of market	Number of stalls (as at 31 December)			Occupancy rate ^a of stalls (as at 31 December)			Vacancy rate ^b of stalls (as at 31 December)		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
88	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	8	8	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
89	Wan Chai Market	50	50	50	100%	98%	96%	0%	2%	4%
90	Wing Fong Street Market	114	114	114	85%	76%	71%	15%	24%	29%
91	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	100%	100%	89%	0%	0%	11%
92	Wong Nai Chung Market	69	69	69	96%	96%	93%	4%	4%	7%
93	Yan Oi Market	108	108	108	94%	94%	94%	6%	6%	6%
94	Yau Ma Tei Market	144	144	144	90%	89%	87%	10%	11%	13%
95	Yee On Street Market	65	65	65	92%	63%	57%	8%	37%	43%
96	Yeung Uk Road Market	318	318	318	96%	95%	93%	4%	5%	7%
97	Yue Kwong Road Market	197	197	197	87%	84%	83%	13%	16%	17%
98	Yue Wan Market	380	380	380	94%	94%	93%	6%	6%	7%

- ^a Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls out of the total number of stalls in a market. The degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.
- ^b Vacancy rate is the percentage of unleased stalls out of the total number of stalls in a market.
- ^c FEHD Skylight Market (in Tin Shui Wai, Yuen Long) was commissioned in December 2020.
- ^d Tui Min Hoi Market was closed in January 2021.

Occupancy rate of stalls and number of stalls frozen in cooked food centres

Serial number	Name of market with cooked food centre	Occupancy rate ^a of stalls (as at 31 December)			Number of stalls frozen (as at 31 December)		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
1	Aberdeen Market	90%	90%	80%	1	1	2
2	Aldrich Bay Market	75%	50%	50%	0	0	0
3	Ap Lei Chau Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
4	Bowrington Road Market	92%	92%	92%	1	1	1
5	Centre Street Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
6	Chai Wan Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
7	Choi Hung Road Market	58%	53%	53%	8	9	9
8	Electric Road Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
9	Fa Yuen Street Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
10	Heung Che Street Market	100%	95%	95%	0	2	2
11	Hung Hom Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
12	Java Road Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
13	Kam Tin Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
14	Kowloon City Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
15	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	100%	100%	92%	0	0	0
16	Kwun Chung Market	84%	84%	79%	3	3	4
17	Lockhart Road Market	89%	89%	89%	2	2	2
18	Luen Wo Hui Market	91%	91%	91%	0	0	0
19	Ngau Chi Wan Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
20	Ngau Tau Kok Market	95%	95%	95%	1	1	1
21	Pei Ho Street Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
22	Po On Road Market	89%	89%	89%	2	2	2
23	Quarry Bay Market	80%	80%	80%	0	0	0
24	Sai Wan Ho Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
25	Sha Tau Kok Market	100%	100%	88%	0	0	0
26	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	88%	88%	88%	1	1	1
27	Shek Tong Tsui Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
28	Shek Wu Hui Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
29	Sheung Wan Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
30	Shui Wo Street Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
31	Smithfield Market	92%	92%	92%	0	0	0
32	Tai Kok Tsui Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
33	Tai Po Hui Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0

Serial number	Name of market with cooked food centre	Occupancy rate ^a of stalls (as at 31 December)			Number of stalls frozen (as at 31 December)		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
34	Tai Shing Street Market	91%	82%	82%	1	2	2
35	Tin Wan Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
36	To Kwa Wan Market	88%	88%	88%	1	1	1
37	Wong Nai Chung Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0
38	Yue Kwong Road Market	94%	88%	88%	0	0	0
39	Yue Wan Market	100%	100%	100%	0	0	0

^a Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls out of the total number of stalls in a market. The degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)099****(Question Serial No. 2768)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expensesProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please provide the number of new niches available for interment of ashes of the deceased in the columbaria under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) last year, the number of applications currently on the waiting list for niches managed by the Department, the median 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 the number of niches vacated for re-allocation last year after the relaxation of the cap on the ash interment capacity of niches.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 129)Reply:

The number of new public niches available for allocation in 2020 is as follows:

Location	Number of niches
Tsang Tsui Columbarium (second phase), Tuen Mun	22 900
Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phase VI, Fanling	22 050
Cheung Chau Columbarium	580

At present, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department allocates new extendable niches to eligible applicants by open drawing of lots and computer random balloting (rather than on a first-come, first-served basis). Regarding the allocation of new public niches each year, new niches at Tsang Tsui Columbarium and Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phase VI were made available for public application in May 2020, and a total of 24 584 eligible applications were received. Niches were allocated to all applicants by drawing of lots and computer balloting in October. Furthermore, the Department launched a one-year pilot scheme to allocate niches on a monthly basis in December 2020. Under the scheme, the Department would

accept applications from the public for new niches at Tsang Tsui Columbarium all the year round. About 1 700 niches, together with the unallocated ones from the previous month, would be allocated each month. In the past three months (i.e. December 2020, January and February 2021), the Department received a total of 6 708 eligible applications, all of which were successful. It took about 50 days the longest from the time an applicant submitted his application to the time he got notified of the niche allocation. In the next few years, with new columbarium projects being completed one after another, the number of new niches available for public application is estimated to be about 30 000 to over 40 000 each year.

The Department does not keep information on the median waiting time for interment of ashes in public niches after cremation of the remains.

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. In 2020, 28 niches were returned to the Department.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)100

(Question Serial No. 2770)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the outsourced services for street cleansing, pest control, market and cooked food market cleansing, waste collection, recyclables collection and animal carcass collection in the past 3 years, please set out:

1. the number of contracts;
2. the total sum of payment to contractors;
3. the total number of staff employed by the contractors, the number of supervisors and the number of workers; and
4. the distribution of hourly wages and monthly wages of staff employed by the contractors.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 131)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at the Annex.

**Outsourced Service Contracts
of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD)**

(a) Street cleansing

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at 31.12.2020)
Number of outsourced street cleansing contracts	34	34	38
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers (\$ billion)	1.2630	1.6530	2.2843 ^{Note 1}
Number of staff engaged by outsourced service providers ^{Note 2}			
Total	7 839	8 948	9 439
Supervisor	726	877	978
Workman	7 113	8 071	8 461
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff ^{Note 3}			
\$20,001-\$30,000	-	-	14
\$16,001-\$20,000	-	-	-
\$13,001-\$16,000	-	281	2 208
\$10,001-\$13,000	842	4 348	5 385
\$9,001-\$10,000	2 242	3 387	833
\$9,000 or below	4 168	-	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2020-21.

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. FEHD does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

(b) Pest control

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at 31.12.2020)
Number of outsourced pest control contracts	19	19	23
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers (\$ million)	320.6	346.3	414.3 ^{Note 1}
Number of staff engaged by outsourced service providers ^{Note 2}			
Total	1 788	1 862	1 910
Supervisor	303	310	318
Workman	1 485	1 552	1 592
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff ^{Note 3}			
\$20,001-\$30,000	-	-	-
\$16,001-\$20,000	-	-	-
\$13,001-\$16,000	-	-	81
\$10,001-\$13,000	326	935	1 190
\$9,001-\$10,000	883	617	321
\$9,000 or below	416	-	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2020-21.

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. FEHD does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

(c) Market cleansing (including market cleansing and market management services)

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at 31.12.2020)
Number of outsourced market cleansing contracts	21	21	22
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers (\$ million)	190.9	208.1	282.8 ^{Note 1}
Number of staff engaged by outsourced service providers ^{Note 2}			
Total	1 265	1 271	1 325
Supervisor	197	193	199
Workman	1 068	1 078	1 126
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff ^{Note 3}			
\$20,001-\$30,000	-	-	-
\$16,001-\$20,000	-	-	8
\$13,001-\$16,000	-	-	74
\$10,001-\$13,000	-	389	1 044
\$9,001-\$10,000	522	642	-
\$9,000 or below	553	-	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2020-21.

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. FEHD does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

(d) Waste collection

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at 31.12.2020)
Number of outsourced waste collection contracts	16	16	17
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers (\$ million)	207.6	212.5	215.0 ^{Note 1}
Number of staff engaged by outsourced service providers ^{Note 2}			
Total	322	320	323
Supervisor	210	208	211
Workman	112	112	112
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff ^{Note 3}			
\$20,001-\$30,000	10	10	-
\$16,001-\$20,000	1	1	-
\$13,001-\$16,000	130	130	16
\$10,001-\$13,000	44	40	11
\$9,001-\$10,000	60	94	85
\$9,000 or below	41	-	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2020-21.

Note 2: The number of staff engaged by the outsourced service providers is the number of functional posts specified in the contracts.

Note 3: For 2020-21, only the monthly salary range of non-skilled workers is available. FEHD does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

(e) Recyclables collection

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 ^{Note 4} (as at 31.12.2020)
Number of outsourced recyclables collection contracts	3	3	-
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers (\$ million)	18.0	21.0	12.0 ^{Note 1}
Number of staff engaged by outsourced service providers ^{Note 2}			
Total	38	38	-
Supervisor	20	20	-
Workman	18	18	-
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff ^{Note 3}			
\$20,001-\$30,000	-	-	-
\$16,001-\$20,000	-	-	-
\$13,001-\$16,000	4	4	-
\$10,001-\$13,000	14	14	-
\$9,001-\$10,000	-	-	-
\$9,000 or below	-	-	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2020-21.

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. FEHD does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

Note 4: After the expiry of the relevant contracts on 1 October 2020, the Environmental Protection Department has taken up the management of these contracts.

(f) Animal carcass collection

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at 31.12.2020)
Number of outsourced animal carcass collection contracts	1	1	1
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers (\$ million)	4.8	4.8	4.8 ^{Note 1}
Number of staff engaged by outsourced service providers ^{Note 2}			
Total	12	12	12
Supervisor	7	7	7
Workman	5	5	5
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff ^{Note 3}			
\$20,001-\$30,000	-	-	-
\$16,001-\$20,000	-	-	-
\$13,001-\$16,000	-	-	-
\$10,001-\$13,000	5	5	5
\$9,001-\$10,000	-	-	-
\$9,000 or below	-	-	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2020-21.

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. FEHD does not keep information on the hourly salary range of the respective workers.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)101

(Question Serial No. 3259)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. How many applications for the Catering Business Subsidy Scheme (the Scheme) were received and approved in each of the four rounds of the Anti-epidemic Fund (the Fund) since 2020? What is the amount involved for each phase of the Scheme?
2. For successful applications for the subsidy, what is the average waiting time for issue of the first tranche of subsidy after an application is approved?
3. How many applications are still being processed?
4. How many applications are approved with subsidies remain to be granted? What is/are the reason(s) for that?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

The business of catering premises is hard hit by the COVID-19 epidemic. In view of this, the Government has launched 4 rounds of subsidy schemes for the catering sector under the Anti-epidemic Fund (AEF) since February 2020 to provide instant financial relief for the trade. As at 31 March 2021, the total amount of subsidies disbursed was about \$12.5 billion. The financial impact of the measures will be absorbed by the AEF, which does not form part of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates on the General Revenue Account.

The Food Licence Holders Subsidy Scheme launched by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department under the first round of the AEF was completed with 29 097 applications received. All applications were processed and 28 551 applications were approved. The subsidies for all approved cases, amounting to around \$3.7 billion, were disbursed.

The Catering Business (Social Distancing) Subsidy Scheme rolled out under the second round of the AEF was to disburse subsidies, in two tranches, to catering premises providing dine-in services. The scheme mainly seeks to assist the applicants in paying the salaries of their staff from May to July 2020 and from August to October 2020. Upon receiving the first tranche of the subsidy, the applicant had to submit, within the specified time frame, documents certifying that there was no staff redundancy from May to July 2020 and that not

less than 80% of the subsidies released was used to pay salaries of staff in order to receive the second tranche of subsidy. A total of 20 146 applications were received and 19 161 applications were approved. The first tranche of subsidy, involving around \$2.3 billion, was fully disbursed. As for the second tranche of subsidy, 639 cases were pending processing as at 31 March 2021. The approved applications were mostly granted with subsidies, which involved around \$2.1 billion.

Regarding the Catering Business Subsidy Scheme (CBSS) under the third round of the AEF, 16 379 applications were received as at 31 March 2021, with 15 998 applications approved and 12 under processing. The approved applications were mostly granted with subsidies, which involved around \$1.4 billion.

As for the CBSS (subsidies disbursed in two tranches) and the Food Courts Subsidy Scheme under the fourth round of the AEF, the application periods ended on 28 January 2021 and 31 March 2021 respectively. As at 31 March 2021, a total of 34 508 applications were received, of which 32 115 applications have been approved and 1 501 applications are still being processed. The approved applications were mostly granted with subsidies, which involved around \$3.0 billion.

For most of the successful cases under the 4 rounds of the AEF, the average time from granting of approval to the issue of subsidy is around 4 to 7 working days.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)102****(Question Serial No. 1049)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

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 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively. Please also advise the expenditure and manpower involved in each of the past 3 years (i.e. 2018, 2019 and 2020) and the estimated expenditure and manpower required for 2021?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 1)Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows :

		2018	2019	2020
(a)	Number of full restaurant licences issued	1 651	1 482	1 577
	Number of applications withdrawn	184	141	130
	Average processing time for issuing a full restaurant licence (working days)	170	170	167
(b)	Number of provisional restaurant licences issued	1 551	1 581	1 206
	Number of applications withdrawn	180	135	129
	Average processing time for issuing a provisional restaurant licence (working days)	50	48	54
(c)	Number of applications for transfer of restaurant licences	1 142	1 021	729
	Number of applications withdrawn	1	0	4
	Average time for processing an application for transfer of restaurant licence (working days)	44	46	39

In 2018, 2019 and 2020, there were respectively 114, 123 and 126 staff members responsible for handling applications for food business and other trade licences in the 3 licensing offices of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. 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 -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)103****(Question Serial No. 1066)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

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 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

	2018		2019		2020	
Total number of liquor licence applications received (with number of applications for new licences in brackets)	6 865 (1 131)		7 565 (1 066)		6 783 (942)	
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
	34 days ¹	32 days	42 days ¹	41 days	43 days ¹	39 days
Number of appeals lodged with Municipal Services Appeals Board (MSAB)	11		15		7	
Average time for listing an appeal for hearing ²	82 days		76 days		68 days	
Success rate of appeal (i.e. appeals allowed by MSAB) ³	73%		57%		33%	

- 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 2018, 2019 and 2020 with a breakdown by reasons are provided as follows:

Reasons for revocation of liquor licences	Number of liquor licences revoked		
	2018	2019	2020
Cessation of business	12	14	14
Breach of licensing condition	1	2	0
Contravention of legislation	4	1	0
Total	17	17	14

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)104

(Question Serial No. 1070)

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 Diane WONG)

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 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)

Reply:

The information sought is set out at Annex.

Serial number	Name of cooked food market	Number of stalls			Number of vacant stalls (of which frozen ^a) as at 31 December			Vacancy rate ^b as at 31 December		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
1	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	32	32	4(4)	6(6)	7(7)	12.5%	19%	22%
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	1(0)	1(0)	3(0)	9%	9%	27%
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	1(0)	0%	0%	9%
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)	2(2)	3%	3%	7%
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%

Serial number	Name of cooked food market	Number of stalls			Number of vacant stalls (of which frozen ^a) as at 31 December			Vacancy rate ^b as at 31 December		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
16	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	28	28	5(5)	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	3(3)	3(3)	3(3)	18%	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)	5(5)	7%	7%	9%
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	2(0)	0%	0%	11%

^a Including the number of vacant stalls that are frozen for reasons such as forthcoming improvement works.

^b Vacancy rate is the percentage of unleased stalls out of the total number of stalls in a market. The degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)105****(Question Serial No. 1075)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

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 2018 to 2020)? 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.: 30)Reply:

In 2018, 2019 and 2020, 59%, 60% and 68% of the applicants for food business licences or their authorised persons made use of the online Licence Application Tracking Facility respectively. In 2018, 2019 and 2020, 65%, 55% and 60% of the applicants for liquor licences (including club liquor licences) or their authorised persons used the Liquor Licence Processing System respectively.

Since 1 January 2013, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has accepted online submission of applications for food business licences and permits. The usage rate of the service in the past 3 years is listed below:

	2018	2019	2020
Number of applications for food business licences and permits	8 762	7 456	7 067
Number of online applications	1 039	1 111	1 253
Percentage of applications submitted online	12%	15%	18%

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, though the seminars have been suspended in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, for effective

prevention of COVID 19 transmission. The Department does not have a separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure for the promotion work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)106

(Question Serial No. 2978)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise this Committee of 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 2018 to 2020). Besides, please provide 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:

The import of live poultry from the Mainland into Hong Kong has ceased since mid-February 2017.

There were 16, 17 and 16 Mainland processing plants eligible for supplying chilled chicken to Hong Kong in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department inspected 17, 16 and 7* Mainland chilled chicken processing plants in the respective years. There were 92, 87 and 87 Mainland processing plants eligible for supplying frozen chicken to Hong Kong in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively. The CFS inspected 1, 4 and 5* Mainland frozen chicken processing plants in the respective years. Moreover, the CFS inspected 16, 18 and 18* Mainland live poultry farms supplying chilled/frozen poultry to Hong Kong in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively.

* Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the visits in 2020 were conducted by means of questionnaire surveys after discussions with the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China.

According to the information of the Census and Statistics Department, the quantities of chilled and frozen chicken imported from the Mainland into Hong Kong in 2018, 2019 and 2020 are as follows:

	Chilled chicken			Frozen chicken		
	Quantity (kg)	%	Average import price (\$/kg)	Quantity (kg)	%	Average import price (\$/kg)
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
2020	69 884 000	56.84	21.2	53 066 000	43.16	16.5

Inspections of live poultry farms outside Hong Kong are undertaken by an inspection unit of the CFS comprising 11 officers. The actual expenditure was \$6.30 million in 2018-19 and \$6.60 million in 2019-20. The revised estimate of expenditure for 2020-21 was \$6.70 million. Inspections of food processing plants outside Hong Kong are undertaken by the Food Import and Export Section of the CFS. The actual expenditure was \$2.10 million in 2018-19 and \$2.16 million in 2019-20. The revised estimate of expenditure for 2020-21 was \$2.18 million.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep a separate breakdown on the resources involved in conducting inspections of Mainland live poultry farms, chilled chicken and frozen chicken processing plants.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)107

(Question Serial No. 2979)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise this Committee of 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. 2018, 2019 and 2020).

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)

Reply:

There were 6, 7 and 7 Mainland processing plants approved for supplying chilled pork to Hong Kong in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively.

According to the figures provided by the Census and Statistics Department, about 5 421 tonnes, 7 411 tonnes and 2 829 tonnes of Mainland chilled pork were imported into Hong Kong in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively. The average import price of Mainland chilled pork was \$16.6, \$20.8 and \$19.7 per catty in the respective years.

In 2018 and 2019, the Centre for Food Safety of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department inspected 3 and 5 Mainland chilled pork processing plants respectively. In 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, questionnaire surveys were conducted on 3 processing plants in lieu of inspections.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)108

(Question Serial No. 0809)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22 under the Programme that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will “continue to 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 of:

- a. the Government expenditure on enhancing pest control services in the past 3 years; and
- b. the projects implemented by the Government on the application of technologies to enhance pest control services in the past 3 years and the expenditure involved in each project.

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

Reply:

- a. The expenditure incurred by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department on pest control services in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 was \$630 million, \$663 million and \$726 million (revised estimate) respectively.
- b. From 2018 to 2020, the projects implemented by the Department with regard to the application of technologies to pest control services and the expenditure involved in each project are as follows :

Pest control method/technology	Effectiveness	Expenditure
Rodent control		
Using a non-poisonous bait having flavours of food for the Rodent Infestation Rate surveys	The bait was tested in public rear lanes in 10 districts between February and September 2018. The results were unsatisfactory.	Around \$60,000
Rodent trapping device driven by pressurised gas	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	The system was tested in public markets in Kowloon City District and rear lanes in Mong Kok District between April and July 2019. The results have shown that the system with artificial intelligence 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
Using a poisonous bait having flavours of food for rodent disinfestation	The bait was tested in the laboratory and public rear lanes in 7 districts respectively for its attractiveness to rodents and poisoning efficacy between October 2019 and July 2020. The results have shown that the poisonous bait is effective in attracting the consumption of rodents and poisoning them. The Department will introduce the use of the bait in its regular anti-rodent work.	Around \$1,000
New design snap trap	The snap trap was tested in 5 districts and 6 markets respectively between January and June 2020. The results have shown that the new design snap trap is effective in catching rodents. The Department will introduce the use of the snap trap in its regular anti-rodent work.	Around \$3,000
Using a transparent plastic rodent trapping device to catch rodents	The rodent trapping device was tested in public places in 3 districts between September 2020 and February 2021. The results have shown that the rodent trapping device is not as effective as traditional cage traps in catching rodents.	Around \$4,000

Rodent control		
Placing poisonous baits in a T-shaped bait box	The bait box was tested in Kwun Tong District between October and November 2020. The results have shown that the T-shaped bait box is more effective in attracting rodents to enter and consume the baits than ordinary rectangular bait boxes. The Department will introduce the use of the T-shaped bait box in its regular anti-rodent work.	Around \$1,000
Thermal imaging camera surveillance system	The Department conducted field trials on thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence analytical function in rear lanes in Kowloon City District and 9 target areas of the first round of anti-rodent operation in designated target areas in 2020. Both tests have shown that the new technology is quite effective in identifying places where rodents frequently visit and the time and pattern of rodent activities, as well as assessing and quantifying anti-rodent work. The Department installed thermal imaging cameras at the selected locations of all target areas during the second round of anti-rodent operation in designated target areas in November 2020. The Department plans for a wider use of thermal imaging cameras at suitable locations in all districts across the territory in the future (including during the anti-rodent operations in designated target areas) with a view to increasing the effectiveness of the operations, and will recommend the technology to other departments.	Around \$3.96 million
Mosquito control		
New mosquito trapping device	The new mosquito trapping device was tested in Tuen Mun and Tsim Sha Tsui between May and September 2019. The results have shown that the new mosquito trapping device is effective in minimising the nuisance caused by Aedes mosquitoes. The Department has introduced the use of the device in its regular anti-mosquito work and recommended the technology to other departments.	Around \$1.31 million

Mosquito control		
Using gravidtraps to monitor Aedes albopictus	The gravidtrap was tested in the laboratory and 10 districts between May 2019 and February 2020. The results have shown that the gravidtrap is effective in attracting and collecting adult Aedes albopictus mosquitoes, reducing the time required for surveillance, as well as providing a quantitative density index. Starting from April 2020, the gravidtrap has completely replaced the ovitrap previously used for monitoring Aedes albopictus.	Around \$840,000
Large ultra-low volume (ULV) fogger	The large ULV fogger was tested in Yuen Long District between April and July 2020. The results have shown that the large ULV fogger is suitable for conducting ULV space treatment over a large area, and its spray range is longer than the existing back-carried sprayer. The fogger is more effective in killing adult mosquitoes in scrubby areas by conducting fogging treatment. The Department has introduced the use of large ULV foggers in all districts.	Around \$1.4 million

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)109

(Question Serial No. 0810)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22 under this Programme, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will “implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme to improve the design and facilities of existing public toilets by phases”. In this regard, please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the locations, geographical distribution and project estimate of the public toilets refurbished from 2019 to 2020; and
- (b) whether any additional expenditure and manpower have been incurred under the Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in the light of the epidemic.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 75)

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 (FEHD) would roll out the refurbishment or facelifiting works for about 240 public toilets under its management by phases in 5 years starting from 2019-20, so as to improve toilet facilities and the level of hygiene. FEHD has been working closely with the Architectural Services Department. In the first year of the programme (2019-20), refurbishment or facelifiting projects for 42 public toilets, with a project estimate of about \$168 million, were rolled out. The facelifiting or refurbishment works for 22 public toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. Refurbishment or facelifiting projects for 49 public toilets at a project estimate of about \$149 million commenced in the second year (2020-21). The facelifiting works for 20 public toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. A list of the above 42 refurbished or facelifited public toilets with their project estimates is provided at Annex.

- (b) The works under the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme are underway as planned, with a view to improving the facilities and level of hygiene of public toilets as soon as possible. According to current estimates, no additional expenditure or manpower has been incurred in the light of the epidemic.

Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme

List of public toilets refurbished or facelifted in 2019-20 and 2020-21

(A) 22 public toilets refurbished or facelifted in 2019-20

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)
1.	Fong Ma Po Public Toilet	Tai Po	5.928
2.	Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall Public Toilet	Central & Western	1.800
3.	Wing Lok Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	1.700
4.	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	Islands	2.892
5.	Tat Tung Road Public Toilet	Islands	2.870
6.	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	2.000
7.	Jordan Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	2.600
8.	Market Street Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yau Tsim	2.000
9.	Mong Kok Road Public Toilet	Mong Kok	4.000
10.	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Mong Kok	4.800
11.	Sai Yee Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	3.800
12.	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Sham Shui Po	4.500
13.	Pei Ho Street Market G/F & 1/F Toilet	Sham Shui Po	6.300
14.	Yen Chow Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	2.530
15.	Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Kwun Tong	3.000
16.	Shung Yan Street Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	0.800
17.	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	3.320
18.	Kwai Hing Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	2.860
19.	Chai Wan Kok Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	2.088
20.	Chuen Lung Village Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	1.703
21.	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	2.200
22.	Shing Mun Road (Shing Mun Valley) Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	1.760

(B) 20 public toilets refurbished or facelifted in 2020-21

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)
1.	Kennedy Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	0.880
2.	Hospital Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	0.990
3.	Quarry Bay Market Public Toilet	Eastern	2.280
4.	Pak Fuk Road Public Toilet	Eastern	3.900
5.	Yip Fat Street Public Toilet	Southern	1.100
6.	Sok Kwu Wan Public Toilet	Islands	2.430
7.	Lo Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Islands	1.460
8.	Shui Hau Public Toilet	Islands	1.460
9.	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	1.750
10.	Kei Yip Lane Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	3.200
11.	Tai Lin Pai Road Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	3.200
12.	Ta Chuen Ping Street Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	4.240
13.	Tin Sum San Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	1.530
14.	San Wai Public Toilet	Yuen Long	1.530
15.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (I)	Yuen Long	1.110
16.	Wo Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	North	2.240
17.	Shui Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	1.050
18.	Pak Kong Tsuen Public Toilet	Sai Kung	1.790
19.	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village Public Toilet	Sai Kung	1.670
20.	Tai Mong Tsai Public Toilet	Sai Kung	1.840

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)110

(Question Serial No. 0811)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22 under this Programme, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will “continue to plan new public market facilities at suitable locations and take forward the proposed projects”. Please advise this Committee of:

- 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.: 76)

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 2021-22, there are 49 posts in the team and the estimated expenditure is about \$44 million.
- b. The Government is taking forward 6 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. Besides, FEHD Skylight Market (formerly known as Tin Shui Wai Temporary Market) located at Tin Sau Road, Tin Shui Wai was commissioned in December 2020.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)111

(Question Serial No. 0812)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22 under this Programme, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will “continue to enforce against shop front extensions”. Please advise this Committee of:

- a. the expenditure and manpower to be involved in enforcement actions against shop front extensions in the coming year; and
- b. the numbers of verbal warnings, fixed penalty notices and enforcement actions against shop front extensions in each of the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 77)

Reply:

- a. The estimated establishment for hawker control in 2021-22 is 2 284 posts at an expenditure estimates of \$1.208 billion. Taking enforcement actions against shop front extensions (SFE) is part of the normal duties of hawker control staff of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. Further breakdown of the expenditure on enforcement actions in this aspect is not available.
- b. The number of fixed penalty notices issued and the number of enforcement actions taken against SFE by the Department in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by year, are set out at Annex. The Department does not keep separate statistics on the number of verbal warnings issued.

**Enforcement actions taken by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
against shop front extensions**

	2018	2019	2020
Number of fixed penalty notices issued	7 586	7 626	10 734
Number of prosecutions instituted	3 577	2 998	3 354

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)112

(Question Serial No. 0813)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22 under the Programme that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will “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:

Between March 2020 and February 2021, 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.: 78)

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 between March 2020 and February 2021 is provided at Annex. The total expenditure was about \$24 million.

Application of technologies in enhancing environmental hygiene

- (a) **Internet Protocol (IP) Cameras**
IP cameras have been installed at about 240 illegal refuse deposit spots across the territory, and the number will progressively expand to about 300 by mid-2021.
- (b) **360 Degrees Cameras**
360 degrees cameras continue to be installed at 15 marine refuse priority sites.
- (c) **Solar-powered Aluminium Refuse Collection Points (RCPs)**
Solar-powered aluminium RCPs have been put on trial at 38 rural sites since September 2019. The effectiveness is being assessed.
- (d) **Atomised Ozonated Water Technology**
The atomised ozonated water technology has been put on trial at 6 RCPs to abate odour since April 2020. The effectiveness is being assessed.
- (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 satisfactory, further tests on their effectiveness at other suitable locations are being considered.
- (f) **Solar-powered Compacting Refuse Bins (CRBs)**
A new round of tests on 24 improved solar-powered CRBs has been conducted since September 2020. The effectiveness is being assessed.
- (g) **Street Leaf Vacuum Cleaners**
Street leaf vacuum cleaners have been put on trial in Sai Kung District. After preliminary assessment, the feasibility of improving the cleaners is being explored. Further tests at other suitable locations in the New Territories are planned.
- (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, another trial has been conducted at 3 RCPs in rural areas of Yuen Long District since July 2020. Their wider use at other suitable rural sites is planned.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)113

(Question Serial No. 0816)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) Regarding the improvement measures for non-skilled employees engaged by government service contractors implemented with effect from 1 April 2019, please set out the actual committed hourly wages of all non-skilled employees engaged in cleansing services as offered in tenders before and after the implementation of the measures. Please provide specific figures or actual examples for illustration.
- (b) Did the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department increase or enhance any facilities of the attendant rooms for cleansing workers in the past year? If yes, please set out in detail the locations and the additional facilities provided (except anti-epidemic equipment).

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

- (a) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) has adopted improvement measures for service tenders issued on or after 1 April 2019 to protect non-skilled workers employed by its outsourced service contractors. These measures include increasing the weighting of technical assessment of the marking scheme from 30% to 50%, and increasing the weighting of wage level to 25% in the technical assessment. The average committed wage rates applicable to non-skilled workers employed under the cleansing service contracts awarded by FEHD after the implementation of the measures as compared with the previous rates are set out as follows:

	Average committed hourly wage rate		Comparison before and since April 2019
	2018-19	Since April 2019 (As at 31 December 2020)	
Cleansing workers	\$36.6	\$49.4	+35%
Toilet attendants	\$36.3	\$49.4	+36%

- (b) FEHD has completed a review of the facilities provided in attendant rooms of public toilets and requested the Architectural Services Department to install, as far as practicable, wall-mounted fans, mechanical ventilation (e.g. exhaust fans or propulsion fans), power sockets, storage facilities, etc. in existing attendant rooms, so as to improve the working environment of toilet attendants. The details are provided at **Annex I**. Regarding the public toilets with toilet attendants but without attendant rooms, FEHD will set up temporary attendant rooms for toilet attendants where circumstances permit, and provide attendant rooms and enhance the facilities as far as practicable when these public toilets are refurbished. The locations of these public toilets are set out in **Annexes II and III**.

