

# **立法會**

## ***Legislative Council***

LC Paper No. CB(2)84/16-17(10)

Ref : CB2/PL/FE

### **Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene**

#### **Information note prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat for the meeting on 8 November 2016**

#### **Monitoring mechanism on the use of veterinary drugs in food animals and the incident of pigs detected with prohibited veterinary drugs**

According to the Administration's reply to a written question raised at the Council meeting of 29 June 2016, in the view of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, prudent use of veterinary drugs including antibiotics has tremendous benefits to animal health and judicious use of antibiotics in livestock farming can reduce the emergence and spread of resistant bacteria in food animals, thus minimizing public health risks. While rational use of veterinary drugs for treatment purpose is commonly accepted, the Administration closely monitors the livestock and fish supplied to the local market, whether locally reared or imported, to ensure they are compliant with Hong Kong's statutory requirements and are fit for human consumption. At present, the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap.132) stipulates that all food for sale must be fit for human consumption. The level of chemical and veterinary drug residues in food animals is governed by the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Chemical Residues) Regulation (Cap. 139N), which sets out the chemicals prohibited and regulated in Hong Kong.

2. For locally reared livestock and fish, the Administration takes samples for testing at three levels, i.e. livestock/fish farms, slaughtering plants and retail outlets, on a regular basis according to the level of risk assessed. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department conducts regular inspection at livestock/fish farms, and from time to time provides farmers with information on the proper use of antibiotics through talks, leaflets and publications. All live poultry or livestock imported into Hong Kong are supplied by registered Mainland farms, with health certificates attesting that the imports are free of prohibited chemicals and do not carry residue of controlled chemicals exceeding the statutory limits. Urine samples are collected from every batch of food

animals admitted to the slaughterhouses in Hong Kong for testing of chemicals and veterinary drug residues. If there are samples found to be unsatisfactory, the affected batch of animals will be detained and destroyed. Besides, the Centre for Food Safety takes food samples at import, wholesale and retail levels for chemical testing (including testing for veterinary drug residues) under the routine Food Surveillance Programme to ensure their compliance with local statutory requirements and fitness for human consumption.

3. On 5 August 2016, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD") announced that after preliminary testing, urine samples of certain pigs imported from the Mainland were found to contain residues of beta-agonists (Clenbuterol/Salbutamol) which were not allowed to be used in food animals in Hong Kong. Forty affected pigs had been slaughtered in Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse and distributed to the local market. FEHD immediately took remedial actions including (a) following up with the operator of slaughterhouse, Ng Fung Hong, to trace the distribution of the affected pigs; (b) demanding the retail outlets concerned to stop selling the affected products; (c) sending health inspectors to mark and seal the affected pork and pig offals at the affected retail outlets; (d) conducting a comprehensive investigation into the case and (e) informing the relevant Mainland authorities for appropriate follow-up action as the two affected batches of pigs came from two registered Mainland farms. With the Government Laboratory's confirmation of its test results that the urine samples contained residues of beta-agonists (Salbutamol), FEHD announced on the following day that all the affected pigs and meat which were marked and sealed would be destroyed. However, some retailers had sold the affected pigs under an uninformed condition.

4. On 19 August 2016, the Administration announced the investigation results regarding the incident. According to the Administration, owing to the failure on the part of its staff at Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse in strictly observing the established procedures and guidelines and inadequate communication between staff, FEHD could not prevent some of the pigs in question from being slaughtered and discharged to the market. In addition, the incomplete transaction records of live pigs at the wholesale and retail levels had led to the release of an inaccurate list of affected retail outlets. The Administration admitted that the responsibility of the incident rested with the Government. FEHD had issued a letter of apology to the 27 retailers affected in the incident. To offset their loss, the retailers would be granted a one-off ex-gratia payment for the pork and pig offal disposed of. The amount of ex-gratia payment would be calculated according to the market price of pork announced by the Census and Statistics Department and the disposed amount. Relevant press releases issued by the Administration in connection with the incident are in the **Appendix**.

