



本署檔號 Our Ref : (18) in FEHD(CR) 2/3/96 Pt. 2
來函檔號 Your Ref : CB(3)/PAC/R45

12 December 2005

(By fax: 2537 1204)

Clerk, Public Accounts Committee
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong
(Attn.: Ms Dora WAI)

Dear Ms WAI,

**The Director of Audit's Report on the
results of value for money audits (Report No. 45)**

**Chapter 8: The Government's efforts in
developing sustainable systems to keep Hong Kong clean**

Thank you for your letter of 5 December 2005.

We shall shortly conduct a review of the Incentive Scheme for Hygiene Improvement in Food Premises to identify possible causes leading to the poor response. The review will include meeting trade representatives to hear their views on how the Scheme could be improved to encourage participation with a view to enhancing the environmental hygiene conditions of food premises. Possible improvement measures could include revising the maximum loan amount and/or the percentage of the total refurbishment cost that could be funded under the Scheme, lengthening the repayment period, and extension of the scope of works covered by the Scheme.

For your information, as an incentive to encourage early participation in the Scheme, the Government originally proposed a cash subsidy in addition to the loan for the successful applicants in the first round of applications. The cash subsidy proposal was later dropped after consulting the LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene in January 2004.

We aim to complete the review in the first quarter of 2006 and will report back to the relevant committee/panel of the Legislative Council as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,



(Gregory LEUNG)

Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

c.c. Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food (Attn. : Mr. Eddy Chan)
Director of Audit