



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部食物及衛生局
Food and Health Bureau, Government Secretariat
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

Our Ref.:

Tel: 3509 8913

Your Ref.:

Fax: 2840 0467

By Fax and Post

14 March 2012

Clerk to Panel on Health Services
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road,
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn: Ms Alice LEUNG)

Dear Ms LEUNG,

**Panel on Health Services
Follow-up to meeting on 13 February 2012**

At the meeting of the Panel on Health Services on 13 February 2012, the Administration was requested to provide information on the number of cases where inspectors of the Tobacco Control Office (TCO) encountered verbal or physical assault in carrying out their enforcement actions in the past three years.

TCO is responsible for implementing and enforcing the tobacco control legislation, particularly the smoking ban in statutory no smoking areas. With the enactment of the Fixed Penalty (Smoking Offences) Ordinance on 1 September 2009, persons smoking in statutory no smoking areas and on public transport carriers are liable to a fixed penalty of \$1,500. Implementation and enforcement of smoking ban has largely

been smooth throughout the years. The numbers of physical assault cases against TCO inspectors from 2009 to 2011 are 4, 15 and 9 respectively.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Vivian Cheung', written in a cursive style.

(Ms Vivian CHEUNG)
for Secretary for Food and Health