5. In the light of the investigation results, the Administration undertook to implement measures that could help strengthen monitoring of the slaughterhouse's operation, so as to prevent recurrence of similar incidents and safeguard food safety and public health. The Administration will report to the Panel on the subject matter at the meeting on 8 November 2016.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
2 November 2016

## Appendix

### Press Releases

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Urine samples from imported pigs detected with veterinary drug residues

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The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) yesterday (August 5) said that urine samples of certain pigs imported from the Mainland were found to contain veterinary drug residues after preliminary testing, of which 40 pigs had been slaughtered in Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse and distributed to the local market. The FEHD has followed up with the operator of slaughterhouse, Ng Fung Hong, to trace the distribution of the affected pigs and has demanded the retail outlets concerned to stop selling the affected product.

A spokesman for the FEHD said, "Among a total of 319 pigs supplied from two Mainland farms, the preliminary test results of some of their urine samples were found to contain residues of beta-agonists (Clenbuterol/Salbutamol). Forty affected pigs have been distributed to the market. The FEHD immediately followed up with Ng Fung Hong and according to its information, the 40 pigs have been distributed to 27 retail outlets (at Annex). FEHD health inspectors have visited the retail outlets concerned to mark and seal the affected pigs."

The spokesman noted that beta-agonists are synthetic substances which can increase muscle to fat ratio. They can also be used as a growth promoter to produce lean carcass, and therefore commonly referred to as "lean meat agents". Clenbuterol and Salbutamol, the two most common beta-agonists, are not allowed to be used in food animals in Hong Kong. People who have consumed meat (especially contaminated offal) containing excessive amount of beta-agonist residues may experience symptoms including rapid heart rates, dizziness, headaches, tremors and nervousness. The symptoms will appear from 10 minutes to three hours after consumption of the contaminated food and will disappear within 24 hours in general.

For the sake of prudence, the spokesman urged the public to stop consuming the pork and pig offal bought from the affected retail outlets yesterday. Medical advice should be sought if they feel sick after consumption.

"The FEHD will conduct a comprehensive investigation into the case and review, including examining the entire testing and slaughtering procedures. The FEHD has also immediately strengthened its surveillance, including enhancing monitoring of food animals admitted to slaughterhouses and taking samples for testing," the spokesman said.

The spokesman has stressed that the retail outlets concerned have sold the affected pigs under an uninformed condition. The FEHD will exercise stringent control to ensure all pork and offal sold at any retail outlets are fit for human consumption.

According to the preliminary information, the two affected batches of pigs came from two registered Mainland farms. The FEHD has informed the relevant Mainland authorities for appropriate follow-up action.

Around 1.6 million local and imported live pigs are

slaughtered in Hong Kong annually. The last time that beta-agonist residue was detected in urine samples of live pigs was in 2012.

If the final test results of the Government Laboratory confirmed that the affected pigs contain veterinary drug residues, all the affected pigs and meat which have been marked and sealed will be disposed of.

Ends/Saturday, August 6, 2016  
Issued at HKT 0:30

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According to the information provided by Ng Fung Hong, the list of the affected retailers is as follows:

