

Legislative Council Panel on Housing

Hawker Control in Public Housing Estates

Purpose

This paper advises Members on progress of the pilot scheme to curb illegal hawking in public housing estates.

Background

2. At the Panel meeting on 2 June 2003, we advised Members that in addition to the enforcement actions taken by the Housing Department's Mobile Operations Units, the Housing Department would also collaborate with the Police and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to combat illegal hawking in public housing estates. We also informed Members that a new arrangement would be introduced on a pilot basis in estates beset with illegal hawking problems. Members requested a progress report on the implementation of this pilot scheme.

Progress

3. The pilot scheme was formally launched on 7 June 2003 to cover estates with more than 10 illegal cooked food hawkers. Six estates, namely Lei Muk Shue (II), Lok Wah North, Lower Wong Tai Sin (II), Shek Lei (I), Tai Wo Hau and Wah Fu (I), were included on a pilot basis. Since then, the scheme was extended to 17 other estates. A list of the 23 estates covered by the scheme is at Annex.

4. From June to October 2003, we have carried out 432 joint departmental operations, resulting in 504 seizures and 76 arrests. 55% of these operations were carried out in estates managed by private property services companies. In the same period, Housing Department's Mobile Operations Units continued to take anti-hawking actions in estates not covered by the scheme. A total of 748 operations were carried out, resulting in 1 103 seizures and 252 arrests. Through these efforts, illegal hawking in public housing estates is now generally under control. The number of illegal cooked food hawkers in the 23

public housing estates covered by the scheme has decreased by half. We will continue to carry out joint departmental operations in 10 estates where illegal hawking is still persistent so as to eradicate the problem.

5. For the remaining 13 estates covered in the scheme and other estates which frequently require the assistance of the Mobile Operations Units, the Housing Department and private property services companies deploy security guards to patrol the estate public areas to strengthen the deterrent effect so as to prevent recurrence of illegal hawking. The Housing Department will supervise property services companies closely to ensure their effectiveness in hawker control and put up posters in public housing estates to discourage public housing tenants from patronising illegal hawkers. This multi-pronged approach has been effective in curbing illegal hawking in public housing estates and will continue.

Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau
December 2003

**Public Housing Estates covered by the Scheme
To Combat Illegal Hawking through Joint Departmental Efforts**

Under the management of the Housing Department	Remarks
1. Ap Lei Chau Estate	Deployment of security guards to sustain deterrent effect
2. On Yam Estate	
3. Shun Tin Estate	
4. Tai Wo Hau Estate	
5. Tin Shui (II) Estate	
6. Wah Fu (I) Estate	
7. Wong Chuk Hang Estate	
8. Lei Muk Shue (II) Estate	Joint departmental operations will continue
9. Lok Wah (North) Estate	
10. Yau Oi Estate	

Under the management of private services company	Remarks
11. Kwai Fong Estate	Deployment of security guards to sustain deterrent effect
12. Lower Wong Tai Sin (I) Estate	
13. Shek Lei (I) Estate	
14. Tin Chak Estate	
15. Tin Heng Estate	
16. Wah Kwai Estate	
17. Cheung Fat Estate	Joint departmental operations will continue
18. Cheung On Estate	
19. Choi Yuen Estate	
20. Long Ping Estate	
21. Lower Wong Tai Sin (II) Estate	
22. Siu Sai Wan Estate	
23. Tin Yiu (I) Estate	