**Information on the additional facilities provided by FEHD
in attendant rooms of public toilets in 2020-21**
(As at 28 February 2021)

Serial number	District	Location of public toilet	Original facilities in attendant room of public toilet	Additional facilities in attendant room of public toilet
1.	Central and Western	Star Ferry Multi Storey Car-park Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans and exhaust fans
2.	Central and Western	Wellington Street Public Toilet (Male Only)	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Exhaust fans
3.	Central and Western	Queen's Road Central Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Exhaust fans
4.	Central and Western	Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Exhaust fans
5.	Central and Western	Wing Wo Street Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Exhaust fans
6.	Central and Western	Peak Tower Public Toilet	Power sockets and storage facilities	Wall-mounted fans and exhaust fans
7.	Wan Chai	Moreton Terrace Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
8.	Wan Chai	Wong Nai Chung Road Public Toilet	Wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Power sockets
9.	Wan Chai	Canal Road Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
10.	Wan Chai	Southern Centre Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
11.	Wan Chai	Expo Drive East Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Exhaust fans
12.	Wan Chai	Wan Chai North Temporary Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
13.	Wan Chai	Amoy Street Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
14.	Eastern	Ning Foo Street Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
15.	Eastern	Nam On Street Public Toilet	Wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Power sockets and propulsion fans
16.	Eastern	Tong Shui Road Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
17.	Southern	Repulse Bay Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans

Serial number	District	Location of public toilet	Original facilities in attendant room of public toilet	Additional facilities in attendant room of public toilet
18.	Southern	Stanley Main Street Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
19.	Islands	Ngong Ping Road Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
20.	Islands	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	Power sockets, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Wall-mounted fans and propulsion fans
21.	Yau Tsim	Market Street Public Toilet and Public Bathhouse	Wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Power sockets and propulsion fans
22.	Yau Tsim	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
23.	Yau Tsim	Parkes Street Public Toilet and Public Bathhouse	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
24.	Yau Tsim	Jordan Road Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
25.	Yau Tsim	Tsim Sha Tsui East Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
26.	Yau Tsim	Lin Cheung Road Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
27.	Mong Kok	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
28.	Mong Kok	Sai Yee Street Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
29.	Mong Kok	Mong Kok Road Public Toilet	Storage facilities	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and propulsion fans
30.	Mong Kok	Larch Street Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
31.	Sham Shui Po	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
32.	Sham Shui Po	Yen Chow Street Public Toilet	Wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Power sockets and propulsion fans
33.	Sham Shui Po	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
34.	Sham Shui Po	Yee Kuk Street Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
35.	Wong Tai Sin	Hong Keung Street Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
36.	Wong Tai Sin	Ngau Chi Wan Village Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans

Serial number	District	Location of public toilet	Original facilities in attendant room of public toilet	Additional facilities in attendant room of public toilet
37.	Wong Tai Sin	Choi Hung Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
38.	Kwun Tong	Chun Wah Road Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans and exhaust fans
39.	Kwun Tong	Shung Yan Street Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
40.	Kwun Tong	Kwun Tong Road Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
41.	Kwun Tong	Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
42.	Kwai Tsing	Kwai Hing Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Power sockets
43.	Kwai Tsing	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Power sockets and propulsion fans
44.	Tsuen Wan	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
45.	Tsuen Wan	Chai Wan Kok Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
46.	Tuen Mun	Hung Cheung Road Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
47.	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Ferry Pier Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans and exhaust fans
48.	Tuen Mun	Kin Lung Street Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Exhaust fans
49.	Tuen Mun	Tin Hau Road Public Toilet	Power sockets and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
50.	Tuen Mun	Tin Hau Temple Plaza Public Toilet	Power sockets and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
51.	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Road Bus-Bus Interchange Public Toilet (Tuen Mun Bound)	Power sockets, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
52.	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Road Bus-Bus Interchange Public Toilet (Kowloon Bound)	Power sockets, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
53.	Tuen Mun	Siu Hong Public Toilet	Power sockets, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
54.	Yuen Long	Tan Kwai Tsuen Road Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
55.	Yuen Long	Tin Shui Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans

Serial number	District	Location of public toilet	Original facilities in attendant room of public toilet	Additional facilities in attendant room of public toilet
56.	Tai Po	Tai Mei Tuk Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
57.	Tai Po	Fong Ma Po Public Toilet	Power sockets, wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Propulsion fans
58.	Sha Tin	Shan Mei Street Public Toilet	Power sockets, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Wall-mounted fans
59.	Sha Tin	Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet	Power sockets and storage facilities	Wall-mounted fans
60.	Sha Tin	Ma Liu Shui Waterfront Public Toilet	Power sockets, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Wall-mounted fans
61.	Sha Tin	University Station Public Toilet	Power sockets and storage facilities	Wall-mounted fans and exhaust fans
62.	Sai Kung	Po Lam Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Power sockets
63.	Sai Kung	Tai Au Mun Public Toilet	Wall-mounted fans, exhaust fans and storage facilities	Power sockets

**Locations of the public toilets at which FEHD provided
temporary attendant rooms for toilet attendants on duty in 2020-21**
(As at 28 February 2021)

Serial number	District	Location of public toilet
1.	Eastern	Oil Street Public Toilet
2.	Islands	Shek Tsai Po Street Public Toilet
3.	Islands	Tai O Tai Ping Street Public Toilet
4.	Yuen Long	Kam Tin Shi Public Toilet
5.	Yuen Long	Fuk Hing Lane, San Tin Public Toilet
6.	Yuen Long	Shan Pui Tsuen Public Toilet
7.	Tai Po	Nam Hang Public Toilet
8.	Tai Po	Tai Po Tau South Public Toilet
9.	Tai Po	Ha Hang Public Toilet
10.	Tai Po	Sam Mun Tsai Village (North) Public Toilet
11.	Tai Po	Nai Chung Pier Public Toilet
12.	Tai Po	Cheung Shue Tan Village No.2 Public Toilet, Tai Po
13.	Sai Kung	Tseng Lan Shue Public Toilet
14.	Sai Kung	Yim Tin Tsai Public Toilet

**Locations of the public toilets at which
FEHD provided attendant rooms during refurbishment works in 2020-21
(As at 28 February 2021)**

Serial number	District	Location of public toilet
1.	Eastern	Java Road Public Toilet
2.	Mong Kok	Portland Street Public Toilet
3.	Yuen Long	Kik Yeung Road Public Toilet
4.	Yuen Long	Ha Mei San Tsuen Public Toilet

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)114

(Question Serial No. 0817)

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
(3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) According to the latest information (in 2019) provided in the reply of the Food and Environmental Department (the Department) in 2020-21, only 40 public markets of the Department were installed with close-circuit televisions (CCTVs) for security purposes. How does the Department protect the safety and property of market stall owners and the public in public markets under its management outside the patrolling hours without CCTVs? Please provide details of the solution to the above problem.
- (b) In the reply of the Department in 2020-21, it was stated that “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”. Please explain in detail why it is not suitable to install CCTVs in those public markets which have no CCTVs at present. Can the problems be solved so as to facilitate the installation of CCTVs and enhance the basic protection of the public?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will consider upgrading facilities in public markets to meet the needs of all parties, taking into account the actual circumstances and operational needs of individual public markets, as well as the views of market stall tenants or local residents. In general, in deciding the installation of close-circuit televisions in public markets, the Department needs to consider not only the actual operational needs and availability of suitable space, but also the public's concern over privacy protection.

All entrances will be closed after the operating hours of markets. Security guards will be on duty to conduct regular patrols therein. The outsourced service contractors of the Department are responsible for the security of markets (including patrolling, maintaining order and calling for police assistance in case of occurrence 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. Moreover, individual market tenants may apply to the Department for installation of roller shutters to protect their property if necessary.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)115

(Question Serial No. 0845)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the wholesale of live pigs, please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the total quantity and weight, the average daily quantity and weight, 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 2018-19 to 2020-21);
- (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 2018-19 to 2020-21);
- (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 fresh provision shops eligible for selling fresh pork in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2018-19 to 2020-21);
- (e) 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;
- (f) (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 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 2018-19 to 2020-21).

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

Reply:

- (a) The number of live pigs imported in the past 3 years is as follows:

Year	Total number of live pigs imported	Daily number of live pigs imported		
		Average	Highest	Lowest
2018	1 468 150	4 022	7 049	1 188
2019	843 422	2 311	5 586	805
2020	638 138	1 744	2 219	222

There is no record on the weight of live pigs supplied to Hong Kong.

- (b) All imported live pigs are sold through auctions. The average auction prices of live pigs imported in the past 3 years are as follows:

Year	Auction prices per picul of imported live pigs (HK\$)		
	Average	Average Highest	Average Lowest
2018	1,211	1,571	1,053
2019	2,387	2,897	1,953
2020	3,149	3,588	2,710

- (c) The revised estimate of expenditure on inspection of live food animals in slaughterhouses in 2020-21 was \$48.3 million, which included the expenditure incurred for 92 staff posts of the Centre for Food Safety of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD). In the year, the average expenditure on inspection of live food animals (including pigs, cattle and goats) admitted for slaughtering was about \$62.4 per head. The staffing and expenditure for handling live pigs cannot be separately quantified.
- (d) The number of fresh provision shops eligible for selling fresh pork in the past 3 years is as follows:

Year (As at 31 December)	Number
2018	1 244
2019	1 237
2020	1 236

- (e) The number of Mainland pig farms supplying live pigs to Hong Kong (registered pig farms) since August 2020, with a breakdown by quarters, is as follows:

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)
2020 3 rd quarter	113	9	17
2020 4 th quarter	110	2	5
2021 1 st quarter (as at 3 March)	111	1	-

The updated list of registered pig farms is available on the website of the General Administration of Customs of the Mainland.

- (f)(i) According to the figures provided by the Census and Statistics Department, in 2018, 2019 and 2020, the total quantities of imported chilled pork were about 9 809 tonnes, 15 850 tonnes and 30 746 tonnes respectively, and those of imported frozen pork were about 240 581 tonnes, 184 760 tonnes and 197 591 tonnes respectively.
- (ii) In 2018, 2019 and 2020, the top ten regions that supplied chilled pork to Hong Kong were Thailand, Mainland China, Brazil, Australia, the United States, the Netherlands, Canada, Spain, Japan and the United Kingdom. As for frozen pork, the top ten supplying regions were Brazil, Mainland China, the United States, the Netherlands, Poland, Germany, Vietnam, Spain, Canada and Italy.
- (iii) The number of fresh provision shops eligible for selling chilled and frozen pork in the past 3 years is as follows:

Year (As at 31 December)	Number
2018	790
2019	848
2020	957

- (iv) The FEHD conducts regular inspections on fresh provision shops and market meat stalls and will follow up on reports of selling of chilled or frozen pork disguised as fresh pork. During investigation, if there is sufficient evidence indicating the sale of chilled or frozen pork as fresh pork, the licences of the fresh provision shops breaching the relevant licence conditions may be cancelled.

According to records, the FEHD conducted 36 blitz operations against 78 fresh provision shops in the past 3 years (2018, 2019 and 2020). There were 35 prosecutions instituted under the Food Business Regulation (Cap. 132X) against 34 fresh provision shops for selling fresh pork and un-prepackaged chilled pork in the same premises or selling of restricted food without permission. Of these cases, 27 have been convicted and fined, and the remaining 8 are pending a trial by the court. For the fresh provision shops convicted for related offences by the court, the FEHD will consider cancelling their licences under the demerit point system.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)116

(Question Serial No. 0873)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the fresh provision shop (FPS) licence and market stalls, please advise this Committee of :

- (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 2018-19 to 2020-21);
- (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 2018-19 to 2020-21);
- (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 2018-19 to 2020-21); 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 2018-19 to 2020-21).

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

The information sought at (a) to (d) is provided at Annexes I to IV.

Fresh provision shop licences with permission for selling live poultry

As at 31 December District	2018	2019	2020
Central and Western	2	2	2
Wan Chai	3	2	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	6
Sai Kung	3	3	3
Total	45	44	43

Live poultry stalls in public markets

As at 31 December District	2018	2019	2020
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 31 December District	2018	2019	2020
Central and Western	97	93	103
Wan Chai	70	71	88
Eastern	138	134	157
Southern	67	68	79
Islands	41	43	45
Yau Tsim Mong	150	147	171
Sham Shui Po	111	122	138
Kowloon City	115	116	133
Wong Tai Sin	93	94	116
Kwun Tong	157	144	159
Kwai Tsing	116	116	116
Tsuen Wan	87	85	96
Tuen Mun	123	124	124
Yuen Long	148	150	173
North	48	48	56
Tai Po	74	71	79
Sha Tin	158	159	181
Sai Kung	89	99	119
Total	1 882	1 884	2 133

Stalls selling fresh pork in public markets

As at 31 December District	2018	2019	2020
Central and Western	52	50	48
Wan Chai	23	20	20
Eastern	47	46	39
Southern	21	21	21
Islands	30	30	30
Yau Tsim Mong	33	31	30
Sham Shui Po	14	14	14
Kowloon City	50	38	37
Wong Tai Sin	44	43	43
Kwun Tong	24	20	20
Kwai Tsing	12	12	12
Tsuen Wan	39	37	36
Tuen Mun	25	25	25
Yuen Long	71	68	71
North	61	60	60
Tai Po	31	30	29
Sha Tin	19	19	18
Sai Kung	12	12	9
Total	608	576	562

Fresh provision shop licences with permission for selling fresh beef/mutton

As at 31 December District	2018	2019	2020
Central and Western	89	86	98
Wan Chai	64	65	81
Eastern	110	105	127
Southern	60	60	68
Islands	31	32	34
Yau Tsim Mong	121	124	148
Sham Shui Po	87	90	107
Kowloon City	96	96	109
Wong Tai Sin	73	71	89
Kwun Tong	113	104	113
Kwai Tsing	85	86	91
Tsuen Wan	67	68	79
Tuen Mun	96	99	105
Yuen Long	115	116	129
North	37	41	48
Tai Po	52	52	60
Sha Tin	112	119	131
Sai Kung	66	77	92
Total	1 474	1 491	1 709

Stalls selling fresh beef/mutton in public markets

As at 31 December District	2018	2019	2020
Central and Western	25	24	23
Wan Chai	10	9	9
Eastern	20	20	22
Southern	5	5	5
Islands	5	5	5
Yau Tsim Mong	23	35	34
Sham Shui Po	4	4	4
Kowloon City	36	23	22
Wong Tai Sin	22	22	22
Kwun Tong	6	4	3
Kwai Tsing	5	5	5
Tsuen Wan	16	13	13
Tuen Mun	10	10	10
Yuen Long	71	68	69
North	23	22	22
Tai Po	31	30	29
Sha Tin	5	4	4
Sai Kung	6	6	3
Total	323	309	304

Fresh provision shop licences with permission for selling aquatic products*

As at 31 December			
District	2018	2019	2020
Central and Western	90	87	97
Wan Chai	69	66	76
Eastern	151	144	161
Southern	71	67	73
Islands	40	42	43
Yau Tsim Mong	152	150	173
Sham Shui Po	99	106	119
Kowloon City	104	101	117
Wong Tai Sin	86	85	102
Kwun Tong	198	186	188
Kwai Tsing	97	98	102
Tsuen Wan	60	62	71
Tuen Mun	113	110	113
Yuen Long	117	114	136
North	42	45	51
Tai Po	62	62	66
Sha Tin	143	154	171
Sai Kung	93	101	120
Total	1 787	1 780	1 979

* The figures denote the number of fresh provision shop licences which may sell fresh fish and/or other aquatic products. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) does not have a breakdown on licences that are only permitted for selling fresh fish.

Stalls selling aquatic products in public markets[#]

As at 31 December District	2018	2019	2020
Central and Western	105	104	102
Wan Chai	56	56	56
Eastern	80	80	80
Southern	64	64	62
Islands	94	91	87
Yau Tsim Mong	113	106	101
Sham Shui Po	60	60	60
Kowloon City	87	87	86
Wong Tai Sin	87	86	85
Kwun Tong	33	31	31
Kwai Tsing	37	36	36
Tsuen Wan	101	100	100
Tuen Mun	48	48	48
Yuen Long	148	142	148
North	101	101	100
Tai Po	68	68	68
Sha Tin	46	46	45
Sai Kung	37	37	36
Total	1 365	1 343	1 331

[#] The figures denote the number of public market stalls which may sell fresh fish and/or other aquatic products. The FEHD does not have a breakdown on stalls which only sell fresh fish.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)117

(Question Serial No. 0874)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the wholesale of live cattle, please advise this Committee of:

- (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 2018-19 to 2020-21);
- (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 2018-19 to 2020-21); 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.: 36)

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
2018	17 162	47	99	9
2019	15 295	42	102	12
2020	14 626	40	94	11

- (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 (\$)					
	Marbled meat cattle			Beef cattle		
	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest
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
2020	4,900	4,900	4,900	4,470	4,470	4,470

- (c) The revised estimate of the expenditure on live food animal inspection in slaughterhouses in 2020-21 was \$48.30 million, involving the expenditure on 92 staff posts in 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 \$62.4. The expenditure for handling live cattle cannot be separately quantified.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)118

(Question Serial No. 3074)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In recent years, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has been frequently criticised for its deficiencies in pest control work which resulted in serious infestations of mosquitoes and rodents in various districts. In this connection, please advise this Committee of:

1. the staffing expenditure involved in pest control work in the past 3 years;
2. whether consultants or/and foreign experts have been engaged in the past 3 years; if yes, the costs;
3. apart from the existing technologies, whether the Department has any plan to introduce or employ new technologies to strengthen pest control work; if yes, the details; and
4. whether the Department has in place any mechanism to assess the effectiveness of pest control work to ensure the proper use of public funds; if yes, the details.

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)

Reply:

1. The overall expenditure on the provision of pest control services by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 was \$630 million, \$663 million and \$726 million (revised estimate) respectively. In 2018, 2019 and 2020, the total number of in-house staff responsible for pest control work was 699, 727 and 740 respectively and the total number of outsourced staff providing pest control services was about 1 860, 1 970 and 2 180 respectively.
2. The Department invited an expert in mosquito control from the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for the Western Pacific and an expert in rodent control referred by the WHO to advise on the mosquito and rodent control work of Hong Kong in February and November 2019 respectively. The costs for the former were

paid by the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific, while the expenditure on the latter was around \$160,000.

3. The Department has all along kept in view the pest control methods recommended by the WHO and those adopted by other places. The Department keeps an open mind on the new technologies/methods to be adopted for further enhancing the effectiveness of its pest control work, on the premise that they are suitable for use in local circumstances. Between 2018 and 2020, the technologies/technical projects on enhancing pest control that were tested by the Department are as follows:

Pest control method/technology	Effectiveness
Rodent control	
Using a non-poisonous bait having flavours of food for the Rodent Infestation Rate (RIR) surveys	The bait was tested in public rear lanes in 10 districts between February and September 2018. The results were unsatisfactory.
Rodent trapping device driven by pressurised gas	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.
Night-vision camera surveillance system	The system was tested in public markets in Kowloon City District and rear lanes in Mong Kok District between April and July 2019. The results have shown that the system with artificial intelligence 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.
Using a poisonous bait having flavours of food for rodent disinfection	The bait was tested in the laboratory and public rear lanes in 7 districts respectively for its attractiveness to rodents and poisoning efficacy between October 2019 and July 2020. The results have shown that the poisonous bait is effective in attracting the consumption of rodents and poisoning them. The Department will introduce the use of the bait in its regular anti-rodent work.
New design snap trap	The snap trap was tested in 5 districts and 6 markets respectively between January and June 2020. The results have shown that the new design snap trap is effective in catching rodents. The Department will introduce the use of the snap trap in its regular anti-rodent work.

Rodent control	
Using a transparent plastic rodent trapping device to catch rodents	The rodent trapping device was tested in public places in 3 districts between September 2020 and February 2021. The results have shown that the rodent trapping device is not as effective as traditional cage traps in catching rodents.
Placing poisonous baits in a T-shaped bait box	The bait box was tested in Kwun Tong District between October and November 2020. The results have shown that the T-shaped bait box is more effective in attracting rodents to enter and consume the baits than ordinary rectangular bait boxes. The Department will introduce the use of the T-shaped bait box in its regular anti-rodent work.
Thermal imaging camera surveillance system	The Department conducted field trials on thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence analytical function in rear lanes in Kowloon City District and 9 target areas of the first round of anti-rodent operation in designated target areas in 2020. Both tests have shown that the new technology is quite effective in identifying places where rodents frequently visit and the time and pattern of rodent activities, as well as assessing and quantifying anti-rodent work. The Department installed thermal imaging cameras at the selected locations of all target areas during the second round of anti-rodent operation in designated target areas in November 2020. The Department plans for a wider use of thermal imaging cameras at suitable locations in all districts across the territory in the future (including during the anti-rodent operations in designated target areas) with a view to increasing the effectiveness of the operations, and will recommend the technology to other departments.
Mosquito control	
New mosquito trapping device	The new mosquito trapping device was tested in Tuen Mun and Tsim Sha Tsui between May and September 2019. The results have shown that the new mosquito trapping device is effective in minimising the nuisance caused by Aedes mosquitoes. The Department has introduced the use of the device in its regular anti-mosquito work and recommended the technology to other departments.

Mosquito control	
Using gravidtraps to monitor <i>Aedes albopictus</i>	The gravidtrap was tested in the laboratory and 10 districts between May 2019 and February 2020. The results have shown that the gravidtrap is effective in attracting and collecting adult <i>Aedes albopictus</i> mosquitoes, reducing the time required for surveillance, as well as providing a quantitative density index. Starting from April 2020, the gravidtrap has completely replaced the ovitrap previously used for monitoring <i>Aedes albopictus</i> .
Large ultra-low volume (ULV) fogger	The large ULV fogger was tested in Yuen Long District between April and July 2020. The results have shown that the large ULV fogger is suitable for conducting ULV space treatment over a large area, and its spray range is longer than the existing back-carried sprayer. The fogger is more effective in killing adult mosquitoes in scrubby areas by conducting fogging treatment. The Department has introduced the use of large ULV foggers in all districts.

4. The Department adopts an integrated management approach to the prevention and control of mosquitoes and rodents. Such approach, which is mainly premised on the recommendations and technical guidelines of the WHO, emphasises on fundamental control, i.e. eliminating mosquito breeding places and the 3 survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, with the aim of prevention and control of pests.

To review the mosquito and rodent control work, the Department invited an expert in mosquito control from the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific and an expert in rodent control referred by the WHO to provide advice on the mosquito and rodent control work of Hong Kong in February and November 2019 respectively. The Department is actively following up on the recommendations of the experts. For rodent control, after conducting field trials, the Department will adopt the recommendations of the expert, including the use of different kinds of food at a time as baits and the adoption of a newly designed snap trap to enhance the effectiveness of anti-rodent efforts. The Department will also encourage community engagement in rodent prevention and control work and explore the application of various technologies on baits and traps with a view to improving the efficacy of rodent disinfection work. In addition, the Department installed thermal imaging cameras in all target areas during the second round of anti-rodent operation in designated target areas, which commenced in November 2020, in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the anti-rodent work and provide a quantitative indicator. In addition, it plans for a wider use of thermal imaging cameras at other suitable locations with a view to increasing the effectiveness of the anti-rodent operations. Meanwhile, the Department will make enhancements to the existing RIR surveys in several aspects, including enhancing the sharing of survey data with the departments responsible for managing the relevant venues and facilities; releasing the RIR of all 50 survey areas to the public; installing thermal imaging cameras at the survey locations with a persistently high RIR for deployment of more effective

follow-up actions; and actively exploring various bait choices for improving the sensitivity of RIR.

For mosquito control, since April 2020, the Department has put in place newly designed gravidtraps to directly count the number of adult mosquitoes to enumerate the new Gravidtrap Index (GI) and to release the additional Density Index (DI). The GI reflects the extensiveness of distribution of *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes in the survey area, whereas the new DI indicates the average number of adult *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes collected in each positive gravidtrap to quantify their activity level. The above surveillance indices are conducive to reflecting the effectiveness of anti-mosquito work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)119

(Question Serial No. 0248)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the indicator “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 2018 to 2020), with a breakdown by district and trade category.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 32)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

**Number of licensed fixed pitch and itinerant hawkers, registered assistants and estimated number 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	29	
	Bootblack	6	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	117	
	Newspaper	58	46	32	4	100	22	19	12	33	9	16	7	12	6	6	1	2	386	
	Tradesman	73	15	11	0	49	2	3	0	6	0	0	7	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	291	
	Other Classes	386	330	255	28	1 997	900	44	0	119	0	91	3	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 Number 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.

**Number of licensed fixed pitch and itinerant hawkers, registered assistants and estimated number 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	29	
	Bootblack	6	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	80	
	Newspaper	55	43	32	4	97	21	18	12	30	9	16	7	11	6	5	1	2	370	
	Tradesman	70	16	12	0	51	2	3	0	7	0	0	7	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	278	
	Other Classes	376	330	255	28	1 978	893	44	0	117	0	90	3	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 Number 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.

**Number of licensed fixed pitch and itinerant hawkers, registered assistants and estimated number of unlicensed hawkers
(Position as at 31.12.2020)**

		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	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
	Cooked Food/Light Refreshment	10	2	0	2	16	19	1	4	13	6	9	5	0	0	0	6	0	1	94
	Newspaper	54	42	32	4	93	20	17	10	27	8	15	7	11	6	5	1	2	1	355
	Tradesman	68	15	10	0	50	2	3	0	8	0	0	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	164
	Wall Stall	23	18	8	14	118	46	26	2	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	268
	Other Classes	380	384	275	28	2 104	953	62	0	5	0	138	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	4 331
Itinerant Hawker Licence	Frozen Confectionary	32									30									62
	Mobile Van	9									6									15
	Newspaper	1									0									1
	Other Classes	121									149									270
Registered Hawker Assistants	510	583	361	46	1 993	1 157	93	15	91	14	128	14	15	12	5	10	1	3	5 051	
Estimated Number of Unlicensed Hawkers	139	65	69	33	202	267	60	17	70	59	4	38	49	46	17	40	5	11	1 192 [#] (1 191+1)	

The figure includes 1 unlicensed hawker in a housing estate as provided by the Housing Department.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)120

(Question Serial No. 0249)

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 Diane WONG)

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 provide 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. Are there plans to close any of the hawker permitted places or hawker bazaars? If yes, what are the details and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 33)

Reply:

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 hawker pitches therein and the vacancy rate are provided at Annexes II and III respectively.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has no plan to close any of the hawker permitted places. For hawker bazaars, the Department recognises the 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 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. Tung Yan Street Interim Hawker Bazaar in Kwun Tong was built by the Urban Redevelopment Authority as a transitional measure. The Department is making arrangement for the hawkers of this bazaar to relocate to Yue Man Hawker Bazaar in Hip Wo Street, Kwun Tong in the second quarter of 2021. We 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.

On-street hawker fixed pitches
(as at 31 December 2020)

District	Number of on-street fixed pitches		Vacancy rate (b) / ((a)+(b))
	Licensed (a)	Vacant* (b)	
Central and Western	542	6	1.1%
Wan Chai	465	2	0.4%
Eastern	325	3	0.9%
Southern	29	0	0.0%
Islands	2	0	0.0%
Yau Tsim	764	16	2.1%
Mong Kok	1 277	21	1.6%
Sham Shui Po	1 038	2	0.2%
Kowloon City	108	0	0.0%
Wong Tai Sin	13	0	0.0%
Kwun Tong	51	0	0.0%
Kwai Tsing	8	0	0.0%
Tsuen Wan	15	0	0.0%
Tuen Mun	14	0	0.0%
Yuen Long	11	0	0.0%
North	7	0	0.0%
Tai Po	5	0	0.0%
Shatin	1	0	0.0%
Sai Kung	2	0	0.0%
Total	4 677	50	1.1%

Note:

- *1. The figures represent the numbers of on-street hawker fixed 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. 33 out of the 50 on-street vacant hawker pitches are located in hawker permitted places. Of these 33 pitches, 16 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. As for the remaining 17 pitches which are covered by the scheme, 4 have not been allocated and 13 have been allocated to applicants who have yet to collect the licence.

Hawker fixed pitches
in hawker permitted places
(as at 31 December 2020)

District	Serial number	Hawker permitted place	Year of commencement	Number of fixed-pitches		Vacancy rate (b) / ((a)+(b))
				Licensed # (a)	Vacant * (b)	
Eastern	1	Kam Wa Street / Aldrich Street	1981	55	0	0%
	2	Mong Lung Street	1981	1	0	0%
	3	Tai Tak Street	1981	0	0	0%
Sub-total				56	0	0%
Wan Chai	4	Gresson Street	1980	4	0	0%
	5	Tai Yuen Street	1980	72	0	0%
	6	Cross Street / Sam Pan Street	1991	12	0	0%
Sub-total				88	0	0%
Central and Western	7	Findlay Road	1999	4	1	20%
	8	Chiu Lung Street (East)	1999	5	0	0%
	9	Gilman's Bazaar	1985	4	0	0%
	10	Graham Street	1980	18	0	0%
	11	MacDonnell Road	1980	1	0	0%
	12	Peel Street	1980	4	0	0%
	13	Staunton Street	1980	0	0	0%
	14	Wing Kut Street	1980	2	0	0%
	15	Wing On Street	1980	2	1	33.3%
Sub-total				40	2	4.8%
Southern	16	Waterfall Bay Park	1980	10	0	0%
Sub-total				10	0	0%
Yau Tsim	17	Reclamation Street	1981	33	0	0%
	18	Pak Hoi Street	1981	6	0	0%
	19	Temple Street	1981	253	16	5.9%
	20	Canton Road	1993	1	0	0%
	21	Pitt Street	1994	0	0	0%
Sub-total				293	16	5.2%

District	Serial number	Hawker permitted place	Year of commencement	Number of fixed-pitches		Vacancy rate (b) / ((a)+(b))
				Licensed # (a)	Vacant* (b)	
Sham Shui Po	22	Wing Lung Street	1975	69	1	1.4%
	23	Fat Tseung Street	1975	17	0	0%
	24	Cheung Fat Street	1975	17	0	0%
	25	Apliu Street	1978	40	0	0%
	26	Fuk Wing Street	1993	37	0	0%
	27	Kweilin Street	1993	59	0	0%
	28	Ki Lung Street	1993	89	0	0%
	29	Pei Ho Street	1993	29	0	0%
	30	Tai Nan Street	1993	57	0	0%
Sub-total				414	1	0.2%
Mong Kok	31	Tung Choi Street	1979	491	14	2.8%
	32	Cheung Wong Road	1979	2	0	0%
	33	Nelson Street	1979	46	0	0%
	34	Nam Tau Street	1979	2	0	0%
Sub-total				541	14	2.5%
Total				1 442	33	2.2%

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. Of the 33 vacant hawker pitches located in hawker permitted places, 16 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. As for the remaining 17 pitches which are covered by the scheme, 4 have not been allocated and 13 have been allocated to applicants who have yet to collect the licence.

Hawker fixed pitches in
hawker bazaars
(as at 31 December 2020)

District	Serial no.	Hawker bazaar*	Year of commencement	Number of fixed pitches		Vacancy Rate
				Licensed (a)	Vacant (b)	(b) / ((a)+(b))
Southern	1	Stanley Market Open Space Hawker Bazaar	1972	20	8	28.6%
Yau Tsim	2	Haiphong Road Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	1978	9	3	25.0%
	3	Reclamation Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	1976	4	7	63.6 %
	4	Woosung Street Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar ⁺	1984	3	15	83.3%
	5	Yau Ma Tei Temporary Jade Hawker Bazaar [^]	2020	335	14	4.0%
Kwun Tong	6	Lai Yip Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	1976	3	7	70.0%
	7	Tung Yan Street Interim Hawker Bazaar [#]	2014	5	120	96.0 %
Tsuen Wan	8	Hau Tei Square Hawker Bazaar	1980	138	31 [©]	18.3 %
Kwai Tsing	9	Kwai Wing Road Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	1972	4	16	80.0%
Tuen Mun	10	Lam Tei Market cum Hawker Bazaar	1969	3	1	25.0%
Total				524	222	29.8%

Note:

- * Excluding Yen Chow Street Temporary Hawker Bazaar which is scheduled to be closed.
- + Woosung Street Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar is temporarily closed for refurbishment.
- [^] To make way for the Central Kowloon Route works of the Highways Department, Yau Ma Tei Jade Hawker Bazaar has been relocated to the Yau Ma Tei Temporary Jade Hawker Bazaar in Shanghai Street, Kowloon, which was opened and came into operation in October 2020.
- [#] Tung Yan Street Interim Hawker Bazaar is scheduled to be closed in March 2021.
- [©] Of the 31 vacant hawker pitches located in hawker bazaars, 3 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, the remaining 28 pitches have been reserved for resite commitments.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)121

(Question Serial No. 0250)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding “fixed pitch hawkers” under the indicator “licensed hawkers”, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department commenced the re-allocation of 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches and issue of new licences in 2019. Please set out as per the table below the numbers of applicants, applicants granted with licence and successful applicants having abandoned the application, with a breakdown by category of applicants.

Category of applicants	Number of applicants	Number of applicants who have selected the pitches	Number of applicants granted with the licence	Number of applicants who have yet to collect the licence	Number 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 KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

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 were opened for application by persons who were 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 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 since early December 2019. The information sought (as at 1 March 2021) is provided as follows:

Category of applicants	Number of applicants ¹	Number of applicants who have selected the pitches	Number of applicants granted with the licence	Number of applicants who have yet to collect the licence	Number of applicants who gave up pitch selection/ collection of licence
Holder of Fixed-Pitch (Newspaper) Hawker Licence	6	4	4	0	2
Holder of Itinerant Hawker Licence (Other Classes/Newspaper)	24	6	6	0	18
Eligible Registered Assistant	1 313	103	102	1	104
Member of the Public Satisfying Specific Criteria	11 445	322	303	19	738
Total	12 788	435	415	20	862

Note:

¹ Applicants who are eligible.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0251)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding "fixed pitch hawkers" under the indicator "licensed hawkers", the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) launched the scheme of re-allocation of 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches and issue of new licences in 2019. In this connection,

1. what is the expenditure involved in this scheme? Has the Department reviewed the scheme? If yes, what are the outcomes of the review? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?
2. the new licence issued under the scheme has a validity period of 7 years. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, stall operators are seriously affected and have not been able to operate their business normally for a year. Will the Department consider extending the validity period of the licence for at least 2 years on compassionate grounds? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?
3. will similar scheme be launched again to allow interested parties to apply for hawker licences? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

- 1.& 3. 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 were opened for application by persons who were 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 expenditure of the entire scheme is around \$8.29 million. As at 1 March 2021, all vacant pitches under the scheme have been selected, while some of the applicants have yet to collect the licences. The Department is currently following up the licence applications. After completion of the scheme, the Department will review the hawker pitches then vacated and consider how to allocate them and issue new licences.