	<b>Name of retailer*</b>	<b>Address of retailer</b>
1	順昌	Shop A, G/F, No. 8, Fat Tseung Street, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon
2	惠康-啟田商場-惠德	Shop no. 104, 1/F, Kai Tin Shopping Centre, Lam Tin, Kowloon
3	佳寶	G/F, Choi Tak Shopping Centre, Choi Hing Road, Ngau Tau Kok, Kowloon
4	滙翠	Shop no. W14, 2/F, Tsui Lam Shopping Centre, Tsueng Kwan O, New Territories
5	威記肉枱	Stall no. 313, Lok Fu Market, Lok Fu Estate, Kowloon
6	漢記肉食	Stall no. 6, Fu Shan Estate Market, Hammer Hill Road, Kowloon
7	豐盛	Shop no. W22, 2/F, Tsui Lam Shopping Centre, Tsueng Kwan O, New Territories
8	聯豐行	Stall no. H40, Hau Tak Shopping Centre, Tseung Kwan O, New Territories
9	順昌	Shop B2, G/F, Lai Chi Kok Road, Kowloon
10	佳寶	G/F, Nos. 6-8 Tai Po Road, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon
11	優惠肉食公司	No. 67A, Kam Wa Street, Shau Kei Wan, Hong Kong
12	聯豐行-厚德	Shop no. H29, Hau Tak Shopping Centre, Tseung Kwan O, New Territories
13	華記肉台	Stall no. 99, G/F, Java Road Market, North Point, Hong Kong
14	興和	G/F, No. 49, Wan Chai Road, Hong Kong
15	永成號	Stall nos. M45-M46, 1/F, Sheung Wan Market, Hong Kong
16	佑成	Stall no. M 32, 1/F, Sheung Wan Market, Hong Kong
17	恒發豬肉	Stall no. M28, 1/F, Sheung Wan Market, Hong Kong
18	華生	G/F, No. 106H Pok Fu Lam Village, Hong Kong
19	五豐-海悅豪園-惠康	G/F, Maritime Bay Shopping Mall, Tseung Kwan O, New Territories
20	五豐-何文田-華潤	3/F, Homantin Plaza, Kowloon
21	五豐-達興-深水埗	Stall nos. M5-M7, Pei Ho Street Market, Sham Shui

		Po, Kowloon
22	明富	Stall no. 49, Tin Chak Chinese Market, Tin Shui Wai, New Territories
23	富豪	Stall no. 102, Tin Chak Chinese Market, Tin Shui Wai, New Territories
24	鴻利肉食公司	Stall no. 11, G/F, Tsing Yi Market, Tsing Luk Street, Tsing Yi, New Territories
25	佳寶	G/F, Nos. 8-9, Victory Garden, 153 Tai Loong Street, Kwai Tsing, New Territories
26	惠德工場	Shop no. 8, 20 Yip Fung Street, Fanling, New Territories
27	惠康-彩園邨-惠德	Shop no. G06, Choi Yuen Plaza, Choi Yuen Estate, Sheung Shui, New Territories

\* The English names of the retailers are not available.

## Press Releases

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Urine samples from imported pigs confirmed to contain veterinary drug residues

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The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) today (August 6) announced that the test results from the Government Laboratory confirmed that urine samples of certain pigs imported from the Mainland contained residues of beta-agonists (Salbutamol). All the affected pigs and meat which were marked and sealed will be destroyed.

A spokesman for the FEHD said, "The FEHD, based on the information provided by the operator of the slaughterhouse concerned, sent health inspectors to mark and seal the affected pork and pig offals at the retail outlets concerned yesterday. A total of about 2 200 kg of pork and pig offals were marked and sealed while about 1 300kg of pork and pig offals were voluntarily surrendered by the retailers. All the pork and pig offals concerned will be disposed of tomorrow (August 7). As for the same batch of pigs which were isolated at the slaughterhouses, the disposal work has already started."

The spokesman has stressed that the retail outlets concerned have sold the affected pigs under an uninformed condition. The FEHD will exercise stringent control to ensure all pork and pig offals sold at any retail outlets are fit for human consumption.

In response to media reports that the list of affected retail outlets released yesterday might contain inaccurate information, the spokesman explained that the related information was gathered and provided by the operator of the slaughterhouse concerned. In view of the fact that some affected pigs have been distributed to the local market, the Department, for the sake of prudence and protection of public health, had taken swift actions to mark and seal the affected pork and pig offals at the retail outlets as well as urge consumers to stop eating the pork and pig offals bought from these outlets. The FEHD will follow up further with the retail outlets concerned.

