

**Bills Committee on  
Fixed Penalty (Smoking Offences) Bill**

**Administration's response to an issue raised  
at the Bills Committee meeting  
on 3 May 2008**

Authorized Enforcement Officers

**PURPOSE**

This paper sets out the Administration's response to issues raised by the Bills Committee at its meeting on 3 May 2008.

**BACKGROUND**

2. At the above meeting, the Administration was requested to provide a response in writing on the following -

*The specific ranks and number of staff of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD), the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and the Housing Department (HD) proposed to issue FPNs for smoking offences in the relevant statutory no smoking areas under their management.*

**ADMINISTRATION'S RESPONSE**

3. FEHD intends to authorize venue managers of public markets and hawker bazaars, i.e. staff directly involved in the day-to-day management of these venues, to issue fixed penalty notices. At present, there are about 900 of them who are either from the Health Inspector, Hawker Control Officer and Foreman grades, or are Market Assistants employed on non-civil service contract terms. The specific ranks and number of officers to be authorized will be subject to the outcome of staff consultation.

4. HD would authorize a total of 2,000 staff, comprising 1,500 Housing Officers; 500 Assistant Housing Managers and Housing Managers, to enforce the smoking ban.

5. As for LCSD, they would authorize about the same number and ranks of officers presently authorized to enforce the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness Offences) Ordinance to enforce the smoking ban. The specific ranks and number of officers to be authorized will be subject to the outcome of staff consultation.

Food and Health Bureau  
June 2008