2. Under the scheme, an operation validity period of 7 years is specified on the fixed-pitch hawker licences for the registered assistant and general public categories to create a positive impact on promoting the turnover of hawker licences, facilitating the turnover of hawker pitches and allowing admission of new traders. Due to the COVID-19 epidemic, the business of stall operators may be affected to varying degrees. In view of this, the Department particularly allows applicants from the registered assistant and general public categories under the scheme to apply for an extension of time for licence collection, and the operation validity period is counted from the date of issue of licence. The applicant can collect the hawker licence at any time within 3 months from the issue of a notification letter by the Department. A number of these applications were approved last year. The Department has no plan to extend the operation validity period of the relevant licences at the moment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)123

(Question Serial No. 0252)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding “fixed pitch hawkers” under the indicator “licensed hawkers”, the actual number in 2020 increased by 201 as compared to that in 2019. Of these increased number of hawkers, how many are related to re-allocation of 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences? Please set out in the table below the number of licensed hawkers currently trading in hawker bazaars and fixed-pitch hawker areas respectively.

District	Location of fixed hawker pitches	Number of vacant fixed hawker pitches available for allocation	Number of fixed hawker pitches selected through re-allocation	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				
	Subtotal				
Central and Western	Pottinger Street				
	Graham Street				
	Peel Street				
	Upper Lascar Row				
	Aberdeen Street				
	Douglas Lane				
	Elgin Street				
	Unnamed lane connecting Pedder Street and Theatre Lane				
	Gilman's Bazaar				
	Findlay Road				
	Subtotal				

District	Location of fixed hawker pitches	Number of vacant fixed hawker pitches available for allocation	Number of fixed hawker pitches selected through re-allocation	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
Wan Chai	Gresson Street				
	Cross Street				
	Tai Yuen Street				
	Jardine's Crescent				
	Wun Sha Street				
	Subtotal				
Yau Tsim	Reclamation Street				
	Canton Road				
	Bowring Street				
	Temple Street				
	Pitt Street				
	Subtotal				
Mong Kok	Tung Choi Street				
	Canton Road				
	Fife Street				
	Yin Chong Street				
	Ki Lung Street				
	Poplar Street				
	Nelson Street				
	Nam Tau Street				
	Subtotal				
Sham Shui Po	Wing Lung Street				
	Fat Tseung Street				
	Cheung Fat Street				
	Fuk Wing Street				
	Pei Ho Street				
	Apliu Street				
	Ki Lung Street				
	Subtotal				
Kowloon City	Pau Chung Street				
	Subtotal				
Tsuen Wan	Hau Tei Square Hawker Bazaar				
	Subtotal				
	Total				

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

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 were opened for

application by persons who were interested in the hawking business and able to meet the required conditions. As at 1 March 2021, all the above 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches have been allocated to the successful applicants, who will operate at the pitches after a licence is granted. The information sought is provided in the table below:

District	Location of fixed hawker pitches	Number of vacant fixed hawker pitches available for allocation	Number of fixed hawker pitches selected through re-allocation	Number of licensed hawkers before re-allocation of 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences (As at 31 December 2019)	Number of licensed hawkers increased due to re-allocation of 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences (As at 1 March 2021) ¹
Eastern	Chun Yeung Street	1	1	74	1
	Marble Street	11	11	69	11
	Kam Wa Street	6	6	85	6
	Tai Tak Street	4	4	21	4
	Subtotal	22	22	249	22
Central and Western	Pottinger Street	3	3	35	3
	Graham Street	6	6	42	6
	Peel Street	4	4	24	2
	Upper Lascar Row	1	1	11	1
	Aberdeen Street	1	1	12	1
	Douglas Lane	1	1	3	1
	Elgin Street	2	2	11	1
	Unnamed lane connecting Pedder Street and Theatre Lane	1	1	19	1
	Gilman's Bazaar	1	1	3	1
	Findlay Road	2	2	4	0
	Subtotal	22	22	164	17
Wan Chai	Gresson Street	7	7	39	6
	Cross Street	2	2	67	2
	Tai Yuen Street	3	3	74	3
	Jardine's Crescent	22	22	142	22
	Wun Sha Street	26	26	8	23
	Subtotal	60	60	330	56
Yau Tsim	Reclamation Street	22	22	172	20
	Canton Road	14	14	12	11
	Bowring Street	5	5	85	5
	Temple Street	70	70	232	60
	Pitt Street	2	2	6	2
	Subtotal	113	113	507	98
Mong Kok	Tung Choi Street	29	29	487	27
	Canton Road	31	31	251	24
	Fife Street	8	8	19	8
	Yin Chong Street	4	4	65	4
	Ki Lung Street	5	5	6	4
	Poplar Street	3	3	4	3
	Nelson Street	3	3	43	3

District	Location of fixed hawker pitches	Number of vacant fixed hawker pitches available for allocation	Number of fixed hawker pitches selected through re-allocation	Number of licensed hawkers before re-allocation of 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences (As at 31 December 2019)	Number of licensed hawkers increased due to re-allocation of 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches and issuing of new licences (As at 1 March 2021) ¹
	Nam Tau Street	1	1	1	1
	Subtotal	84	84	876	74
Sham Shui Po	Wing Lung Street	37	37	38	36
	Fat Tseung Street	6	6	30	6
	Cheung Fat Street	14	14	42	14
	Fuk Wing Street	1	1	36	1
	Pei Ho Street	1	1	146	1
	Apliu Street	4	4	206	4
	Ki Lung Street	2	2	124	2
	Subtotal	65	65	622	64
Kowloon City	Pau Chung Street	18	18	42	18
	Subtotal	18	18	42	18
Tsuen Wan	Hau Tei Square Hawker Bazaar	51	51	90	46
	Subtotal	51	51	90	46
	Total	435	435	2 880	395

¹ The figures do not include 19 hawker licences that have been granted but are subsequently surrendered and 1 hawker licence that has not been renewed after the expiry date. Besides, they do not include 20 licences which are yet to be issued although the pitch selection process has been completed.

The number of hawker licences will change due to various reasons and is not limited to the effect of the scheme. For example, the voluntary surrender of licence by licence holders, death of licensees as well as changes in hawker licensees at venues outside the above table will also affect the number of licences. Overall speaking, the number of hawker licences for fixed hawker pitches in 2020 increased by 201 as compared to that in 2019.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)124

(Question Serial No. 0253)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the enhancement of pest control, please set out as per the table below the number of dead rodents collected, the number of live rodents caught and the expenditure involved in the 18 districts in the territory in the past 3 years (2018-2020).

2018 / 2019 / 2020

District	Number of dead rodents collected	Expenditure involved	Number of live rodents caught	Expenditure involved
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 KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

The number of dead rodents collected and the number of live rodents caught by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department from 2018 to 2020 are tabulated below:

District	2018		2019		2020	
	Number of dead rodents collected	Number of live rodents caught	Number of dead rodents collected	Number of live rodents caught	Number of dead rodents collected	Number of live rodents caught
Central and Western	1 890	1 763	2 029	1 661	2 006	1 626
Eastern	2 398	890	2 330	1 182	2 245	1 313
Southern	713	439	611	464	647	492
Wan Chai	1 622	805	1 533	1 213	1 302	2 081
Kowloon City	2 592	1 666	3 459	2 019	2 753	2 054
Kwun Tong	2 434	819	2 929	3 476	3 848	4 357
Wong Tai Sin	1 441	413	1 557	606	1 305	1 507
Sham Shui Po	3 853	2 241	3 578	3 291	3 254	4 173
Mong Kok	2 097	1 895	3 028	2 684	5 059	4 238
Yau Tsim	1 120	469	1 144	347	1 324	300
Sha Tin	858	703	1 018	766	1 118	737
Tai Po	771	585	780	591	771	589
North	1 034	464	1 119	580	1 102	580
Kwai Tsing	408	520	395	768	469	753
Tsuen Wan	823	1 631	1 125	1 767	1 034	1 837
Tuen Mun	503	128	465	371	548	321
Yuen Long	1 654	602	1 554	1 490	1 520	1 449
Sai Kung	480	231	432	210	521	226
Islands	1 183	240	1 173	241	1 162	239
Whole territory	27 874	16 504	30 259	23 727	31 988	28 872

The overall expenditure on pest control services in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 was \$630 million, \$663 million and \$726 million (revised estimate) respectively. The Department does not keep a separate breakdown on the expenditure involved in collecting dead rodents and catching live rodents.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)125

(Question Serial No. 0254)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work of “providing new public market facilities at suitable locations”,

- please set out as per the table below the details of the provision of new public markets at identified locations at present, as well as the estimated expenditure involved.

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	Anticipated completion date	Estimated expenditure involved

- please set out as per the table below the details of the provision of public markets in other proposed districts, as well as the estimated expenditure involved.

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 expenditure involved

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

The Government is taking forward 6 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. The details

required in respect of these projects are set out in the Annex. Besides, FEHD Skylight Market (formerly known as Tin Shui Wai Temporary Market) located at Tin Sau Road, Tin Shui Wai was commissioned in December 2020.

	District in which a new public market is confirmed to be built	Proposed site	Project size	Expected completion date and project cost
1.	Tin Shui Wai	A section of Tin Fuk Road adjoining Tin Shui Wai Mass Transit Railway (MTR) Station	Expected to provide a maximum of about 150 stalls.	Subject to the funding approval by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council, we expect the market project to be completed in the first half of 2027. The estimated project cost will be confirmed after the completion of the tender assessment of the “design and build” contract.
2.	Tung Chung Town Centre	The lower floors of a commercial building in Area 6 adjacent to Tung Chung MTR Station	Expected to provide at least 100 stalls.	As the development project at the commercial site in Area 6 is adjacent to railway facilities, the Civil Engineering and Development Department is conducting a further technical feasibility study for the entire commercial building development project (including the new market portion) to ensure that the development project will not affect the safe operation of the MTR. The timetable and estimated project cost will be confirmed after the completion of the above study and detailed design.

	District in which a new public market is confirmed to be built	Proposed site	Project size	Expected completion date and project cost
3.	Tseung Kwan O	The lower floors of the joint-user complex planned to be built in Area 67 of Tseung Kwan O (at the junction of Po Yap Road and Tong Yin Street)	Expected to provide no less than 120 stalls.	To be confirmed after the completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment as well as detailed design of the joint-user complex.
4.	Kwu Tung North New Development Area	The site zoned as “Special Residential/Subsidised Sale Flats” in the eastern part of Area 19 of Kwu Tung North New Development Area	Expected to provide no less than 120 stalls.	The development of the public market will tie in with the housing development plan of the district concerned. The estimated project cost will be confirmed after the completion of the detailed design.
5.	Tung Chung New Town Extension	Area 133A of Tung Chung New Town Extension	To be confirmed after completion of preliminary planning.	The development of the public markets will tie in with the housing development plan of the districts concerned. The estimated project costs will be confirmed after the completion of the technical feasibility studies and assessment as well as detailed design.
6.	Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area	To be confirmed after completion of preliminary planning.		The estimated project costs will be confirmed after the completion of the technical feasibility studies and assessment as well as detailed design.

Note: All new markets will be equipped with air-conditioning facilities.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)126

(Question Serial No. 0255)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the work to “continue to implement the Market Modernisation Programme”, according to the papers submitted to the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene by the Food and Health Bureau on the relevant policy initiatives in the Chief Executive’s 2020 Policy Address, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will actively pursue the fundamental overhaul projects in 3 public markets (Yeung Uk Road Market, Ngau Tau Kok Market and Kowloon City Market) as well as minor refurbishment or improvement works for about 10 public markets. In this connection, please provide the following information:

- The progress of the fundamental overhaul for the 3 markets and the estimated expenditure involved.

Fundamental overhaul			
District	Market	Progress	Estimated expenditure

- The markets where minor refurbishment and improvement works will be taken forward, the progress of the works and the estimated expenditure involved.

Minor refurbishment and improvement works			
District	Market	Progress	Estimated expenditure

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

The Government has earmarked \$2 billion for implementing the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme. Apart from the overhaul of Aberdeen Market as the pioneering project, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is carrying out the preparatory and consultation work for the overhaul works in Yeung Uk Road Market, Ngau Tau Kok Market and Kowloon City Market, including arranging small group meetings with tenants, briefings for the relevant Market Management Consultative Committees (MMCCs) on the projects, etc., to collect their views, with a view to reaching a consensus with tenants as soon as possible. Upon ascertaining the scope of works, the Department will conduct technical feasibility studies with relevant departments. The works timetable and project cost will be confirmed upon completion of the technical feasibility studies and assessment as well as detailed design. The Department will continue to maintain close liaison with stakeholders (including the tenants) during the process and report to the relevant District Councils in a timely manner having regard to the work progress.

In addition, the Department has consulted and obtained the support of the relevant MMCCs on the minor refurbishment or improvement works for 11 markets (including Ngau Tau Kok Market, Yeung Uk Road Market, Luen Wo Hui Market, Fa Yuen Street Market, Quarry Bay Market, Shui Wo Street Market, Tsuen Wan Market, Mong Kok Cooked Food Market, Ngau Chi Wan Market, Shek Tong Tsui Market and Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market). Works in 10 markets have commenced and preparation work for the remaining one is underway. The project estimates for taking forward the above minor refurbishment and improvement works are about \$88 million in total. The estimated expenditure of these projects in 2021-22 is about \$32 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)127****(Question Serial No. 0256)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

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 set out in the tables below the number of stalls in each public market which have installed the contactless payment systems:

District	Name of public market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with at least 1 type of contactless payment system	Number of stalls by type of system installed				

Number of stalls by type of system installed				
Octopus	Alipay	WeChat Pay	PayMe	Others

Number of stalls installed with contactless payment systems by type of goods for sale				
Type 1	Type 2	Type 3	Type 4	...

- will the Government encourage the stalls to install the contactless payment systems by means of conducting refurbishment or improvement projects? If yes, the details; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 41)Reply:

The number of stalls installed with contactless payment systems in each public market under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department by type of goods for sale as at 28 February 2021 is provided at Annex. The Department does not keep the number of stalls in each public market under the Department by type of system installed.

All tenants in FEHD Skylight Market, which was commissioned in end 2020, have been required to install the contactless payment systems. New public markets and the overhauled public markets under the Market Modernisation Programme will make reference to this practice in implementing contactless payment. We will keep in view the operation of FEHD Skylight Market, with a view to formulating arrangements for the use and promotion of contactless payment in public markets in future.

Annex

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with at least 1 type of contactless payment system	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment system														
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others	
Central and Western	Centre Street Market	46	11			1					1	5					4	
	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	5	5														
	Sai Ying Pun Market	93	16		5		7	3		1								
	Shek Tong Tsui Market	151	22	2	2	2	9			1	1	5						
	Sheung Wan Market	223	39	2	10	2	7	4			1	2	1	5	4			1
	Smithfield Market	216	28	1	2	1	13				5	4	2					
Eastern	Aldrich Bay Market	71	42	1	4	6	8	1		3	4	10	1				4	
	Chai Wan Market	174	16			2	6				1	5	2					
	Electric Road Market	99	19	1	5	3	2					6				1		1
	Java Road Market	194	47	3	1	8	25	1			6		3					
	North Point Market	42	5				2	1		1		1						
	Quarry Bay Market	113	20	4	3		6	1			1	5						
	Sai Wan Ho Market	274	39	1	1	9	4	1				18	2					3

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with at least 1 type of contactless payment system	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment system													
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others
	Yue Wan Market	380	54	2	2	2	9			3	32	4					
Islands	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	6	6													
	Cheung Chau Market	243	59		6	6	10	2	2	2	26	4			1		
	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	5	3							2						
	Mui Wo Market	35	15			1	8	2	1		1				2		

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with at least 1 type of contactless payment system	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment system													
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others
Kowloon City	Hung Hom Market	224	52	2	5	6	14	6	1	2	14						2
	Kowloon City Market	581	157		3	1	38	5	9	1	87			2	2	7	2
	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	2									2					
	To Kwa Wan Market	267	100	3	12	5	49	3	1	4	18	3		2			
Kwun Tong	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	1	1													
	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	9	1	2	1		1		1	1					1	1
	Ngau Tau Kok Market	466	125	7	1	26	34	7	3		46		1				
	Shui Wo Street Market	302	102	4	1	17	51	4		3	19	2					1
	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	1	1													
	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	13	13													
	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	0														

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with at least 1 type of contactless payment system	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment system													
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others
	Yee On Street Market	65	9	1	1	1	1				1	1				2	1

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with at least 1 type of contactless payment system	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment system													
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others
Kwai Tsing	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	9	7		2											
	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	15	2	2													
	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	11	1	1													
	North Kwai Chung Market	222	34		2	11	2		1	3	12	3					
	Tsing Yi Market	76	14			2	3		2	3	4						
	Wing Fong Street Market	114	17			8					9						
	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	5	5													
Mong Kok	Fa Yuen Street Market	180	28	1	4	6	9	3	1	1	1	2					
	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	1	1													
	Tai Kok Tsui Market	135	53	1	2	17	15	2	2	2	5	4				2	1
North	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	98	9	1	1		1		3		2					1	

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with at least 1 type of contactless payment system	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment system													
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others
	Luen Wo Hui Market	338	121	4	11	16	10	12	11	8	35	1			5	7	1
	Shek Wu Hui Market	393	61	4	3	13	4	6		10	17	1	2	1			

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with at least 1 type of contactless payment system	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment system													
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others
Southern	Aberdeen Market	335	75	3	2	6	4	4	2	1	50	2		1			
	Ap Lei Chau Market	63	17	3		5	2			1	3	1		1		1	
	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	3	3													
	Stanley Waterfront Mart	20	7	1						1	3						2
	Tin Wan Market	180	44	3	1	7	5		1		16	7		1		3	
	Yue Kwong Road Market	197	11	2			2	1	1	1	1			1		2	
Sai Kung	Sai Kung Market	209	79		3	7	12	4	2		35	13		1		1	1
Sham	Lai Wan Market	42	2									1		1			
Shui Po	Pei Ho Street Market	234	16		1	5	4			5				1			
	Po On Road Market	449	70		7	15	26	2		14		3	1	2			
	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	244	63						1		62						

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with at least 1 type of contactless payment system	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment system													
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others
Sha Tin	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	1	1													
	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	1	1													
	Sha Tin Market	172	63		3	9	19	1	3	4	17	6	1				
	Tai Wai Market	184	33			6	4	4	1		13	1				3	1

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with at least 1 type of contactless payment system	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment system													
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others
Tuen Mun	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	1	1													
	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	2	2													
	San Hui Market	324	88		2	13	25	2			9	32	2	1		2	
	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	6	6													
	Yan Oi Market	108	18		1	4	11			1						1	
Tai Po	Tai Po Hui Market	313	56	12	2	8	8	5	1	1	15	1	2				1
	Plover Cove Road Market	244	37	1			4		4	2	17	1			1	6	1
Tsuen Wan	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	5	5													
	Heung Che Street Market	225	71	14	5	5	20	3		9	12		1		1	1	
	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	29	2	2													
	Tsuen Wan Market	381	56		1	12	12	4		8	16	3					
	Yeung Uk Road Market	318	53			7	16	1		8	18	1	1	1			

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with at least 1 type of contactless payment system	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment system													
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others
Wan Chai	Wong Nai Chung Market	69	11	1		2	4				3					1	
	Causeway Bay Market	51	1			1											
	Tang Lung Chau Market	34	6		2	1	1			2							
	Lockhart Road Market	166	25	2	4	2	1			2	11	2	1				
	Bowrington Road Market	296	49	6	1	3	9	1	1	2	13	12		1			
	Wan Chai Market	50	8		1		3	1		3							
Wong Tai Sin	Choi Hung Road Market	116	14	1	1	3	2	1			5			1			
	Ngau Chi Wan Market	402	62	4	8	8	9				18	14					1
	Sheung Fung Street Market	71	17		1	3	4	3		1	4						1
	Tai Shing Street Market	441	84	3		29	14	5	3	5	20	2			3		

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with at least 1 type of contactless payment system	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment system													
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others
Yuen Long	FEHD Skylight Market	36	36		3	4	8	4	6	4	2						
	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	172	9			1	3			2	1	1			1		
	Kam Tin Market	41	1		1												
	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	2	2													
	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	1	1													
	Tai Kiu Market	379	76		5	18	22	7	5	1	15		1	1			1
	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	4	4													
	Tung Yick Market	446	30		3	8	2	4			9	3	1				
Yau Tsim	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	86	6				2		1			2		1			
	Kwun Chung Market	218	68	3	10	36	10		9								
	Yau Ma Tei Market	144	34		14		2	6	1	1			2	8			

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)128****(Question Serial No. 0257)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

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”, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has established a subsidy scheme for the promotion of contactless payment in public markets under the third round of the Anti-epidemic Fund. A one-off subsidy was offered to tenants of public markets (including stall tenants of the markets of the Department) to encourage contactless payment in market stalls. The scheme ended on 21 December 2020. In this connection, please set out the relevant results of the scheme, the number of stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the scheme and the total expenditure involved.

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 42)Reply:

During the application period of the subsidy scheme for the promotion of contactless payment in public markets, the Department received a total of 3 555 applications. So far, 3 542 applications (99.6%) have been approved in principle and \$13.62 million of subsidies have been disbursed for 2 724 applications. The remaining applications were not processed as the applicants failed to submit the relevant documents and complete the installation. The financial implications of the related measures were absorbed by the Anti-epidemic Fund, which does not form part of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates of the General Revenue Account.

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme															
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others		
Central and Western	Centre Street Market	46	11			1					1	5					4		
	Queen Cooked Market	11	5	5															
	Sai Ying Pun Market	93	16		5		7	3		1									
	Shek Tong Tsui Market	151	22	2	2	2	9			1	1	5							
	Sheung Wan Market	223	39	2	10	2	7	4			1	2	1	5	4				1
	Smithfield Market	216	28	1	2	1	13				5	4	2						
Eastern	Aldrich Bay Market	71	42	1	4	6	8	1		3	4	10	1					4	
	Chai Wan Market	174	16			2	6				1	5	2						
	Electric Road Market	99	19	1	5	3	2					6					1		1
	Java Road Market	194	47	3	1	8	25	1			6		3						
	North Point Market	42	5				2	1		1		1							
	Quarry Bay Market	113	20	4	3		6	1			1	5							
	Sai Wan Ho Market	274	39	1	1	9	4	1				18	2						3
	Yue Wan Market	380	54	2	2	2	9				3	32	4						

District	Name of market		Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme													
					Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others
Islands	Cheung Cooked Market	Chau Food	17	6	6													
	Cheung Market	Chau	243	59		6	6	10	2	2	2	26	4			1		
	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market		20	5	3							2						
	Mui Wo Market		35	15			1	8	2	1		1				2		

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme													
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others
Kowloon City	Hung Hom Market	224	52	2	5	6	14	6	1	2	14						2
	Kowloon City Market	581	157		3	1	38	5	9	1	87			2	2	7	2
	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	2									2					
	To Kwa Wan Market	267	100	3	12	5	49	3	1	4	18	3		2			
Kwun Tong	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	1	1													
	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	9	1	2	1		1		1	1					1	1
	Ngau Tau Kok Market	466	96	6	1	20	23	7	1		38						
	Shui Wo Street Market	302	86	4	1	16	38	2		3	19	2					1
	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	1	1													
	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	5	5													
	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	0														
	Yee On Street Market	65	9	1	1	1	1					1	1				2

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme													
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others
Kwai Tsing	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	9	7		2											
	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	15	2	2													
	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	11	1	1													
	North Kwai Chung Market	222	34		2	11	2		1	3	12	3					
	Tsing Yi Market	76	14			2	3		2	3	4						
	Wing Fong Street Market	114	17			8					9						
	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	5	5													
Mong Kok	Fa Yuen Street Market	180	24	1	4	6	8		1	1	1	2					
	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	1	1													
	Tai Kok Tsui Market	135	52	1	2	17	15	2	1	2	5	4				2	1
North	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	98	8	1	1				3		2					1	
	Luen Wo Hui Market	338	121	4	11	16	10	12	11	8	35	1			5	7	1

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme												
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade
	Shek Wu Hui Market	393	59	3	3	13	4	5		10	17	1	2	1		
Southern	Aberdeen Market	335	75	3	2	6	4	4	2	1	50	2		1		
	Ap Lei Chau Market	63	16	3		4	2			1	3	1		1		1
	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	3	3												
	Stanley Waterfront Mart	20	7	1						1	3					2
	Tin Wan Market	180	44	3	1	7	5		1		16	7		1		3
	Yue Kwong Road Market	197	11	2			2	1	1	1	1			1		2

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme														
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others	
Sai Kung	Sai Kung Market	209	79		3	7	12	4	2			35	13		1		1	1
Sham	Lai Wan Market	42	2										1		1			
Shui Po	Pei Ho Street Market	234	16		1	5	4				5				1			
	Po On Road Market	449	70		7	15	26	2		14			3	1	2			
	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	244	63						1			62						
Sha Tin	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	1	1														
	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	1	1														
	Sha Tin Market	172	62		3	9	19	1	2	4	17	6	1					
	Tai Wai Market	184	33			6	4	4	1		13	1					3	1
Tuen Mun	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	1	1														
	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	2	2														
	San Hui Market	324	88		2	13	25	2		9	32	2	1			2		
	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	6	6														
	Yan Oi Market	108	18		1	4	11		1							1		

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme													
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others
Tai Po	Tai Po Hui Market	313	56	12	2	8	8	5	1	1	15	1	2				1
	Plover Cove Road Market	244	37	1			4		4	2	17	1			1	6	1

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme													
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others
Tsuen Wan	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	5	5													
	Heung Che Street Market	225	69	14	5	5	18	3			9	12		1		1	1
	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	29	2	2													
	Tsuen Wan Market	381	52		1	12	9	4			7	16	3				
	Yeung Uk Road Market	318	48			7	12	1			7	18	1	1	1		
Wan Chai	Wong Nai Chung Market	69	10			2	4					3					1
	Causeway Bay Market	51	1			1											
	Tang Lung Chau Market	34	6		2	1	1				2						
	Lockhart Road Market	166	25	2	4	2	1				2	11	2	1			
	Bowrington Road Market	296	49	6	1	3	9	1		1	2	13	12		1		
	Wan Chai Market	50	6		1			2			3						
Wong Tai Sin	Choi Hung Road Market	116	14	1	1	3	2	1				5		1			
	Ngau Chi Wan Market	402	62	4	8	8	9					18	14				1
	Sheung Fung Street Market	71	17		1	3	4	3			1	4					1

District	Name of market	Total number of stalls	Number of stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme	Types of goods for sale at the stalls installed with the contactless payment systems under the subsidy scheme													
				Cooked food	Fish	Food-related dry goods	Food-related wet goods	Fresh meat	Frozen meat/commodities	Fruits	Non-food related dry goods	Non-food related wet goods	Poultry	Live poultry	Siu Mei/Lo Mei	Service trade	Others
	Tai Shing Street Market	441	84	3		29	14	5	3	5	20	2			3		
Yuen Long	FEHD Skylight Market	36	36		3	4	8	4	6	4	2						
	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	172	9			1	3			2	1	1			1		
	Kam Tin Market	41	1		1												
	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	2	2													
	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	1	1													
	Tai Kiu Market	379	76		5	18	22	7	5	1	15		1	1			1
	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	4	4													
	Tung Yick Market	446	30		3	8	2	4				9	3	1			
Yau Tsim	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	86	6				2		1			2		1			
	Kwun Chung Market	218	68	3	10	36	10		9								
	Yau Ma Tei Market	144	34		14		2	6	1	1			2	8			

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)129

(Question Serial No. 0258)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work to “implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme”,

- please set out as per the table below the implementation progress and details of the Programme in various districts, and the estimated expenditure involved;

District	Location of public toilet	Details of refurbishment works	Works commencement date	Works completion date	Estimated expenditure

- will the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department consider, in the light of the COVID-19 epidemic, introducing more contactless equipment such as sensor-activated flushing devices, taps and soap dispensers and enhancing the ventilation system when undertaking the refurbishment works, so as to further prevent virus transmission in public toilets? If yes, please set out as per the table below the details and the estimated expenditure involved; if no, the reason(s).

District	Location of public toilet	Anti-epidemic equipment to be introduced	Estimated expenditure

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

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 (FEHD) 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 toilet facilities and the level of hygiene.

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. FEHD 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.

FEHD has been working closely with the Architectural Services Department. In the first year of the programme (2019-20) refurbishment or facelifting projects for 42 public toilets, with a project estimate of about \$168 million, were rolled out. The facelifting or refurbishment works for 22 toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. A list of the 42 public toilets with their works schedules and project estimates is at Annex I. Refurbishment or facelifting projects for 49 public toilets at a project estimate of about \$149 million commenced in the second year (2020-21). The facelifting works for 20 public toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. A list of the 49 public toilets with their works schedules and project estimates is at Annex II.

Contactless sanitary equipment such as sensor-activated taps, soap dispensers, hand sanitiser dispensers, toilet seat sanitiser dispensers, flushing devices and high-efficiency electric hand dryers will be installed when refurbishment or facelifting works are undertaken. Ventilation will also be enhanced for improvement. The expenditure costs of the above additional or enhanced facilities are covered by the refurbishment or facelifting project estimates and they are not separately estimated.