The spokesman reiterated that according to the established mechanism, samples are collected from every batch of food animals admitted to the slaughterhouses in Hong Kong for testing of chemicals and veterinary drug residues. If there are samples found to be unsatisfactory, the affected batches of the animals will be withheld and destroyed. The FEHD is conducting a comprehensive investigation into the incident and review.

Ends/Saturday, August 6, 2016  
Issued at HKT 21:37

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## 新聞公報

食物及衛生局局長在活豬尿液樣本含違禁獸藥事件調查結果記者會開場發言（只有中文）（附短片）

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以下是食物及衛生局局長高永文今日（八月十九日）在活豬尿液樣本含違禁獸藥事件調查結果記者會的開場發言：

就八月五日一批被檢驗到含有獸藥乙類促效劑殘餘的入口豬隻流出市場的事件，調查工作到現階段大致完成。總括而言，事件的發生是由於在屠房負責的員工，在接獲尿液測試初步結果有可疑的預警後，並未有向其他相關的屠房員工通報。此外，上水屠房員工在未接獲化驗報告，證實豬隻的尿液樣本檢測符合要求前，已讓部分有問題的豬隻進入屠宰線開始屠宰，以及供應鏈其餘的下游程序，而其後亦未能悉數阻截有關的問題豬肉流出市面。我們的失誤，令到部分零售商，在不知情的情況下可能購買和出售了有問題的豬肉，對他們造成影響，同時亦影響了市民對鮮宰豬肉的信心。

造成今次事件，毫無疑問，責任在於政府，我再次就事件對市民及有關持份者致歉。食物環境衛生署（食環署）已發信給受今次事件影響的27個零售商說明責任誰屬。我亦感謝整個業界在今次事件中全力配合政府的調查及跟進工作。

食環署被指錯誤地封存一些並無涉及受影響的零售商的豬肉。經過我們的詳細調查後，發現豬隻批發及零售層面在交收紀錄及單據保存方面，並未有一個完善的安排。

我們上了寶貴的一課，事件亦顯示我們的把關工作有改善空間。政府會根據調查結果，進一步完善整個屠房的工作流程，包括嚴格執行屠房的工作守則及程序、提早將化驗結果通報屠房食環署員工、加強培訓，提高員工的警覺性、提升需預先獲知會的管理級別層次，以及加強監管、豬隻的交易紀錄系統化及加強抽查相關紀錄，以確保市面出售的鮮宰豬肉安全和可供市民安心食用。在確保食物安全的原則下，政府亦會繼續與供應鏈各持份者溝通，尋求完善整個供應鏈流程。

至於事件對27間零售商的影響，我再一次致歉，而政府亦會發放一筆過的特惠金，以彌補零售店的損失。

我想在此指出，今次事件以往從未發生，屠房的工作亦一直受業界肯定。在屠房工作的食環署員工，多年來一直都按程序辦事，緊守工作崗位，為市民服務。今次事件涉及員工在執行既定程序及指引上有不足之處，署方會嚴肅跟進，如果證實有違規的行為，會按既定機制處理。

至於調查結果及改善措施，我首先請食環署署長向大家講解。

完

2016年8月19日（星期五）  
香港時間19時25分

## Press Releases

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Investigation results of incident of pigs' urine samples detected with veterinary drug announced (with photo)

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The Government yesterday (August 19) announced the investigation results regarding an incident of urine samples from pigs imported from the Mainland detected with prohibited veterinary drug in early August. Owing to the failure on the part of their staff at Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse in strictly observing the established procedures and guidelines on that day and inadequate communication between staff, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) could not prevent some of the pigs in question from being slaughtered and discharged to the market. In addition, the incomplete transaction records of live pigs at the wholesale and retail levels have led to the release of an inaccurate retailer list.

