

Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

List of issues suggested to be considered
(position as at 18 October 2016)

Subject	Proposed timing for discussion
1. Public columbarium project at Shek Mun	November 2016
Item proposed by the Administration.	
The Administration plans to report on the subject matter in November of 2016.	
2. The incident of pigs tainted with prohibited veterinary drugs	November 2016
Item proposed by the Administration.	
The Administration plans to report on the subject matter in November of 2016.	
3. Annual report regarding the dialogue between the Secretary for Food and Health and the District Councils ("DCs")/the Environmental Hygiene Committees under DCs on matters related to keeping Hong Kong clean	2 nd half of 2016
Item proposed by the Administration.	
The Administration plans to report on the subject matter in the second half of 2016.	
4. Outcome of the consultancy study on the future of live poultry trade	2 nd half of 2016
Item proposed by the Administration.	
The Administration plans to brief the Panel on the	

Subject	Proposed timing for discussion
findings and recommendations of the consultancy study on the future of live poultry trade in the second half of 2016.	
5. Proposed legislation for implementing the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources in Hong Kong	1 st half of 2017
Item proposed by the Administration.	
At the meeting on 11 March 2014, members were briefed on the Administration's proposal to introduce a control scheme for the trading of toothfish by way of a piece of legislation for the implementation of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources in Hong Kong. Members noted that the Administration would engage relevant stakeholders (including seafood traders and importers) and seek their views on the proposed control scheme.	
The Administration plans to brief the Panel on the subject in the first half of 2017.	
6. Rental adjustment mechanism for public market stalls	1 st half of 2017
The Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets formed under the Panel had completed its work. During the course of deliberations, the Subcommittee made a number of recommendations for enhancing the operating environment and business competitiveness of public markets (please refer to paragraph 36 of the Subcommittee's report (LC Paper No. CB(2)2142/14-15(01)) for details). In recommending that the Panel should follow up with the Administration the various issues raised therein, the Subcommittee specifically requested the Administration to consult the Panel on its proposals,	

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if any, for rental adjustment mechanism for public market stalls in the first quarter of 2017 at the latest (paragraph 31 of the report refers).

The Administration intends to revert to the Panel on this issue in the first half of 2017.

In her letter dated 2 November 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(2)201/15-16(01)), Hon Alice MAK expressed concern about the lack of public markets in newly developed districts. Hon MAK considered that the Administration should comprehensively review its policy in respect of the planning and provision of public markets in Hong Kong and suggested that the matter be discussed by the Panel. On the instruction of the Panel Chairman, the Administration should be requested to address also the issues raised in Hon MAK's letter when the captioned item is discussed by the Panel.

7. Review of fees for liquor licences

1st half of 2017

Item proposed by the Administration.

The Administration plans to brief the Panel on the results of its review on the fees for liquor licences in the first half of 2017.

8. Public consultation on the proposed regulation of heavy metals in food

2nd half of 2017

At the meeting on 9 October 2014, Dr Hon Helena WONG expressed concern about the safety standards for heavy metals in food and urged the Administration to review the relevant legislation for regulating the presence of heavy metals in food. She hoped that the Panel would discuss the subject matter at a Panel meeting.

Subject	Proposed timing for discussion
The Administration plans to launch a public consultation and brief the Panel on the subject in the second half of 2017.	
9. Retrofitting of air conditioning in public markets	To be confirmed
The Administration plans to brief the Panel on the above subject when ready.	
10. Reduction of sugar and salt content in food	To be confirmed
Item proposed by the Administration.	
The Administration plans to update the Panel on the relevant work of the Government in reducing salt and sugar content in food when ready.	
11. Liquor licensing system in Hong Kong and regulation of upstairs bars	To be confirmed
At the meeting on 10 October 2013, Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG expressed concern about problems caused by upstairs bars and the Liquor Licensing Board's considerations in assessing liquor licence applications from them. She suggested the Panel continue to follow up the subject.	
At the meeting on 8 April 2014, members noted the research report on "Liquor licensing system in selected places" prepared by Research Office, Information Services Division of the Legislative Council ("LegCo") Secretariat. Hon Tommy CHEUNG suggested the Panel discuss the subject of liquor licensing system in Hong Kong and invite deputations from the trade concerned to give views at a future meeting.	

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| <p>12. Redevelopment of food safety laboratory of the Government Laboratory</p> <p>Item proposed by the Administration.</p> <p>The Administration plans to brief the Panel on a proposal to redevelop the food safety laboratory under the Government Laboratory to further enhance the testing capacity on food safety related analysis.</p> | <p>To be confirmed</p> |
| <p>13. Regulation of animal feed for livestock and cultured fish and the presence of veterinary drug residues</p> <p>At the meeting on 15 October 2015, Dr Hon Helena WONG expressed concerns about the regulation of animal feed for livestock and cultured fish and the presence of veterinary drug residues, including antibiotics, in meat and aquatic products for human consumption. She considered that the Panel should discuss these issues at a Panel meeting.</p> <p>In her letter dated 9 December 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(2)422/15-16(01)), Dr WONG reiterated her concerns and requested the early discussion of the item.</p> <p><i>(Please also see item 14 below.)</i></p> | <p>To be confirmed</p> |
| <p>14. Public consultation on the proposed regulatory framework governing veterinary drug residues in food and food animals</p> <p>Item proposed by the Administration.</p> <p>The Administration is considering measures to strengthen control over veterinary drug residues in food and food animals in order to enhance food safety. It plans to launch a public consultation on the proposed regulatory framework in due course. With regard to</p> | <p>To be confirmed</p> |