**List of 42 public toilets under
the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2019-20
(as at 9 March 2021)**

(A) 20 Refurbishment projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
1.	Lok Ku Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	8.400	From April 2022 to February 2023
2.	Ladder Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	6.240	From April 2023 to February 2024
3.	Rumsey Street Multi Storey Car-park Public Toilet	Central & Western	3.876	To be confirmed
4.	Morrison Hill Road Public Toilet	Wan Chai	3.580	From May 2021 to November 2022
5.	No.16 Aberdeen Main Road Public Toilet	Southern	9.600	From October 2021 to November 2022
6.	Science Museum Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	6.000	From January to September 2021
7.	Sunny Bay Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	6.800	From December 2020 to September 2021
8.	Wang Lung Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	5.797	From June 2021 to March 2022
9.	Hong King Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	6.000	From June 2021 to March 2022
10.	Sheung Shui Wai Po Sheung Tsuen Public Toilet	North	7.000	From August 2021 to April 2022
11.	Fong Ma Po Public Toilet	Tai Po	5.928	From July 2020 to February 2021 (completed)
12.	Ma Wo Public Toilet	Tai Po	3.543	From February to October 2021

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
13.	Tap Mun Pier Public Toilet	Tai Po	4.212	From April to December 2021
14.	Tseng Lan Shue Public Toilet	Sai Kung	3.528	From May to November 2021
15.	Ma Liu Shui Waterfront Public Toilet	Sha Tin	5.928	From June 2021 to January 2022
16.	Science Park Road Public Toilet	Sha Tin	4.896	From January to July 2021
17.	Shan Mei Street Public Toilet	Sha Tin	3.764	To be confirmed
18.	Shap Yi Watt Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	3.468	From August 2021 to April 2022
19.	Tai Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Sha Tin	4.900	From April to November 2021
20.	To Tau Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	3.348	From May to December 2021

[#] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

(B) 22 Facelifting projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates
1.	Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall Public Toilet	Central & Western	1.800	From May to September 2020 (completed)
2.	Wing Lok Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	1.700	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
3.	Wan Chai Market Public Toilet	Wan Chai	1.500	From January to April 2021
4.	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	Islands	2.892	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
5.	Tat Tung Road Public Toilet	Islands	2.870	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
6.	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	2.000	From September 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
7.	Jordan Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	2.600	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
8.	Market Street Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yau Tsim	2.000	From October 2019 to April 2020 (completed)
9.	Mong Kok Road Public Toilet	Mong Kok	4.000	From June to October 2020 (completed)
10.	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Mong Kok	4.800	From September 2020 to February 2021 (completed)
11.	Sai Yee Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	3.800	From May to October 2020 (completed)
12.	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Sham Shui Po	4.500	From June to November 2019 (completed)
13.	Pei Ho Street Market G/F & 1/F Toilet	Sham Shui Po	6.300	G/F: From September to December 2019 (completed) 1/F: From October 2020 to January 2021 (completed)

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates
14.	Yen Chow Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	2.530	From December 2019 to May 2020 (completed)
15.	Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Kwun Tong	3.000	From August to December 2020 (completed)
16.	Shung Yan Street Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	0.800	From February to July 2020 (completed)
17.	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	3.320	From October 2019 to May 2020 (completed)
18.	Kwai Hing Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	2.860	From October 2019 to May 2020 (completed)
19.	Chai Wan Kok Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	2.088	From April to July 2020 (completed)
20.	Chuen Lung Village Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	1.703	From October 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
21.	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	2.200	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
22.	Shing Mun Road (Shing Mun Valley) Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	1.760	From May to September 2020 (completed)

**List of 49 public toilets under
the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme in 2020-21
(as at 9 March 2021)**

(A) 20 Refurbishment projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
1.	Wellington Street Public Toilet (Male Only)	Central & Western	3.392	From April to October 2022
2.	Wa Hing Lane Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Central & Western	6.288	From July 2022 to March 2023
3.	Ice House Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	5.205	From June 2022 to February 2023
4.	Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Central & Western	5.160	From March to October 2022
5.	Stanley Tytam Village Public Toilet	Southern	2.080	From November 2021 to April 2022
6.	South Bay Public Toilet	Southern	2.080	From November 2022 to April 2023
7.	Round Table I Village Public Toilet	Islands	4.592	From April to November 2022
8.	Ma Wan Chung Public Toilet	Islands	6.097	From August 2022 to March 2023
9.	Anchor Street Playground Public Toilet	Mong Kok	4.590	From February to August 2022
10.	Chung Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	4.000	From April to September 2022
11.	Kin Lung Street Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	4.400	From April to December 2022
12.	Tai Tong Road Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yuen Long	7.160	From July 2022 to April 2023
13.	Kuk Ting Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	6.600	From July 2022 to April 2023
14.	Luk Keng Public Toilet	North	2.550	From January to July 2022

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
15.	Yue Kok Public Toilet	Tai Po	2.920	From November 2021 to April 2022
16.	Tung Ping Chau Public Toilet	Tai Po	6.950	From July 2022 to June 2023
17.	Tap Mun Ha Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	3.710	From February to August 2022
18.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village North Public Toilet	Tai Po	2.900	From February to July 2023
19.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village South Public Toilet	Tai Po	2.900	From September 2022 to February 2023
20.	Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate Public Toilet	Sai Kung	3.538	From December 2021 to July 2022

[#] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

(B) 29 Facelifting projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
1.	Kennedy Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	0.880	From September to December 2020 (completed)
2.	Macau Ferry Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Central & Western	5.110	Design underway
3.	Hospital Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	0.990	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
4.	Quarry Bay Market Public Toilet	Eastern	2.280	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
5.	Pak Fuk Road Public Toilet	Eastern	3.900	From October 2020 to February 2021 (completed)
6.	Yip Fat Street Public Toilet	Southern	1.100	From October 2020 to February 2021 (completed)
7.	Sok Kwu Wan Public Toilet	Islands	2.430	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
8.	Lo Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Islands	1.460	From October to December 2020 (completed)
9.	Shui Hau Public Toilet	Islands	1.460	From September to December 2020 (completed)
10.	Pok Man Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	3.900	From November 2020 to April 2021
11.	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	1.750	From August to November 2020 (completed)
12.	Lung Kong Road Public Toilet	Kowloon City	4.620	Design underway
13.	Kei Yip Lane Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	3.200	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
14.	Tai Lin Pai Road Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	3.200	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
15.	Ta Chuen Ping Street Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	4.240	From September 2020 to February 2021 (completed)
16.	Tin Sum San Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	1.530	From August 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
17.	San Wai Public Toilet	Yuen Long	1.530	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
18.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (1)	Yuen Long	1.110	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
19.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (2)	Yuen Long	1.110	From January to May 2021
20.	Wo Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	North	2.240	From November 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
21.	Shui Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	1.050	From October 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
22.	Tai Po Tau South Public Toilet	Tai Po	1.700	Design underway
23.	Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	2.070	From December 2020 to April 2021
24.	Wo Liu Hang Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	1.100	Design underway
25.	Fo Tan Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	1.100	From December 2020 to April 2021
26.	Pak Kong Tsuen Public Toilet	Sai Kung	1.790	From October 2020 to January 2021 (completed)

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
27.	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village Public Toilet	Sai Kung	1.670	From November 2020 to February 2021 (completed)
28.	Tai Mong Tsai Public Toilet	Sai Kung	1.840	From September to December 2020 (completed)
29.	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan) Public Toilet	Sai Kung	1.640	From March to July 2021

[#] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)130****(Question Serial No. 0259)**

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work of “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”,

- does the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department provide the staff responsible for the provision of those services with protective equipment? If yes, please set out as per the table below the types and quantities of the equipment and the expenditure involved. If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

	Quantity of equipment 1 (weekly)	Quantity of equipment 2 (weekly)	Quantity of equipment 3 (weekly)	Expenditure involved
Staff of public cleansing service type 1				
Staff of public cleansing service type 2				
Staff of public cleansing service type 3				

- have any staff members responsible for the provision of public cleansing services been confirmed with COVID-19? If yes, please provide the number with a breakdown by service type.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 43)

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 staff with adequate and suitable protective equipment and safety training as appropriate. A total of 4 cleansing workers of

the Department have been confirmed with COVID-19. For the protective equipment provided for cleansing workers engaged in each type of services, please refer to Annex. The Department does not keep a separate breakdown on the expenditure in this respect.

List of protective equipment for cleansing workers

	Type of work	Surgical face mask	Rubber gloves	Cotton yarn gloves	Safety helmet	Reflective safety vest	Reflective raincoat	Safety shoes	Rubber boots	Other equipment *
1.	Street cleansing service	2-4 pieces (daily/to be replenished when necessary)	2 pairs (monthly)	4 pairs (monthly)	1 piece (every 3 years)	1 piece	1 piece (every 3 years)	1 pair (yearly)	1 pair (yearly)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sports shoes: 2 pairs (yearly) ● Goggles: 1 pair ● N95 face mask: 2 pieces ● Shoe covers: 1 pair ● Coverall: 1 piece ● Safety cotton gloves: 1 pair
2.	Street washing service	2-4 pieces (daily/to be replenished when necessary)	2 pairs (monthly)	4 pairs (monthly)	1 piece (every 3 years)	1 piece	1 piece (every 3 years)	N.A.	1 pair (yearly)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sports shoes: 2 pairs (yearly) ● Goggles: 1 pair ● Face shield: 1 piece ● Coverall: 1 piece ● Apron: 1 piece
3.	Refuse collection service	2-4 pieces (daily/to be replenished when necessary)	2 pairs (monthly)	4 pairs (monthly)	1 piece (every 3 years)	1 piece	1 piece (every 3 years)	2 pairs (yearly)	2 pairs (yearly)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Goggles: 1 pair ● Face shield: 1 piece ● Safety cotton gloves: 1 pair ● Ear plugs: 1 pair ● Apron: 1 piece ● Sleeves: 1 pair
4.	Disinfection service	2-4 pieces (daily/to be replenished when necessary)	2 pairs (monthly)	4 pairs (monthly)	1 piece * (every 3 years)	1 piece	N.A.	1 pair (yearly)	1 pair (yearly)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Goggles: 1 pair ● N95 face mask: 2 pieces ● Leather gloves: 1 pair ● Shoe covers: 1 pair ● Face shield: 1 piece ● Coverall: 1 piece
5.	Special cleansing team service	2-4 pieces (daily/to be replenished when necessary)	2 pairs (monthly)	4 pairs (monthly)	1 piece (every 3 years)	1 piece	1 piece (every 3 years)	1 pair (yearly)	1 pair (yearly)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Goggles: 1 pair ● Safety boots: 1 pair (yearly) ● Safety cotton gloves: 1 pair ● Life jacket: 1 piece

Notes: * Cleansing workers working in various environment settings are provided with adequate and suitable personal protective equipment.
 () denotes the replacement schedule.
 All protective equipment can be replaced, upon request, ahead of the replacement schedule when necessary (e.g. damaged, unsuitable).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)131

(Question Serial No. 1353)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- A) Please provide details of the staff establishment, salary points of staff members and number of staff vacancies of the authority responsible for testing imported food.
- B) How many testing and examination facilities are there? Is it necessary to purchase new machinery to cope with the COVID-19 epidemic situation?
- C) How many COVID-19 tests are conducted on imported foods? What percentage of imported food products is tested? Based on the experience of other countries and regions, what has been done to prevent the importation of the COVID-19 virus through the cold chain? Is this sufficient to prevent the importation of the virus into Hong Kong via this pathway?

Asked by: Hon LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey (LegCo internal reference no.: 48)

Reply:

(A) & (B) A portion of imported food samples collected by the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) will undergo chemical testing by the Man Kam To Food Laboratory under the CFS. The Government Laboratory and the Public Health Laboratory Services Branch of the Department of Health (DH) will also be commissioned to perform tests on samples as necessitated by the items to be tested.

The food laboratory under the FEHD is staffed by 19 civil servants. There is currently no vacancy. Details of its staff establishment and the salary points of the staff are set out below:

Post titles of food laboratory staff	Counts	Salary points (Master Pay Scale)
Senior Chemist	1	45-49
Chemist	2	27-44

Post titles of food laboratory staff	Counts	Salary points (Master Pay Scale)
Science Laboratory Technologist	1	29-33
Science Laboratory Technician I	6	22-28
Science Laboratory Technician II	6	8-21
Laboratory Attendant	2	5-8
Assistant Clerical Officer	1	3-15
Total:	19	

Regarding COVID-19 testing on imported frozen foods and their packaging by the CFS, all samples are tested by the Public Health Laboratory Services Branch of the DH. No resources of the food laboratory of the FEHD are involved in this aspect of work.

- (C) The CFS has been collecting samples of various types of frozen foods and their packaging at the import level for COVID-19 testing since mid-2020. As at late March 2021, over 6 000 relevant samples of food (mainly seafood and meat) imported from 50 places have been collected for testing. The results were all negative. We do not keep statistics on the share of different imported frozen foods sampled for testing. The CFS will continue to take samples of imported frozen foods and their packaging to closely monitor the risk of virus transmission via frozen food imports.

Moreover, to enhance monitoring of the risks in handling frozen foods, the FEHD has arranged free COVID-19 testing for practitioners of licensed cold stores on an ongoing basis since November 2020. As at late March 2021, over 5 800 samples have been tested. The test results were all negative. The FEHD will continue to provide testing services for practitioners of licensed cold stores. Persons who have undergone the tests are also entitled for retesting.

To further prevent the risk of contracting the virus in cold stores, the CFS initiated discussions with cold store operators on stepping up of disinfection of the outer package of imported frozen foods and the working environment of cold stores in November 2020. In December 2020, the CFS issued guidelines to licensed cold stores advising on preventive measures, including disinfection methods and personal protection, etc. The FEHD will continue to work with the frozen food trade to enhance the anti-epidemic work with regard to imported frozen foods.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)132

(Question Serial No. 1888)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the financial provision of \$600 million earmarked in the 2019-20 Budget to implement the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme, please set out:

1. the names of the public toilets which have completed and commenced refurbishment works since the implementation of the programme, with their commencement and completion dates of the works concerned as well as the expenditure involved for each of the works; and
2. the names of the public toilets which are expected to be refurbished in this financial year, with their commencement and completion dates of the works concerned as well as the expenditure to be involved for each of the works.

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 58)

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 (FEHD) 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 toilet facilities and the level of hygiene. FEHD has been working closely with the Architectural Services Department. In the first year of the programme (2019-20), refurbishment or facelifting projects for 42 public toilets, with a project estimate of about \$168 million, were rolled out. The facelifting or refurbishment works for 22 public toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. A list of the 42 public toilets with their works schedules and project estimates is at Annex I. The refurbishment or facelifting projects for 49 public toilets have also been rolled out in the second year (2020-21), with a project estimate of about \$149 million. The facelifting works for 20 public toilets have been completed and the remaining works are underway as planned. A list of the 49 public toilets with their works schedules and project estimates is at Annex II.

2. FEHD is planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifiting works for 50 public toilets in 2021-22, with a project estimate of about \$160 million. A list of the public toilets is at Annex III. Local views will be taken into consideration in the implementation arrangements. Details of the works are not available at the present stage.

**List of 42 public toilets under the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme
in 2019-20 (as at 9 March 2021)**

(A) 20 Refurbishment projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
1.	Lok Ku Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	8.400	From April 2022 to February 2023
2.	Ladder Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	6.240	From April 2023 to February 2024
3.	Rumsey Street Multi Storey Car-park Public Toilet	Central & Western	3.876	To be confirmed
4.	Morrison Hill Road Public Toilet	Wan Chai	3.580	From May 2021 to November 2022
5.	No.16 Aberdeen Main Road Public Toilet	Southern	9.600	From October 2021 to November 2022
6.	Science Museum Rd Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	6.000	From January to September 2021
7.	Sunny Bay Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	6.800	From December 2020 to September 2021
8.	Wang Lung Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	5.797	From June 2021 to March 2022
9.	Hong King Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	6.000	From June 2021 to March 2022
10.	Sheung Shui Wai Po Sheung Tsuen Public Toilet	North	7.000	From August 2021 to April 2022
11.	Fong Ma Po Public Toilet	Tai Po	5.928	From July 2020 to February 2021 (completed)
12.	Ma Wo Public Toilet	Tai Po	3.543	From February to October 2021
13.	Tap Mun Pier Public Toilet	Tai Po	4.212	From April to December 2021
14.	Tseng Lan Shue Public Toilet	Sai Kung	3.528	From May to November 2021

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
15.	Ma Liu Shui Waterfront Public Toilet	Sha Tin	5.928	From June 2021 to January 2022
16.	Science Park Road Public Toilet	Sha Tin	4.896	From January to July 2021
17.	Shan Mei Street Public Toilet	Sha Tin	3.764	To be confirmed
18.	Shap Yi Watt Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	3.468	From August 2021 to April 2022
19.	Tai Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Sha Tin	4.900	From April to November 2021
20.	To Tau Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	3.348	From May to December 2021

[#] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

(B) 22 Facelifting projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates
1.	Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall Public Toilet	Central & Western	1.800	From May to September 2020 (completed)
2.	Wing Lok Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	1.700	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
3.	Wan Chai Market Public Toilet	Wan Chai	1.500	From January to April 2021
4.	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	Islands	2.892	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
5.	Tat Tung Road Public Toilet	Islands	2.870	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
6.	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	2.000	From September 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
7.	Jordan Road Public Toilet	Yau Tsim	2.600	From September 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
8.	Market Street Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yau Tsim	2.000	From October 2019 to April 2020 (completed)
9.	Mong Kok Road Public Toilet	Mong Kok	4.000	From June 2020 to October 2020 (completed)
10.	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Mong Kok	4.800	From September 2020 to February 2021 (completed)
11.	Sai Yee Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	3.800	From May 2020 to October 2020 (completed)
12.	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Sham Shui Po	4.500	From June to November 2019 (completed)
13.	Pei Ho Street Market G/F & 1/F Toilet	Sham Shui Po	6.300	G/F: From September to December 2019 (completed) 1/F: From October 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
14.	Yen Chow Street Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	2.530	From December 2019 to May 2020 (completed)
15.	Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Kwun Tong	3.000	From August to December 2020 (completed)
16.	Shung Yan Street Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	0.800	From February to July 2020 (completed)
17.	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	3.320	From October 2019 to May 2020 (completed)

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates
18.	Kwai Hing Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	2.860	From October 2019 to May 2020 (completed)
19.	Chai Wan Kok Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	2.088	From April to July 2020 (completed)
20.	Chuen Lung Village Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	1.703	From October 2019 to February 2020 (completed)
21.	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	2.200	From October 2019 to January 2020 (completed)
22.	Shing Mun Road (Shing Mun Valley) Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	1.760	From May to September 2020 (completed)

**List of 49 public toilets under the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme
in 2020-21 (as at 9 March 2021)**

(A) 20 Refurbishment projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
1.	Wellington Street Public Toilet (Male Only)	Central & Western	3.392	From April to October 2022
2.	Wa Hing Lane Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Central & Western	6.288	From July 2022 to March 2023
3.	Ice House Street Public Toilet	Central & Western	5.205	From June 2022 to February 2023
4.	Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Central & Western	5.160	From March to October 2022
5.	Stanley Tytam Village Public Toilet	Southern	2.080	From November 2021 to April 2022
6.	South Bay Public Toilet	Southern	2.080	From November 2022 to April 2023
7.	Round Table I Village Public Toilet	Islands	4.592	From April to November 2022
8.	Ma Wan Chung Public Toilet	Islands	6.097	From August 2022 to March 2023
9.	Anchor Street Playground Public Toilet	Mong Kok	4.590	From February to August 2022
10.	Chung Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	4.000	From April to September 2022
11.	Kin Lung Street Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	4.400	From April to December 2022
12.	Tai Tong Road Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Yuen Long	7.160	From July 2022 to April 2023
13.	Kuk Ting Street Public Toilet	Yuen Long	6.600	From July 2022 to April 2023
14.	Luk Keng Public Toilet	North	2.550	From January to July 2022
15.	Yue Kok Public Toilet	Tai Po	2.920	From November 2021 to April 2022
16.	Tung Ping Chau Public Toilet	Tai Po	6.950	From July 2022 to June 2023

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
17.	Tap Mun Ha Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	3.710	From February to August 2022
18.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village North Public Toilet	Tai Po	2.900	From February to July 2023
19.	Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village South Public Toilet	Tai Po	2.900	From September 2022 to February 2023
20.	Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate Public Toilet	Sai Kung	3.538	From December 2021 to July 2022

[#] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

(B) 29 Facelifting projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
1.	Kennedy Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	0.880	From September to December 2020 (completed)
2.	Macau Ferry Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Central & Western	5.110	Design proposal in progress
3.	Hospital Road Public Toilet	Central & Western	0.990	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
4.	Quarry Bay Market Public Toilet	Eastern	2.280	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
5.	Pak Fuk Road Public Toilet	Eastern	3.900	From October 2020 to February 2021 (completed)
6.	Yip Fat Street Public Toilet	Southern	1.100	From October 2020 to February 2021 (completed)
7.	Sok Kwu Wan Public Toilet	Islands	2.430	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
8.	Lo Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Islands	1.460	From October to December 2020 (completed)
9.	Shui Hau Public Toilet	Islands	1.460	From September to December 2020 (completed)
10.	Pok Man Street Public Toilet	Mong Kok	3.900	From November 2020 to April 2021
11.	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Sham Shui Po	1.750	From August to November 2020 (completed)
12.	Lung Kong Road Public Toilet	Kowloon City	4.620	Design proposal in progress
13.	Kei Yip Lane Public Toilet	Kwun Tong	3.200	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
14.	Tai Lin Pai Road Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	3.200	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
15.	Ta Chuen Ping Street Public Toilet	Kwai Tsing	4.240	From September 2020 to February 2021 (completed)

[#] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Project estimate (\$ million)	Tentative/actual commencement and completion dates[#]
16.	Tin Sum San Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	1.530	From August 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
17.	San Wai Public Toilet	Yuen Long	1.530	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
18.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (I)	Yuen Long	1.110	From September 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
19.	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (II)	Yuen Long	1.110	From January 2021 to May 2021
20.	Wo Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	North	2.240	From November 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
21.	Shui Wai Public Toilet	Tai Po	1.050	From October 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
22.	Tai Po Tau South Public Toilet	Tai Po	1.700	Design proposal in progress
23.	Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	2.070	From December 2020 to April 2021
24.	Wo Liu Hang Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	1.100	Design proposal in progress
25.	Fo Tan Village Public Toilet	Sha Tin	1.100	From December 2020 to April 2021
26.	Pak Kong Tsuen Public Toilet	Sai Kung	1.790	From October 2020 to January 2021 (completed)
27.	Tai Po Tsai Lower Village Public Toilet	Sai Kung	1.670	From November 2020 to February 2021 (completed)
28.	Tai Mong Tsai Public Toilet	Sai Kung	1.840	From September to December 2020 (completed)
29.	Sha Kiu (Leung Shuen Wan) Public Toilet	Sai Kung	1.640	From March to July 2021

[#] The commencement and completion dates are subject to the progress of public consultation.

Annex III

**List of 50 public toilets under the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme
in 2021-22**

(A) 20 Refurbishment projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Oil Street Public Toilet	Eastern	At side of No. 3 Oil Street
2.	Middle Bay Public Toilet	Southern	South Bay Road near Middle Bay
3.	Cheung Chau Peak Road Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Islands	Peak Road, Cheung Chau
4.	Ngong Ping Road Public Toilet	Islands	Ngong Ping Road, Lantau
5.	Peng Chau Wing On Side Street Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Islands	Wing On Side Street, Peng Chau
6.	Round Table III Village Public Toilet	Islands	Round Table III Village, Cheung Chau
7.	Tong Fuk Village Public Toilet (Lower)	Islands	Tong Fuk Village, South Lantau
8.	Fung Cheung Road Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Fung Cheung Road (Near Fung Kwan Street Indoor Recreation Centre) Yuen Long
9.	Hang Mei Tsuen Public Toilet (Bio-treatment)	Yuen Long	Hang Mei Tsuen, Ping Ha Road, Ping Shan, Yuen Long
10.	Lok Ma Chau Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau Public Transport Interchange
11.	Pok Wai Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Pok Wai, Pok Wai Road, San Tin, Yuen Long
12.	Shap Pat Heung Choi Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Choi Uk Tsuen, Long Yat Road, Yuen Long
13.	Fanling Wai (South) Public Toilet	North	San Wan Road in front of Nam Hing Tong, Fanling Wai (South)
14.	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Carpark Public Toilet	North	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Carpark
15.	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Public Toilet	North	Inside Sheung Shui Heung Sitting-out Area No. 9
16.	Shung Him Tong Public Toilet	North	Entrance to Shung Him Tong Tsuen, Fanling
17.	Wo Hop Shek Tsuen Public Toilet	North	Carpark at side of Wo Hing Tsuen, Fanling
18.	Nai Chung Pier Public Toilet	Tai Po	At side of Nai Chung Pier
19.	Pak Shing Street Public Toilet-cum-Bathhouse	Tai Po	Pak Shing Street, Tai Po
20.	Tai Po Market MTR Station Public Toilet	Tai Po	Tai Po Market Station, Tai Po

(B) 30 Facelifting Projects

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
1.	Wu Nam Street Public Toilet	Southern	Wu Nam Street near Aberdeen Bus Terminus
2.	Chung Hau Village Public Toilet, Mui Wo	Islands	Chung Hau Village, Mui Wo
3.	Tung Chung Hau Wong Temple Public Toilet	Islands	Hau Wong Temple, Tung Chung
4.	Shek Mun Kap Public Toilet	Islands	Shek Mun Kap, Tung Chung
5.	Kwong Pan Tin Village Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	Kwong Pan Tin Tsuen, Route Twisk, Tsuen Wan
6.	Pak Tin Pa San Tsuen Public Toilet	Tsuen Wan	Pak Tin Pa San Tsuen, Tsuen Wan
7.	Hung Cheung Road Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	Hung Cheung Road, Tuen Mun (at side of public car park)
8.	San Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	Tuen Mun	San Hing Tsuen
9.	Fung Kut Heung Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Fung Kat Heung, Fung Kat Heung Road, Kam Tin, Yuen Long
10.	Shui Mei Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Shui Mei, Kam Tin, Kam Tin Yuen Long
11.	Small Traders New Village Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Small Traders New Village, Siu Sheung Road, Yuen Long
12.	Tan Kwai Tsuen Road Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Tan Kwai Tsuen Road Garden, Tan Kwai Tsuen Road, Hung Shui Kiu, Yuen Long
13.	Tin Shui Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Tin Yan Road, Tin Shui Wai
14.	Tsang Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Long	Tsang Uk Tsuen, Sheung Tsuen, Kam Sheung Road, Pat Heung, Yuen Long
15.	Kat O Island Public Toilet	North	At side of Kai To Pier, Kat O Island
16.	Luen Cheong Street Public Toilet	North	Luen Cheong Street at side of footbridge NF252, Fanling
17.	Ma Wat Tsuen Public Toilet	North	Ma Wat Tsuen, Fanling
18.	Nam Chung Public Toilet	North	At side of Nam Chung Children Playground, Sha Tau Kok
19.	Chung Shun Lane Public Toilet	Tai Po	Chung Shun Lane, Tai Po
20.	Hang Ha Po Public Toilet	Tai Po	Hang Ha Po Village, Tai Po
21.	Hoi Ha Public Toilet	Tai Po	At entrance of Hoi Ha Village
22.	Pak Sha O Public Toilet	Tai Po	Pak Sha O
23.	Sam Mun Tsai Village (North) Public Toilet	Tai Po	Sam Mun Tsai Village, Tai Po

Serial no.	Name of public toilet	District	Address
24.	Sam Mun Tsai Village (South) Public Toilet	Tai Po	Sam Mun Tsai Village, Tai Po
25.	Yung Shue O Public Toilet	Tai Po	Yung Shue O Village, near Lamp post No. V4788
26.	Ham Tin Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Ham Tin
27.	Hiram's Highway (Nam Wai) Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Hiram's Highway, near Lamp post EA9898-1
28.	Tai Chung Hau Public Toilet	Sai Kung	At junction of Hiram's Highway and Tai Chung Hau Village
29.	Tsam Chuk Wan Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Near the Anti-Japanese Martyrs Monuments in Tsam Chuk Wan
30.	Tso Wo Hang Public Toilet	Sai Kung	Tso Wo Hang

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)133

(Question Serial No. 3033)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In early 2021, the Office of The Ombudsman announced the launch of a direct investigation to examine the effectiveness of rodent prevention and control by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department). The Ombudsman criticised the Department for committing "5 deadly sins", which included the ineffectiveness in rodent control, the failure of Rodent Infestation Rate surveys to reflect the actual situation, the grave problems of rodent infestation in a number of markets, the nuisances caused to the daily life of the general public and the spread of serious diseases. Please advise this Committee of:

- (1) the number of rodent infestation complaints received, the number of live rodents caught, the number of rodents poisoned, and the expenditure involved in rodent prevention and control in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by District Council district;
- (2) the number of fixed penalty notices issued, the number of prosecutions instituted and the penalties imposed in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by District Council district; and
- (3) the work to be carried out by the Department, the relevant timetable and the breakdown of the expenditure involved in 2021-22 in regard to The Ombudsman's direct investigation.

Asked by: Hon LEE Wai-king, Starry (LegCo internal reference no.: 75)

Reply:

In its press release issued on 14 January 2021, the Office of The Ombudsman pointed out that there were diverse public views on the rodent control work carried out by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and that the problems of rodent infestation in Hong Kong had received wide media coverage. Thus, it announced the launch of a direct investigation in this regard. The direct investigation is still underway.

- (1) The number of rodent infestation complaints received, the number of dead rodents collected and the number of live rodents caught by the Department in each year between

2018 and 2020, with a breakdown by District Council district, are provided at Annex I. The expenditure on rodent control services in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 was \$198.3 million, \$217.7 million and \$242.4 million (revised estimate) respectively.

- (2) The Department mainly takes enforcement actions against offences like illegal disposal of refuse and preparation of food or washing of utensils at open space (such as rear lanes) that give rise to environmental hygiene concerns and rodent infestation. Pursuant to the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance (Cap. 570), the Department will issue to an offender a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN), which is currently at \$1,500. Besides, the Department will also take enforcement actions against offences like preparation of food or washing of utensils at open space (such as rear lanes) under section 13 of the Food Business Regulation (Cap. 132X). The fines imposed upon conviction range from \$500 to \$5,000.

The number of FPNs issued by the Department against littering and the number of prosecutions taken under section 13 of Cap. 132X between 2018 and 2020, with a breakdown by District Council district, are provided at Annex II.

- (3) The direct investigation of The Ombudsman is still underway. The Department will continue to assist The Ombudsman in carrying out the investigation at the present stage, and will consider the recommendations made in the investigation report and take appropriate follow-up measures after it is released.

**Number of rodent infestation complaints received,
number of dead rodents collected and number of live rodents caught**

District	2018		
	Number of rodent infestation complaints received	Number of dead rodents collected	Number of live rodents caught
Central and Western	992	1 890	1 763
Eastern	884	2 398	890
Southern	171	713	439
Wan Chai	909	1 622	805
Kowloon City	1 128	2 592	1 666
Kwun Tong	487	2 434	819
Wong Tai Sin	338	1 441	413
Sham Shui Po	1 381	3 853	2 241
Yau Tsim Mong	695	2 097	1 895
Mong Kok	504	1 120	469
Yau Tsim Mong			
Sha Tin	696	858	703
Tai Po	352	771	585
North	387	1 034	464
Kwai Tsing	336	408	520
Tsuen Wan	376	823	1 631
Tuen Mun	411	503	128
Yuen Long	892	1 654	602
Sai Kung	381	480	231
Islands	343	1 183	240
Whole territory	11 663	27 874	16 504

District	2019		
	Number of rodent infestation complaints received	Number of dead rodents collected	Number of live rodents caught
Central and Western	1 074	2 029	1 661
Eastern	818	2 330	1 182
Southern	112	611	464
Wan Chai	988	1 533	1 213
Kowloon City	952	3 459	2 019
Kwun Tong	556	2 929	3 476
Wong Tai Sin	357	1 557	606
Sham Shui Po	1 200	3 578	3 291
Yau Tsim Mong	624	3 028	2 684
Mong Kok	537	1 144	347
Yau Tsim Mong			
Sha Tin	711	1 018	766
Tai Po	344	780	591
North	485	1 119	580
Kwai Tsing	295	395	768
Tsuen Wan	311	1 125	1 767

District	2019		
	Number of rodent infestation complaints received	Number of dead rodents collected	Number of live rodents caught
Tuen Mun	458	465	371
Yuen Long	776	1 554	1 490
Sai Kung	372	432	210
Islands	359	1 173	241
Whole territory	11 329	30 259	23 727

District	2020			
	Number of rodent infestation complaints received	Number of dead rodents collected	Number of live rodents caught	
Central and Western	826	2 006	1 626	
Eastern	872	2 245	1 313	
Southern	172	647	492	
Wan Chai	881	1 302	2 081	
Kowloon City	929	2 753	2 054	
Kwun Tong	517	3 848	4 357	
Wong Tai Sin	245	1 305	1 507	
Sham Shui Po	844	3 254	4 173	
Yau Tsim Mong	Mong Kok	525	5 059	4 238
	Yau Tsim	563	1 324	300
Sha Tin		506	1 118	737
Tai Po		384	771	589
North		394	1 102	580
Kwai Tsing		384	469	753
Tsuen Wan		383	1 034	1 837
Tuen Mun		380	548	321
Yuen Long		928	1 520	1 449
Sai Kung		400	521	226
Islands		198	1 162	239
Whole territory		10 331	31 988	28 872

**Number of FPNs issued against littering and number of prosecutions taken
under section 13 of the Food Business Regulation (Cap. 132X)**

(1) Number of FPNs issued against littering

District	2018	2019	2020
Central and Western	4 343	3 935	3 172
Eastern	2 384	2 275	2 971
Southern	877	687	508
Wan Chai	3 054	2 597	2 575
Kowloon City	1 352	1 372	1 404
Kwun Tong	1 731	2 040	2 466
Wong Tai Sin	787	894	848
Sham Shui Po	2 303	3 010	2 815
Yau Tsim Mong	5 451	4 886	4 731
Mong Kok	2 755	3 028	3 333
Sha Tin	1 477	1 485	1 566
Tai Po	953	809	1 112
North	5 704	5 015	2 514
Kwai Tsing	2 359	2 131	1 901
Tsuen Wan	1 548	1 431	1 476
Tuen Mun	1 334	1 531	1 887
Yuen Long	3 731	3 161	4 834
Sai Kung	699	692	824
Islands	518	932	800
Whole territory	43 360	41 911	41 737

(2) Number of prosecutions taken under section 13 of the Food Business Regulation (Cap. 132X)

District	2018	2019	2020
Central and Western	6	5	2
Eastern	13	10	2
Southern	3	2	3
Wan Chai	0	1	1
Kowloon City	6	1	1
Kwun Tong	21	8	7
Wong Tai Sin	13	13	3
Sham Shui Po	6	10	5
Yau Tsim Mong	25	21	27
Mong Kok	3	29	5
Sha Tin	3	4	1
Tai Po	0	1	3
North	0	4	0
Kwai Tsing	4	5	1
Tsuen Wan	11	8	17
Tuen Mun	10	9	0
Yuen Long	7	9	8
Sai Kung	1	3	1
Islands	5	2	1
Whole territory	137	145	88

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)134

(Question Serial No. 0373)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (1) Of the additional provision of \$80.4 million, what percentage will be allocated for pest control services?
- (2) What are the items involved regarding the additional expenditure on pest control services? What is the expenditure involved for each item?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Che-cheung (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

Of the estimated additional expenditure of \$80.40 million under the Programme of Food Safety and Public Health, \$43.30 million will be the expenditure for enhancing pest control services. This is mainly for the procurement of additional outsourced services for pest control. These services include the prevention and control of mosquitoes and rodents. Specific 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; and patrolling areas with potential rodent problems and carrying out prevention and control work to eliminate the food sources and hiding places of rodents as well as blocking their dispersal routes in a targeted manner. These are supplemented by various elimination methods, such as applying rodenticides and placing trapping devices.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)135

(Question Serial No. 1617)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (1) What is the latest progress of the provision of the new public market in Tin Shui Wai?
- (2) What are the details of the ongoing work procedures?
- (3) Is there any plan to shorten the construction time of the market? If so, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Che-cheung (LegCo internal reference no.: 77)

Reply:

- (1)-(3) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is working with relevant departments to press ahead with the new public market project in Tin Shui Wai, including making an application to the Town Planning Board under section 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance for the construction of the proposed new public market at a section of Tin Fuk Road. The works contract of the project will be tendered through the “design and build” mode in order to minimise the time required for the works as far as possible. The Architectural Services Department is assessing the pre-qualification application of tenderers for the contract. If things are progressing well, the entire new market project is expected to complete in the first half of 2027.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)136

(Question Serial No. 2462)

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 Diane WONG)

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 the number of 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?
5. Please explain the reasons behind the substantial increase in the number of rodent trappings from 68 490 in 2019 to 81 830 in 2020. Has there been a change in the rodent control strategy of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

1. The information sought is provided at the Annex.

2. The information sought is tabulated 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^{note}
2018-19	\$630 million	\$198 million	\$248 million	\$610 million
2019-20	\$663 million	\$218 million	\$268 million	\$914 million
2020-21	\$726 million	\$242 million	\$271 million	\$1.125 billion
2021-22	\$769 million	\$259 million	\$275 million	\$1.331 billion

Note: Revised estimate and Estimate expenditure for 2020-21 and 2021-22 respectively.