The Secretary for Food and Health, Dr Ko Wing-man, said, "The responsibility of the incident rests with the Government. I apologise again to members of the public and the relevant stakeholders. The FEHD has issued a letter of apology to the 27 retailers affected in the incident. To offset their loss, the retailers will be granted a one-off ex-gratia payment for the pork and pig offal disposed of. The amount of ex-gratia payment will be calculated according to the market price of pork announced by the Census and Statistics Department and the disposed amount. We thank the trade for their cooperation with the Government in our investigation and follow-up work."

"In the light of the investigation results, the Government will further enhance the entire work flow of the slaughterhouses, including advancing the time for announcing test results, strictly implementing the code of practice and procedures of the slaughterhouses, stepping up staff training to increase their vigilance, strengthening the monitoring by escalating to the senior management level in case of any unusual test results; improving the live pigs transaction record system and heightening spot checks of the records. These measures are to ensure that the fresh pork supplied to the retail market has passed through stringent surveillance and are safe and fit for human consumption. Under the overarching principle of ensuring food safety, the Government will continue to communicate with the various stakeholders of the supply chain with a view to perfecting the whole supply work flow."

On the investigation result of the incident, the Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene, Miss Vivian Lau, said that according to the established mechanism and departmental guidelines, samples are collected from every batch of food animals admitted to the slaughterhouses in Hong Kong for testing of chemicals and veterinary drug residues. If there are samples found to be unsatisfactory, the affected batch of the animals will be detained and destroyed. The slaughtering of pigs should not be started before negative test results are confirmed. If the pigs concerned are slaughtered, they should not be released and delivered to the market for sale.

Miss Lau said, "We have reviewed the whole testing and slaughtering procedures. The investigation found that after being informed by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Department (AFCD) on the preliminary test result that some pig urine samples failed to pass the test and that further testing was required, the staff of the Agricultural Chemicals and Veterinary Drugs Unit (ACVD) of the Centre for Food Safety failed to ensure that the importer detained the affected pigs in a timely manner and the Meat Inspection Unit (MIU) of the FEHD in the Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse got all relevant information. Without obtaining information indicating that the samples concerned had passed the tests, the MIU staff did not suspend inspection of the affected pigs nor did they detain the pig carcasses concerned. When the MIU staff later learned about the preliminary test results of the affected batch of pigs from the ACVD and started stopping the delivery of the pigs concerned, some affected pigs had already been transported out of the slaughterhouse."

"This incident showed that there was room for improvement for the staff of the two units in following the established procedures and departmental guidelines. Communication between the parties concerned was also inadequate and crucial messages were not conveyed at the critical moment. In the end, they failed to fully function as the gatekeeper, causing some affected pork entering the market."

"Regarding the tracing of the affected pork, we found that the operator of the slaughterhouse did not maintain entirely accurate information on the retail outlets. In addition, different importers imported pigs from one of the affected farms on August 3 and 4 and some of the pigs from the two batches were slaughtered at Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse together on August 5. Since the computer system of the operator did not keep the records of the importers for distinguishing the two batches of pigs, this made it more difficult for the FEHD to trace the distribution of the affected pork."

"On following up on the list of the retail outlets, the retail outlets and the buyers concerned provided their transaction records to us upon our requests earlier. During verification, we found that some of the transaction records were incomplete. Further investigation revealed that all of the 27 affected retail outlets announced on August 5 had been supplied with pigs imported from the affected farms and slaughtered at Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse on that day. Among them, 11 outlets were supplied with the affected pigs imported on August 4. The remaining 16 outlets were supplied with pigs imported on August 3 which had passed the urine test. We have issued a letter of apology to them."

In view of the investigation result, the FEHD has taken and will take the following measures:

- The FEHD and the AFCD agreed to expedite the notification of urine test results of pigs. The AFCD will notify the ACVD of the FEHD the results of the last round of urine test on or before 9.30pm every night. The ACVD will then inform the staff of the MIU, the slaughterhouse operator and the importer about the test results. Before a test result confirming that the pigs are 100 per cent safe is available, the slaughterhouse operator will not commence slaughtering the pigs. If any problem is found ( i.e. the pigs fail the test and further testing is needed or the test results are not available yet), the staff will immediately notify the importers, slaughterhouse operator, agents and buyers to work together to detain the affected pigs.