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<p>item 13 and this item, the Administration proposes to brief the Panel under the discussion subject "Use of veterinary drugs in food animals and cultured fish and surveillance of veterinary drug residues in food and food animals".</p>	
15. Wholesale market consultancy study	To be confirmed
<p>Item proposed by the Administration.</p>	
<p>At the meeting on 10 June 2014, members noted that the Administration had commissioned a consultant to study the present-day functions and purpose of the wholesale business in the sale of fresh food produce, and analyze the geographical spread of the five existing wholesale markets from the perspective of land use and food safety. The Administration undertook to revert to the Panel when the outcome of the consultancy study was ready.</p>	
<p>At the meeting on 15 October 2015, Hon Steven HO expressed a wish that arrangements be made for early discussion of this subject.</p>	
16. Public consultation on the proposed regulation of cooked meat	To be confirmed
<p>At the special meeting on 3 September 2014, members expressed concern about inadequate regulation of cooked meat and considered that the subject should be followed up by the Panel. The Administration advised that it would review the relevant legislation and seek the views of LegCo Members and the trade. Hon WONG Kwok-hing requested the Administration to provide the Panel with a policy paper on the subject.</p>	
<p>At the meeting on 9 October 2014, Dr Hon Helena WONG hoped that the Administration would brief the</p>	

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<p>Panel as early as possible on the progress of the review on legislation relating to the regulation of cooked meat.</p>	
<p>17. Consultation results of the proposed introduction of the pre-market safety assessment on genetically-modified food</p>	To be confirmed
<p>Item proposed by the Administration.</p>	
<p>The Administration plans to brief the Panel on the item when ready.</p>	
<p>18. Ancillary facilities for storage and distribution of chilled meat and poultry</p>	To be confirmed
<p>At the meeting on 9 October 2014, Hon Michael TIEN expressed concern about the lack of ancillary facilities for wholesaling of chilled meat and poultry. He pointed out that the trade had made repeated requests for the setting up of an approved distribution and storage centre by the Government for the chilled meat and poultry with a view to reducing food safety risks. He hoped that the Panel would follow up the subject matter.</p>	
<p>At the meeting on 15 October 2015, Hon Steven HO and Hon Michael TIEN both expressed concern about the slow progress of the Administration in taking forward the initiative of setting up an approved distribution and storage centre for chilled meat and poultry. They requested for early discussion of the subject matter by the Panel.</p>	
<p>19. Regulating and monitoring the activities of oyster culture in Hong Kong</p>	To be confirmed
<p>At the meeting on 9 February 2010, in the light of the concerns raised by Hon WONG Yung-kan, a suggestion</p>	

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was made that the issue of regulating and monitoring the activities of oyster culture within Hong Kong waters should be discussed by the Panel at a future meeting.

During the discussion of the implementation of the Food Safety Ordinance (Cap. 612) ("FSO") at the meeting on 11 July 2012, Hon WONG Yung-kan expressed worry about the over-expansion of oyster culture in Shenzhen Bay. He urged the Administration to step up the regulatory measures for oyster culture, including the introduction of a licensing mechanism.

20. Outcome of the comprehensive review of the food-safety related penalties

To be confirmed

Having regard to the views of the members of the Subcommittee on Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulation 2014, the Administration undertook to conduct a comprehensive review of the food safety-related penalties under the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) and its subsidiary legislation, as well as FSO in 2015. The Administration also agreed to report the outcome of the study to the Panel. (Paragraphs 29 and 30 of the Subcommittee's report (LC Paper No. CB(2)256/14-15) refers.)

The Subcommittee on Three Regulations Relating to Control Regime for the Import of Eggs also proposed that the Administration should report the progress of the review to the Panel (please see paragraphs 24 to 26 of its report (LC Paper No. CB(2)2123/14-15) for details).

Subject	Proposed timing for discussion
21. The import and sale of products made with fur of dogs and cats	To be confirmed
<p>At the meeting on 9 December 2014, members noted the letter from Hon Claudia MO expressing concern about the import and sale of products made with fur of dogs and cats as well as the Administration's response to her letter (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)408/14-15(01) and (02)). At the request of Hon MO, members agreed that the subject be included in the list of outstanding items for discussion.</p>	
22. Issues relating to animal welfare and cruelty to animals	To be confirmed
<p>The Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Animal Welfare and Cruelty to Animals formed under the Panel had completed its work and made a number of recommendations for enhancing animal welfare and combating acts of animal cruelty (please refer to paragraph 37 of the Subcommittee's report (LC Paper No. CB(2)1704/15-16) for details). The Subcommittee also recommended that the Panel should follow up with the Administration the issues raised during the deliberations of the Subcommittee.</p>	