Year	Total number of staff engaging in pest control work	Total number of staff employed by pest control service contractors
2018	699	1 860
2019	727	1 970
2020	740	2 180
2021	744	2 200

3. In the past 3 years, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department launched a total of 6 anti-rodent operations in designated target areas across the territory in April and October 2018, May and November 2019 and May and November 2020 respectively. The measures taken included elimination of food sources and hiding places of rodents as well as blocking their passages. The effectiveness of these anti-rodent operations in the past 3 years are as follows:

Item	2018	2019	2020
Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation	17 678	16 637	15 808
Number of rodent trappings	22 475	38 274	34 982
Number of rat holes filled	803	799	443
Number of dead rodents collected	1 636	1 817	1 226
Number of live rodents caught	1 305	1 573	1 121

4. From 2018 to 2020, the tests conducted by the Department on the rodent control methods/equipment adopted from different places, the expenditure involved and the effectiveness of each method are 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 surveys	Germany	The bait was tested in public rear lanes in 10 districts between February and September 2018. The results were unsatisfactory.	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 Kok District between April and July 2019. The results have shown that the system with artificial intelligence 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
Using a poisonous bait having flavours of food for rodent disinfestation	Australia	The bait was tested in the laboratory and public rear lanes in 7 districts respectively for its attractiveness to rodents and poisoning efficacy between October 2019 and July 2020. The results have shown that the poisonous bait is effective in attracting the consumption of rodents and poisoning them. The Department will introduce the use of the bait in its regular anti-rodent work.	Around \$1,000
New design snap trap	Germany	The snap trap was tested in 5 districts and 6 markets respectively between January and June 2020. The results have shown that the new design snap trap is effective in catching rodents. The Department will introduce the use of the snap trap in its regular anti-rodent work.	Around \$3,000

Rodent control method/technology	Place of origin	Effectiveness	Expenditure
Using a transparent plastic rodent trapping device to catch rodents	Mainland China	The rodent trapping device was tested in public places in 3 districts between September 2020 and February 2021. The results have shown that the rodent trapping device is not as effective as traditional cage traps in catching rodents.	Around \$4,000
Placing poisonous baits in a T-shaped bait box	Mainland China	The bait box was tested in Kwun Tong District between October and November 2020. The results have shown that the T-shaped bait box is more effective in attracting rodents to enter and consume the baits than ordinary rectangular bait boxes. The Department will introduce the use of the T-shaped bait box in its regular anti-rodent work.	Around \$1,000
Thermal imaging camera surveillance system	Hong Kong	The Department conducted field trials on thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence analytical function in rear lanes in Kowloon City District and 9 target areas of the first round of anti-rodent operation in designated target areas in 2020. Both tests have shown that the new technology is quite effective in identifying places where rodents frequently visit and the time and pattern of rodent activities, as well as assessing and quantifying anti-rodent work. The Department installed thermal imaging cameras at the selected locations of all target areas during the second round of anti-rodent operation in designated target areas in November 2020. The Department plans for a wider use of thermal imaging cameras at suitable locations in all districts across the territory in the future (including during the anti-rodent operations in designated target areas) with a view to increasing the effectiveness of the operations, and	Around \$3.96 million

Rodent control method/technology	Place of origin	Effectiveness	Expenditure
		will recommend the technology to other departments.	

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 places. The Department keeps an open mind on trying out or adopting new technology/methods to further enhance the effectiveness of its rodent control work, on the premise that the methods are suitable for use in local circumstances.

5. In response to increasing public concerns about rodent infestation, the Department has persistently stepped up its anti-rodent work. The number of rodent trappings conducted in trapping operations increased from 68 490 in 2019 to 81 830 in 2020. In the same period, the number of rodents caught also increased from 23 727 to 28 872 while that of rodent complaints received decreased from 11 329 to 10 331.

Disinfestation operations by the Department in public places alone cannot solve the problem. Rodent control measures taken by the public in their own premises are also important. It is part of the Department's anti-rodent operations to provide education on prevention and control of rodent infestation to the public and offer them technical support.

District	2018							RIR
	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	
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%
Whole territory	93 815	60 432	27 874	16 504	9 129	699#	11 663	3.4%

Only surveys conducted under the Rodent Infestation Survey and the Rat-flea Survey are listed. Other rodent surveys (1 334 in number) 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%
Whole territory	98 322	68 490	30 259	23 727	12 963	633 [^]	11 329	4.2%

[^] Only surveys conducted under the Rodent Infestation Survey and the Rat-flea Survey are listed. Other rodent surveys (1 325 in number) are not included in the breakdown.

District	2020							
	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	4 752	5 058	2 006	1 626	193	25	826	2.2%
Eastern	19 813	2 895	2 245	1 313	171	40	872	7.4%
Southern	3 641	1 118	647	492	65	28	172	3.0%
Wan Chai	13 184	4 085	1 302	2 081	816	38	881	1.8%
Kowloon City	4 608	13 393	2 753	2 054	343	35	929	4.4%
Kwun Tong	6 016	4 107	3 848	4 357	325	45	517	4.5%
Wong Tai Sin	832	2 234	1 305	1 507	134	30	245	1.2%
Sham Shui Po	270	4 850	3 254	4 173	2 654	40	844	2.4%
Yau Tsim Mong	2 685	11 586	6 383	4 538	4 729	50	1 088	7.4% (Yau Tsim) 3.0% (Mong Kok)
Sha Tin	5 060	9 679	1 118	737	956	32	506	6.0%
Tai Po	13 260	419	771	589	503	40	384	6.4%
North	1 701	470	1 102	580	100	35	394	2.5%
Kwai Tsing	1 296	3 086	469	753	295	47	384	3.2%
Tsuen Wan	2 981	5 212	1 034	1 837	324	42	383	5.6%
Tuen Mun	5 274	2 023	548	321	85	43	380	2.0%
Yuen Long	5 314	7 263	1 520	1 449	18	45	928	3.0%
Sai Kung	8 672	1 737	521	226	254	35	400	1.5%
Islands	742	2 615	1 162	239	382	28	198	1.4%
Whole territory	100 101	81 830	31 988	28 872	12 347	678*	10 331	3.6%

* Only surveys conducted under the Rodent Infestation Survey and the Rat-flea Survey are listed. Other rodent surveys (1 292 in number) are not included in the breakdown.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)137

(Question Serial No. 2532)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the number of various protective gears (including but not limited to face masks, gloves and protective coverall suits) procured by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) or provided by the Government Logistics Department in the light of the COVID-19 epidemic, what were the expenditures involved in the past 2 financial years? How many were distributed to FEHD's street cleaners and cleansing staff of outsourced contractors?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) attaches great importance to the safety and occupational health 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 to take appropriate protective measures, which include providing staff with adequate and suitable protective gear and safety training. In 2019-20 and 2020-21 (as at February 2021), the personal protective equipment (PPE) received from the Government Logistics Department included about 8.2 million face masks, 170 000 pairs of gloves and 50 000 protective coverall suits for use by in-house staff. The expenditure incurred was about \$4 million. FEHD does not keep statistics on the PPE distributed to in-house street cleaners.

Outsourced contractors provided PPE for their staff and FEHD does not keep such statistics. Nevertheless, for face masks, in view of the COVID-19 epidemic and the overall tight supply of masks, the Government has made temporary arrangements to provide masks for the frontline staff of outsourced cleansing contractors since February 2020 to safeguard their health and maintain daily cleansing service. In 2019-20 and 2020-21 (as at February 2021), a total of about 12.4 million face masks were provided for frontline staff of outsourced contractors at an expenditure of about \$2 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)138

(Question Serial No. 2537)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the number of outsourced service contracts, the total amount paid to outsourced service contractors, the respective total numbers of supervisors, workers, cleansing workers, security guards and staff engaged by outsourced service contractors and the distribution of monthly wages of outsourced staff of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in each of the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 48)

Reply:

The information sought is as follows:

Year	2018-19 (as at 31.3.2019)	2019-20 (as at 31.3.2020)	2020-21 (as at 31.12.2020)
Number of outsourced service contracts	160	167	176
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers (\$ billion)	2.4664	2.9487	3.7349 ^{Note 1}
Number of supervisors/drivers/coxswains engaged by outsourced service contractors ^{Note 2}	1 661	1 750	1 830
Number of cleansing workers engaged by outsourced service contractors ^{Notes 2 & 3}	9 915	10 363	10 759
Number of other workers engaged by outsourced service contractors ^{Note 2}	941	971	1 002
Number of security guards engaged by outsourced service contractors ^{Note 2}	526	530	513
Total number of staff engaged by outsourced service contractors ^{Note 2}	13 043	13 614	14 104
The distribution of monthly wages of staff engaged by outsourced service contractors ^{Note 4}			
\$20,001-\$30,000	-	-	14
\$16,001-\$20,000	-	-	8
\$13,001-\$16,000	11	305	2 392
\$10,001-\$13,000	1 202	6 080	8 144
\$9,001-\$10,000	4 625	5 371	1 680
\$9,000 or below	5 447	-	-

Note 1: The revised estimate for 2020-21.

Note 2: The number of outsourced staff is the number of functional posts specified in the contracts.

Note 3: Inclusive of toilet attendants and general workers/operatives in relation to cleansing services.

Note 4: Only the distribution of wages of non-skilled workers is available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)139

(Question Serial No. 2538)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the annual staff establishment, expenditure on salaries and total expenditure of the Private Columbaria Affairs Office (PCAO) since its establishment. Please also provide the number of inspections conducted/enforcement actions taken, the number of suspected illegal private columbaria detected, as well as the respective numbers of arrests, prosecutions and convictions in relation to such operations, in each year since the establishment of the PCAO.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 49)

Reply:

Since the establishment of the Private Columbaria Affairs Office (PCAO) in 2017, the staff establishment, expenditure on salaries and total expenditure as at 31 March each year are tabulated as follows:

	2017-18 (actual)	2018-19 (actual)	2019-20 (actual)	2020-21 (revised estimate)	2021-22 (estimate)
Staff establishment	54	60	64	67	67
Expenditure on salaries (\$ million)	33.4	41.1	47.0	49.7	49.2
Total expenditure (\$ million)	43.1	63.5	69.1	72.8	83.6

The PCAO comprises the Private Columbaria Licensing Board Secretariat, the Licensing Team, the Enforcement Team, the Branch Administration Unit and the Financial Monitoring Team. Taking enforcement actions pursuant to the Private Columbaria Ordinance is one of its duties.

The number of inspections conducted/enforcement actions taken by the PCAO and the number of private columbaria suspected to be illegally operated, as well as the respective numbers of arrests, prosecutions and convictions, are tabulated as follows:

	2017 (Starting from 30/6/2017)	2018	2019	2020
Number of inspections conducted/enforcement actions taken	About 450	About 530	About 450	About 250
Number of private columbaria suspected to be illegally operated	26	56	18	30
Number of arrests	0	7	10	10
Number of prosecutions	0	0	3	3
Number of convictions	0	0	3	3

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)140****(Question Serial No. 2539)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please provide the number of licences granted, the number of licence applications approved in principle and the number of applications for a temporary suspension of liability approved in principle since the establishment of the Private Columbaria Licensing Board (PCLB). What are the annual remuneration expenses of the Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson and the members of PCLB respectively? Please also set out the private columbaria which are currently granted a licence and the number of days required for granting a licence.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)Reply:

The Private Columbaria Licensing Board (PCLB) has started to accept applications for specified instruments under the Private Columbaria Ordinance (Cap. 630) since 30 December 2017. As at 28 February 2021, the PCLB was processing 237 applications for specified instruments submitted by 99 private columbaria. The figures are summarised as follows:

Types of applications	Approved	Approved in principle	Refused	Withdrawn	Being processed
Application for a licence	6	2	21	11	87
Application for an exemption	1	1	12	9	39
Application for a temporary suspension of liability (TSOL)	0	11	29	13	111
Total number of applications	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	237
Number of private columbaria	7	13 ^{Note 1}	26	14	99 ^{Note 2}

Note 1: “Approval-in-principle” has been given to the application for a TSOL and the application for an exemption submitted by one columbarium.

Note 2: Including 13 columbaria in respect of which “approval-in-principle” has been given to their applications for a licence/an exemption/a TSOL.

The private columbaria which have been granted a licence include the Filial Park; the Pu Tong Ta, Chi Lin Nunnery; the Shan Yuan; the Shatin Po Fook Hill (excluding Miu King Tong); the Tung Wah Coffin Home; and the Lung Shan Temple. The PCLB has also given “approval-in-principle” to the licence applications submitted by the Fung Ying Seen Koon and the Po Tung Tower, Lo Hon Monastery.

The time the PCLB taking to process a licence application depends on the actual circumstances of each case, particularly whether the private columbarium has complied with the relevant requirements under 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), and whether the applicant has submitted sufficient documents to prove that the private columbarium has complied with such requirements. Upon receiving the documents or information submitted by the applicant as required for an application, the Private Columbaria Affairs Office (PCAO) will invite relevant departments to provide comments. The applicant will then be asked to take follow-up actions and submit reports, which will be forwarded to the relevant departments for vetting. After confirming that an individual licence application has complied with the application requirements, the PCAO will arrange for the submission of the application to the PCLB for determination.

The office of the Chairperson of the PCLB is held by a civil servant, and no separate remuneration is provided. The remuneration expenses of the Deputy Chairperson and the 7 members of the PCLB are as follows:

Year	Total remuneration expenses (\$)
2017-18	106,275
2018-19	184,080
2019-20	145,530
2020-21 (As at 28 February 2021)	110,790

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)141

(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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What work has been taken forward by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to enhance community environmental hygiene (such as cleansing places with confirmed cases) since 2019 in the light of the COVID-19 epidemic? Have additional manpower and expenditure been incurred for the work? If yes, what were the specific figures for each of the past 2 financial years?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 52)

Reply:

The main efforts of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department under the COVID-19 epidemic include:

- (a) cleansing and disinfecting the residences of confirmed patients as well as enhancing the sweeping and washing of public places in the vicinity, and providing daily household refuse collection service for home confinees (households of confinees) upon request during their quarantine period;
- (b) carrying out inspections of and enforcement against catering premises as well as the scheduled premises and facilities under the purview of the Department pursuant to the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 599) and its subsidiary legislation;
- (c) providing refuse collection, street washing and toilet cleansing services in public places within specified "restricted areas", and liaising with stakeholders;
- (d) strengthening street cleansing and refuse collection services in public places, which include enhanced cleansing of locations where littering and other public cleanliness offences are prevalent, pest control in public places, as well as inspections and enforcement against cleanliness offences;

- (e) stepping up cleansing, disinfection and pest control services for facilities under the Department's management, which include public markets, cooked food centres, hawker bazaars, public toilets and refuse collection points; and
- (f) commissioning a contractor to provide COVID-19 testing service for those working in catering premises, markets, Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse and cold stores as well as hawkers.

In the past 2 financial years, the Department deployed in-house resources and resources of its service contractors based on operational needs for anti-epidemic efforts against COVID-19. The additional manpower and expenditure incurred were absorbed by the overall financial provision for the Department and the Anti-epidemic Fund.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)142

(Question Serial No. 2544)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to combatting illegal deposit of refuse, please advise this Committee of:

1. the number of complaints received against illegal deposit of refuse, with a breakdown by district in each of the past 3 years;
2. 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;
3. the amount of illegally deposited refuse cleared in urban area and the expenditure involved;
4. the expenditure and manpower for combatting illegal deposit of refuse in each of the past 3 years, as well as the number of inspections;
5. the number of closed-circuit televisions currently installed at blackspots for monitoring purpose, and the number of offenders successfully prosecuted; and
6. the measures in place against illegal deposit of refuse.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 56)

Reply:

1. The numbers of complaints about street cleansing received in 2018, 2019 and 2020 were 62 834, 69 423 and 54 516 respectively. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep a separate breakdown on cases of illegal deposit of refuse on streets.
2. 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 43 360, 41 911 and 41 737 FPNs as well as 206, 145 and 181 summonses in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively. The maximum and minimum penalties imposed were \$3,000 and \$100 respectively.

3. The Department does not keep statistics on the amount of illegally deposited refuse cleared in urban area.
4. 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.
5. The Department has so far installed Internet Protocol (IP) cameras at about 240 illegal refuse deposit spots across the territory. In 2020-21 (as at 28 February), the Department issued 1 821 summonses to owners of the vehicles used for illegal deposit of refuse based on the footage captured.
6. Apart from installing IP cameras to combat illegal deposit of refuse, since mid-2017, the Department has set up 35 dedicated enforcement teams (DETs), primarily to step up enforcement action against various public cleanliness offences. Up to 28 February 2021, DETs have issued some 36 000 FPNs, and the hygiene condition of some 570 illegal refuse deposit blackspots has been markedly improved. In the second quarter of 2021, 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

FHB(FE)143

(Question Serial No. 2545)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide:

1. the manpower, salary expenditure and total expenditure involved in hawker control in each of the past 3 years and in the coming year;
2. the respective numbers of raids conducted, complaints against unlicensed hawking and obstruction as well as the arrests, prosecutions and convictions against unlicensed hawkers in 2018, 2019 and 2020;
3. the estimated number of unlicensed hawkers broken down by district in 2018, 2019 and 2020; and
4. the list of hawker blackspots.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 57)

Reply:

1. Information on the manpower and expenditure involved in hawker control by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department from 2018-19 to 2021-22 is provided at Annex I.
2. Information on the respective numbers of raids conducted, complaints against unlicensed hawking and obstruction as well as the arrests, prosecutions and convictions against unlicensed hawkers in 2018, 2019 and 2020 is provided at Annex II.
3. Information on the estimated number of unlicensed hawkers broken down by district in 2018, 2019 and 2020 is provided at Annex III.
4. The list of hawker blackspots broken down by district is provided at Annex IV.

Annex I

Manpower and expenditure involved in hawker control

Financial year	Staff establishment	Salary expenditure (\$ million)	Total expenditure (\$ million)
2018-19	2 264	972.3	1,134.2
2019-20	2 253	998.9	1,146.6
2020-21 (Revised estimate)	2 224	1,010.4	1,166.0
2021-22 (Estimate)	2 284	1,030.2	1,208.1

**Numbers of raids conducted and
complaints against unlicensed hawking and obstruction**

Calendar year	Number of raids conducted	Number of complaints against unlicensed hawking and obstruction
2018	118 068	10 031
2019	117 020	10 432
2020	119 854	10 789

Numbers of arrests taken out, prosecutions and convictions against unlicensed hawkers

Calendar year	Number of arrests taken out against unlicensed hawkers	Number of prosecutions against unlicensed hawkers	Number of convictions against unlicensed hawkers*
2018	1 435	5 564	4 859
2019	1 076	4 475	3 609
2020	1 090	5 035	3 334

Remark: * Prosecution instituted in a year may be convicted in the following year.

Estimated number of unlicensed hawkers

District	2018	2019	2020
Central and Western	142	142	139
Wan Chai	41	56	65
Eastern	59	83	69
Southern	30	29	33
Islands	16	16	11
Yau Tsim Mong	273	247	202
Sham Shui Po	523	192	267
Kowloon City	61	62	60
Wong Tai Sin	15	34	17
Kwun Tong	63	59	70
Kwai Tsing	61	62	59
Tsuen Wan	3	3	4
Tuen Mun	44	46	38
Yuen Long	36	40	49
North	57	48	46
Tai Po	22	24	17
Sha Tin	46	43	40
Sai Kung	17	12	5
Inside public housing estates*	2	3	1
Total	1 511	1 201	1 192

Remark: * Figures provided by the Housing Department. No further breakdown by district is available.

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 the area outside Kornhill Plaza (South)
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
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

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)144

(Question Serial No. 2548)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (1) Regarding the work to handle dripping air-conditioners by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department), please set out the staff establishment, salary expenditure and total expenditure involved in each of the past 3 years and in the coming year. Please also provide the number of contract staff employed to assist in handling the cases each year and the expenditure involved.
- (2) Please provide the number of complaints received relating to dripping air-conditioners, the number of cases with source of water seepage not identified and investigation terminated, as well as the number of Nuisance Notices issued and the number of prosecutions and convictions instituted against dripping air-conditioners under the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance, in the past 3 years.
- (3) What difficulties does the Department encounter in handling dripping air-conditioners? What are the established/on-going/proposed measures to reduce the number of cases with source of water seepage not identified and investigation terminated?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 60)

Reply:

- (1) Under the staff establishment of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21, 328 Health Inspectors are deployed to 19 district environmental hygiene offices across the territory. The staff establishment in 2021-22 is 337. These Health Inspectors undertake various environmental hygiene duties, including handling complaints against dripping from air-conditioners. There is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved in handling such complaints. The nuisances caused by dripping air-conditioners happen mainly in the summer months. To cope with the substantial increase in the workload during that period, the Department has recruited a special team of contract staff since 2017 to step up inspection, advising and education, as well as to take enforcement actions in summer, focusing on buildings where the problem of dripping air-conditioners is serious. The number of contract staff and the salary costs for the team are as follows:

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (Revised estimate)	2021-22 (Estimate)
Number of contract staff	24	35	34	45
Salary costs (\$ million)	8.0	12.6	12.9	16.2

(2) The information sought is provided as follows:

	2018	2019	2020
Number of complaint cases received	25 175	24 934	28 198
Number of nuisance notices issued ^{Note1}	3 675	4 664	3 397
Number of prosecutions instituted ^{Note2}	61	91	36
Number of convictions ^{Note3}	68	85	34

Note 1: When the source of dripping air-conditioner is identified, a nuisance notice will be issued to require the responsible person to abate the nuisance within a specified period.

Note 2: Prosecution action will be taken when a nuisance notice is unheeded.

Note 3: Including certain cases against which prosecution was instituted before that year.

(3) When handling cases of dripping air-conditioners, the Department will carry out investigation at the flat suspected of causing nuisance. Some complaint cases may involve several suspected flats upstairs and 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. Retractable and adjustable video borescope inspection cameras (with LED lamps) are used to facilitate long-range observation at night time or under poor lighting environment, with a view to identifying the source of dripping air-conditioners more effectively. To cope with the massive workload of investigation, the Department will continue to increase its manpower during summer by employing contract staff to assist in handling the cases.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)145****(Question Serial No. 2586)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

1. Please set out the staff establishment, salary expenditure and total expenditure involved in the management of public markets in the past 3 years and in the coming year.
2. Regarding the work to “continue to plan new public market facilities at suitable locations and take forward the proposed projects”, please set out the new market projects that are ongoing or will be taken forward in the coming year, as well as the details, expenditure, progress and anticipated completion date of each project.
3. What are the specific details of the work to “continue the comprehensive review on public markets, with a view to formulating concrete improvement proposals for the management of public markets” ?
4. Regarding the work to “continue to implement the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP) to improve facilities of existing public markets”, please set out the details, expenditure, progress and anticipated completion date of each project under the MMP.
5. Regarding the work to “take action to close public markets which are under-utilised”, please set out the market(s) closed in the past 3 years and those to be closed in the coming year, as well as the market(s) for which preparatory work and consultation about its/their closure will be conducted in the coming year.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 128)Reply:

1. Regarding the daily management of public markets, the information sought is provided as follows:

Financial year	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (Revised estimate)	2021-22 (Estimate)
Total expenditure on market management* (\$ million)	838.8	849.1	966.3	1,134.4
Manpower	416	434	447	447

* Note: including salary expenditure

2. The Government is taking forward 6 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. The details required in respect of these projects are set out in the Annex. Besides, FEHD Skylight Market (formerly known as Tin Shui Wai Temporary Market) located at Tin Sau Road, Tin Shui Wai was commissioned in December 2020.
3. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) is conducting a comprehensive review of its existing public markets and will formulate specific management improvement measures, including 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 (MMCCs). To enhance the efficiency of market operation, we are adopting a new management model on a pilot basis at FEHD Skylight Market to strengthen the role of service contractors in market management and expand its scope of services, such as formulating promotion and development strategies for the market, providing pre-commissioning hardware support, maintaining liaison and communication with stakeholders, advising on the trade mix in the market and conducting regular opinion surveys, etc., with a view to enhancing business vibrancy and meeting the needs of the public. We will keep in view of the operation effectiveness of FEHD Skylight Market and, in addition to improving existing market hardware, consider how to update management measures in a bid to keep abreast of time and enhance the overall competitiveness of markets.
4. The Government has earmarked \$2 billion for implementing the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project of the MMP is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. The estimated capital cost of the project is about \$254 million and the funding has been approved by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council. We plan to commence the overhaul works in the third quarter of 2021, and will take measures, including the use of pre-fabricated parts as appropriate, with a view to striving for completion of the works within 2022.

Apart from the overhaul of Aberdeen Market as the pioneering project, we are carrying out the preparatory and consultation work for the overhaul works in Yeung Uk Road Market, Ngau Tau Kok Market and Kowloon City Market, including arranging small group meetings with tenants, briefings for the relevant MMCCs on the projects, etc., to collect their views, with a view to reaching a consensus with tenants as soon as possible. Upon ascertaining the scope of works, we will conduct technical feasibility studies with relevant departments. The works timetable and project cost will be confirmed upon completion of the technical feasibility studies and assessment as well as detailed design. We will continue to maintain close liaison with stakeholders during the process and report to the relevant District Councils in a timely manner having regard to the work progress.

In addition, we have consulted and obtained the support of the relevant MMCCs on the minor refurbishment or improvement works for 11 markets (including Ngau Tau Kok Market, Yeung Uk Road Market, Luen Wo Hui Market, Fa Yuen Street Market, Quarry

Bay Market, Shui Wo Street Market, Tsuen Wan Market, Mong Kok Cooked Food Market, Ngau Chi Wan Market, Shek Tong Tsui Market and Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market). Works in 10 markets have commenced and preparation work for the remaining one is underway. The project estimates for taking forward the above minor refurbishment and improvement works are about \$88 million in total. The estimated expenditure of these projects in 2021-22 is about \$32 million.

5. In the 3 financial years from 2018-19 to 2020-21, FEHD closed 3 markets with consistently high vacancy rates, namely Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market, Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market and Tui Min Hoi Market. FEHD plans to close Choi Hung Road Market in 2021-22 and already received the forms for confirmation of intention from all tenants in November 2020. The market is expected to be closed in March 2022. 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.

	Project	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date and project cost
1.	Tin Shui Wai market	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.	An application is being made to the Town Planning Board under section 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance for the construction of the proposed new public market at a section of Tin Fuk Road. The Architectural Services Department is assessing prequalification application of tenderers for the “design and build” contract.	Subject to the funding approval by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council, we expect the market project to be completed in the first half of 2027. The estimated project cost will be confirmed after the completion of the tender assessment of the “design and build” contract.
2.	Tung Chung Town Centre market	The market will be located on the lower floors of a commercial building to be built by a developer through land sale in Area 6 adjacent to Tung Chung MTR Station. It is expected to provide at least 100 stalls.	As the development project at the commercial site in Area 6 is adjacent to railway facilities, the Civil Engineering and Development Department is conducting a further technical feasibility study for the entire commercial building development project (including the new market portion) to ensure that the development project will not affect the safe operation of the MTR.	The timetable and the estimated project cost will be confirmed after the completion of the study and detailed design.
3.	Tseung Kwan O market	The market will be located on the lower floors of the joint-user complex planned to be built in Area 67 of Tseung Kwan O (at the junction of Po Yap Road and Tong Yin Street). It is expected to provide no less than 120 stalls.	The technical feasibility study for the joint-user complex (including the new public market) is underway.	To be confirmed after the completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment as well as detailed design of the joint-user complex.
4.	Kwu Tung North New Development	The market will be located in the site zoned as “Special Residential/ Subsidised Sale Flats” in	Preliminary design is underway.	The development of the public market will tie in with the housing development plan of

	Project	Location/Scope	Current stage of development	Expected completion date and project cost
	Area (NDA) market	the eastern part of Area 19 of Kwu Tung North NDA. It is expected to provide no less than 120 stalls.		the district concerned. The estimated project cost will be confirmed after the completion of detailed design.
5.	Tung Chung New Town Extension market	The market is located in Area 133A of Tung Chung New Town Extension. The scope of project will be confirmed after 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 confirmed after the completion of the technical feasibility studies and assessment as well as detailed design.
6.	Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area market	To be confirmed after completion of preliminary planning.		

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)146

(Question Serial No. 3022)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the following information in the past 3 years:

1. the number of burials;
2. the number of applications, the number of allocations, the average waiting time (in months) and the number of return cases in respect of new niches and re-allocated niches;
3. the number of cases of scattering ashes at sea and in Gardens of Remembrance;
4. the number of cases of scattering ashes in each of the 12 Gardens of Remembrance;
5. the expenditure for cemeteries and crematoria services;
6. the number of new public columbaria commissioned and the number of niches provided in each of these columbaria; and
7. the number of niches to be provided by and the estimated completion time of the new public columbarium projects taken forward by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 51)

Reply:

(1) & (2) The information sought is provided as follows:

Year	Number of burials	Public Niches				
		New Niches*		Re-allocated Niches*		
		Number of applications	Number of niches allocated	Number of applications	Number of niches re-allocated	Number of return cases
2018	3 136			8 410	448	455
2019	2 780	30 107	751	2 878^	258	281
2020	2 852	29 156	35 590		207	369

* 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. The waiting list for this type of niches has also been frozen.

At present, the Department allocates new extendable niches to eligible applicants by open drawing of lots and computer random balloting (rather than on a first-come, first-served basis). Regarding the allocation of new public niches each year, new niches at Tsang Tsui Columbarium and Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phase VI were made available for public application in May 2020, and a total of 24 584 eligible applications were received. Niches were allocated to all applicants by drawing of lots and computer balloting in October. Furthermore, the Department launched a one-year pilot scheme to allocate niches on a monthly basis in December 2020. Under the scheme, the Department would accept applications from the public for new niches at Tsang Tsui Columbarium all the year round. About 1 700 niches, together with the unallocated ones from the previous month, would be allocated each month. In the past three months (i.e. December 2020, January and February 2021), the Department received a total of 6 708 eligible applications, all of which were successful. It took about 50 days the longest from the time an applicant submitted his application to the time he got notified of the niche allocation. In the next few years, with new columbarium projects being completed one after another, the number of new niches available for public application is estimated to be about 30 000 to over 40 000 each year.

3. The information sought is provided as follows:

Year \ Number of cases	Scattering of ashes		
	In Gardens of Remembrance*	At sea	Total
2018	6 074	972	7 046
2019	7 010	899	7 909
2020	6 822	854	7 676

*Include cases handled by private cemeteries.