- The FEHD has strengthened the monitoring measures. At 9.30pm every night, the ACVD's staff will notify the management of the test results of the samples known at that time. Should any unusual circumstances come to light during the testing, slaughtering or operation, the ACVD and the MIU staff will immediately report to the management for appropriate follow-up. The department has also reminded all staff concerned and the slaughterhouse operator to act strictly according to the established procedures and departmental guidelines.
- The FEHD has reviewed the mode of communication between staff of the two units. It will also enhance training and conduct drills for the staff concerned to enhance future communications and ensure timely contingency response.
- To improve the tracing mechanism, the FEHD will form a working group with relevant stakeholders, including importers, slaughterhouse operator, buyers and retailers, to discuss the establishment of a reliable record keeping system to ensure information of the distributors and retail outlets involved in the transaction is correct in order to facilitate the tracing of distribution when need arises.

"We believe the above measures can help strengthen monitoring of the slaughterhouse's operation. We will also exercise stringent control by strictly following the established procedures and departmental guidelines to ensure that the pork for sale in the market has passed relevant tests so as to prevent recurrence of similar incidents and to safeguard food safety and public health," Miss Lau said.

"I hope members of the public understand that the FEHD staff who work in the slaughterhouse have all along been performing their duties diligently. The department will seriously follow up on the problems reflected in the incident including inadequate internal communication and delays. If any members of staff are found to have violated rules and regulations, the department will handle the matter as soon as possible in accordance with the guidelines and procedures stipulated by the Civil Service Bureau and conduct the investigation in a fair and impartial manner," she said.

As regards the source of veterinary drug, it was found that the concentration level of veterinary drug in relevant urine samples was abnormal. According to past experience, pig farmers attempting to use veterinary drugs to promote the growth of lean meat would stop the medication somewhat before discharging the pigs for slaughtering in order to reduce the chance of detection. As such, the possibility of the farms being the source of veterinary drugs should be ruled out. The Government will continue to follow up and work on the incident in order to find out the cause of the abnormal situation.

Ends/Saturday, August 20, 2016  
Issued at HKT 0:24

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**List of retailers not supplied with affected pigs**

	<b>Name of retailer*</b>	<b>Address</b>
1	順昌	Shop A, G/F, 8 Fat Tseung Street, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon
2	佳寶	G/F, Choi Tak Shopping Centre, Choi Hing Road, Ngau Tau Kok, Kowloon
3	滙翠	Shop no. W14, 2/F, Tsui Lam Shopping Centre, Tseung Kwan O, New Territories
4	豐盛	Shop no. W22, 2/F, Tsui Lam Shopping Centre, Tseung Kwan O, New Territories
5	聯豐行	Stall no. H40, Hau Tak Market, Tseung Kwan O, New Territories
6	聯豐行-厚德	Shop no. H29, Hau Tak Market, Tseung Kwan O, New Territories
7	華記肉台	Stall no. 99, G/F, Java Road Market, North Point, Hong Kong
8	興和	G/F, 49 Wan Chai Road, Hong Kong
9	永成號	Stall nos. M45-M46, 1/F, Sheung Wan Market, Hong Kong
10	佑成	Stall no. M32, 1/F, Sheung Wan Market, Hong Kong
11	恒發豬肉	Stall no. M28, 1/F, Sheung Wan Market, Hong Kong
12	華生	G/F, No. 106H Pok Fu Lam Village, Hong Kong
13	明富	Stall no. 49, Tin Chak Chinese Market, Tin Shui Wai, New Territories
14	富豪	Stall no. 102, Tin Chak Chinese Market, Tin Shui Wai, New Territories
15	鴻利肉食公司	Stall no. 11, G/F, Tsing Yi Market, Tsing Luk Street, Tsing Yi, New Territories
16	佳寶	Shop nos. 8-9, G/F, Victory Garden, 153 Tai Loong Street, Kwai Tsing, New Territories

\* The English names of the retailers are not available.

