



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

Translation

Urgent

17 January 2017

Chairman, Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Bazaars
Deputy Chairman, Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Bazaars
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Chairman and Deputy Chairman,

LegCo Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Bazaars

I refer to your letter dated 12 January 2017 and the Legislative Council's e-mail dated 16 January 2017 (referring your letter to us).

The Government has always been paying close attention to, and supports, the development of bazaars. We also have high regard for, and attach great importance to, the views of the Legislative Council and the stakeholders.

At the meeting of the LegCo Subcommittee on Hawker Policy in March 2015, the Secretary for Food and Health explained the policies of the Government on the development of bazaars. As he has pointed out, it is support-worthy and desirable to pursue a district-led and bottom-up approach in coming up specific proposals for developing bazaars. As long as they will not compromise public order and safety, food safety and environmental hygiene and obstruct public passageways, when suitable sites have been identified by the organisations concerned and that support from local communities and respective District Councils (DCs) have been obtained, the Government will facilitate liaison with relevant bureaux / departments.

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB), the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) and the relevant bureaux / departments have been actively participating in the discussions on bazaars held by the relevant LegCo panels or subcommittees, including the Subcommittee on Hawker Policy and the Subcommittee on Poverty, and we have been actively responding to the views and suggestions made by the Members. Taking the Subcommittee on Hawker Policy and the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets as examples, the Secretary for Food and Health attended some of their meetings according to the work arrangement and when his work schedule permitted. Moreover, at a number of meetings with DC Chairmen and Chairmen of the Environment and Hygiene Committees of DCs held in the past two years, the Secretary for Food and Health has encouraged DCs to render active assistance in developing bazaars and asked DC Chairmen to discuss these proposals through the DCs as the platform.

The progress on bazaars since March 2015 is as follows:

(a) In Sham Shui Po, with the support of the DC:

- Since the summer of 2015, temporary bazaar activities (見光墟) have been held twice on Kiu Kiang Street; and
- During the Lunar New Year in 2016, a Lunar New Year bazaar (including cooked food stalls) was held at Maple Street Playground. During the Lunar New Year in 2017, apart from the bazaar at Maple Street Playground, another Lunar New Year bazaar (including cooked food stalls) will be held at the junction of Tung Chau Street and Yen Chow Street (a nearby area underneath the Western Kowloon Corridor).

(b) In North District:

- On 19 September 2016, the relevant committee under the DC passed a motion on the organisation of bazaars at the dawn market in Shek Wu Hui, Sheung Shui. The restriction on land user clause in the land instruments of the proposed site has been resolved by FHB, FEHD and Lands Department so that the site can be used for organising bazaars.
- On 16 January 2017, the relevant DC working group discussed a consultancy report on the establishment of bazaars and night markets in North District.

(c) In Islands District, the DC has set up a working group on promotion of bazaar development:

- At the meeting on 15 June 2016, support-in-principle was given to four proposals on short-term bazaars put forward by local organisations with proposed venues in Peng Chau (organiser - Peng Chau Rural Committee) and Tung Chung (organisers – Sheng Kung Hui, Tung Chung Night Market Alliance (東涌夜市聯盟) and Tung Chung Community Development Front (東涌社區發展陣線)). Two local organisations have held bazaars so far.
- At the meeting on 21 November 2016, a proposal for organising an arts and crafts fair in Tung Chung on the Spring Lantern Festival (i.e. 11 February 2017) was passed.

Official Representatives to Attend Meetings

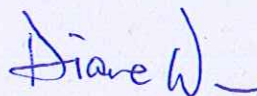
The assignment of official representatives to attend meetings depends on the overall situation and the work arrangement of the team.

Papers for Meetings

In the LegCo's email sent to the Government on 28 December 2016, the Government was requested to provide a written response by 13 January 2017 to the follow-up actions arising from the meeting on 20 December 2016. On this, we have given a written response.

Regarding the paper for the meeting on 10 January 2017, we have made clear beforehand that we have to know the views of the deputations before providing a written response. The Legislative Council referred the deputations' written submissions to the Government by email on 9 January, 10 January and 13 January 2017, and we also listened to the deputations' supplementary views orally conveyed on 10 January 2017. We will make a separate response to these views.

Yours sincerely



(Miss Diane WONG)
for Secretary for Food and Health

cc: Clerk to Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Bazaars
(Attn.: Ms S L CHAN)