4. The breakdown of the number of cases of scattering ashes in Gardens of Remembrance managed by the Department in the past 3 calendar years is provided as follows:

Name of Garden of Remembrance	Number of cases of scattering ashes each year		
	2018	2019	2020
Cape Collinson (New)	924	1 055	1 056
Cape Collinson (Old)	24	18	3
Diamond Hill (New)	2 795	3 323	3 329
Diamond Hill (Old)	5	10	0
Kwai Chung (New)*		222	338
Kwai Chung (Old)	555	587	433
Fu Shan	272	315	287
Wo Hop Shek Phase V	740	720	777
Wo Hop Shek Phase III	24	23	17
Cheung Chau	12	5	4
Peng Chau	1	2	3
Lamma Island	0	0	0
Total	5 352	6 280	6 247

* 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 in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 was \$355.4 million, \$419.7 million and \$438.0 million (revised estimate) respectively.
6. A total of 5 new public columbaria were opened in the past 3 years. The number of public niches available for allocation is as follows:

Location	Number of niches
Peng Chau Columbarium Extension	360
Wong Nai Chung Road Columbarium, Wan Chai	855
Cheung Chau Columbarium Extension	1 250
Tsang Tsui Columbarium, Tuen Mun	163 320
Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phase VI, Fanling	44 100

7. The Government implements a district-based columbarium development scheme. Between the second quarter of 2011 and the end of 2020, the Government consulted the relevant District Councils (DCs) on public columbarium projects at 14 sites, which would altogether provide around 600 000 new niches. Projects located at Diamond

Hill in Wong Tai Sin, Cheung Chau, Wong Nai Chung Road in Wan Chai, Lai Chi Yuen in Mui Wo, Tsang Tsui in Tuen Mun and Wo Hop Shek Phase I have been completed, providing around 210 000 niches. Two approved projects, located at Cape Collinson Road in Eastern District and Shek Mun in Sha Tin, are underway. They are estimated to be commissioned in 2022 and 2024, providing 25 000 and 40 000 niches respectively. The Government will continue to take forward other projects, with a view to securing the medium and long-term supply of public niches.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)147

(Question Serial No. 3266)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Recently, quite a number of “three-nil” buildings have been recorded with confirmed cases of COVID-19. In this connection, please advise this Committee whether the Government will introduce monitoring equipment in hygiene blackspots to step up law enforcement.

Asked by: Hon LO Wai-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department launched the scheme of installation of Internet Protocol (IP) cameras in June 2018 to curb illegal deposit of refuse in various districts across the territory. As the hygiene condition of relevant spots has improved after implementation of the scheme, the number of illegal refuse deposit spots to be installed with IP cameras will progressively increase from about 240 at present to 300 or so in order to further combat illegal deposit of refuse.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)148

(Question Serial No. 1783)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Programme (1), the work of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) includes exercising import control on high-risk food and issuing health certificates for food exports. As the Mainland has banned the import of pork and pork products from Taiwan since 1 January 2021, and the Mainland Customs has announced the suspension of import of pineapples from Taiwan with effect from March 2021 due to seizure of “quarantine pests”, will the Department step up sample testing of agricultural products from Taiwan so as to ensure food safety of Hong Kong residents and plug the safety loopholes lest the aforesaid agricultural products from Taiwan will be transhipped to the Mainland via Hong Kong? If yes, what are the estimated manpower and expenditure required? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 317)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department collects samples of food from different places of origin at the import, wholesale and retail levels for testing having regard to a risk-based principle under the routine Food Surveillance Programme to ensure that foods in Hong Kong comply with the local statutory requirements and are fit for human consumption. In 2020, the CFS tested about 66 600 food samples (including meat, poultry, aquatic products, milk, cereals, vegetables, fruits and related products) from various places of origin for pesticide residues, metallic contaminants, veterinary drug residues, preservatives, colouring matters, nutrients, pathogens, etc. All but 99 samples were found satisfactory. The overall satisfaction rate was about 99.9%.

Hong Kong does not import fresh, chilled or frozen meat from Taiwan. With regard to other foods from Taiwan, the CFS will continue to adopt a risk-based principle in taking samples for tests. As this is part of the overall food surveillance and import control work of the Department, we do not have a breakdown of the estimated manpower and expenditure involved in this aspect of work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)149

(Question Serial No. 1150)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

On the execution of statutory duties by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) under the Public Cleansing and Prevention of Nuisances Regulation and the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance, please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the number of inspections conducted by enforcement officers of FEHD against public cleanliness offences in the past 3 years; and
- (b) the respective number of prosecutions against littering and spitting in 2020?

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 57)

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 does not keep statistics of the number of inspections.
- (b) In 2020, the Department issued a total of 41 737 FPNs and 181 summonses against littering and a total of 1 472 FPNs and 9 summonses against spitting.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)150****(Question Serial No. 2392)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding four indicators mentioned in the Controlling Officer's Report, namely "poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks", "number of rodent trappings", "mosquito breeding places eliminated" and "pest control surveys conducted", please set out in detail the actual indicators in 2020 and the estimated indicators for 2021 for the 18 districts of Hong Kong.

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)Reply:

In 2020, the actual numbers of "poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks", "number of rodent trappings", "mosquito breeding places eliminated", and "pest control surveys conducted" of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, with a breakdown by district, are tabulated as follows:

District	Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	Number of rodent trappings	Number of mosquito breeding places eliminated	Number of pest control surveys conducted
Central and Western	4 752	5 058	2 123	350
Eastern	19 813	2 895	1 646	275
Southern	3 641	1 118	1 494	213
Wan Chai	13 184	4 085	1 831	180
Kowloon City	4 608	13 393	2 661	435
Kwun Tong	6 016	4 107	1 014	372
Wong Tai Sin	832	2 234	1 497	380
Sham Shui Po	270	4 850	2 943	265

District	Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	Number of rodent trappings	Number of mosquito breeding places eliminated	Number of pest control surveys conducted
Mong Kok	2 493	8 854	1 862	162
Yau Tsim	192	2 732	298	564
Sha Tin	5 060	9 679	9 912	439
Tai Po	13 260	419	3 793	165
North	1 701	470	5 283	870
Kwai Tsing	1 296	3 086	2 430	883
Tsuen Wan	2 981	5 212	4 024	240
Tuen Mun	5 274	2 023	2 276	466
Yuen Long	5 314	7 263	11 193	1 085
Sai Kung	8 672	1 737	8 837	417
Islands	742	2 615	4 654	3 122
Whole territory	100 101	81 830	69 771	10 883

The Department's estimated indicators for "poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks", "number of rodent trappings", "mosquito breeding places eliminated" and "pest control surveys conducted" for 2021 are similar to the actual numbers in 2020.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)151

(Question Serial No. 2393)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

According to the Controlling Officer's Report, the actual figures for the refuse collected and the recurrent expenditure per tonne of refuse collected in 2020 were both higher than those in 2019. However, the estimate for the refuse collected in 2021 is not as high as the actual figure for 2020. How did the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department make the estimate? How can it be ensured that the recurrent expenditure per tonne of refuse collected in 2021 will be lower than the actual cost in 2020?

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

The recurrent expenditure per tonne of refuse collected is calculated by dividing the recurrent expenditure on refuse collection by the amount of refuse collected (tonnes). According to the projection of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the estimate for the refuse collected (tonnes) in 2021 is close to the amount in 2020, while the estimated overall recurrent expenditure on refuse collection is lower as compared to 2020 (mainly due to a lower apportionment ratio of departmental administration cost). Therefore, there is a decrease in the recurrent expenditure per tonne of refuse collected. The Department will continue to review the demand for refuse collection service and endeavour to control the expenditure with a view to providing the public with environmental hygiene services in a cost-effective manner.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)152

(Question Serial No. 2416)

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 Diane WONG)

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”. Regarding the enforcement of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance against dripping air-conditioners in 2020, please advise this Committee of:

(a) the number of verbal warnings and 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.: 51)

Reply:

The statistics on enforcement taken by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department against dripping air-conditioners under the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) in 2020 are as follows:

	2020
Number of nuisance notices issued	3 397
Number of prosecutions instituted (Note 1)	36
Number of successful prosecution cases (Note 2)	34

Note 1: The Department will issue a nuisance notice when nuisance exists, requiring the nuisance be abated by the concerned person within a specified period. Prosecution will be instituted against non-compliant cases.

Note 2: Including certain cases against which prosecution was instituted before 2020.

The Department does not keep separate statistics on the number of verbal warnings and advisory letters issued.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)153

(Question Serial No. 2422)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to hawker control, please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the permanent/non-permanent establishment of the Hawker Control Teams of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, as well as the total expenditure on salary involved, with a breakdown by rank;
- (b) the number of patrols or raids proactively conducted by officers of the Hawker Control Teams other than handling complaints against illegal hawking in built-up areas in 2020;
- (c) the number of prosecutions instituted in relation to the control of hawking activities in the past 3 years, with a breakdown of the type of crime committed.

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 58)

Reply:

- (a) The staff establishment of the Hawker Control Teams of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in 2020-21 is 2 224 and the expenditure on salary involved (revised estimate) is \$1.030 billion. The details are provided at Annex I. The Department does not keep a separate breakdown on the total expenditure on salary, with a breakdown by rank.
- (b) In 2020, the Hawker Control Teams conducted 119 854 raids in total.
- (c) Information on the number of prosecutions instituted by the Department in relation to the control of hawking activities in the past 3 years is provided at Annex II.

Staff establishment of Hawker Control Officer grade

Rank	Staff establishment (as at 1 March 2021)
Principal Hawker Control Officer	21
Chief Hawker Control Officer	49
Senior Hawker Control Officer	237
Hawker Control Officer	327
Assistant Hawker Control Officer	1 590
Total	2 224

Enforcement actions taken to control hawking activities

Year	Unlicensed hawker		Licensed hawker	
	Crime related to the sale of restricted food items or cooked food without a licence	Crime related to other types of unlicensed hawking	Crime related to fixed pitches (cooked food or light refreshment)	Crime related to other fixed pitches and itinerant hawkers
2018	324	5 240	236	3 497
2019	204	4 271	144	3 493
2020	335	4 700	81	2 080

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)154

(Question Serial No. 2423)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the clearance of illegal refuse deposit blackspots, please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the number of refuse deposit blackspots in 2020, with a breakdown by District Council district;
- (b) the amount of refuse cleared at illegal refuse deposit blackspots in the past 3 years; and
- (c) the numbers of complaints and prosecutions against illegal refuse deposit in the past 3 years?

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 59)

Reply:

- (a) At present, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has installed Internet Protocol cameras at a total of 246 spots where illegal deposit of refuse is more serious in various districts across the territory. The number of spots, with a breakdown by District Council district, is provided as follows:

District	Number of illegal refuse deposit spots
Central and Western	11
Wan Chai	10
Eastern	13
Southern	9
Islands	0
Yau Tsim Mong	18
Sham Shui Po	14
Kowloon City	10
Wong Tai Sin	7
Kwun Tong	6
Kwai Tsing	14
Tsuen Wan	10

Tuen Mun	16
District	Number of illegal refuse deposit spots
Yuen Long	59
North	13
Tai Po	12
Sha Tin	8
Sai Kung	16
Total	246

- (b) The Department does not keep statistics on the amount of refuse cleared at illegal refuse deposit spots.
- (c) The numbers of complaints about street cleansing received in 2018, 2019 and 2020 were 62 834, 69 423 and 54 516 respectively. The Department does not keep a separate breakdown on cases of illegal deposit of refuse on streets.

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 43 360, 41 911 and 41 737 FPNs as well as 206, 145 and 181 summonses in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively. In the same period, the Department issued 265, 799 and 1 880 summonses respectively to owners of the vehicles used for illegal deposits of refuse at illegal refuse deposit spots based on the footage captured.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)155

(Question Serial No. 2424)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to enforcement against street obstruction, please advise this Committee of:

the number of complaints received and prosecutions instituted against obstructions to street cleansing work caused by shops placing articles or things (i.e. activities other than hawking activities of licensed or unlicensed hawkers) in the past three years, with a breakdown by District Council district.

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 60)

Reply:

The numbers of complaints received and prosecutions instituted against shop front extensions by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by year and District Council district, are provided at Annex. The Department does not keep statistics of the numbers of complaints received and prosecutions instituted against obstructions to street cleansing work caused by shops placing articles or things.

Numbers of complaints received and prosecutions instituted against shop front extensions (SFEs) by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

District	Number of complaints			Number of prosecutions*		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
Central & Western	636	547	648	166	76	45
Wan Chai	654	978	648	189	162	91
Eastern	1 103	1 248	1 674	215	308	332
Southern	252	237	460	42	62	82
Islands	92	58	90	30	18	32
Yau Tsim Mong	1 506	2 567	2 723	337	295	227
Sham Shui Po	2 034	1 750	2 519	311	343	916
Kowloon City	548	722	892	73	76	44
Wong Tai Sin	708	810	1 246	101	111	175
Kwun Tong	1 267	1 286	1 183	302	230	297
Kwai Tsing	306	371	616	138	156	63
Tsuen Wan	685	640	644	230	198	77
Tuen Mun	282	412	481	430	296	353
Yuen Long	856	1 597	2 772	570	238	366
North	356	381	633	67	51	44
Tai Po	707	941	1 033	117	129	97
Sha Tin	268	228	364	158	149	55
Sai Kung	198	249	278	101	100	58
Total	12 458	15 022	18 904	3 577	2 998	3 354

Note: * The figure does not include the fixed penalty notices issued by the Department against SFEs.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)156****(Question Serial No. 2444)**

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to overseeing private columbaria, please advise this Committee of the number of prosecutions instituted and the number of convictions recorded for contravention of the Private Columbaria Ordinance (Cap. 630) in the past 5 years, with a breakdown by the type of offence.

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 83)

Reply:

The number of prosecutions instituted and the number of convictions recorded for contravention of the Private Columbaria Ordinance (Cap. 630) (the Ordinance) since its commencement on 30 June 2017 are tabulated as follows:

Type of offence	Number of prosecutions (from 30 June 2017 to 28 February 2021)	Number of convictions (from 30 June 2017 to 28 February 2021)
Contravention of section 10 of the Ordinance	6	6

All convicted cases were in breach of section 10 of the Ordinance, i.e. operating and managing a private columbarium without a licence obtained in accordance with the Ordinance.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)157

(Question Serial No. 2635)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in the Estimates that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (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 each of the past three years? 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.: 102)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department launched the scheme on installation of Internet Protocol (IP) cameras in various districts of Hong Kong in June 2018 to curb illegal deposits of refuse. So far, IP cameras have been installed at about 240 illegal refuse deposit spots across the territory. The installation will be extended to about 300 locations by mid-2021. The estimated expenditure in 2021-22 is about \$16 million.

In 2018, 2019 and 2020, the Department issued 265, 799 and 1 880 summonses respectively to owners of the vehicles involved for illegal deposits of refuse based on the footage captured.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)158

(Question Serial No. 0692)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22, it is mentioned that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will overhaul and develop new information technology systems for more effective management of data in food import and food safety incidents. Please provide specific details, including the staff establishment and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department set up a dedicated team at the end of 2017 to fully review 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 and traceability. Launched by the CFS in phases beginning at the end of 2019, the Food Trader Portal (FTP) provides a platform for electronic communication with the trade. Through the FTP, food traders can complete registration as importers or distributors by electronic means. Starting from 2020, food traders can apply online for import licences and import permission in respect of meat, poultry, game, milk and frozen confections. It is expected that by June 2021, the online application service will be extended to the import of eggs and the report of food consignment arrivals to the CFS. Meanwhile, the CFS is developing the Food Import and Export Control System with a view of replacing the existing Food Import Control System to support various aspects of the workflow of import control and the issue of supporting documents for import and export of food. In addition, the CFS is constructing a new Food Incident Management System to strengthen the management of food safety incidents. The existing Food Surveillance System is also being revamped. These two systems are expected to be completed at the end of 2021 and 2022 respectively. The above systems, upon completion, 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. The interface of the systems is expected to be completed by the first quarter of 2024. The 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 2021-22.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)159

(Question Serial No. 0693)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22, it is mentioned that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to take forward initiatives to enhance pest control services, particularly in respect of mosquitoes and rodents. Has the Government reviewed the effectiveness of the pest control services provided in the past? If yes, what are the details and the improvement measures? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has adopted an integrated management approach to the prevention and control of pests with reference to the recommendations and technical guidelines of the World Health Organization (WHO). The Department also reviews and enhances various vector surveillance programmes and pest control measures from time to time with a view to strengthening the prevention and control of vector-borne diseases.

On mosquito surveillance and control, the Department primarily focuses on conducting vector surveillance and eliminating mosquito breeding places. The Department has invited an expert from the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific to review the mosquito prevention and control work of Hong Kong. The expert generally agreed with the strategy and work of the Department in respect of dengue vector surveillance and control, as well as the handling of dengue fever cases. The expert also put forward improvement recommendations, including replacing ovitraps with gravidtraps, which could collect adult mosquitoes, as a surveillance tool; reducing the extent of fogging operations when handling dengue fever cases to concentrate resources on core locations; and strengthening vector surveillance at locations connected with imported dengue fever cases in Hong Kong. The Department has been gradually implementing the recommendations of the expert.

In 2020, the mosquito prevention and control work of the Government yielded positive results. There was only one local dengue fever case in Hong Kong in 2020, while the territory-wide Gravidtrap Index (GI) for *Aedes albopictus* during the rainy season between

May and September 2020 was at a similar level to that of the previous years. Meanwhile, the Department expanded the scope of the dengue vector surveillance programme in the community. The number of survey areas increased from 57 to 62, and further to 64 in January 2021. Furthermore, since April 2020, the Department has put in place newly designed gravidtraps as a replacement for the ovitraps previously used, which enable direct counting of the number of adult *Aedes albopictus* to enumerate the new GI and to release the additional Density Index (DI) for the programme. The GI reflects the extensiveness of distribution of *Aedes albopictus* in the survey area, while the DI indicates the average number of adult *Aedes albopictus* collected in each positive gravidtrap to quantify their activity level. The Department has also introduced a new mosquito trap which involves the carrying of growth regulators by female mosquitoes to the water bodies where they lay eggs to prevent the larvae in those water bodies from developing into adult mosquitoes. Since the new mosquito trap is effective, the Department has put the trap to extensive use, and encouraged relevant government departments/organisations to use the trap in appropriate environments.

On rodent surveillance and control, the Department conducts the Rodent Infestation Survey (RIS) and eliminates the 3 survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, with the aim of prevention and control of rodents. The number of survey locations for the RIS increased from 41 to 50 in 2020, so as to expand the coverage of the surveillance programme. The overall Rodent Infestation Rate (RIR) for 2020 was 3.6%, lower than the 4.2% in 2019. To further enhance rodent surveillance, the Department conducted field trials on thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence analytical function at a number of locations (including the target areas of the anti-rodent operation in designated target areas) in 2020. The tests have shown that the new technology is quite effective in identifying places where rodents frequently visit and the time and patterns of rodent activities, as well as assessing and quantifying anti-rodent work. By means of the artificial intelligence function, the technology can be used for identifying rodents in thermal images, tracing their movements and keeping track of the locations and temporal patterns of foraging rodents, thereby assisting pest control staff to place rodenticides and trapping devices more accurately and install rodent proofing measures in a targeted manner for better rodent control. Furthermore, direct comparison of indicative data collected before and after anti-rodent operations is possible by virtue of the data on the thermal images captured, which helps the management staff of the Department evaluate and quantify the effectiveness of anti-rodent work. The Department fully adopted the use of thermal imaging cameras during the second round of anti-rodent operation in designated target areas in all districts across the territory in November 2020. It also plans for a wider use at other suitable locations with a view to increasing the effectiveness of the anti-rodent operations.

In addition, the Department has invited an expert referred by the WHO to review the rodent prevention and control work of Hong Kong. The expert considered that the Department had well-established procedures for monitoring and controlling rodent infestation, and provided technical advice on the use of traps and poisonous baits. The expert also recommended that community engagement could be enhanced to involve the public in anti-rodent work. The Department has been gradually implementing the recommendations of the expert, including the use of different kinds of food at a time as baits and the adoption of a newly designed snap trap to enhance the effectiveness of anti-rodent efforts. In 2021, the Department will further encourage community engagement in rodent prevention and control work by organising a territory-wide and inter-departmental anti-rodent campaign in two phases 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. Two rounds of anti-rodent operations, each lasts about 8 weeks, will be conducted in designated target areas in the territory in May and November 2021 respectively. Public education and publicity will be stepped up during the anti-rodent operations to provide the public with information and technical advice on rodent prevention and control. On RIS, the Department will make enhancements in several aspects, including stepping up the sharing of survey data with the departments and organisations responsible for managing the relevant venues and facilities; releasing the RIR of all 50 survey locations to the public; installing thermal imaging cameras at the survey locations with a persistently high RIR for deployment of more effective follow-up actions; and actively exploring various bait choices for improving the sensitivity of RIR.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)160

(Question Serial No. 0694)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Given that only about 30% of stall tenants have participated in the subsidy scheme for promotion of contactless payment in public markets since the launch of the scheme, what specific measures will the Government adopt to promote the popularisation of electronic payment systems in markets? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

To reduce the risk of possible transmission of COVID-19 or other diseases by operators and patrons in public markets through physical touch of cash, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department launched a subsidy scheme for promotion of contactless payment in public markets in October 2020.

To promote electronic payment systems in markets, the Department held briefings for various service providers and representatives of market traders, and arranged for service providers to visit around 90 public markets to explain the contents of their service plans to stall tenants and promote their service contract plans.

During the application period of the scheme, the Department arranged for representatives of market traders to meet with service providers so that the service providers could promote their services to stall tenants. Besides, the Department conducted publicity work using Keep Clean Ambassador Ah Tak, which included distributing promotional leaflets of Keep Clean Ambassador Ah Tak to market traders in various districts and publishing posts on the Facebook page of Keep Clean Ambassador Ah Tak. The Department also arranged to publish advertorials on newspapers to publicise the support of the Federation of Hong Kong Kowloon New Territories Hawker Associations for the subsidy scheme for contactless payment. Meanwhile, gift redemption programmes were launched at a number of markets in various districts to encourage patrons to use contactless payment means during shopping.

The Department received a total of 3 555 applications during the application period. So far 3 542 applications (99.6%) have been approved in principle and \$13.62 million of subsidies

have been disbursed for 2 724 applications. The remaining applications were not processed as the applicants failed to submit the relevant documents and complete the installation. The financial implications of the related measures were absorbed by the Anti-epidemic Fund, which does not form part of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates of the General Revenue Account. The expenditure for the relevant promotion activities was about \$700,000. The work involved was absorbed by the existing manpower.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)161

(Question Serial No. 0441)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22", 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. the specific action to be taken to follow up the recommendations, whether additional funding and other resources will be accordingly deployed in 2021-22;
2. the funding allocated to implement Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme, and the numbers of toilets refurbished by the end of Feb 2021;
3. the criteria for selecting public toilets which will be considered for improvement;
4. whether the workplace facilities for the cleaning workers will also be improved, to safeguard the occupational safety and health. If yes, of the details. If no, of the reasons;
5. whether the Administration will consider reconstructing some dilapidated public toilets with a large numbers of defective facilities, instead of simply repairing and maintenance.

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

1. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) continues to proactively follow up the recommendations in the Audit Report released in November 2019 and the relevant Public Accounts Committee report. With regard to the proposals of planning for public toilets, FEHD will review its guidelines and criteria on construction and reprovisioning of public toilets. In reviewing the adequacy of public toilet facilities at tourist spots, FEHD 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 with best efforts so that works can be carried out on

schedule as far as possible. 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, FEHD has applied the newly developed “Minor Works Order Record System” mobile application 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. FEHD 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. 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 (Enhanced PTRP), under which FEHD would roll out the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 240 public toilets by phases in 5 years starting from 2019-20, so as to improve toilet facilities and the level of hygiene. FEHD has been working closely with ArchSD. In the first year of the programme (2019-20), refurbishment or facelifting projects for 42 public toilets, with a project estimate of about \$168 million, were rolled out. The facelifting or refurbishment works for 22 public toilets have been completed. Refurbishment or facelifting projects for 49 public toilets at a project estimate of about \$149 million commenced in the second year (2020-21). The facelifting works for 20 public toilets have been completed. As at February 2021, FEHD has completed the facelifting or refurbishment works of 42 public toilets under the Enhanced PTRP and the remaining works are underway as planned.
- 3-5. FEHD will prioritise the 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. 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. FEHD will adjust the scope of the refurbishment of individual toilets having regard to the actual circumstances. The scope of facelifting works 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. Attendant rooms will be provided or enhanced as far as possible when new toilets are built or existing ones reprovisioned or refurbished, so as to safeguard the occupational safety and health of staff.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)162

(Question Serial No. 0448)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the Market Modernisation Programme mentioned under Programme (3), please inform this Committee on the following:

1. the locations and details of the planned or proposed projects of different scales under the programme at this stage;
2. whether the Administration will consider taking forward the programme in the territory? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
3. taking in view that retrofitting of air-conditioning in a public market would incur substantial costs, like electricity charges and general maintenance costs, whether the Government will consider bearing part of costs so as to reduce the financial burden on small traders.

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.: 48)

Reply:

- 1 & 2. The Government has earmarked \$2 billion for implementing the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. The estimated capital cost of the project is about \$254 million and the funding has been approved by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council. We plan to commence the overhaul works in the third quarter of 2021, and will take measures, including the use of pre-fabricated parts as appropriate, with a view to striving for completion of the works within 2022.

Apart from the overhaul of Aberdeen Market as the pioneering project, we are carrying out the preparatory and consultation work for the overhaul works in Yeung Uk Road Market, Ngau Tau Kok Market and Kowloon City Market, including arranging small group meetings with tenants, briefings for the relevant Market Management Consultative Committees (MMCCs) on the projects, etc., to collect their views, with a view to reaching a consensus with tenants as soon as possible. Upon

ascertaining the scope of works, we will conduct technical feasibility studies with relevant departments. The works timetable and project cost will be confirmed upon completion of the technical feasibility studies and assessment as well as detailed design. We will continue to maintain close liaison with stakeholders during the process and report to the relevant District Councils in a timely manner having regard to the work progress.

In addition, we have consulted and obtained the support of the relevant MMCCs on the minor refurbishment or improvement works for 11 markets (including Ngau Tau Kok Market, Yeung Uk Road Market, Luen Wo Hui Market, Fa Yuen Street Market, Quarry Bay Market, Shui Wo Street Market, Tsuen Wan Market, Mong Kok Cooked Food Market, Ngau Chi Wan Market, Shek Tong Tsui Market and Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market). Works in 10 markets have commenced and preparation work for the remaining one is underway. The project estimates for taking forward the above minor refurbishment and improvement works are about \$88 million in total and the estimated expenditure in 2021-22 is about \$32 million.

In identifying candidates for projects of different scales under the MMP, we will take into account the geographical location and distribution of markets, 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.

3. The capital cost required for the overhaul of public markets (including retrofitting of air-conditioning systems) is borne entirely by the Government. The Government will also carry out routine maintenance and refurbishment of existing market facilities for public markets and bear the costs required. As for the recurrent cost (including electricity and air-conditioning charges), the Government has been adopting the "user-pays" principle, and the relevant operating expenses are to be borne by market tenants. This practice is also adopted in other leased government properties. According to the existing concessionary arrangements, market tenants who choose to continue operation in the overhauled market may rent a new stall at the market through "restricted auction" upon completion of the works. They will be granted a waiver of rental and air-conditioning charges for a specified period upon commencement of business as appropriate.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)163

(Question Serial No. 3261)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

By the middle of next year, all government forms and licence applications can be submitted electronically unless there are legal or operational constraints. Besides, e-payment options (including the Faster Payment System) will be available for making payments in respect of most government bills and licences starting from the middle of next year. The Government has earlier granted market tenants a one-off subsidy of \$5,000 to encourage them to install at least one contactless electronic payment system. In this connection, what are the number of installation and the total installation cost so far?

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department launched a subsidy scheme for the promotion of contactless payment in public markets under the third round of the Anti-epidemic Fund. Under the scheme, a one-off subsidy is provided for tenants of public markets at a flat rate of \$5,000 per stall to meet the initial set-up costs, service charges and other fees in relation to the provision of at least one contactless payment means for market patrons.

The Department received a total of 3 555 applications during the application period. So far, 3 542 applications (99.6%) have been approved in principle and \$13.62 million of subsidies have been disbursed for 2 724 applications. The remaining applications were not processed as the applicants failed to submit the relevant information and complete the installation. The Department does not keep information on the total installation cost.

The financial implication 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

FHB(FE)164

(Question Serial No. 1597)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to enforce against shop front extensions during 2021-22. Please provide information on:

1. the measures included in the enforcement actions and the number of enforcement actions taken in each of the past 3 years (with a breakdown by action type in tabular form);
2. the procedures and time normally required for handling reports of shop front extensions;
3. the training and equipment provided for the enforcement officers; and
4. the staff establishment and estimated expenditure involved.

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

Reply:

1. The number of enforcement actions taken against shop front extensions (SFE) by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by year, is set out at Annex.
2. Upon receipt of complaints against SFE, the Department normally deploys staff to conduct site inspections as soon as possible and take appropriate actions having regard to actual circumstances. The Department does not keep information on the time normally required for handling complaints.
3. Hawker control staff of the Department, who are mainly responsible for handling SFE and taking enforcement actions, are required to attend induction and in-service training courses on enforcement legislation, which cover enforcement procedures against SFE. They are also provided with suitable ancillary equipment (including communication devices) for work.

4. In 2021-22, the estimated establishment for hawker control is 2 284 posts at an estimated expenditure of \$1.208 billion. Taking enforcement actions against SFE is one of the normal duties of hawker control staff of the Department. Further breakdown of the relevant expenditure is not available.

**Enforcement actions taken by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
against shop front extensions from 2018 to 2020**

	2018	2019	2020
Number of fixed penalty notices issued	7 586	7 626	10 734
Number of prosecutions	3 577	2 998	3 354

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)165

(Question Serial No. 1618)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department that the provision for 2021-22 under this Programme is \$210.2 million (9.9%) higher than the revised estimate for 2020-21. This is mainly due to increased operating expenses for planning new public markets and other municipal facilities, modernisation of existing public markets, and strengthening enforcement against street obstruction, and increased cash flow for a non-recurrent item. Please provide the details and a breakdown of the estimated expenditure in this respect.

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

Reply:

The provision for 2021-22 under Programme (3) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is \$210.2 million higher than the revised estimate for 2020-21. 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, as well as the increased cash flow for a non-recurrent item) will increase by \$168.1 million, while the expenditure for hawker control (including the expenditure for strengthening enforcement against street obstruction and support services) will increase by \$42.1 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)166

(Question Serial No. 0177)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In relation to the development, maintenance and management of public markets, please provide information on the following:

1. Details of the public markets planned for development, redevelopment or substantial refurbishment in the next 3 years, including their locations, estimated expenditure, and expected commencement and completion dates. Has the principle of "single site, multiple use" been applied, for example, using the middle and upper floors and the roof of the market for other purposes?
2. Details of the existing public markets managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department which have been closed, including their locations, floor and site areas, dates of closure, the management/maintenance costs in 2020-21 and 2021-22, as well as their planned uses and the expected dates of implementation of such plans. Will these markets be returned/transferred to other departments for other development as soon as possible if no specific use has been planned in the short and medium term?
3. For public markets which are under-utilised or have a low occupancy rate for a prolonged period but still have to retain certain market services, will consideration be given to transferring some floors or floor space to other departments or non-government organisations for other uses under the principle of "single site, multiple use"?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chuen, Tony (LegCo internal reference no.: 126)

Reply:

1. The Government is taking forward 6 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. The details required in respect of these projects are set out in **Annex I**. Besides, FEHD Skylight Market (formerly known as Tin Shui Wai Temporary Market) located at Tin Sau Road, Tin Shui Wai was commissioned in December 2020.

The Government has earmarked \$2 billion for implementing the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market situated in the Aberdeen Municipal Services Building of Southern District. The estimated capital cost of the project is about \$254 million and the funding has been approved by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council. We plan to commence the overhaul works in the third quarter of 2021, and will take measures, including the use of pre-fabricated parts as appropriate, with a view to striving for completion of the works within 2022.

Apart from the overhaul of Aberdeen Market as the pioneering project, we are carrying out the preparatory and consultation work for the overhaul works in Yeung Uk Road Market in Tsuen Wan District, Ngau Tau Kok Market in Kwun Tong District and Kowloon City Market in Kowloon City District. Upon ascertaining the scope of works, we will conduct technical feasibility studies with relevant departments. The works timetable and project cost will be confirmed upon completion of the technical feasibility studies and assessment as well as detailed design. We will continue to maintain close liaison with stakeholders during the process and report to the relevant District Councils in a timely manner having regard to the work progress.

- 2&3. The Government 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. When considering whether an under-utilised market is to be closed or consolidated, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will take into account various 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. Where the Department closes or consolidates an under-utilised market and no longer requires the premises or floor(s) afterwards, the vacated building or floor(s) will be handled according to established procedures. Based on the circumstances, the Department 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. Information on the closed public markets of the Department is provided at **Annex II**. Upon closure of the markets, the vacated buildings have been dealt with according to the above procedures. The Department does not have breakdown on the expenditure on management of the closed markets.