## **Sequence of events of the incident of pig carcasses with suspicious positive urine test results being released to the market**

### **August 4**

09:00 to noon	<p>A total of 319 live pigs from affected batches from the Mainland reached Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse (SSSH) (120 nos) and Tsuen Wan Slaughterhouse (199 nos) in batches.</p> <p>The Agricultural Chemicals and Veterinary Drugs Unit (ACVD), Centre for Food Safety, Food and Environmental Department (FEHD) collected urine samples from the pigs in batches.</p>
16:58	The Veterinary Laboratory (Vet Lab) of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) received the last batch of urine samples from ACVD for testing purpose.
21:10	Vet Lab staff verbally informed ACVD that the preliminary reports showed that some urine samples submitted were suspected to contain beta-agonists, and indicated that further testing was required to confirm the findings.
21:40	ACVD informed an importer to stand by for segregating the pigs.
22:26	Vet Lab issued its first written interim report, which indicated that among the test results of the urine samples sent in the relevant period, the status of 15 samples were “pending”.
23:55	<p>The Meat Inspection Unit (MIU) of the FEHD checked the urine test results through the Slaughterhouse Record System and found that the test results of samples sent in the relevant period remained “pending”.</p> <p>Upon enquiry, MIU was informed by ACVD that the results were still “pending”.</p>

### **August 5**

00:00	Slaughtering commenced. Post-mortem inspection of the pigs was conducted by FEHD’s Health Inspectors
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	(HIs). The pig carcasses passed the inspection were applied with “Government Inspected” stamp and were delivered to individual retail outlets in batches.
00:05	ACVD instructed an importer that the affected batches of the pigs should be detained.
00:15	Vet Lab informed ACVD that the test results were not available yet.
00:30	MIU called ACVD to enquire about the status of the test results and was told that the test results were still “pending”.
01:20	ACVD informed the operator of SSSH, Ng Fung Hong (NFH) that the affected batches of the pigs needed to be detained immediately.
01:50	MIU called ACVD to enquire about detention of affected batches of the pigs. In reply, ACVD requested MIU to detain the pigs since the test results of the concerned batch of pigs were very likely positive. MIU immediately informed NFH to take action to detain the affected pigs.
02:15	MIU requested NFH to liaise with buyers to trace the affected batches of the pig carcasses which might have been released from SSSH to the retail outlets.
03:00	Vet Lab issued the second written interim test report which showed that the test results of the affected batches of pigs were “pending”, while the results of the remaining batches were satisfactory.
04:00	Vet Lab issued the final written report which confirmed that the test results of 6 urine samples were positive.
04:00 to 07:30	NFH traced, marked and sealed the affected pigs in SSSH, but some had been released to local retail outlets.
09:00	FEHD learned that progress of tracing of affected batches of pig carcasses being released to local market was not satisfactory. NFH was requested to provide information on the delivery addresses of the pig carcasses.
11:00	NFH provided a preliminary list of retail outlets

	concerned to FEHD, but some information was missing.
13:00	NFH provided additional information on the list of retail outlets concerned to FEHD.
15:00	Upon repeated checking of the list of retail outlets concerned with NFH, FEHD immediately deployed HIs to the retail outlets concerned to mark and seal the affected pig carcasses and offals.
15:30 to around 18:00	HIs conducted a mark and seal operation at the retail outlets concerned.
18:20	The mark and seal operation was completed.
18:30 to 20:30	Final list of retail outlets concerned was being compiled.
22:00	FEHD held a media stand-up session, issued a press release and announced the list of retail outlets concerned. Members of the public were urged to stop consuming the pork and pig offals bought from the affected retail outlets.

Ends