	Project/Location	Mode of development	Expected commencement and completion dates and project cost
1.	Tin Shui Wai market (a section of Tin Fuk Road)	Deck-over design will be adopted to build the market.	Subject to the funding approval by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council, our target is to commence the first phase of underground utility diversion and the relevant carriageway widening works in 2022, and start the construction of the new market in 2023. The entire new market project is expected to complete in the first half of 2027. The estimated project cost will be confirmed after the completion of the tender assessment of the “design and build” contract.
2.	Tung Chung Town Centre market (Area 6)	To be built by a developer through land sale (the market will be located on the lower floors of a commercial building in Area 6 adjacent to Tung Chung Mass Transit Railway (MTR) Station).	As the development project at the commercial site in Area 6 is adjacent to railway facilities, the Civil Engineering and Development Department is conducting a further technical feasibility study for the entire commercial building development project (including the new market portion) to ensure that the project will not affect the safe operation of the MTR. The timetable and the estimated project cost will be confirmed after the completion of the above study and detailed design.
3.	Tseung Kwan O market (at the junction of Po Yap Road and Tong Yin Street in Area 67)	The market will be located on the lower floors of the joint-user complex planned to be built in Area 67 of Tseung Kwan O. The joint-user complex will also provide other community facilities such as medical and welfare facilities, etc.	To be confirmed after the completion of the technical feasibility study and assessment as well as detailed design of the joint-user complex.

	Project/Location	Mode of development	Expected commencement and completion dates and project cost
4.	Kwu Tung North New Development Area market (the site zoned as “Special Residential/Subsidised Sale Flats” in the eastern part of Area 19)	The development projects of the site (including the new public market and housing developments) will fully utilise the total plot ratio to achieve optimisation of land use.	The development of the public market will tie in with the housing development plan of the district concerned. The estimated project cost will be confirmed after the completion of detailed design.
5.	Tung Chung New Town Extension market (Area 133A)	To be confirmed upon completion of preliminary planning.	The development of the public markets will tie in with the housing development plan of the districts concerned. The estimated project costs will be confirmed after the completion of the technical feasibility studies and assessment as well as detailed design.
6.	Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area market		

Annex II

	Market that has been closed	Date of closure	Location	Floor Area (m²)	Site area (m²)	Planned use
1.	Mong Kok Market	March 2010	At the junction of Canton Road and Argyle Street	2 610	1 200	Renovation of the interior of ex-Mong Kok Market will be carried out to provide a district health centre. The premises are located at one of the initial proposed renewal nodes in the “Yau Mong District Study” conducted by the Urban Renewal Authority. The long-term use of the site is subject to the overall planning of the district in future.
2.	Tsuen King Circuit Market	March 2018	178, Tsuen King Circuit, Tsuen Wan	4 714	2 321	Long-term planning is under study. The premises are temporarily used by other departments for short-term uses such as storage.
3.	Shau Kei Wan Market	March 2018	Shau Kei Wan Main Street East	2 010	1 005	
4.	Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	February 2019	22, Tai Yuen Street, Kwai Chung	808	808	Long-term planning is under study.
5.	Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market	June 2019	38, Cheung Shun Street, Cheung Sha Wan	1 400	1 400	The market has been demolished and the site will be returned to the Lands Department.
6.	Tui Min Hoi Market	January 2021	161, Hong Kin Road, Sai Kung	789	789	The relevant department is exploring the feasibility of provision of welfare facilities.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)167

(Question Serial No. 0186)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding “continue to promote green burial, particularly in respect of promotion of a central registration scheme”, please advise on:

1. the number of registrations made since the setting up of the Green Burial Central Register. Is the expected target met?
2. the future publicity and promotion plans. What are the resources involved?
3. the number of cases for which green burial (scattering of ashes at sea and in Gardens of Remembrance) was opted in each of the past 3 years. Is the target met in terms of effectiveness? Is there room for improvement?
4. the expenditure incurred by the Government in providing free services of scattering ashes each year. Will the Government consider charging a fee in the future?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chuen, Tony (LegCo internal reference no.: 135)

Reply:

1. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department set up a Green Burial Central Register (GBCR) in January 2019, allowing the public to make prior registration for green burial and inform their family members of their wish. Up to February 2021, over 5 800 people have registered in the GBCR.
2. In 2021-22, 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, collaborating with non-governmental organisations and running promotional activities at exhibitions for seniors. To enhance public awareness of the green burial service, the Department organises regular guided tours for the public and organisations to visit its Gardens of Remembrance for a better understanding of the relevant services

and facilities. The estimated amount of provision earmarked for promoting green burial in 2021-22 is about \$17 million.

3. The information sought is provided as follows:

Year	Scattering of ashes			Percentage of total number of deaths
	In Gardens of Remembrance*	At sea	Total	
2018	6 074	972	7 046	14.8%
2019	7 010	899	7 909	16.2%
2020	6 822	854	7 676	15.2%

*Inclusive of cases handled by private cemeteries.

The total number of green burial cases last year has increased by about 9% as compared to that in 2018 (a slight drop as compared to that in 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 step up publicity, strengthen public education efforts and improve the green burial facilities and services to promote greater public acceptance of green burial.

4. 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 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 was \$355.4 million, \$419.7 million and \$438.0 million (revised estimate) respectively. There is no separate breakdown of the expenditure by type of service. At present, the Department does not have any plans to impose charges on the service for scattering of ashes.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)168

(Question Serial No. 1200)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Rodent infestation was serious in Kwun Tong and Wong Tai Sin in the past 3 financial years. Owing to the current outbreak of COVID-19 epidemic 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 of 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 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (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 was still serious in Shui Wo Street Market, Wo Lok Estate, Kwun Tong and Wong Tai Sin, and they 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 to tackle 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.: 13)

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”, which lasted about 8 weeks, in various districts 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 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 was \$630 million, \$663 million and \$726 million (revised estimate) respectively. In 2018, 2019 and 2020, the total number of in-house staff responsible for pest control work was 699, 727 and 740 respectively and the total number of outsourced staff providing pest control services was about 1 860, 1 970 and 2 180 respectively. Rodent control work is part of the routine duties of the District Environmental Hygiene Offices of the Department. The Department does not have a separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved in the relevant work in different districts.
- (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 is gradually implementing the advice of an expert in rodent control introduced by the World Health Organization by placing various kinds of food as baits at a time to raise the effectiveness of rodent traps, using a type of new snap trap, promoting active participation in rodent prevention and control work in the community and exploring the application of various technologies on baits and traps. Moreover, the Department exchanges experience in rodent control work with the relevant organisations and experts of other countries/cities from time to time to explore anti-rodent measures and technologies.
- (4) In 2021-22, the estimated expenditure on pest control services of the Department is \$769 million. About 740 in-house staff and 2 200 staff of the contractors will be engaged in the provision of pest control service.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)169****(Question Serial No. 1170)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding the indicators “poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks”, “number of rodent trappings” and “rodent control surveys conducted”, please set out 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 2018 to 2020).

2018 / 2019 / 2020

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 WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 62)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at the Annex.

District	2018			
	Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	Number of rodent trappings	Number of rodent control surveys	Rodent Infestation Rate
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%
Whole territory	93 815	60 432	699#	3.4%

Only surveys conducted under the Rodent Infestation Survey and the Rat-flea Survey are listed. Other rodent surveys (1 334 in number) 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
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%
Whole territory	98 322	68 490	633 [^]	4.2%

[^] Only surveys conducted under the Rodent Infestation Survey and the Rat-flea Survey are listed. Other rodent surveys (1 325 in number) are not included in the breakdown.

District	2020			
	Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	Number of rodent trappings	Number of rodent control surveys	Rodent Infestation Rate
Central and Western	4 752	5 058	25	2.2%
Eastern	19 813	2 895	40	7.4%
Southern	3 641	1 118	28	3.0%
Wan Chai	13 184	4 085	38	1.8%
Kowloon City	4 608	13 393	35	4.4%
Kwun Tong	6 016	4 107	45	4.5%
Wong Tai Sin	832	2 234	30	1.2%
Sham Shui Po	270	4 850	40	2.4%
Mong Kok	2 493	8 854	25	3.0%
Yau Tsim	192	2 732	25	7.4%
Sha Tin	5 060	9 679	32	6.0%
Tai Po	13 260	419	40	6.4%
North	1 701	470	35	2.5%
Kwai Tsing	1 296	3 086	47	3.2%
Tsuen Wan	2 981	5 212	42	5.6%
Tuen Mun	5 274	2 023	43	2.0%
Yuen Long	5 314	7 263	45	3.0%
Sai Kung	8 672	1 737	35	1.5%
Islands	742	2 615	28	1.4%
Whole territory	100 101	81 830	678*	3.6%

* Only surveys conducted under the Rodent Infestation Survey and the Rat-flea Survey are listed. Other rodent surveys (1 292 in number) are not included in the breakdown.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)170****(Question Serial No. 1171)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

With regard to “implementing the Private Columbaria Ordinance”, 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 temporary storage facilities for cremains offered by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department). In this connection, what are 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 WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 61)Reply:

At present, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department provides some 74 500 temporary storage spaces for cremains at Kwai Chung Crematorium, Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phases III and V, Cape Collinson Crematorium, Fu Shan Crematorium and Hong Kong Cemetery. The temporary storage spaces at Kwai Chung Crematorium and Wo Hop Shek Crematorium 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
Number of spaces occupied as at 28.2.2021	976	1 781
Utilisation rate	9.7%	35.3%

The Department has processed all applications for temporary ash storage services. There is no waiting list at present.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)171****(Question Serial No. 1172)**

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to “overseeing the implementation of the regulatory regime for private columbaria in accordance with the Private Columbaria Ordinance (Cap. 630)”,

- please set out as per the table below the number of applications received so far, the progress in processing the applications, as well as the estimated expenditure involved; and

Types of applications	Number of applications approved	Number of applications refused	Number of applications withdrawn	Number of applications under vetting	Estimated expenditure involved
Application for a licence					
Application for an exemption					
Application for a temporary suspension of liability					
Total					

- what is the expected completion time for processing all applications?

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 60)

Reply:

As at 28 February 2021, the Private Columbaria Licensing Board (PCLB) was processing 237 applications for specified instruments submitted by 99 private columbaria. The figures are summarised as follows:

Types of applications	Approved	Approved in principle	Refused	Withdrawn	Being processed
Application for a licence	6	2	21	11	87
Application for an exemption	1	1	12	9	39
Application for a temporary suspension of liability (TSOL)	0	11	29	13	111
Total number of applications	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	237
Number of private columbaria	7	13 ^{Note 1}	26	14	99 ^{Note 2}

Note 1: “Approval-in-principle” has been given to the application for a TSOL and the application for an exemption submitted by one columbarium.

Note 2: Including 13 columbaria of which “approval-in-principle” had been given to their applications for a licence/an exemption/a TSOL.

The time the PCLB taking to process a licence application depends on the actual circumstances of each case, particularly whether the private columbarium has complied with the relevant requirements under 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 such requirements.

The expenditure of the PCLB and the manpower for providing the executive support to it are included in the estimated expenditure of the Private Columbaria Affairs Office (PCAO) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. In 2021-22, the PCAO has about 70 staff and the estimated expenditure is \$83.6 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)172

(Question Serial No. 1173)

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 Diane WONG)

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 set out as per the table below the number of cases handled by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) and the expenditure involved in each of the past 3 years (i.e. from 2018 to 2020); and

Year	Number of deaths	Number of coffin burials	Number of cremations	Number of ashes interment in public niches	Number of cases of scattering of ashes		Expenditure involved
					In the designated areas in Hong Kong waters	In Gardens of Remembrance	
2018							
2019							
2020							

2. please set out 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 2018 to 2020).

Year	Number of applications handled	Service capacity	Utilisation rate	Expenditure involved
2018				
2019				
2020				

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 59)

Reply:

1. The information sought is provided as follows :

Year	Number of deaths	Number of coffin burials	Number of cremations	Number of ashes interment in public niches [^]	Number of cases of scattering of ashes	
					At sea	In Gardens of Remembrance*
2018	47 479	919	43 803	3 657	972	6 074
2019	48 706	819	45 543	4 196	899	7 010
2020	50 653	948	46 465	39 598	854	6 822

* Including cases handled by private cemeteries.

[^] The year of ashes interment does not necessarily be the year of death or fall within the same year of which the application for a niche is submitted.

The expenditure incurred by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in providing cemeteries and crematoria services in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 was \$355.4 million, \$419.7 million and \$438.0 million (revised estimate) respectively. There is no breakdown by type of services.

2. The number of users and the utilisation rate of the free ferry service provided by the Department to the designated areas in Hong Kong waters for scattering cremated ashes in the past 3 years are as follows :

Year	Number of applications handled	Service capacity	Utilisation rate
2018	878	1 225	72%
2019	810	1 250	65%
2020	798	810*	99%

* Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing, the Department has reduced the service capacity of each ferry by half since 15 February 2020.

The expenditure incurred by the Department for contracting out the free ferry service in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 was \$2.40 million, \$2.40 million and \$2.70 million (revised estimate) respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)173****(Question Serial No. 1174)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (4) Public Education and Community InvolvementControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

With regard to “promoting green burial as a more sustainable form of disposal of cremated human ashes”,

- please set out the number of registrations made in the past 2 years since the setting up of the central registration scheme in January 2019, with a breakdown by year and registration method as per the table below; and

Year	Online	By post	By fax	By email	Total
2019					
2020					

- please set out the number of registered cases under the central registration scheme in the past 2 years in which the ashes of the deceased were not disposed of by green burial eventually, with a breakdown by year and final means of burial.

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 58)

Reply:

1. The breakdown of the number of registered cases of the Green Burial Central Register by registration method in the past 2 years is as follows:

Year	Online	By post	By fax	By email	On-site registration	Total
2019	3 101	214	19	14	53	3 401
2020	2 065	183	17	16	52	2 333

2. The breakdown of the number of deceased registrants and their final means of burial by year is as follows:

Year	Number of deceased registrants	Number of cases that the ashes of the deceased are disposed of by green burial*	Number of cases that the ashes of the deceased are interred in public or private columbaria	Number of cases that the family of the deceased has not yet decided or is not willing to disclose the means of burial
2019	55	41	11	3
2020	95	60	14	21

*Inclusive of cases handled by private cemeteries

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)174****(Question Serial No. 2072)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding the indicator “licensed hawkers”, 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 hawker areas			--
“Hawker Permitted Place” stall in 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 WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 63)Reply:

The number of various types of hawker licences (as at 31 December 2020) is tabulated as follows:

Type		Number of fixed-pitch hawker licences	Number of itinerant hawker licences
^“Cabinet-type” stall in hawker areas		2 899*	--
^“Hawker Permitted Place” stall in hawker areas		790	--
Other “Cabinet-type” stall		172	--
Other “Hawker Permitted Place” stall		20	--
Hawker bazaar		492	--
Bootblack		5	--
Cooked food or light refreshment	Dai Pai Tong	23	--
	Others	71	--
Newspaper		355	1
Tradesman		122 [#]	--
Barber		29	--
Wall stall		268	--
Itinerant (frozen confectionery)		--	62
Itinerant (mobile van)		--	15
Others		--	270
Total		5 246	348

Note: ^ 43 fixed-pitch hawker areas
 * Including 42 tradesman stalls
 # Hawker licences issued to tradesmen outside 43 fixed-pitch hawker areas

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)175

(Question Serial No. 2073)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding “fixed pitch hawkers” under the indicator “licensed hawkers”, please set out in the tables below the current number of licensed hawkers trading in the following hawker bazaars and fixed-pitch hawker areas respectively.

Number of licensed hawkers trading in hawker bazaars

	Number of licensed hawkers
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	
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	
Yau Ma Tei Temporary Jade Hawker Bazaar	
Total	

Number of licensed hawkers trading in fixed-pitch hawker areas in the 18 districts across the territory

District	Location of fixed pitches	Number of licensed hawkers

Will the Government consider setting up new fixed-pitch hawker areas (e.g in new towns) to allow members of the public to start their own businesses so as to help rebuild the economy after the pandemic? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 64)

Reply:

The information sought on licensed hawkers is provided at Annexes I and II.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department launched the scheme of Re-allocation of Fixed Hawker Pitches and Issue of New Licences (the Scheme) in September 2019. Under the Scheme, 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches located at 7 districts were opened for application by persons who were interested in the hawking business and able to meet the required conditions. As at 1 March 2021, some of the successful applicants have yet to collect the licence. Depending on actual circumstances, the Department will consider re-allocation of vacant hawker pitches and issue of new licences.

The Department has no plan to set up new fixed-pitch hawker areas at the moment. However, the Government adopts a positive attitude towards specific bottom-up proposals for organising bazaars. When suitable sites have been identified by relevant organisations (i.e. the venue owners have no in-principle objection to the proposed bazaars being held at their venues at the proposed time slots) and support from local communities has been obtained, provided that the bazaar proposals will not compromise public order and safety, food safety and environmental hygiene, and will not obstruct public passageways, the Department will liaise with relevant bureaux and departments regarding the use of venues for organising bazaars.

Number of licensed hawkers trading in hawker bazaars

Hawker bazaar	Number of licensed hawkers (as at 31 December 2020)
Stanley Market Open Space Hawker Bazaar	20
Lai Yip Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	3
Tung Yan Street Interim Hawker Bazaar [#]	5
Haiphong Road Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar ⁺	9
Reclamation Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	4
Woosung Street Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar (temporarily closed for refurbishment)	3
Yen Chow Street Hawker Bazaar [*]	0
Hau Tei Square Hawker Bazaar	138
Lam Tei Market cum Hawker Bazaar	3
Kwai Wing Road Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	4
Yau Ma Tei Temporary Jade Hawker Bazaar [^]	335
Total	524

Remarks:

- # Tung Yan Street Interim Hawker Bazaar is scheduled to be closed in March 2021.
- + Haiphong Road Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar was reopened after completion of refurbishment in October 2020.
- * Yen Chow Street Temporary Hawker Bazaar is scheduled to be closed.
- ^ To make way for the Central Kowloon Route works of the Highways Department, Yau Ma Tei Jade Hawker Bazaar was relocated to the Yau Ma Tei Temporary Jade Hawker Bazaar in Shanghai Street, Kowloon, which was opened and came into operation in October 2020.

Number of licensed hawkers in fixed-pitch hawker areas

District	Location of fixed pitches	Number of licensed hawkers (as at 31 December 2020)
Eastern	Chun Yeung Street	73
	Marble Street	80
	Kam Wa Street	91
	Tai Tak Street	24
	Mong Lung Street	4
	Subtotal	272
Central and Western	Pottinger Street	38
	Graham Street	48
	Gage Street	10
	Li Yuen Street East	52
	Li Yuen Street West	50
	Peel Street	27
	Wing Kut Street	31
	Upper Lascar Row	12
	Man Wa Lane	31
	Subtotal	299
Wan Chai	Gresson Street	45
	Cross Street	70
	Tai Yuen Street	76
	Jardine's Crescent	164
	Subtotal	355
Yau Tsim	Reclamation Street	191
	Pak Hoi Street	13
	Saigon Street	15
	Canton Road	23
	Bowring Street	90
	Temple Street	285
	Subtotal	617
Mong Kok	Tung Choi Street	491
	Canton Road	273
	Fife Street	27
	Yin Chong Street	67
	Ki Lung Street	10
	Poplar Street	7
	Fa Yuen Street	213
	Nelson Street	46
	Subtotal	1 134

District	Location of fixed pitches	Number of licensed hawkers (as at 31 December 2020)
Sham Shui Po	Wing Lung Street	73
	Fat Tseung Street	35
	Cheung Fat Street	55
	Fuk Wa Street	155
	Fuk Wing Street	37
	Pei Ho Street	144
	Apliu Street	210
	Ki Lung Street	125
	Tai Nan Street	59
	Kweilin Street	59
	Subtotal	952
Kowloon City	Pau Chung Street	60
	Subtotal	60
Total		3 689

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)176****(Question Serial No.2074)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

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 WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 66)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annexes I and II.

District	Population^a	Number 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 Ap Lei Chau Market Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market Stanley Waterfront Mart
Wan Chai	180 123	6	Wan Chai 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 To Kwa Wan 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	Number 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
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

District	Population ^a	Number of public markets ^b	Name of public markets ^b
Yuen Long	614 178	9	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 FEHD Skylight Market ^c
Sai Kung	461 864	2	Sai Kung Market Tui Min Hoi Market ^d
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	98	

^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.

^c FEHD Skylight Market (in Tin Shui Wai, Yuen Long) was commissioned in December 2020.

^d Tui Min Hoi Market was closed in January 2021.

Serial number	Name of market	Year of commissioning	Provision of air-conditioning system	Number of stalls as at 31 December 2020	Occupancy rate ^a as at 31 December 2020
1	Aldrich Bay Market	2008	Yes	71	87%
2	Ap Lei Chau Market	1998	Yes	63	94%
3	Centre Street Market	1976	Yes	46	74%
4	Chai Wan Market	2001	Yes	174	91%
5	FEHD Skylight Market ^b	2020	Yes	36	100%
6	Lei Yue Mun Market	2000	Yes	20	95%
7	Luen Wo Hui Market	2002	Yes	338	98%
8	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	2005	Yes	14	100%
9	Peng Chau Market	1999	Yes	18	89%
10	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	2004	Yes	11	100%
11	Sai Ying Pun Market	1999	Yes	93	91%
12	San Hui Market	1982	Yes	324	94%
13	Sha Tin Market	1980	Yes	172	97%
14	Shek Wu Hui Market	1994	Yes	393	98%
15	Tai Kiu Market	1984	Yes	379	93%
16	Tai Kok Tsui Market	2005	Yes	135	96%
17	Tai Po Hui Market	2004	Yes	313	99%
18	Tsing Yi Market	1999	Yes	76	93%
19	Wan Chai Market	2008	Yes	50	96%
20	Yan Oi Market	1983	Yes	108	94%
21	Yee On Street Market	1999	Yes	65	57%
22	Yue Wan Market	1979	Yes	380	93%
23	Bowrington Road Market	1979	In cooked food centre (CFC) only	296	91%
24	Hung Hom Market	1996	In CFC only	224	95%
25	Java Road Market	1993	In CFC only	194	90%
26	Lockhart Road Market	1987	In CFC only	166	74%
27	Pei Ho Street Market	1995	In CFC only	234	97%
28	Sai Wan Ho Market	1984	In CFC only	274	95%
29	Sheung Wan Market	1989	In CFC only	223	95%

30	Smithfield Market	1996	In CFC only	216	97%
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Annex II
(Page 2 of 5)

Serial number	Name of market	Year of commissioning	Provision of air-conditioning system	Number of stalls as at 31 December 2020	Occupancy rate ^a as at 31 December 2020
31	Tai Shing Street Market	1998	In CFC only	441	92%
32	To Kwa Wan Market	1984	In CFC only	267	93%
33	Wong Nai Chung Market	1996	In CFC only	69	93%
34	Aberdeen Market	1983	No	335	95%
35	Causeway Bay Market	1995	No	51	92%
36	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	1979	No	32	78%
37	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	1991	No	17	100%
38	Cheung Chau Market	1991	No	243	95%
39	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	1987	No	12	100%
40	Choi Hung Road Market	1988	No	116	59%
41	Electric Road Market	1993	No	99	77%
42	Fa Yuen Street Market	1988	No	180	88%
43	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	1982	No	24	100%
44	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	1982	No	15	100%
45	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	1978	No	86	65%
46	Heung Che Street Market	1972	No	225	89%
47	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	1979	No	11	73%
48	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	1987	No	172	64%
49	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	1983	No	15	60%
50	Kam Tin Market	1964	No	41	100%
51	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	1981	No	14	100%

52	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	1979	No	17	100%
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Annex II
(Page 3 of 5)

Serial number	Name of market	Year of commissioning	Provision of air-conditioning system	Number of stalls as at 31 December 2020	Occupancy rate ^a as at 31 December 2020
53	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	1985	No	14	100%
54	Kowloon City Market	1988	No	581	88%
55	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	1986	No	11	91%
56	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	1990	No	11	91%
57	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	1985	No	98	97%
58	Kwun Chung Market	1991	No	218	64%
59	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	1984	No	29	93%
60	Lai Wan Market	1992	No	42	95%
61	Lam Tei Market	1969	No	7	100%
62	Lau Fau Shan Market	1964	No	25	72%
63	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	1985	No	20	100%
64	Mui Wo Market	1993	No	35	91%
65	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	1987	No	28	82%
66	Ngau Chi Wan Market	1986	No	402	83%
67	Ngau Tau Kok Market	1981	No	466	84%
68	North Kwai Chung Market	1984	No	222	86%
69	North Point Market	1970	No	42	81%
70	On Ching Road Flower Market	1979	No	13	100%
71	Plover Cove Road Market	1991	No	244	77%
72	Po On Road Market	1988	No	449	84%
73	Quarry Bay Market	1988	No	113	66%
74	Sai Kung Market	1985	No	209	86%
75	Sha Tau Kok Market	1998	No	66	97%

76	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	1984	No	29	86%
77	Shek Tong Tsui Market	1991	No	151	87%

Annex II
(Page 4 of 5)

Serial number	Name of market	Year of commissioning	Provision of air-conditioning system	Number of stalls as at 31 December 2020	Occupancy rate ^a as at 31 December 2020
78	Sheung Fung Street Market	1989	No	71	97%
79	Shui Wo Street Market	1988	No	302	97%
80	Stanley Waterfront Mart	2007	No	20	60%
81	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	1980	No	17	82%
82	Tai O Market	1989	No	26	81%
83	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	1985	No	18	100%
84	Tai Wai Market	1985	No	184	87.5%
85	Tang Lung Chau Market	1963	No	34	91%
86	Tin Wan Market	1979	No	180	92%
87	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	1983	No	18	100%
88	Tsuen Wan Market	1981	No	381	87%
89	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	1985	No	56	91%
90	Tui Min Hoi Market ^c	1983	No	34	44%
91	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	1992	No	244	45%
92	Tung Yick Market	1991	No	446	40%
93	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	1983	No	8	100%
94	Wing Fong Street Market	1982	No	114	71%
95	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	1984	No	18	89%
96	Yau Ma Tei Market	1957	No	144	87%
97	Yeung Uk Road Market	1990	No	318	93%
98	Yue Kwong Road Market	1981	No	197	83%

- a Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls out of the total number of stalls in a market. The degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.
- b FEHD Skylight Market (in Tin Shui Wai, Yuen Long) was commissioned in December 2020.
- c Tui Min Hoi Market was closed in January 2021.

Remarks: Cooked food centres are located inside public markets.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)177

(Question Serial No. 2075)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the work of closing public markets which are under-utilised, please provide information on:

- the occupancy rate and vacancy rate of each public market in the territory; and
- the number of markets that were closed in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2018 to 2020), the expenditure involved, and the reason(s) for the closure.

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 68)

Reply:

The occupancy rate and vacancy rate of each public market are provided at **Annex**.

In the 3 financial years from 2018-19 to 2020-21, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department closed 3 markets with consistently high vacancy rates, namely Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market, Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market and Tui Min Hoi Market. Their closures resulted in reduction of annual operating cost of about \$4.6 million.

Occupancy rate and vacancy rate of public markets

Serial number	Name of market	As at 31 December 2020		
		Number of stalls	Occupancy rate ^a	Vacancy rate ^b
1	Aberdeen Market	335	95%	5%
2	Aldrich Bay Market	71	87%	13%
3	Ap Lei Chau Market	63	94%	6%
4	Bowrington Road Market	296	91%	9%
5	Causeway Bay Market	51	92%	8%
6	Centre Street Market	46	74%	26%
7	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	78%	22%
8	Chai Wan Market	174	91%	9%
9	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	100%	0%
10	Cheung Chau Market	243	95%	5%
11	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	100%	0%
12	Choi Hung Road Market	116	59%	41%
13	Electric Road Market	99	77%	23%
14	Fa Yuen Street Market	180	88%	12%
15	FEHD Skylight Market ^c	36	100%	0%
16	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	100%	0%
17	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	100%	0%
18	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	86	65%	35%
19	Heung Che Street Market	225	89%	11%
20	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	73%	27%
21	Hung Hom Market	224	95%	5%
22	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	172	64%	36%
23	Java Road Market	194	90%	10%
24	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	15	60%	40%
25	Kam Tin Market	41	100%	0%
26	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	100%	0%
27	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	100%	0%
28	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	100%	0%
29	Kowloon City Market	581	88%	12%

Serial number	Name of market	As at 31 December 2020		
		Number of stalls	Occupancy rate ^a	Vacancy rate ^b
30	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	91%	9%
31	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	11	91%	9%
32	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	98	97%	3%
33	Kwun Chung Market	218	64%	36%
34	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	93%	7%
35	Lai Wan Market	42	95%	5%
36	Lam Tei Market	7	100%	0%
37	Lau Fau Shan Market	25	72%	28%
38	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	95%	5%
39	Lockhart Road Market	166	74%	26%
40	Luen Wo Hui Market	338	98%	2%
41	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	100%	0%
42	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	100%	0%
43	Mui Wo Market	35	91%	9%
44	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	82%	18%
45	Ngau Chi Wan Market	402	83%	17%
46	Ngau Tau Kok Market	466	84%	16%
47	North Kwai Chung Market	222	86%	14%
48	North Point Market	42	81%	19%
49	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	100%	0%
50	Pei Ho Street Market	234	97%	3%
51	Peng Chau Market	18	89%	11%
52	Plover Cove Road Market	244	77%	23%
53	Po On Road Market	449	84%	16%
54	Quarry Bay Market	113	66%	34%
55	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	100%	0%
56	Sai Kung Market	209	86%	14%
57	Sai Wan Ho Market	274	95%	5%
58	Sai Ying Pun Market	93	91%	9%
59	San Hui Market	324	94%	6%
60	Sha Tau Kok Market	66	97%	3%
61	Sha Tin Market	172	97%	3%
62	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	29	86%	14%
63	Shek Tong Tsui Market	151	87%	13%
64	Shek Wu Hui Market	393	98%	2%

Serial number	Name of market	As at 31 December 2020		
		Number of stalls	Occupancy rate ^a	Vacancy rate ^b
65	Sheung Fung Street Market	71	97%	3%
66	Sheung Wan Market	223	95%	5%
67	Shui Wo Street Market	302	97%	3%
68	Smithfield Market	216	97%	3%
69	Stanley Waterfront Mart	20	60%	40%
70	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	82%	18%
71	Tai Kiu Market	379	93%	7%
72	Tai Kok Tsui Market	135	96%	4%
73	Tai O Market	26	81%	19%
74	Tai Po Hui Market	313	99%	1%
75	Tai Shing Street Market	441	92%	8%
76	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	100%	0%
77	Tai Wai Market	184	87.5%	12.5%
78	Tang Lung Chau Market	34	91%	9%
79	Tin Wan Market	180	92%	8%
80	To Kwa Wan Market	267	93%	7%
81	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	100%	0%
82	Tsing Yi Market	76	93%	7%
83	Tsuen Wan Market	381	87%	13%
84	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	91%	9%
85	Tui Min Hoi Market ^d	34	44%	56%
86	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	244	45%	55%
87	Tung Yick Market	446	40%	60%
88	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	100%	0%
89	Wan Chai Market	50	96%	4%
90	Wing Fong Street Market	114	71%	29%
91	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	89%	11%
92	Wong Nai Chung Market	69	93%	7%
93	Yan Oi Market	108	94%	6%
94	Yau Ma Tei Market	144	87%	13%
95	Yee On Street Market	65	57%	43%
96	Yeung Uk Road Market	318	93%	7%
97	Yue Kwong Road Market	197	83%	17%
98	Yue Wan Market	380	93%	7%

- a Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls out of the total number of stalls in a market. The degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.
- b Vacancy rate is the percentage of unleased stalls out of the total number of stalls in a market.
- c FEHD Skylight Market (formerly known as Tin Shui Wai Temporary Market) was commissioned in December 2020.
- d Tui Min Hoi Market was closed in January 2021.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)178****(Question Serial No. 2076)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

With regard to the implementation of “the Market Modernisation Programme to improve facilities of existing public markets”, please set out the progress of the replacement of aged lifts and escalators in public markets and the expenditure involved as per the table below:

District	Name of market	Number of facilities to be replaced		Commencement date	Completion date	Estimated expenditure
		lift	escalator			
Central and Western	Centre Street Market					
	Queen Street Cooked Food Market					
	Sai Ying Pun Market					
	Shek Tong Tsui Market					
	Sheung Wan Market					
	Smithfield Market					
Wan Chai	Bowrington Road Market					
	Causeway Bay Market					
	Lockhart Road Market					
	Tang Lung Chau Market					
	Wan Chai Market					
	Wong Nai Chung Market					
Eastern	Aldrich Bay Market					
	Chai Wan Market					
	Electric Road Market					
	Java Road Market					

	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market					
	North Point Market					
	Quarry Bay Market					
	Sai Wan Ho Market					
	Yue Wan Market					
Southern	Aberdeen Market					
	Ap Lei Chau Market					
	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market					
	Stanley Waterfront Mart					
	Tin Wan Market					
	Yue Kwong Road Market					
Yau Tsim	Haiphong Road Temporary Market					
	Kwun Chung Market					
	Yau Ma Tei Market					
Mong Kok	Fa Yuen Street Market					
	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market					
	Tai Kok Tsui Market					
Sham Shui Po	Lai Wan Market					
	Pei Ho Street Market					
	Po On Road Market					
	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market (including Sham Shui Po Jade Market)					
Kowloon City	Hung Hom Market					
	Kowloon City Market					
	On Ching Road Flower Market					
	To Kwa Wan Market					
Wong Tai Sin	Choi Hung Road Market					
	Ngau Chi Wan Market					
	Sheung Fung Street Market					
	Tai Shing Street Market					
Kwun Tong	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market					

	Lei Yue Mun Market					
	Ngau Tau Kok Market					
	Shui Wo Street Market					
	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market					
	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market					
	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market					
	Yee On Street Market					
Islands	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market					
	Cheung Chau Market					
	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market					
	Mui Wo Market					
	Peng Chau Market					
	Tai O Market					
Tsuen Wan	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market					
	Heung Che Street Market					
	Sham Tseng Temporary Market					
	Tsuen Wan Market					
	Yeung Uk Road Market					
Kwai Tsing	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market					
	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market					
	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market					
	North Kwai Chung Market					
	Tsing Yi Market					
	Wing Fong Street Market					
	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market					
North	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre					
	Luen Wo Hui Market					
	Sha Tau Kok Market					
	Shek Wu Hui Market					

Tai Po	Plover Cove Road Market					
	Tai Po Hui Market					
Sai Kung	Sai Kung Market					
Sha Tin	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market					
	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market					
	Sha Tin Market					
	Tai Wai Market					
Tuen Mun	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market					
	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market					
	Lam Tei Market					
	San Hui Market					
	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market					
	Yan Oi Market					
Yuen Long	FEHD Skylight Market					
	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market					
	Kam Tin Market					
	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market					
	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market					
	Lau Fau Shan Market					
	Tai Kiu Market					
	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market					
	Tung Yick Market					
	Total					

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 71)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has been replacing aged lifts and escalators in phases since 2015-16 to ensure smooth operation of the facilities. To date, we have earmarked about \$488 million for the replacement of 61 lifts and 138 escalators in 35 public markets. 118 replacement projects have been completed and the rest will be completed progressively in the coming years. The information sought is provided at **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		Actual/Anticipated commencement date ^{2&3}	Actual/Anticipated completion date ³	Funding earmarked ⁴ (\$ million)	
		Lifts	Escalators				
Central and Western	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	-	1 [#]	Under preparation		2.0	
	Sai Ying Pun Market	-	3	Mar 2020	Sep 2020	7.5	
		-	2	Mar 2021	Jul 2021	5.0	
		-	2	Under preparation		5.0	
	Shek Tong Tsui Market	2	-	Apr 2019	Dec 2019	5.0	
		1	-	Jul 2020	Oct 2020	2.5	
		-	2	Sep 2019	Jun 2020	5.0	
		-	4	Under preparation		10.0	
	Sheung Wan Market	-	4	Mar 2017	Nov 2017	10.0	
		1	-	Jun 2019	Sep 2019	2.5	
		1	-	Jul 2020	Nov 2020	2.5	
		1	-	Jan 2021	Jun 2021	2.5	
			2	Under preparation		5.0	
	Smithfield Market	-	4	Aug 2018	Jan 2019	10.0	
		-	2	May 2020	Sep 2020	5.0	
		-	4	Mar 2021	Aug 2021	10.0	
		1	-	Sep 2019	Jan 2020	2.5	
		1 [#]	-	Under preparation		2.0	
	Wan Chai	Causeway Bay Market	-	2	Jul 2019	Nov 2019	5.0
			1	-	Sep 2020	Dec 2020	2.5
		Lockhart Road Market	1	-	Sep 2020	Dec 2020	2.5
			1	-	Feb 2021	Jun 2021	2.5
			-	4	Jul 2021	Dec 2021	10.0
		1 [#]	-	Under preparation		2.0	
Wan Chai Market		3 [#]	-	Under preparation		6.0	
Wong Nai Chung Market		-	2	Mar 2019	Jul 2019	5.0	
		-	4	Apr 2021	Sep 2021	10.0	
	1	-	Sep 2020	Mar 2021	2.5		

District	Name of market ¹	Number of facilities to be replaced		Actual/Anticipated commencement date ^{2&3}	Actual/Anticipated completion date ³	Funding earmarked ⁴ (\$ million)
		Lifts	Escalators			
Eastern	Chai Wan Market	-	2	May 2021	Sep 2021	5.0
		-	2 [#]	Under preparation		4.0
	Electric Road Market	-	4	May 2019	Dec 2019	10.0
	Java Road Market	-	4	Jul 2018	Dec 2018	10.0
		1	-	Jun 2020	Oct 2020	2.5
		1	-	Mar 2021	May 2021	2.5
		-	2	Under preparation		5.0
	Sai Wan Ho Market	-	1	May 2019	Sep 2019	2.5
		-	1	Apr 2020	Aug 2020	2.5
		2	2	Under preparation		10.0
Southern	Ap Lei Chau Market	2	-	Jun 2020	Dec 2020	5.0
		-	2	May 2021	Sep 2021	5.0
	Tin Wan Market	-	2	Mar 2017	Jul 2017	5.0
		2	-	Jun 2020	Jan 2021	5.0
	Yue Kwong Road Market	-	1	Feb 2017	Jun 2017	2.5
		2	-	Oct 2019	May 2020	5.0
Yau Tsim	Kwun Chung Market	-	4	May 2017	Oct 2017	10.0
		-	2	May 2018	Aug 2018	5.0
Mong Kok	Fa Yuen Street Market	-	4	Apr 2017	May 2018	10.0
		-	4	Mar 2019	Feb 2020	10.0
		-	2	Mar 2021	Dec 2021	5.0
		1	-	Apr 2020	Sep 2020	2.5
	Tai Kok Tsui Market	-	4 [#]	Under preparation		8.0
Sham Shui Po	Pei Ho Street Market	-	4	Feb 2019	Jul 2019	10.0
		-	2	May 2020	Sep 2020	5.0
		2	-	Apr 2021	Nov 2021	5.0
		1 [#]	-	Under preparation		2.0
	Po On Road Market	-	2	Dec 2017	Mar 2018	5.0
		-	6	May 2019	Nov 2019	15.0
		-	4	Mar 2020	Sep 2020	10.0
		2	-	Feb 2021	Sep 2021	5.0
		1 [#]	-	Under preparation		2.0

District	Name of market ¹	Number of facilities to be replaced		Actual/Anticipated commencement date ^{2&3}	Actual/Anticipated completion date ³	Funding earmarked ⁴ (\$ million)
		Lifts	Escalators			
Kowloon City	Hung Hom Market	-	1	Jun 2016	Aug 2016	2.5
		-	1	Apr 2017	Jul 2017	2.5
		-	2	Aug 2021	Feb 2022	5.0
		2	-	May 2020	Dec 2020	5.0
		1	-	May 2021	Aug 2021	2.5
	To Kwa Wan Market	2	-	Apr 2020	Dec 2020	5.0
Wong Tai Sin	Sheung Fung Street Market	1	-	Aug 2020	Dec 2020	2.5
	Tai Shing Street Market	2	-	Mar 2019	Nov 2019	5.0
		2	-	Mar 2021	Nov 2021	5.0
		-	2	Jul 2020	Dec 2020	5.0
		-	2 [#]	Under preparation		4.0
Kwun Tong	Ngau Tau Kok Market	-	1	Jul 2020	Nov 2020	2.5
		2	-	Feb 2021	Sep 2021	5.0
	Shui Wo Street Market	1	-	Oct 2019	Jan 2020	2.5
		1	-	Mar 2020	Jun 2020	2.5
		-	2 [#]	Under preparation		5.0
Tsuen Wan	Tsuen Wan Market	1	-	Nov 2019	Apr 2020	2.5
	Yeung Uk Road Market	-	4	Apr 2016	Sep 2016	10.0
		-	2	Jul 2017	Dec 2017	5.0
		-	2	Mar 2018	Aug 2018	5.0
		2	-	Sep 2018	Jun 2019	5.0
		2	-	Apr 2020	Nov 2020	5.0
		2	-	Dec 2020	Sep 2021	5.0
Kwai Tsing	North Kwai Chung Market	-	2	Aug 2016	Nov 2016	5.0
		1	-	Under preparation		2.5
North	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	-	2	May 2017	Dec 2017	5.0
	Luen Wo Hui Market	-	2	Sep 2021	Dec 2021	5.0
		-	2 [#]	Under preparation		4.0
	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
		1 [#]	-	Under preparation		2.0

District	Name of market ¹	Number of facilities to be replaced		Actual/Anticipated commencement date ^{2&3}	Actual/Anticipated completion date ³	Funding earmarked ⁴ (\$ million)
		Lifts	Escalators			
Tai Po	Tai Po Hui Market	1	-	Apr 2020	Aug 2020	2.5
		1	-	Mar 2021	Jun 2021	2.5
		-	2	Under preparation		5.0
Yuen Long	Tung Yick Market	1	2	Under preparation		7.5
Total		61	138			488.0

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 tendering, manufacturing, delivery of materials, stakeholders' views on the works arrangement and the progress of other preparation work, etc., the commencement/completion dates may need to be adjusted.

⁴ The funding earmarked for the works projects may be adjusted having regard to the trend of market prices and the technical complexity of the relevant works.

New item

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)179****(Question Serial No. 2077)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

With regard to the work of closing public markets which are under-utilised, please set out as per the table below the number and details of public markets planned to be closed:

District	Name of public market	Progress of work	Anticipated date of closure	Estimated expenditure	Use of the land after closure of the market

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 69)Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department plans to close Choi Hung Road Market in Wong Tai Sin District in 2021-22 and already received the forms for confirmation of intention from all tenants in November 2020. The market is expected to be closed in March 2022. It is estimated that the closure will result in reduction of annual operating cost of about \$8 million. According to the Chief Executive's 2020 Policy Address, the Development Bureau, together with the Home Affairs Bureau, Leisure and Cultural Services Department and Planning Department, would commence studying the overall planning and long-term development of the Choi Hung Road Playground and Sports Centre (including Choi Hung Road Market) site to improve recreational and sports facilities and integrate other uses under the principle of "single site, multiple use" to make better use of land resources and meeting societal needs at the same time. The above study has commenced, in which the detailed uses and timetable will be considered at the same time.

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.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)180

(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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under the indicator “applications for new restricted food permits”, the number of applications increased from 1 328 in 2019 to 2 182 in 2020. In this regard, please advise this Committee of:

- the number of permits for online sale of restricted foods among the 2 182 permits applied for;
- the number of permits for online sale of restricted foods with a breakdown by food type; and
- the number of online food sale complaints received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, as well as the food types concerned, the number of prosecutions instituted and the number of convicted cases in each of the past 3 years (from 2018 to 2020).

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 75)

Reply:

In 2020, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department received 2 182 applications for restricted food permits, 997 of which were for permits for online sale of restricted food. A breakdown by food type is set out below:

Type of restricted food	Number of applications
Meat	315
Sushi and/or sashimi	83
Oysters to be eaten in raw state	78
Shellfish	169
Fish	128
Poultry	87
Hairy crab	49
Frozen confections	76
Others	12
Total	997

The number of complaints received by the Department, the number of prosecutions instituted and the number of convicted cases pertaining to online food sale in each of the past 3 years are as follows:

	2018	2019	2020
Number of complaints received	144	235	459
Number of prosecutions	68	38	39
Number of convictions	68	37 ¹	21 ²

¹ The hearing result of 1 prosecution instituted in 2019 is pending.

² The hearing results of 18 prosecutions instituted in 2020 are pending.

The Department does not have a breakdown on the number of online food sale complaints by food type.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)181

(Question Serial No. 2082)

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 Diane WONG)

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. 2018, 2019 and 2020).

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 70)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

Annex
(Page 1 of 4)

Serial number	Name of public market	Provision of air-conditioning system	Number of stalls			Occupancy rate as at 31 December ^a			Vacancy rate as at 31 December ^b		
			2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
1	Aldrich Bay Market	Yes	71	71	71	92%	87%	87%	8%	13%	13%
2	Ap Lei Chau Market	Yes	63	63	63	97%	94%	94%	3%	6%	6%
3	Centre Street Market	Yes	46	46	46	76%	74%	74%	24%	26%	26%
4	Chai Wan Market	Yes	174	174	174	92%	92%	91%	8%	8%	9%
5	FEHD Skylight Market ^c	Yes	N.A.	N.A.	36	N.A.	N.A.	100%	N.A.	N.A.	0%
6	Lei Yue Mun Market	Yes	20	20	20	95%	95%	95%	5%	5%	5%
7	Luen Wo Hui Market	Yes	338	338	338	99%	99%	98%	1%	1%	2%
8	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	Yes	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
9	Peng Chau Market	Yes	18	18	18	100%	94%	89%	0%	6%	11%
10	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	Yes	11	11	11	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
11	Sai Ying Pun Market	Yes	102	93	93	87%	95%	91%	13%	5%	9%
12	San Hui Market	Yes	324	324	324	98%	96%	94%	2%	4%	6%
13	Sha Tin Market	Yes	172	172	172	99%	97%	97%	1%	3%	3%
14	Shek Wu Hui Market	Yes	393	393	393	100%	99%	98%	0%	1%	2%
15	Tai Kiu Market	Yes	379	379	379	97%	95%	93%	3%	5%	7%
16	Tai Kok Tsui Market	Yes	135	135	135	97%	97%	96%	3%	3%	4%
17	Tai Po Hui Market	Yes	313	313	313	100%	99%	99%	0%	1%	1%
18	Tsing Yi Market	Yes	76	76	76	99%	93%	93%	1%	7%	7%
19	Wan Chai Market	Yes	50	50	50	100%	98%	96%	0%	2%	4%
20	Yan Oi Market	Yes	108	108	108	94%	94%	94%	6%	6%	6%
21	Yee On Street Market	Yes	65	65	65	92%	63%	57%	8%	37%	43%
22	Yue Wan Market	Yes	380	380	380	94%	94%	93%	6%	6%	7%
23	Bowrington Road Market	Only in CFC	296	296	296	93%	92%	91%	7%	8%	9%
24	Hung Hom Market	Only in CFC	224	224	224	98%	97%	95%	2%	3%	5%
25	Java Road Market	Only in CFC	194	194	194	94%	90%	90%	6%	10%	10%
26	Lockhart Road Market	Only in CFC	166	166	166	74%	74%	74%	26%	26%	26%
27	Pei Ho Street Market	Only in CFC	234	234	234	99%	97%	97%	1%	3%	3%
28	Sai Wan Ho Market	Only in CFC	274	274	274	98%	96%	95%	2%	4%	5%
29	Sheung Wan Market	Only in CFC	223	223	223	98%	96%	95%	2%	4%	5%

Serial number	Name of public market	Provision of air-conditioning system	Number of stalls			Occupancy rate as at 31 December ^a			Vacancy rate as at 31 December ^b		
			2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
30	Smithfield Market	Only in CFC	216	216	216	99%	99%	97%	1%	1%	3%
31	Tai Shing Street Market	Only in CFC	442	441	441	93%	92%	92%	7%	8%	8%
32	To Kwa Wan Market	Only in CFC	267	267	267	97%	94%	93%	3%	6%	7%
33	Wong Nai Chung Market	Only in CFC	69	69	69	96%	96%	93%	4%	4%	7%
34	Aberdeen Market	No	335	335	335	96%	96%	95%	4%	4%	5%
35	Causeway Bay Market	No	51	51	51	96%	92%	92%	4%	8%	8%
36	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	No	32	32	32	87.5%	81%	78%	12.5%	19%	22%
37	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	No	17	17	17	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
38	Cheung Chau Market	No	240	243	243	98%	96%	95%	2%	4%	5%
39	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	No	12	12	12	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
40	Choi Hung Road Market	No	116	116	116	66%	59%	59%	34%	41%	41%
41	Electric Road Market	No	99	99	99	81%	81%	77%	19%	19%	23%
42	Fa Yuen Street Market	No	180	180	180	92%	89%	88%	8%	11%	12%
43	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	No	24	24	24	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
44	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	No	15	15	15	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
45	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	No	86	86	86	69%	66%	65%	31%	34%	35%
46	Heung Che Street Market	No	225	225	225	95%	92%	89%	5%	8%	11%
47	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	No	11	11	11	91%	91%	73%	9%	9%	27%
48	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	No	172	172	172	72%	65%	64%	28%	35%	36%
49	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	No	15	15	15	60%	60%	60%	40%	40%	40%
50	Kam Tin Market	No	41	41	41	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
51	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	No	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
52	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	No	17	17	17	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
53	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	No	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
54	Kowloon City Market	No	581	581	581	95%	90%	88%	5%	10%	12%
55	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	No	11	11	11	100%	100%	91%	0%	0%	9%
56	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	No	11	11	11	91%	91%	91%	9%	9%	9%
57	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	No	98	98	98	100%	98%	97%	0%	2%	3%
58	Kwun Chung Market	No	218	218	218	85%	73%	64%	15%	27%	36%

Serial number	Name of public market	Provision of air-conditioning system	Number of stalls			Occupancy rate as at 31 December ^a			Vacancy rate as at 31 December ^b		
			2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
59	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	No	29	29	29	97%	97%	93%	3%	3%	7%
60	Lai Wan Market	No	42	42	42	98%	95%	95%	2%	5%	5%
61	Lam Tei Market	No	7	7	7	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
62	Lau Fau Shan Market	No	25	25	25	88%	72%	72%	12%	28%	28%
63	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	No	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
64	Mui Wo Market	No	35	35	35	91%	91%	91%	9%	9%	9%
65	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	No	28	28	28	82%	82%	82%	18%	18%	18%
66	Ngau Chi Wan Market	No	402	402	402	87%	84%	83%	13%	16%	17%
67	Ngau Tau Kok Market	No	466	466	466	86%	85%	84%	14%	15%	16%
68	North Kwai Chung Market	No	222	222	222	91%	87%	86%	9%	13%	14%
69	North Point Market	No	42	42	42	83%	83%	81%	17%	17%	19%
70	On Ching Road Flower Market	No	13	13	13	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
71	Plover Cove Road Market	No	244	244	244	82%	78%	77%	18%	22%	23%
72	Po On Road Market	No	449	449	449	89%	87%	84%	11%	13%	16%
73	Quarry Bay Market	No	113	113	113	69%	68%	66%	31%	32%	34%
74	Sai Kung Market	No	209	209	209	91%	89%	86%	9%	11%	14%
75	Sha Tau Kok Market	No	66	66	66	100%	100%	97%	0%	0%	3%
76	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	No	29	29	29	90%	86%	86%	10%	14%	14%
77	Shek Tong Tsui Market	No	151	151	151	91%	88%	87%	9%	12%	13%
78	Sheung Fung Street Market	No	71	71	71	99%	97%	97%	1%	3%	3%
79	Shui Wo Street Market	No	302	302	302	98%	97%	97%	2%	3%	3%
80	Stanley Waterfront Mart	No	20	20	20	85%	65%	60%	15%	35%	40%
81	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	No	17	17	17	82%	82%	82%	18%	18%	18%
82	Tai O Market	No	26	26	26	88%	85%	81%	12%	15%	19%
83	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	No	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
84	Tai Wai Market	No	195	186	184	85%	91%	87.5%	15%	9%	12.5%
85	Tang Lung Chau Market	No	34	34	34	94%	91%	91%	6%	9%	9%
86	Tin Wan Market	No	180	180	180	96%	95%	92%	4%	5%	8%
87	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	No	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
88	Tsuen Wan Market	No	381	381	381	89%	88%	87%	11%	12%	13%
89	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	No	56	56	56	93%	93%	91%	7%	7%	9%

90	Tui Min Hoi Market ^d	No	34	34	34	56%	56%	44%	44%	44%	56%
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Annex
(Page 4 of 4)

Serial number	Name of public market	Provision of air-conditioning system	Number of stalls			Occupancy rate as at 31 December ^a			Vacancy rate as at 31 December ^b		
			2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
91	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	No	359	349	244	32%	33%	45%	68%	67%	55%
92	Tung Yick Market	No	446	446	446	41%	40%	40%	59%	60%	60%
93	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	No	8	8	8	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
94	Wing Fong Street Market	No	114	114	114	85%	76%	71%	15%	24%	29%
95	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	No	18	18	18	100%	100%	89%	0%	0%	11%
96	Yau Ma Tei Market	No	144	144	144	90%	89%	87%	10%	11%	13%
97	Yeung Uk Road Market	No	318	318	318	96%	95%	93%	4%	5%	7%
98	Yue Kwong Road Market	No	197	197	197	87%	84%	83%	13%	16%	17%

^a Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls out of the total number of stalls in a market. The degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

^b Vacancy rate is the percentage of unleased stalls out of the total number of stalls in a market.

^c FEHD Skylight Market (in Tin Shui Wai, Yuen Long) was commissioned in December 2020.

^d Tui Min Hoi Market was closed in January 2021.

Remark: Cooked food centres are located in the public markets.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)182

(Question Serial No. 2083)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With respect to the work of “ensuring prepackaged food for sale is properly labelled”, as the Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Amendment: Requirements for Nutrition Labelling and Nutrition Claim) Regulation 2008 (the Regulation) has come into operation since 1 July 2010, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (1) How many inspections were conducted by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) and how many non-compliance cases were detected, with a breakdown by year, food type and type of non-compliance, in each of the past 5 years (i.e. from 2016 to 2020)?
- (2) Did the Department institute prosecutions against non-compliance cases over the past 5 years (i.e. from 2016 to 2020)? If yes, how many prosecutions were instituted each year?
- (3) How many complaints related to nutrition labelling were received by the Department over the past 5 years (i.e. from 2016 to 2020)? Please set out the cases, with a breakdown by year (2010, 2011 and 2012), food type and type of complaints.
- (4) Given that no amendment has been made to the core nutrients and nutrition claims required to be listed since the commencement of the Regulation, does the Department have plans to amend the Regulation? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 72)

Reply:

- (1) The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department adopts a risk-based approach in the checking of nutrition labels of prepackaged food products. The results of checking from 2016 to 2020, with breakdowns by nature of non-compliance and food type, are tabulated below:

	Number of cases					
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Number of prepackaged food products checked	5 625	7 023	7 170	7 035	7 560	34 413
Number of non-compliant cases	54	34	62	80	54	284
(a) Breakdown of non-compliant cases by nature of non-compliance						
Nature of non-compliance	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
No nutrition label or incomplete information on the content of energy and seven core nutrients specified for labelling	18	8	19	32	20	97
Inappropriate nutrition label format	0	2	0	7	3	12
Inappropriate nutrient claim	0	1	2	1	0	4
Inappropriate language	2	4	6	1	4	17
Involving more than one type of the abovementioned irregularities	0	0	1	0	2	3
Discrepancy between declared nutrient value and chemical analysis result	34	19	34	39	25	151
Total	54	34	62	80	54	284
(b) Breakdown of non-compliant cases by food type						
Food type	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Bakery and cereal products	9	4	21	16	12	62
Candies and snacks	13	14	23	15	14	79
Drinks	7	2	2	10	4	25
Oils, sauces and condiments	12	10	9	4	2	37
Milk, milk products and frozen confections	3	1	0	1	2	7
Aquatic products and related products	3	0	0	8	4	15
Meat, poultry and related products	3	2	2	2	4	13
Vegetables, fruits and related products	2	0	1	12	11	26
Others	2	1	4	12	1	20
Total	54	34	62	80	54	284

- (2) From 2016 to 2020, the CFS took 34 413 samples for testing, with 284 non-compliant cases identified. The CFS has instituted prosecution against 133 cases, of which 128 cases were convicted and 5 are pending a court decision. The number of the prosecution cases, with a breakdown by year, is as follows:

	Number of prosecution cases					
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Number of summons	19	18	28	46	22	133
Number of convictions	19	18	28	46	17 [#]	128

Another 5 cases were pending a court decision.

- (3) The CFS received 122 nutrition labelling complaints from 2016 to 2020. A breakdown of the figures by nature of complaints and food type is tabulated below:

	Number of cases					
(a) Breakdown of complaint cases by nature of complaints						
Nature of complaints	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
No nutrition label or incomplete information on the content of energy and seven core nutrients specified for labelling	5	9	11	17	25	67
Inappropriate nutrition label format	0	4	16	4	5	29
Inappropriate nutrient claim	0	0	0	0	1	1
Inappropriate language	0	0	2	1	1	4
Involving more than one type of the abovementioned irregularities	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suspected inaccuracy in declared nutrient value	1	2	6	6	6	21
Total	6	15	35	28	38	122
(b) Breakdown of complaint cases by food type						
Food type	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Bakery and cereal products	0	0	1	0	3	4
Candies and snacks	2	2	3	4	4	15
Drinks	1	1	2	3	4	11
Oils, sauces and condiments	0	0	2	0	0	2
Milk, milk products and frozen confections	0	1	2	2	2	7
Aquatic products and related products	1	1	6	0	4	12

Meat, poultry and related products	0	1	5	2	2	10
Vegetables, fruits and related products	1	0	1	6	4	12
Others	1	9	13	11	15	49
Total	6	15	35	28	38	122

- (4) Subsequent to the Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) (Amendment: Requirements for Nutrition Labelling and Nutrition Claim) Regulation 2008, which came into effect on 1 July 2010, the Government enacted the Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulation 2014 in 2014 to stipulate the requirements on nutrition labelling of infant formulae, follow-up formulae and prepackaged food for infants and young children and nutritional composition of infant formulae. The requirements specified for infant formulae and those related to follow-up formulae and prepackaged food for infants and young children took effect on 13 December 2015 and 13 June 2016 respectively. The Government will continue to make reference to the relevant principles of the Codex Alimentarius Commission to review the local food safety legislation in a timely manner.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)183

(Question Serial No. 2091)

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 Diane WONG)

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 this Committee of the respective share of food supplied locally and imported into Hong Kong in each of the past 3 years (i.e. 2018-2020) 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.: 76)

Reply:

According to the information provided by the Census and Statistics Department and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, the origins of food supplied in Hong Kong in 2018, 2019 and 2020 are as follows:

(a) 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 or frozen fish	30.3	Mainland 48.7	Vietnam 15.3	Norway 11.9

(b) 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 or frozen fish	34.4	Mainland 47.4	Vietnam 15.9	Norway 12.4

(c) 2020

Food item	Share of food supplied locally (%)	Share of food imported by top three economies (%)		
Rice	-	Thailand 54.2	Vietnam 24.6	Cambodia 6.7
Vegetables	1.6	Mainland 90.2	USA 1.5	India 1.4
Live cattle	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live goats	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live pigs	15.7	Mainland 84.3	-	-
Live chickens	100	-	-	-
Other live poultry		-	-	-
Live fish	8.3	Mainland 86.0	Philippines 1.5	Bangladesh 1.1
Chilled beef	-	Australia 33.0	Brazil 29.8	USA 21.6
Frozen beef	-	Brazil 54.0	USA 19.7	India 7.6
Chilled mutton	-	Australia 45.9	New Zealand 45.4	UK 6.7
Frozen mutton	-	Australia 40.9	New Zealand 33.2	UK 11.5
Chilled pork	-	Thailand 62.5	Australia 9.4	Mainland 9.2
Frozen pork	-	Brazil 55.9	Netherlands 6.6	Germany 6.6
Chilled chicken	-	Mainland 99.5	New Zealand 0.2	UK 0.1
Frozen chicken	-	Brazil 38.4	USA 19.6	Mainland 14.5
Chilled poultry	-	Mainland 97.0	Thailand 1.6	USA 0.7
Frozen poultry	-	Brazil 38.6	USA 19.1	Mainland 14.4
Chilled or frozen fish	19.6	Mainland 42.4	Vietnam 10.5	Norway 8.3

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)184****(Question Serial No. 3107)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding the work of "providing 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	Number of markets				Number of supermarkets	Number of fresh provision shops
		Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	Link REIT	Housing Authority	Private developer		
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	Number of markets				Number of supermarkets	Number of fresh provision shops
		Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	Link REIT	Housing Authority	Private developer		
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 WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 65)

Reply:

The information sought (as at December 2020) is provided at **Annexes I** and **II**.

District	Population ¹	Number of markets				Number of supermarkets	Number of licensed fresh provision shops ⁴
		Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD)	Link REIT ²	Housing Authority (HA) ³	Private developer		
Tin Shui Wai	286 232	1	4	2	-	18	103
Tung Chung ⁵	86 392	-	2	2	-	9	43
Ma On Shan	209 714	-	2	-	5	16	88
Tseung Kwan O	398 479	-	4	-	7	25	170

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.

District	Population ¹	Number of markets				Number of supermarkets	Number of licensed fresh provision shops ⁵
		FEHD ²	Link REIT ³	HA ⁴	Private developer		
Central and Western	243 266	5	-	-	-	59	126
Eastern	555 034	8	2	-	2	74	201
Southern	274 994	5	-	2	4	39	100
Wan Chai	180 123	6	-	-	-	33	93
Kowloon City	418 732	4	2	1	-	55	168
Kwun Tong	648 541	4	8	1	4	64	267
Wong Tai Sin	425 235	4	6	2	-	41	169
Sham Shui Po	405 869	4	1	3	1	57	182
Mong Kok	342 970	2	-	-	1	35	151
Yau Tsim		3	-	-	-	37	88
Sha Tin	659 794	2	10	4	9	69	294
Tai Po	303 926	2	5	-	-	32	110
North	315 270	4	1	-	4	35	74
Kwai Tsing	520 572	3	1	5	9	60	169
Tsuen Wan	318 916	4	-	2	2	47	109
Tuen Mun	489 299	3	6	2	5	48	171
Yuen Long	614 178	6	5	3	1	58	241
Sai Kung	461 864	1	4	-	7	37	199
Islands	156 801	4	2	2	-	19	65
Total	7 335 384	74	53	27	49	899	2 977

¹ Based on the 2016 Population By-Census data provided by C&SD.

² The figures only include markets under 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 -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)185

(Question Serial No. 1791)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Has the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) enhanced cleansing service across the territory in 2020-21 in the light of the COVID-19 epidemic? If yes, what are the details and the expenditure involved? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Will the Department enhance cleansing service across the territory in 2021-22 in the light of the COVID-19 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.: 54)

Reply:

In the light of the COVID-19 epidemic, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) has stepped up 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, FEHD 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 diluted bleach. For other public toilets, cleansing workers also carry out cleansing and disinfection with diluted bleach at least twice a day in performing routine cleansing service to ensure their cleanliness. In performing routine cleansing of RCPs, cleansing workers will also cleanse and disinfect the floor, walls, large refuse bins, handrails, etc. with diluted bleach to ensure the cleanliness of RCPs.

With regard to public markets, in addition to routine cleansing service in the daytime, market management contractors also perform deep cleansing service after the markets are closed every day. Under the epidemic, FEHD has improved the ventilation of public markets and stepped up cleansing and disinfection of the streets in their vicinities as well as their common areas and facilities (including toilets, escalators, elevators, stair handrails, etc.). As a precautionary measure, over 60 public markets were arranged to be progressively closed an hour earlier for deep cleansing and disinfection. Market tenants were appealed to conduct cleansing and disinfection at their stalls, with a view to improving the overall hygiene

condition of the markets. Recently, FEHD has made it a regular measure for a number of public markets in various districts according to their actual circumstances, under which the markets are closed an hour earlier for deep cleansing once every 3 months. Better still, sensor-type toilet seat sanitisers have been introduced to toilet cubicles, and automatic soap dispensers have been installed progressively in toilets. Anti-microbial coating has been applied to the common areas and facilities of most public markets.

Cleansing and disinfection of the households of confirmed patients by cleansing workers have also been arranged according to the instructions of the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health, while sweeping and washing of public places in the vicinity of the buildings concerned have been enhanced to maintain environmental hygiene. More mobile cleansing teams and staff have been engaged for RCPs and public toilets with extended opening hours as necessary. A total of 135 additional street washing and mobile cleansing teams have been employed for enhancing street cleansing service, so as to maintain environmental hygiene. The expenditure incurred was absorbed by the Anti-epidemic Fund.

FEHD will continue to deploy resources for anti-epidemic efforts against COVID-19.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)186

(Question Serial No. 2279)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Has the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) stepped up sampling of frozen foods or goods from places badly hit by the pandemic (e.g. the United States, Brazil and India) for COVID-19 testing in 2020-21? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)? Will the Department conduct COVID-19 testing on frozen foods or goods imported from places hard hit by the pandemic in 2021-22? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon WONG Ting-kwong (LegCo internal reference no.: 53)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has been collecting samples of various types of frozen foods (and their packaging) at the import level for COVID-19 testing since mid-2020. As at late March 2021, over 6 000 relevant samples of food (mainly meat and seafood) imported from 50 places were collected for testing. The results were all negative. The CFS will continue to take samples of frozen foods (and their packaging) imported from different places for testing and closely monitor the risk of virus transmission via imported frozen foods.

- End -